

CAPSULE

WA-IV-090

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 90(93)

1767 (reset 1902)

Highfield, Maryland

Public/private

Milestone No. 90(93) continues to mark Mason and Dixon's 90th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. It is an original crownstone of 1767, in fair condition, unaltered, and at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, first set two years later and reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Now standing only about 12 inches above ground, it still measures about 12 inches square, and the Penn and Calvert shields remain nearly intact and clear, although all edges/^{of the stone}and the top are badly chipped and all surfaces noticeably weathered. On the national and state levels, No. 90(93) is significant primarily as one of a series of 135 original monuments still defining the West Line. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST Magi No.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 90th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 90(1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 93)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER off east side of Pennersville Road/LR-1047

CITY, TOWN Highfield

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 9

VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland

COUNTY MD: Washington/PA: Franklin

3 CLASSIFICATION

Table with 4 columns: CATEGORY, OWNERSHIP, STATUS N/A, PRESENT USE. Includes options like DISTRICT, BUILDING(S), STRUCTURE, SITE, OBJECT, PUBLIC, PRIVATE, BOTH, PUBLIC ACQUISITION, IN PROCESS, BEING CONSIDERED, OCCUPIED, UNOCCUPIED, WORK IN PROGRESS, YES: RESTRICTED, YES: UNRESTRICTED, NO, AGRICULTURE, MUSEUM, COMMERCIAL, PARK, EDUCATIONAL, PRIVATE RESIDENCE, ENTERTAINMENT, RELIGIOUS, GOVERNMENT, SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL, TRANSPORTATION, MILITARY, OTHER: state boundary marker.

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form) and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Washington County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE WA-IV-090 entered 2/24/81 FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis

STATE Maryland

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 90(93) marks Mason and Dixon's 90th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original crownstone of 1767, in fair condition, unaltered, and at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, first set two years later, and reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is a high valley (elevation about ^{1400'}), with the settlements of Highfield, Pennersville, Cascade, and Fort Ritchie ^{huddled between} heavily ^{forested} South Mountain to the east and Mount Dunlop to the northwest. The site is within Election District 14 of Washington County, MD, and Washington Township of Franklin County, PA; about halfway between Fort Ritchie and ^{the town of} Blue Ridge Summit, PA; in the midst of strands of houses along the Pennersville Road/LR-1047; about 25' off the east side of the road, in a ^{nicely-tended} little ^{clearing} surrounded by a small patch of woods. It can be seen from the road, all seasons, ^{though} ~~more~~ easily when protected by a heavy wire cage (until about March 1981, when stolen).

This crownstone, as with all original Mason and Dixon monuments, was quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone; initially measured about 12 inches square by about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet long with a low pyramidal top, cut to stand about 3' above ground, with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. The distinguishing decorative features are the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and the stylized shield of the Penn coat of arms on the north side facing Pennsylvania and that of the Calvert coat of arms on the south side facing Maryland, carved near the top. When reset in 1902, it presumably stood about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and now stands about 1 foot above ^(a concrete foundation) ground, ^{though still} measures about 12 inches square. The shields are fairly intact and clear, and some fluting remains; but there are large chips along all edges and the top, now dome-shaped, and all surfaces are very weathered. The little walkway and fringe of planting surrounding the crownstone was apparently initiated by the Baltimore-Blue Ridge Summit Garden Club as a project (estimated during the years of about 1920 until about 1943), continued since then by the property owner on the north (Mrs. Bloom). The cage was noted by the 1900-03 Resurvey as being in place at that time, and refastened when the crownstone was reset; ^{but no longer bolted securely} was in place at the time of the 1971-72 field inspection (2/15/81) and disappeared soon afterward (and had not been found by 11/9/83).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY
(see Thematic Group NR nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (reset 1902) ~~BY MARYLAND AND PENNSYLVANIA~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 90(93), a crownstone of 1767, is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and crownstone set two years later, where it remains, although reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments still marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton counties (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. 90(93) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Blue Ridge Summit (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), scale 1: 24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 28703, northing 439941

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Washington

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Franklin

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust & Maryland Geological Survey

DATE (11/9/83 revisited)
2/15/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

301/472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

ADDENDA FOR THE FILE OF:

MASON AND DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 90(93)
original crownstone (1767) at original site

Wire cage now missing. In a phone conversation 11/6/83 with Frank J. Perozziello, Troop leader whose Boy Scouts had recently reached Washington County in their walk along the Mason-Dixon Line, he mentioned that the wire cage surrounding this crownstone was by then gone. The Scouts talked with the owner of the property to the south (Stephen J. Harbaugh, Route 1, Box 43-D, Cascade, MD 21719, no phone listed), who didn't know anything about its disappearance.

A few days later (11/9/83), while in the area on other follow-up Phase II work, I rephotographed the monument and site, talked with the Harbaughs and also the property owner to the north (Mrs. Joanne Bloom, 13950 Pennersville Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268, phone 717/794-2522). When I first recorded this crownstone (2/15/81) the cage was still in place, but no longer bolted down. According to Mrs. Bloom, who was very hospitable and really cares about the preservation of this monument: the cage disappeared shortly after I was there, and though she has tried to find it, **has not had any luck**. The wire cage was noted by the 1900-03 Resurvey and removed in 1902 when resetting the monument, then refastened. Somewhere along the line, estimated by Mrs. Bloom as around 1920's, Baltimoreans summering in the Highfield-Blue Ridge Summit area had interested some local ladies in forming a Baltimore-Blue Ridge Summit Garden Club and adopted the protecting of the stone and ^{developing the} site as a project, which continued until about 1943, when the club disbanded. Since then, Mrs. Bloom has kept up this attractive little walkway and planting and is very concerned about potential vandalism and damage to the monument without any cage. She would be glad to have a new cage made, but would appreciate some formal direction from the agencies involved. ^{Maryland and Pennsylvania} I mentioned that these agencies hoped to decide upon some ^{for some of the monuments along the line} uniform protective cage/and method of securing it, but might not be able to act on this for several years. So: this matter was left in limbo, other than my leaving xerox copies of the original cage with her for reference. Mr. Perozziello and his Scouts would be glad to make any and all cages, to any specifications, for monuments along this Line, and hope the agencies will consider their offer.

Alice Martin 12/83



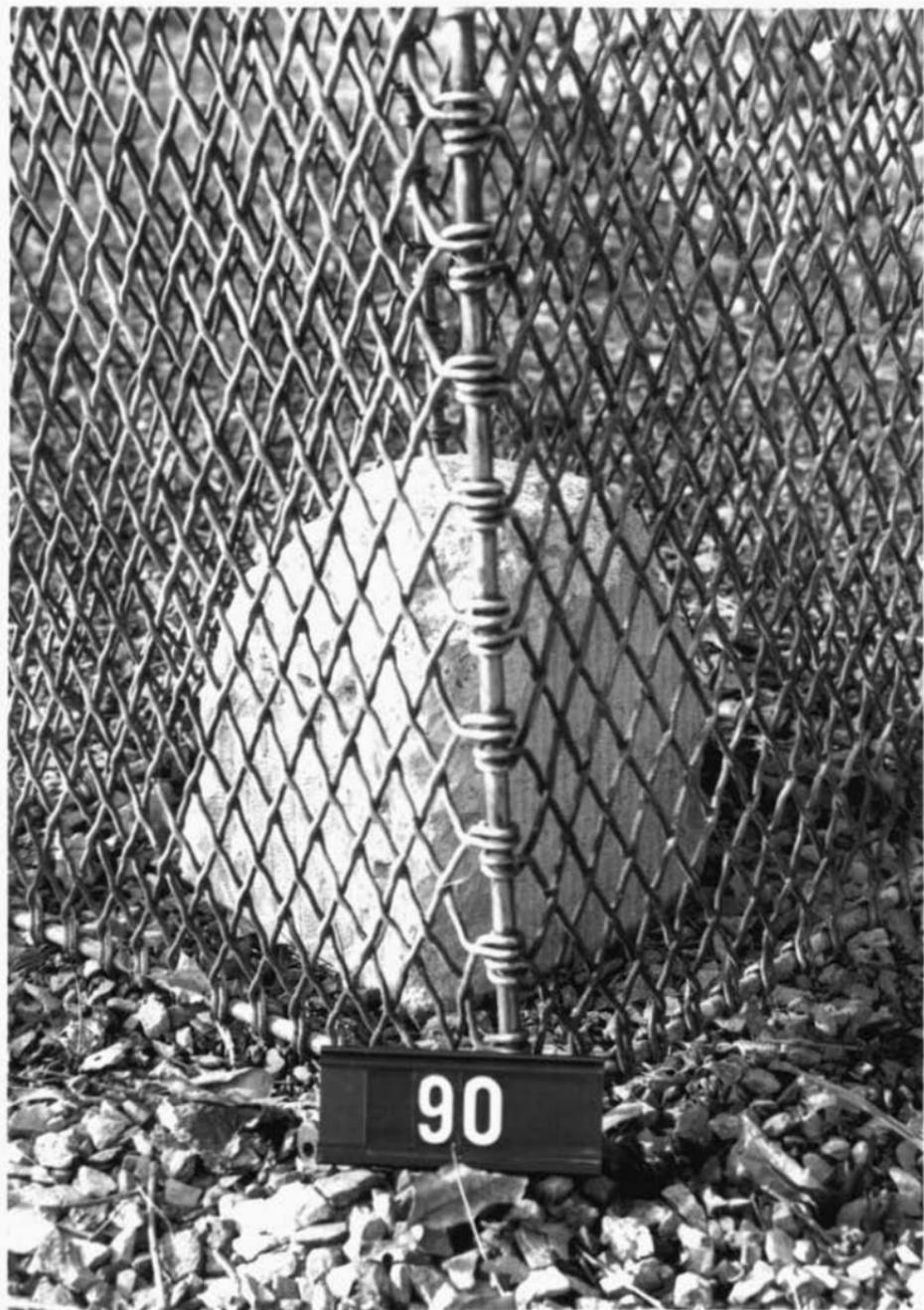
MHT

LA-II-090

MASON DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 90 (93) ORIG.
CROWNSTONE (1767)

NW CORNER (PER COAT OF ARMS)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1957.2.30, 2/15/81)



MHT

WA-TV-090

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE; MILESTONE 90 (93) ORIG.
CREWINGSTONE (1767)

SE CORNER (CALVERT UCAT OF AUCISS-)

INSTR: ALICE MARTIN, 2ND L. 37, 1/15/81



MHT

WA-IV-090

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 90 (93)
(original limestone, 1767)
SW CORNER (— | CALVERT COAT OF ARMS)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 11/9/83 (1984.10.27A)
AFTER HEAVY WIRE CAGE HAD BEEN STOLEN



MHT

WA-IV-090

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE; MILESTONE 90 (93)
ORIGINAL CROWNSTONE (1767)
NE CORNER (- / PENN COAT OF ARMS)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 11/9/83 (1984.10.25A)
AFTER HEAVY WIRE CAGE HAD BEEN STOLEN