

ABSTRACT

WA-V-219

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 119(123)  
Pecktonville, Maryland vicinity  
Public/private

1767 (reset 1902)

Milestone No. 119(123) marks Mason and Dixon's 119th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of the survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. It is an original milestone of 1767, in good condition, unaltered, and stands firmly at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1766, monumented the following year, and reset more securely in 1902 at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Quarried and carved in England of oolitic limestone, it originally measured about 12 inches square by about 4 feet or more in length, cut to stand about 3 feet high with its 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 Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. Reset in 1902 presumably to stand about 1½ feet high, it now stands about 13 inches above ground and measures about 11½ inches **on** the north and south sides, about 11 inches on the east and west sides. The letters and most embellishments remain; although the top, east and west sides are very weathered, and all edges and top corners are chipped. This monument is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers 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.

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, 119th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON  
MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 119 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 123)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)  
STREET & NUMBER off east side of Coon (Kuhn's) Ridge Road (Pecktonville Road)

CITY, TOWN Pecktonville  VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 9  
STATE Maryland COUNTY MD: Washington/PA: Franklin

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	X not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 \_\_\_\_\_ STATE, zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)  
COURTHOUSE, LIBER #:  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. 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-V-219 entered 2/24/81  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis STATE Maryland 21401

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 119(123) marks Mason and Dixon's 119th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone of 1767, <sup>stands about 1 foot above ground</sup> in good condition, unaltered, at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1766, monumented the following year, and reset more securely during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is the north end of Coon Ridge, a slender, comparatively low north-south <sup>heavily wooded</sup> ridge between Little Cove Valley to the east and Licking Creek and its valley to the west. About 2½ miles long, most of the Maryland portion is now part of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Indian Springs Wildlife Management area. The site is within Election District 15 of Washington County, MD, and Warren Township, PA; about 3½ miles north of the scattered settlement of Pecktonville; <sup>at the line</sup> about 500 feet due east of Coon (Kuhn's) Ridge Road, (which follows the ridge and may <sup>now</sup> connect with a private farm lane north of the boundary); <sup>at a point</sup> about 200 feet downhill from the second bend in a section of an old road (no longer maintained and no longer connecting with Little Cove Road because of a bridge having been washed out). It can be seen from that bend when vegetation is dormant, and seems protected in this isolated area.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and originally measuring about 12 inches square by about 4 feet or more long, cut to stand about 3 feet high 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 Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. Reset in 1902 to stand (presumably) about 1½ feet high, it now stands about 13 inches above ground and measures about 11½ inches on the north and south sides, about 11 inches on the east and west sides; the letters and circle panels are clear and intact; <sup>on the north and south sides</sup> most fluting and margins remain; but the top, east and west <sup>and with most fluting gone</sup> sides are very weatherworn; <sup>and</sup> there are chips along all <sup>particularly the southwest and southeast</sup> edges and top corners.

**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)

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> 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)    ~~LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon  
 SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 119(123) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers 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 1766, monumented the following year, and reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. 119(123) is 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 DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Cherry Run (Maryland-West Virginia-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5  
minute series (topographic), 1951 photorev. 1971, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 75455, northing 440093

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 and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

3/28/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; 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

CHERRY RUN QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND-WEST VIRGINIA-PENNSYLVANIA

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NE/4 HANCOCK 15' QUADRANGLE

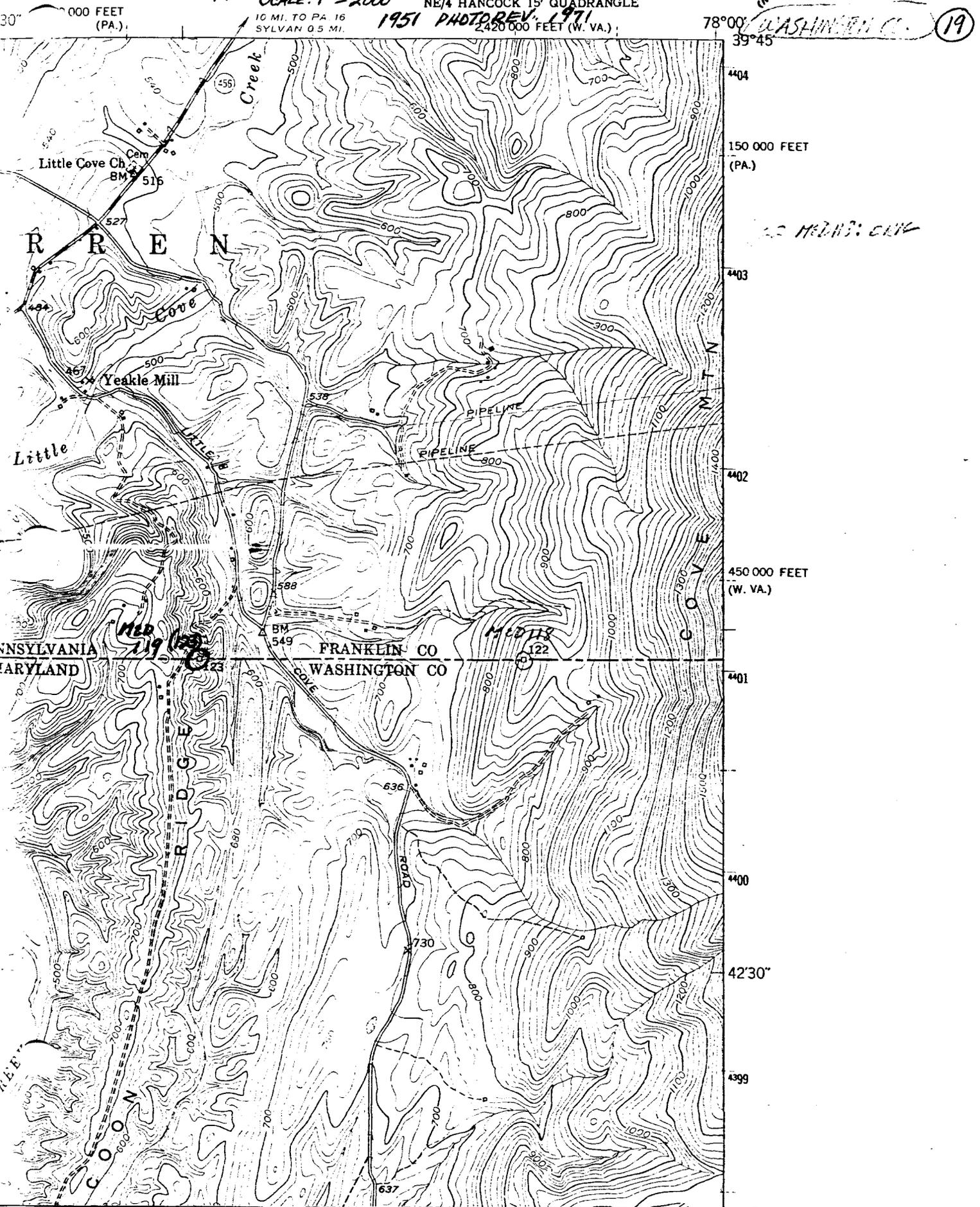
1951 PHOTO REV. 1971

SCALE: 1" = 2000'

10 MI. TO PA 16 SYLVAN 0.5 MI.

2420 000 FEET (W. VA.)

5463 IV SW (MERCERSBURG) WASHINGTON CO. (19)



MEETS: CIVIL

MEETS 119 (123)

MEETS 122



119

MASON EDWARDS WEST LINE MILESTONE (2) (23)  
SE CORNER (M-), ORIGINAL (1767)  
PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 3/28/81 (1981.2.14)



MARSH, J. W. (1767) THE HISTORY OF THE  
NEW ENGLAND (1767), ORIGINAL (1767)

PROVIDENCE, R. I. 3, 1767