

ABSTRACT

WA-V-220

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 120(124)
Pecktonville, Maryland vicinity
Public/private

1767 (reset 1902)

Milestone No. 120(124) is an original crownstone of 1767, unaltered but in deteriorated condition, in its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1766, monumented the following year, and repaired and reset more securely in 1902 at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It marks Mason and Dixon's 120th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Despite its **disfiguration** by chipping and weathering, it remains significant on the national and state levels 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, 120th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 120 (1900-03 Resurvey No. 124)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off east side of Orchard Ridge Road/LR-28001

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER state boundary markers

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-V-220 entered 2/24/81

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis

STATE Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

Survey No. WA-V-220

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 120(124) marks Mason and Dixon's 120th 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, ^{unaltered but in} ~~deteriorated~~ condition, and remains at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1766, monumented the following year, repaired and reset ^{more securely} ~~in~~ 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is in the bottom-land of ^{the winding} ~~Licking~~ Creek valley, quite flat, open farmland, sparsely settled, and surrounded in all directions by ridges and mountains (Coon Ridge to the east, Orchard Ridge to the south, Elbow Ridge and Keefer Mountain to the west and north). The site is within Election District 15 of Washington County, MD, and Warren Township, PA; about 2½ miles north of the scattered settlement of Pecktonville, MD; about 500 feet west of Licking Creek; at a point about 2800 feet east of Orchard Ridge Road at the junction of the McCullogh private lane and about 200 feet north-northeast of their farmhouse; in a fenced cowpasture, about 50 feet off the northeast corner of a corncrib-small barn in the rear of their house. It cannot be seen from any road or the McCullogh house, or easily from nearby. It is almost unrecognizable, in part from cattle licking it (thinking it's a salt block), and is unprotected.

This crownstone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished oolitic limestone post, no longer with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and probably originally measured about 12 inches square by about 4 or more feet in length, 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 stylized shields of the Penns on the north side facing Pennsylvania and that of the Calverts on the south side facing Maryland. This monument was found "broken off above the ground" at the time of the Resurvey, "was repaired and reset", presumably at about its present height of about 9 inches (since the concrete foundation is now exposed), and measures about 11½ inches square. The top several inches were broken off ^{diagonally} ~~long ago~~ and the entire stone is severely weathered. The shields are barely discernible, and only patches of fluting remain. All edges and top corners are chipped. It's a sad, neglected sight.

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			
<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) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 120(124), a crownstone of 1767, 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 repaired and reset more securely in its original site 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. 120(124) 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)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 75295, northing 440089

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

3/29/81 (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

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE

WA-II-220



CHERRY RUN QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND - WEST VIRGINIA - PENNSYLVANIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1957 PHOTO REV. 1971
SCALE: 1" = 2000'

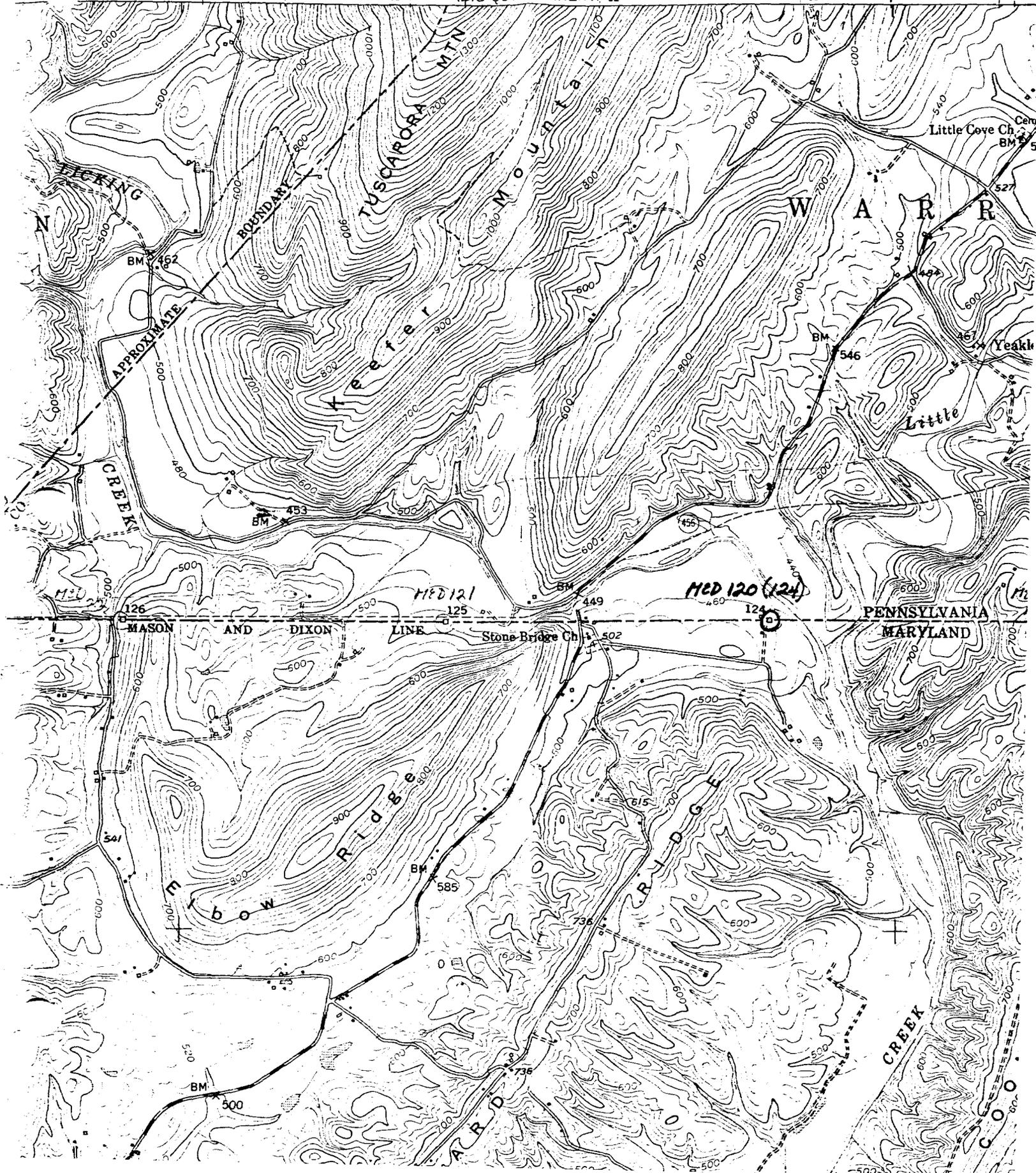
5' 750

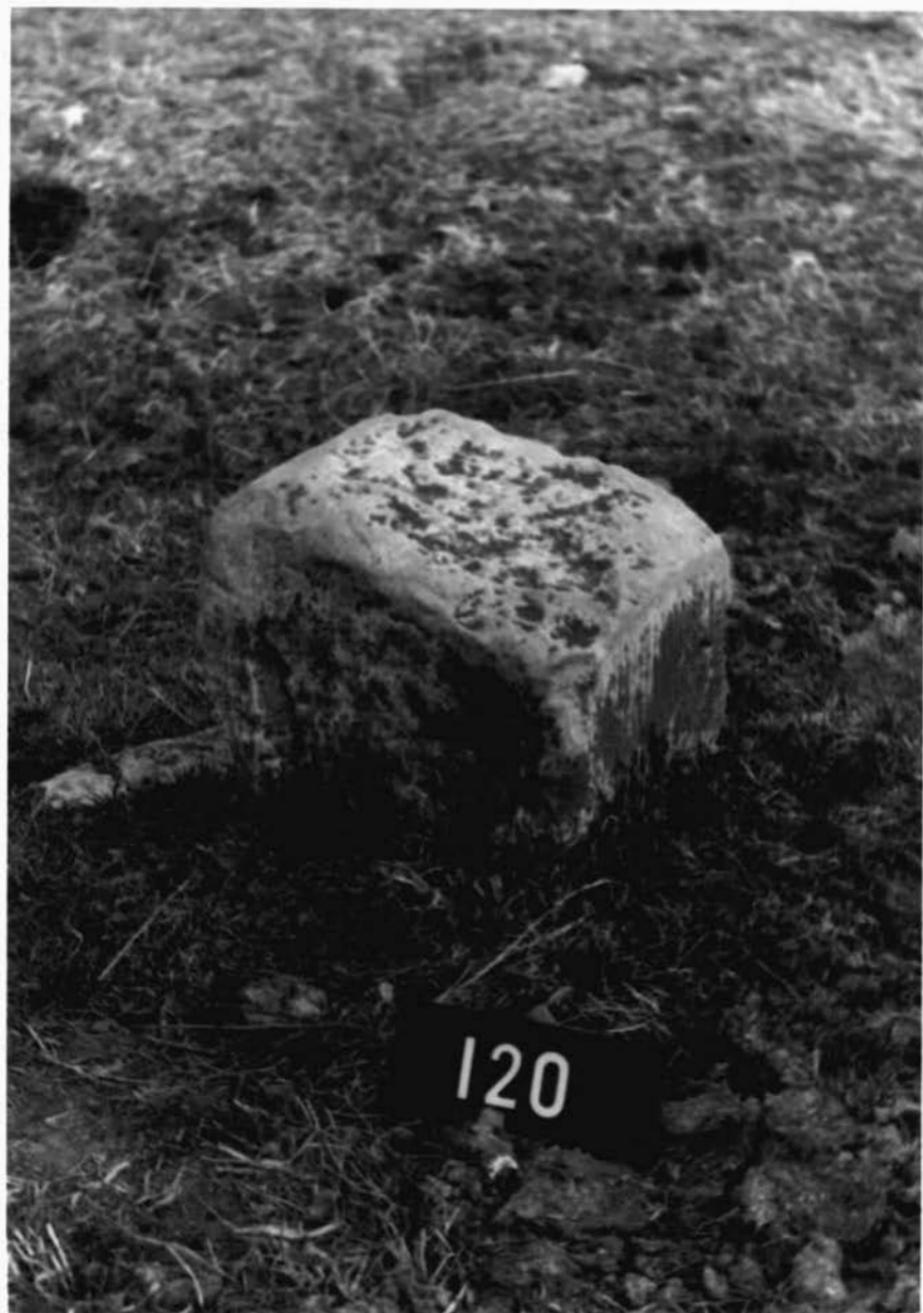
751

5363 1 SE
(BIG COVE TANNERY) 752

753

2'30" 1920 000 FEET
(PA.)





RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENT
NOV-20-1767 (PERM. 1767-1768) —
ORIGINAL CROWNSTONE (1767)

1767-1768 (PERM. 1767-1768)



MA*

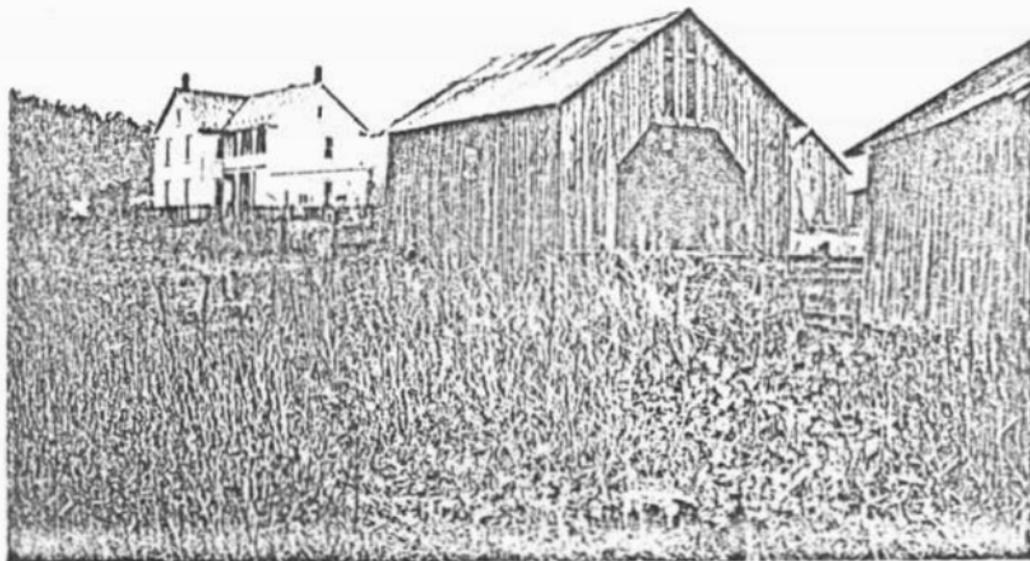
10A 11 200

MARSH & MORTIMER: THE 'A' JEWELLERY
SE CORNER 2012 ST MARY'S CHURCH
ORIGINAL CROWNSTONE (1767)

PHOTO ALICE MORTIMER (1981.14.15)

FARMHOUSE

CONCRETE ↓



SIDE
WHITE
PILLS

H/D DEST LINE: MILES ONE 120 (134)

WA-I-220

VIEW SW 1 OF STONE IN RELATION TO
BARN & FARMHOUSE
PP 2.54.8 MHS TRUSSELL COLL.

↑ STONE! (undated)

PHOTO: DR. A. L. TRUSSELL (undated; c. 1948)

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE MILESTONE 120 (124)

WA-V-220



MHS TRUSSELL COLLECTION; PP 2.54.1

CONTACT PHOTOPRINT: DR. A. L. TRUSSELL C. 1948 (undated)