

ABSTRACT

WA-VI-036

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(139)

Bellegrove, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

1767 (milestone, first set 1902)

1767 mound

Milestone No. ---(139) is an original milestone of 1767 brought from the vicinity of Clear Spring, Maryland, in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary and set into the center of a large mound of earth originally erected with a wood center post ^{in 1767} to mark a survey point along Mason and Dixon's 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone post, quarried and carved in England. It is in fairly good condition, unaltered, measures about 11½ inches square and stands ^{firmly set} /about 15 inches above its concrete foundation within the earth mound, which is now quite small. The milestone 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 still defining the West Line. Locally, as one of 48 of these original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones; 1 of each in a mound), 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

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, Point in the Line (marking 137 miles and 11 chains from the Post Marked West)
 AND/OR COMMON
 MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 139)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)
 STREET & NUMBER off east side of High Germany Road/LR-29001
 CITY, TOWN Bellegrove VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 9
 STATE Maryland COUNTY MD: Washington / PA: Fulton

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 marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument and mound 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-VI-036 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
—EXCELLENT	—DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED (stone)	X ORIGINAL SITE (mound)
X GOOD	—RUINS	X ALTERED (mound)	—MOVED DATE _____
—FAIR	—UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(139) is an original milestone ^{of 1767} brought from the vicinity of Clear Spring, Maryland, in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and ^{center of the} set in the "Pile of Earth" ^{of the} originally erected by Mason and Dixon at ^{center of the} this site, in 1767. The milestone is in fairly good condition, unaltered, stands about 15 inches high above its ^{concrete} foundation within the mound of earth. The "Pile of Earth" as Mason and Dixon referred to them ^{originally marked} with wood posts about 12 inches square ^{and marked W on the west side} was described by the Resurvey as a "large earth mound", ^{and remains in good condition but is} now quite small, so is believed to have been altered, possibly ^{in 1902} at the time of the setting of the stone into it.

The area here is rural, ^{sloping} open/farmed lands, along a ridge, sparsely settled, and surrounded by extensive woodlands ^{mostly} along the many streams flowing into ^{the winding} Sideling Hill Creek nearby. The site is within Election District 5 of Washington County, MD, and Union Township of Fulton County, PA; about 1½ miles northeast of the small scattered settlement of Bellegrove, MD; about ½ mile west of Bear Creek; about ¾ mile east of Sideling Hill Creek; about 700 feet southeast of the junction of the Hoopengardner's private drive with High Germany Road/LR-29001 and about 6 feet east of the drive when about 100 feet north of the farmhouse. It is in the center of the mound of earth covered with iris and weeds. It cannot be seen from the main road, but easily from the drive when closeby, all seasons, ^{though the monument} and is protected by the Hoopengardners and being set above ground level, the mound is not.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top (now ^{with} a large depression in the apex), 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 embellishments 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. Set in 1902 to its present height, ^{it measures about 11½ inches square;} all surfaces are extremely weathered; letters are clear but eroded (and M is chipped); fluting and margins are gone on the north and west sides, though some remain on the east and south sides; all edges and corners are chipped; and no planes or fluting remain on the top.

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

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)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying	

SPECIFIC DATES: milestone 1767.(first set 1902) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ 1767 (mound) Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(139) 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 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 1766, and "Pile of Earth" with a wood post in the center to mark the survey point set in 1767. In 1902, at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, an original milestone of 1767 was brought from the vicinity of Clear Spring, Maryland, and set in the mound, replacing the post long since disappeared. Locally as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. ---(139) 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 acreQuadrangle name: Bellegrove (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5
minute series (topographic), 1951 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 73013, northing 440020

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Washington

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

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

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey 5/31/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

14308 Mount Avenue

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Phoenix

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



391

MHT

WA - II - 036

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (139)

SW CORNER (-1M), ADDITION (1902) OF
ORIGINAL (1767 FROM VICINITY OF CLEAR SPRING)
TO SMALL MOUND OF EARTH (CAIRN OF 1767?)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 5/31/81 (1981. 19. 19)



MHT

WA-VI-036

MASON EDINBOROUGH WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (139)

NE CORNER (-1P)

ADDITION (1902) WITH ORIGINAL (1767 FROM VICINITY OF

CLEAR SPRING) TO SMALL MOUND OF EARTH (1767?)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 5/31/81 (1981.19.23)