

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, 53rd Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 53 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 56)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off west side of Shaffer Mill Road (PA T-359)

CITY, TOWN

Stiltz

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 2 / PA: 19

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Baltimore / PA: York

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 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

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION N/A

(see 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

Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

BA-1572 entered 3/8/79

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Office of Planning, County Courts Building

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 53(56) marks Mason and Dixon's 53rd horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is one of 12 monuments now marking the Baltimore/York county boundary at miles intervals; is an original milestone of 1766 at its original site preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and reset in 1902 at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is rural, gently rolling farmland, sparsely settled. The site is located about 1 mile due west of the center of the crossroads settlement of Stiltz; about 200' west of and downhill from Shaffer Mill Road; in the side yard southwest of a vacant house, against a whitewashed east-west board fence separating this property from the Millers to the south. It cannot be seen from the road because of planting along the fence; but might be, some seasons.

The monument originally probably stood about 3' above ground, but was reset to stand about 1½' high at the time of the Resurvey in 1902. It now stands about 1' above ground, is firmly set, in excellent condition, with all embellishments distinct, and only minor chipping along the top corners and edges. As with all original Mason and Dixon milestones, ^{a four-sided post about 11" square,} this one is of oolitic limestone quarried and carved in England, with a capital P V-cut into a circle panel on the north side facing Pennsylvania and a capital M V-cut into a circle panel on the south side facing Maryland; and with a low pyramidal top with a centered apex. Though all surfaces are noticeably weathered, the fluting and margins on the four sides are clear, as is the fluting on the 4-plane top.

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form for details of original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 1766 (reset 1902) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are 24 original crownstones and 111 original milestones still standing along Mason and Dixon's West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. Milestone ^{significant primarily as} No. 53(56) is one of those, set in 1766 at a site preliminarily surveyed in 1765, and reset more securely in 1902 at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Individually, and as one of 10 original milestones still marking the present Baltimore/York county boundary, it is also significant locally as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with an identifiable relationship to our colonial heritage.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group NR 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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

UTM: 18.34704.439806

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY York

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

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

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

1/20/80 (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

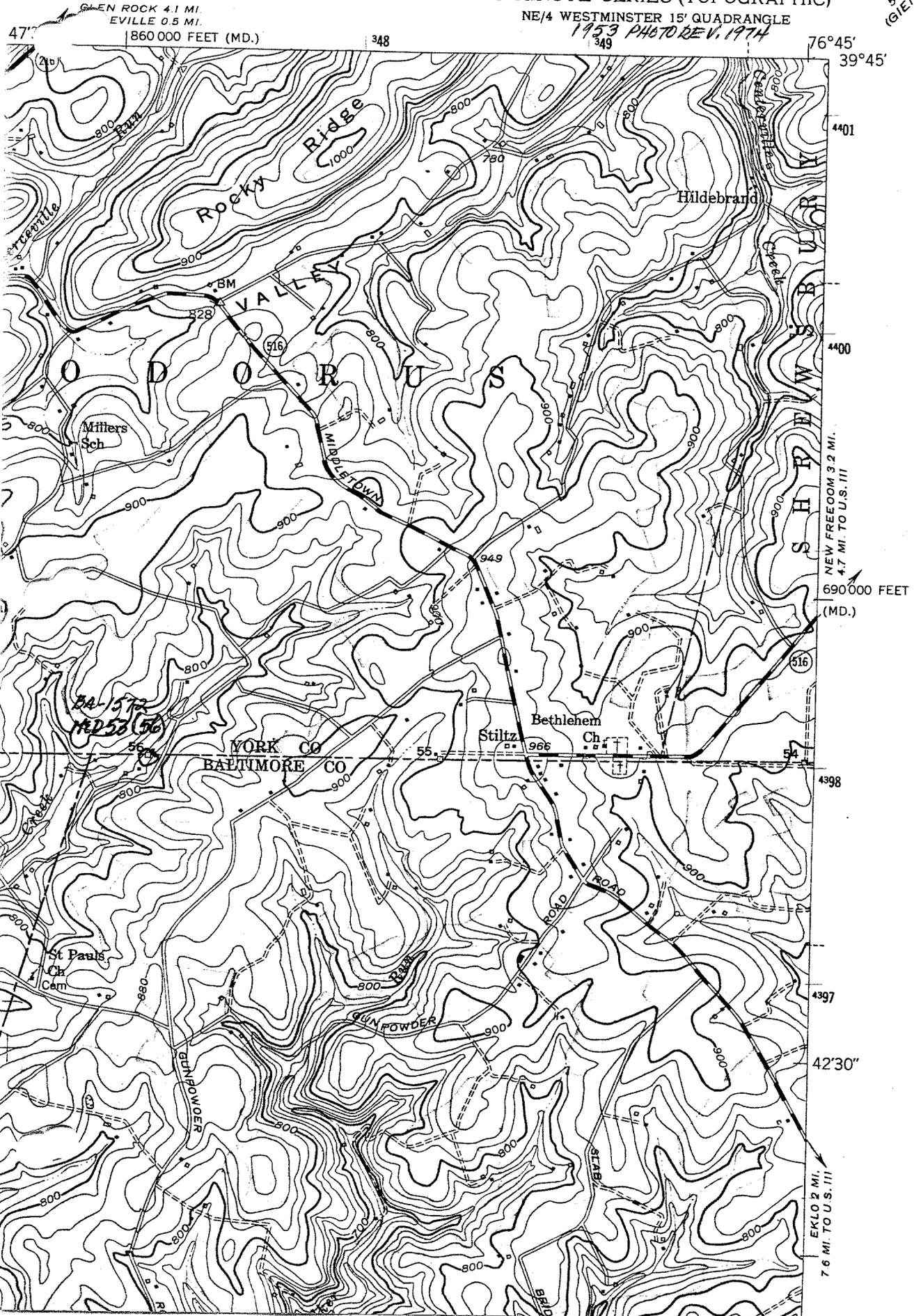
MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 53 (56)
LINEBORO QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND—PENNSYLVANIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE 1/4 WESTMINSTER 15' QUADRANGLE
1953 PHOTO REV. 1974
349

BA-1572

5563 1 SW
(GLEN ROCK)



SCALE 1:24000





MHT

BA-1572

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 53(56) (NW CORNER) (P/-)
W/S SHAFFER MILL RD., STILTZ VICINITY

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 4/20/80 (1980.3.7A)