

ABSTRACT

JARR-310

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 74(77)

1767 (reset 1902)

Harney, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 74(77) is an original monument of 1767 at its original site, marking Mason and Dixon's 74th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of their survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was quarried and carved in England, of colitic limestone, ^{typically} measuring about 12" square by about 40' long, cut to stand as a post about 3' above ground with a base left rough-cut for setting into the ground, and capped by a low pyramidal top. It is embellished with vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with fluting carried up the top planes to a centered apex. The distinguishing decorative features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, this milestone was reset to stand about 14" above ground and now is about 14" high, measuring about 11 1/2" on the north and south sides by about 11" on the east and west sides. The top is nearly flat and so weathered no planes or fluting remain. Except for large chips at the top northwest and southwest corners and edges, most embellishments remain and are comparatively intact; and the monument is in place, firmly set. On the national and state levels, No. 74(77) is significant primarily as one of the series of 135 original monuments still marking the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 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 State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CARR-310

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name) *

BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
historic (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 74th Mile Stone

* and/or common Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 74 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 77)

2. Location

street & number off east side of Pensy Creek Road, MD/Maryland not for publication
Line Road (T-412), PA

city, town Harney vicinity of congressional district MD: 6 / PA: 19

state Maryland county MD: Carroll / PA: Adams

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 (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

(monument only; see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

name State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

N/A (see surrounding property ownership list)

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Carroll County Historic Sites Inventory

date CARR-310 entered 1/80 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-310

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Milestone No. 74(77) marks Mason and Dixon's 74th 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 at its original site, though reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and is in good condition, unaltered, standing about 14" high, firmly set.

The area here is open, fairly level farmland, sparsely settled, with strands of deciduous woodlands following the nearby winding Alloway Creek and its tributaries. The site is within Election District 1 of Carroll County, MD; Mount Joy Township of Adams County, PA; about 1¼ miles northeast of the village of Harney, MD; at a point about 900' south of Study Road (T-673), about 700' east of Piney Creek Road/Maryland Line Road (T-412), in the middle of a cornfield near an old farm service lane. It cannot be seen from any road, nor easily from nearby except when vegetation is dormant and crops have been harvested. It is not marked in any way and is vulnerable to damage by farm machinery.

As with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, this milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top; was quarried and carved in England; ^{typically} measured about 12" square by about 4½' long, cut to stand about 3' above ground with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. There is vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with fluting carried up the top planes to a centered apex. The distinguishing decorative features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902, No. 74(77) was set to stand about 1½' high, and now stands about 14" high and measures about 11½" on the north and south sides, about 11" on the east and west sides. Most embellishments remain and are comparatively intact, although there are big chips at the top northwest and southwest corners, all edges; and the top is nearly flat, ^{and very weathered} with no planes or fluting left.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-310

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input 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 1767 (reset 1902) Builder/Architect Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Milestone No. 74(77) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of the series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and the monument set in 1767, where it remains unaltered to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments still marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones) No. 74(77) 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

Survey No. CARR-310

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Taneytown (Maryland-Pennsylvania)
USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic)

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	1,8	31,2	4,39,8
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
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D			
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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Verbal boundary description and justification N/A

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	Maryland	code	county	Carroll	code
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state	Pennsylvania	code	county	Adams	code
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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 6/81 (site surveyed by BSA Troop 970)

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

CARR-310

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 74 (77)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS



TANEYTON QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC),
1953 PHOTO REV. 1971 SCALE: 1" = 2000

312 5563 1 SW (GETTYSBURG) 313

GETTYSBURG 7.2 MI
TWO TAVERNS 2.1 MI

315

316





PHOTO PLASTIC PRODUCTS INC. P. O. BOX 17030 DALLAS, TEXAS 75217

STYLE NO. 57-2B

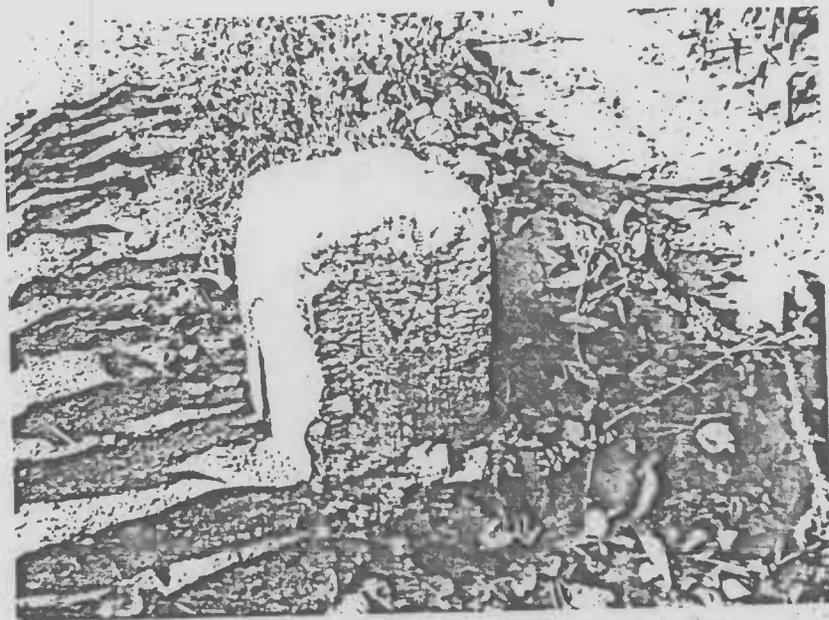
DATE 6/80

MASON EDIXON WESTLINE (MD-PA) BOUNDARY MARKERS
ASSIGNMENT CARROLL COUNTY 74 (77)

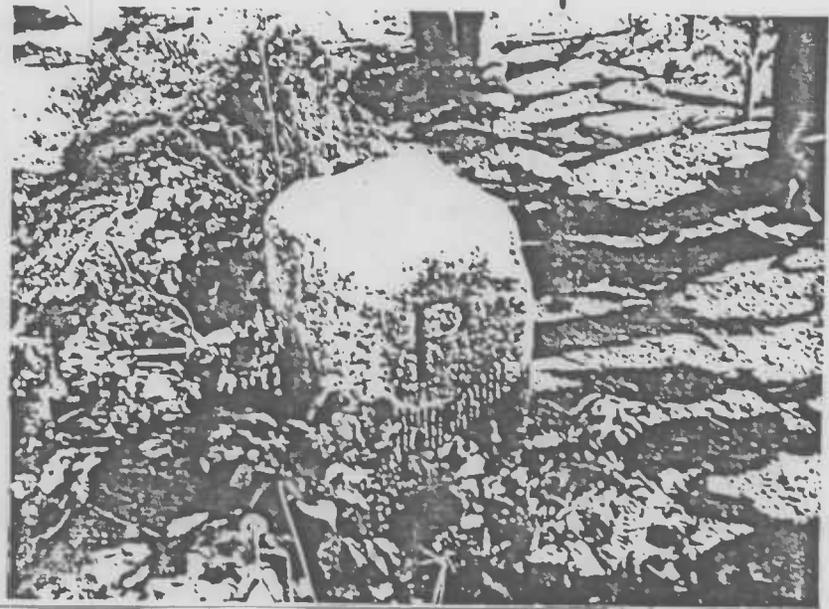
INSERT EMULSION SIDE

FILE NO. 1708

CARR-310



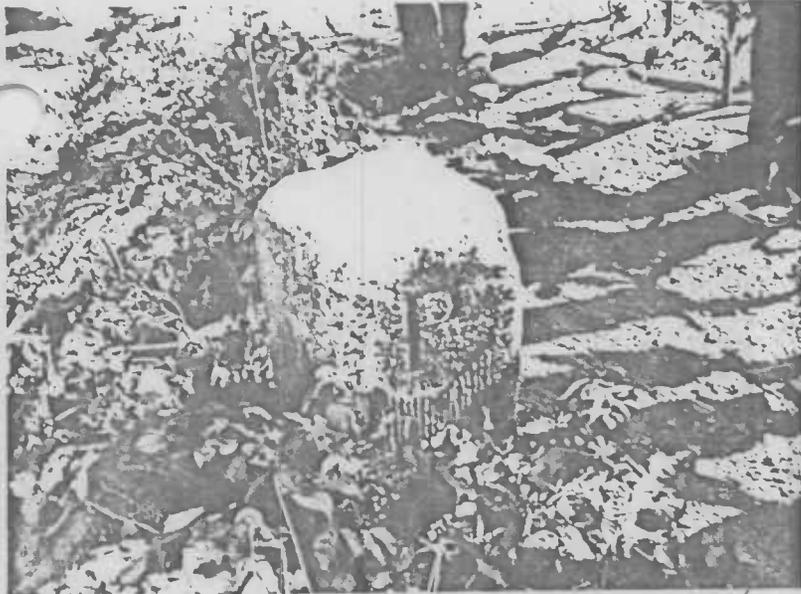
SW corner of stone wall



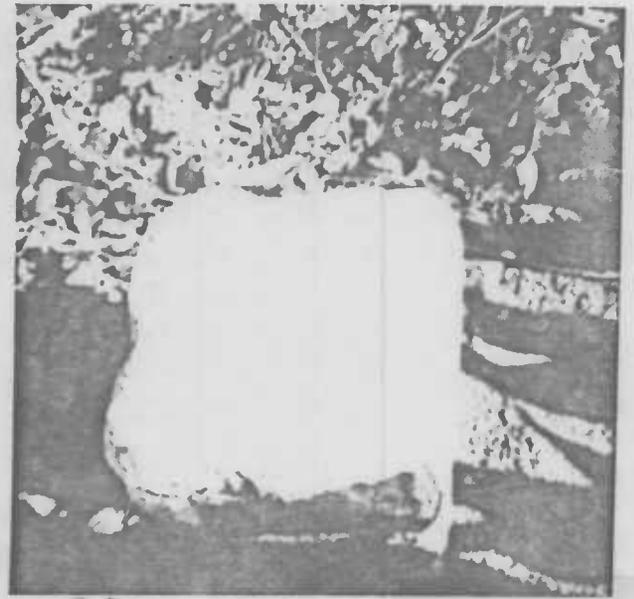
Stone marker in foreground

CARR-310

MCD WEST LINE; MILESTONE 74(77)
ORIGINAL (1767)



NE CORNER PHOTOS; BOY SCOUT TROOP 970 6/81



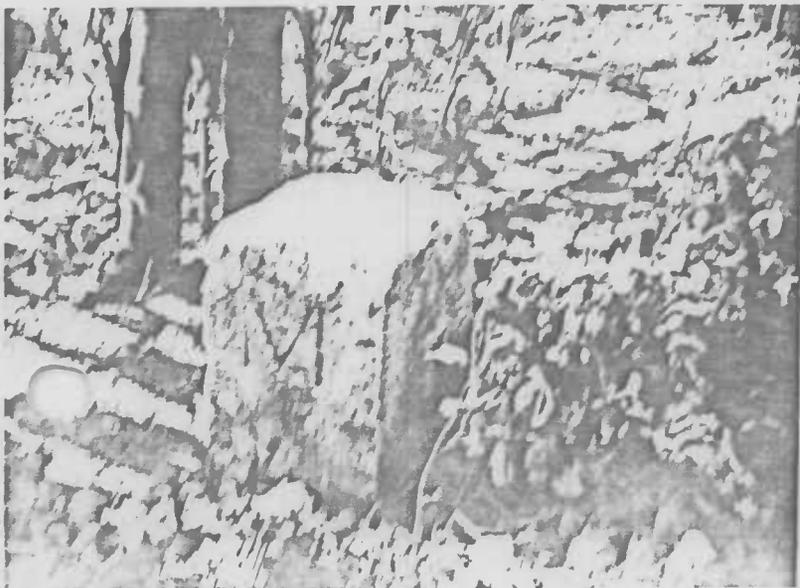
TOP



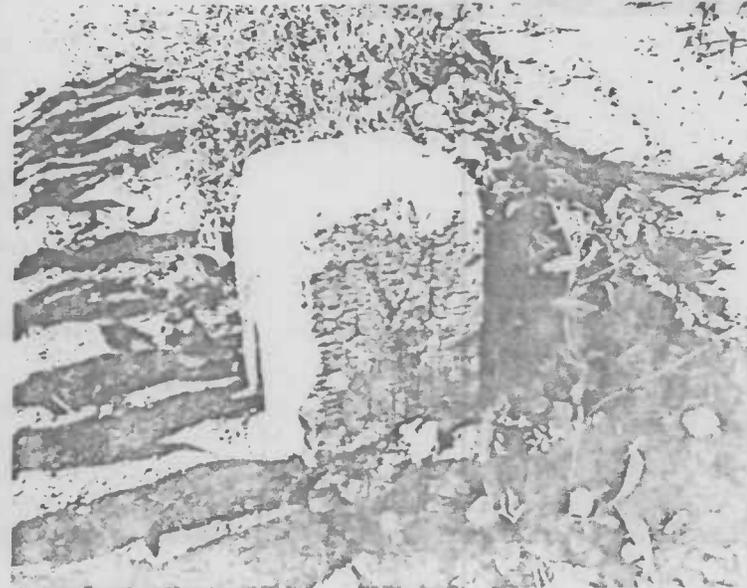
N/S



NW CORNER



SE CORNER



SW CORNER