

ABSTRACT

HA-1547

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 34(36)

1766 (reset 1902)

Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania, vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 34(36) marks Mason and Dixon's 34th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their 230.228-mile West Line, the longest of their survey lines run and marked to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The monument, first set in 1766, is an embellished, oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and was quarried and carved in England, originally measuring about 12" square by about 4½' in length, cut to stand about 3' above ground. Reset more securely in 1902 to stand about 1½' high, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, it remains essentially that height, is unaltered and in fair condition, with large chips along the northwest and southeast edges. The capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side are clear and intact, and most fluting and margins remain; but there are chips along all edges, and the top is noticeably weathered and with a large pit in the apex. On the federal and state levels, this monument is primarily significant as one of the series of 135 original Mason and Dixon stones still standing along the West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. Locally, as one of 17 original monuments in place along the present Harford/York county boundary (3 crownstones, 14 milestones), No. 34(36) is also significant as being amongst the few and diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these two counties.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi No.

## 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, 34th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 34 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 36)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET &amp; NUMBER off east side of McDermott Road/PA T-586

CITY, TOWN

Fawn Grove

 VICINITY OFCONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
MD: 1 / PA: 19

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY  
MD: Harford / 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              | <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                       |
|  |  | <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 &amp; 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 &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Harford County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

HA-1547 entered 2/25/80

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE  
Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

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

Milestone No. 34(36) marks Mason and Dixon's 34th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone, first set in 1766, reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and remains unaltered at its original site.

The area here is predominantly rural, rolling farmland, interspersed with deciduous woods and an occasional orchard. The site is within Harford County's 5th Election District, York County's Fawn Grove Township; about 1/4 miles southeast of the town of Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania; about 3/4 mile due west of the crossroads area known as Constitution, Maryland/Pennsylvania; about 1000' east of McDermott Road/PA T-586 and the Linkous farmhouse; in an open uncultivated grassy strip separating the Richardson orchard on the north from the Linkous farm lane/telephone poles/farmed fields on the south. It cannot be seen from any road, but rather easily from nearby, and is reasonably/well protected, both by the location and the surrounding property and the owners.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished, oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and was quarried and carved in England, originally measuring about 12" square by about 4 1/2' in length, cut to stand about 3' above ground. Reset in 1902 to stand about 1 1/2' high, it remains close to that now (about 15"). The capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side are clear and intact though their circle panels have been damaged by large chips from top to bottom along the northwest and southeast corners. Otherwise: most fluting and margins remain though chipped along all edges and top corners. The top planes are rounded from weathering and there is a large pit in the apex.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for descriptions of the 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)<br>boundary surveying |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION                         |   |   |

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon  
SURVEYORS

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Milestone No. 34(36) is significant on the federal and state levels primarily as one of the series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along their 230.228-mile West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and monumented the following year, where it remains firmly in place to this day, having been reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Individually, and as one of 17 original monuments remaining along the present Harford/York county boundary (3 crown-stones, 14 milestones), No. 34(36) is also significant locally as being amongst the few and diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to our colonial and Civil War heritage.

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 DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Fawn Grove (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series,  
scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 37740, northing 439756

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Harford

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY York

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME/TITLE Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason-Dixon Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey DATE (site surveyed by  
4/5/80 Jean Ewing)STREET & NUMBER 14308 Mount Avenue TELEPHONE  
301/472-2128CITY 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 34 (36)  
FAWN GROVE QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND - PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1956 PHOTOREV. 1974 SCALE: 1" = 2000'



5763 IV SW (AIRVILLE) WOODBINE 3.4 MI.

27'30"

376

378

25'

379

Bald

Eagle

Creek

McDermott

F A W N

Kennard-Dale High Sch

Fawn Grove

Faith Ch

YORK CO HARFORD CO

MED 34 (36)

Constitution

NOINO ROAD

SCOTT ROAD

FAWN GROVE

Falling

McDERMOTT

LINKOUS

ROAD

ROCKS

WHITEFORD

BM

x 570

653

599

663

610

637

645

732

710

649

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170 34

North & West sides (P/-)

HA-1547

Mason & Dixon west line stone 34(36)

PHOTO: JEAN

1 E wing

5 April 80 (NEG. #26A)



MHT

HA-1547

Mason & Dixon west line; marker # 34 (36)

SE corner (M/-)

PHOTO: JEAN  
Ewing 6/80 frame 20