

ABSTRACT

WA-V-180

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 114(118)

1767 (reset 1902)

Clear Spring, Maryland vicinity

Public/public-private

Milestone No. 114(118) is an original of 1767, in good condition, slightly altered, in its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, monumented two years later, 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 114th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of the survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. Originally quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone, it now stands about 20 inches high above a concrete foundation as reset in 1902 and measures close to 12 inches square. The distinguishing decorative features 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.

Most of these embellishments remain clear, but all edges and top corners are quite chipped; the top is weathered and rounded rather than pyramidal; and the date 1767 is believed to have been added ^{on the west side} sometime between 1903 and 1948. This milestone is significant on the national and state levels primarily 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, it is significant not only 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, but also as one of the few in the field made available for public viewing without the problem of trespassing.

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, 114th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 114 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 118)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER off east side of Blairs Valley Road/T-310

CITY, TOWN

Clear Spring 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 type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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; 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-180

entered 7/78
updated 3/81

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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. 114(118) marks Mason and Dixon's 114th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is in good condition, slightly altered with the date 1767 cut into the west side (believed sometime between 1902 and 1948), and still at its original site where reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is Blair Valley, about a half-mile wide at the Line, stretching for several miles from Maryland into Pennsylvania in a southwesterly-northwesterly direction following Little Conococheague Creek, lying between densely forested Kasies Knob and Rickard Mountain to the east and Sword Mountain to the west, with scattered settlement along Blairs Valley Road/T-310, and with much of the land south of the boundary a part of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Indian Springs Wildlife Management Area. The site is within Election District 4 of Washington County, MD, and Montgomery Township of Franklin County, PA; about 4½ miles north of the town of Clear Spring, MD; about 1½ miles north of the DNR check station; about 250 feet uphill east of Blairs Valley Road/T-310, in an east-west brown-stained board fence between the Dayhoff's side yard on the north and a DNR mowed stretch on the south. It is marked by a DNR sign near the road ("Mason and Dixon Line/Star Gazers Stone") and can be seen from that point. It seems well protected by the fencing, the Dayhoffs and the DNR staff.

This milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and originally measuring about 12 inches square by about 4½ feet long, cut to stand about 3 feet above ground 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 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. It now measures about 12 inches on the east and west sides, about 11½ inches on the north and south sides; stands about 20 inches high above a concrete foundation, as reset in 1902. Both letters and circle panels are distinct, but the M is chipped; most fluting remains, but only a bit of margin on the north side; the top is rounded from chipping and weathering; and all edges and top corners are chipped. The date of 1767 is believed added to the west side sometime between the 1900-03 Resurvey and photos of 1948. The letter M and its circle panel also appear to have been recut since 1948 (but this alteration has not yet been verified).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (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)

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) . ~~BUNDELY ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
~~SURVEYORS~~

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 114(118) 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 October 1765, a short distance east-northeast of their sixth and last observation encampment along the West Line for that year. The milestone was set two years later; ^{and} reset more securely 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. 114(118) is significant not only 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, but also one of only a few in the field made available for public viewing without trespassing.

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 DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Clear Spring (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1955 photorev. 1971, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 24831, northing 440084

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 and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

3/28/81 (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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-V-180
District 4
Map 7
MAGI # 2213233234

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

"Stargazer Stone" 114th Mason-Dixon Line Marker

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Blairs Valley

CITY, TOWN

Mason-Dixon Line

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Clear Spring 6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Milestones

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Owners

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Court House

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

WA-V-180

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 checked="" 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

This Mason-Dixon Milestone appears like the other interim mile markers: A cut limestone block with a ribbed or fluted base having an M on the south face and a P on the north side. This stone is different in that it also has inscribed on the side the year 1767. It marks the point where Mason and Dixon ceased work on their boundary charting expedition while a treaty was negotiated with indians for further land to the west. It is also called the "Stargazer" stone since it was used as a point to set bearings for continuing the course of the boundary west. It is also reputedly the last imported limestone to be used for the Mason-Dixon Line, it being too difficult to transport the stones through the mountains. This is why, it is said, that so many discarded mile stones are used as door steps in the Clear Spring area.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

WA-V-180

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

Boundary Marker

SPECIFIC DATES **M - South side** 1767 BUILDER/ARCHITECT
P - North Side

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This mile stone is significant as an original 18th century boundary marker and one that figured importantly in the Mason and Dixon work.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Associates

DATE

July 1978

STREET & NUMBER

109 West Main Street, Box 202

TELEPHONE

301-432-5466

CITY OR TOWN

Sharpsburg

STATE

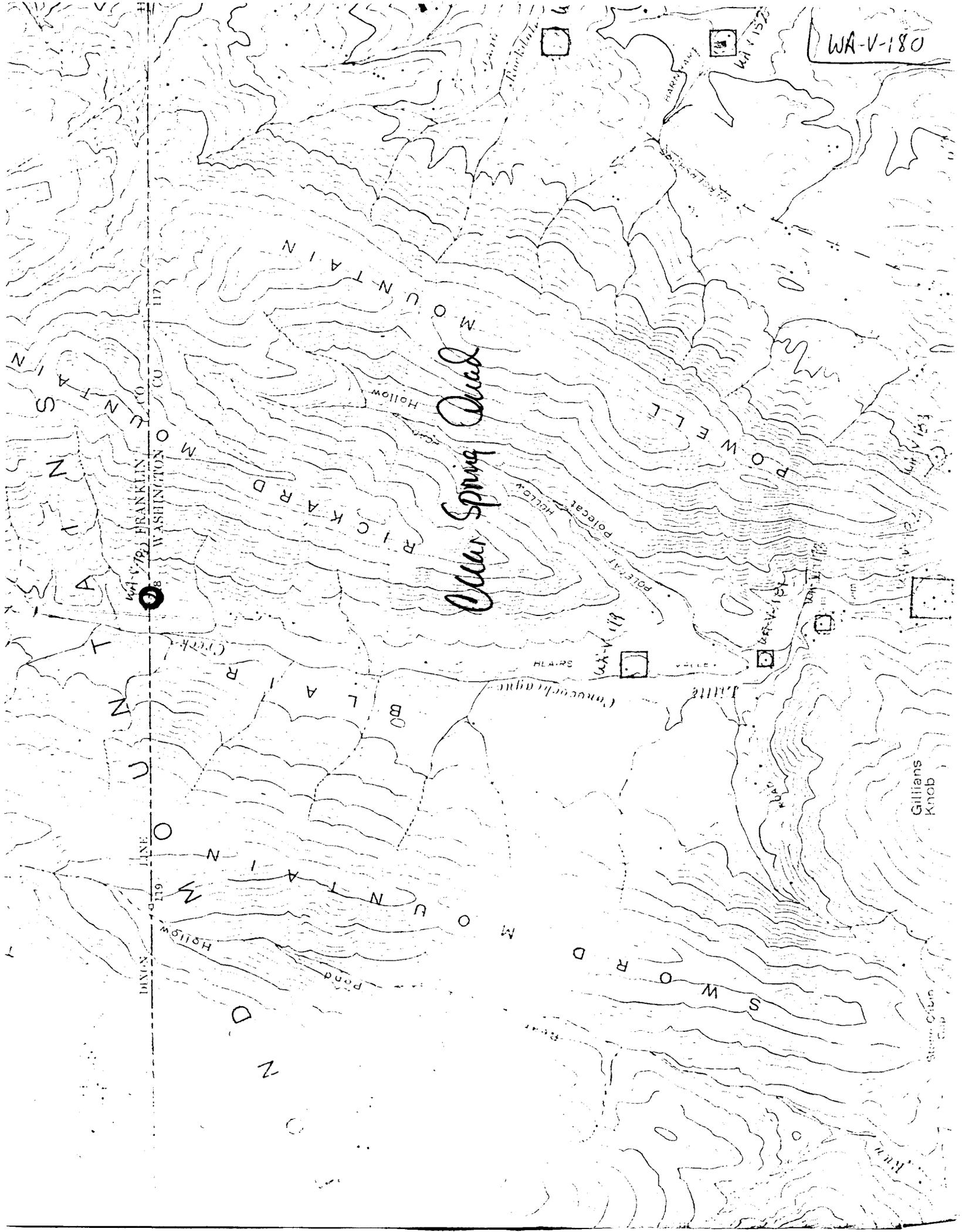
Maryland 21782

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The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

WA-V-180



FRANKLIN CO
WASHINGTON CO

DIXON LINE

Clear Spring Quack

WA-V-180

WA-V-152

WA-V-178

WA-V-179

RICKARD RD

LAIRDS VALLEY

Gillians Knob

Hollow

Pond

POWELL MOUNTAIN

POWELL

LAIRDS VALLEY

Little

LAIRDS VALLEY

Hollow

POWELL MOUNTAIN

Gillians Knob

Knob

CLEAR SPRING QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND - PENNSYLVANIA

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1953 PHOTOREV. 1971 SCALE: 1"=2000'

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

5463 IV SW
(MERCERSBURG)

249

245

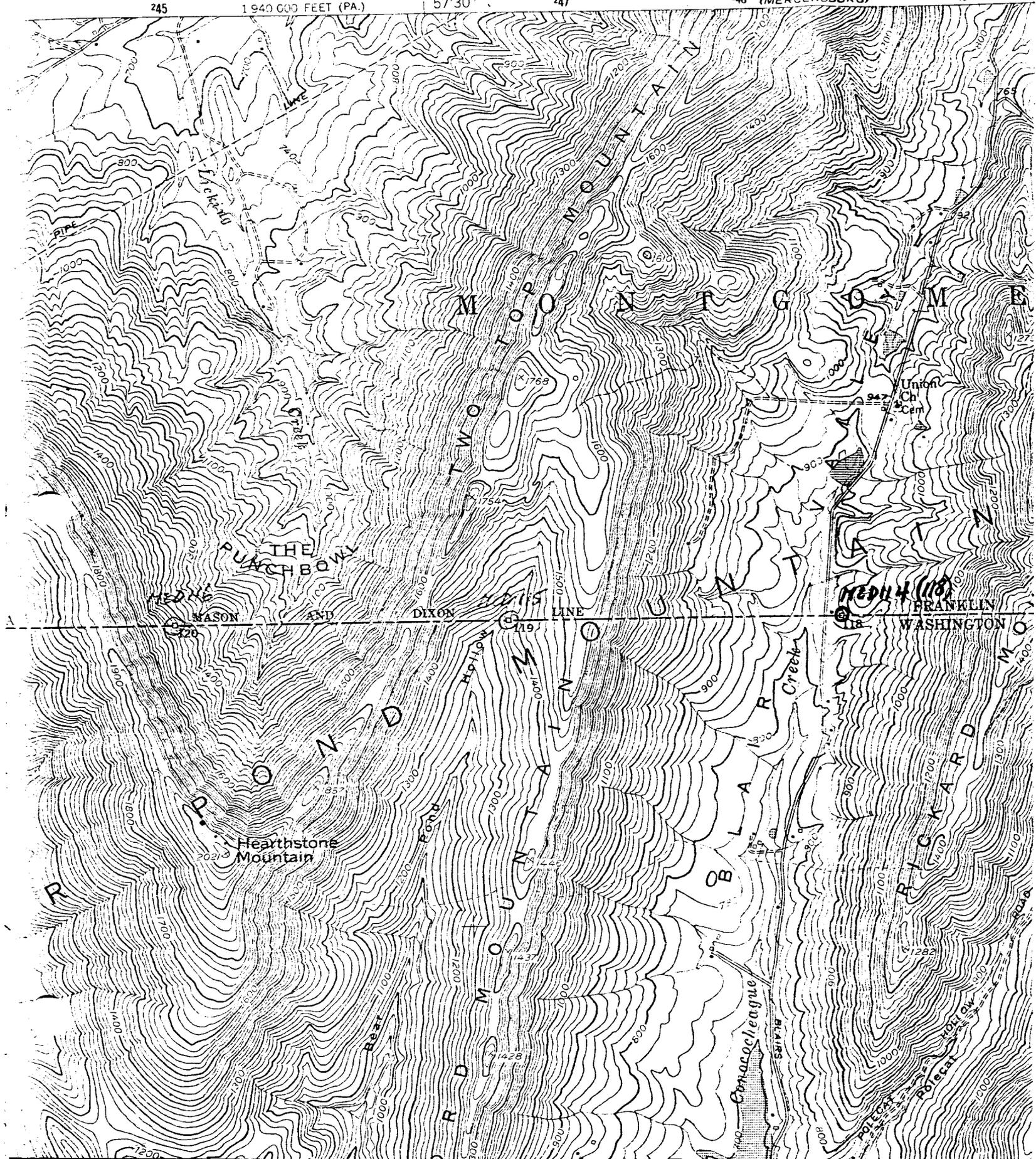
1940 000 FEET (PA.)

57'30"

247

248

INTERIOR
REV





MD DNR INDICATES LINE MILESTONE IN PHOTO, ORIGINAL (1967)
SE CORNER M - 1 MARYLAND DNR
OFF E/S BLAIRS VALLEY RD, INDIAN SPRINGS WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA, CLEAR SPRING, MD VICINITY
WASHINGTON CO, MD / FRANKLIN CO, PA
PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 3/28/81 (1981)



114

MAKER: PINCAS DES = LINE = MUSEUM

N. S. COOPER P 1767 ORIGINAL (1767)

(NOTE: THE DATE 1767 WAS ADDED SOMETIME BETWEEN 1902 AND 1948 BY SOMEONE UNOFFICIALLY)

PHOTO: ALICE = 2001 = 10/22/01 = 10/22/01



WA-V-180

May 1977

**"Stargazer" 114th Mason-Dixon
Line Marker.**

**Blairs Valley
Clear Spring Vicinity**

114
MASON, ED.
1977