

with the said County to the Extent of the Province; and that all the Land lying to the Westward and Southward of the said Lines be included in the new County aforesaid, and that after the Commencement of this Act the said new County shall be called *Frederick* County. . . . ”

Up to this time there had been little or no conflict between the settlements along the western border of Baltimore and the eastern side of Prince George's County. With the rapid influx of settlers from Pennsylvania and their easterly extension from the Monocacy valley over what is now western Carroll County, it became necessary to more sharply define the western boundary of Baltimore County. It was therefore enacted in 1750, Chapter 13, that the boundary between Frederick and Baltimore counties should be as follows:

“Beginning at a spring called Parr's Spring, and running from thence N. 35° E. to a bounded white oak standing on the west side of a waggon road, called John Digges's road, about a mile above a place called Burnthouse Woods, and running thence up the said road to a bounded white oak, standing on the east side thereof, at the head of a draught of Sam's creek; thence N. 55° E. to a Spanish oak standing on a ridge near William Robert's, and opposite to the head of a branch called the Beaver-Dam, and running thence N. 20° E. to the temporary line between the provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania, being near the head of a draught called Conewago, at a rocky hill called Rattle Snake Hill; ”

The location of this eastern boundary of Frederick County cannot be determined with entire accuracy but certain of the early maps of the State show it approximately as represented on the accompanying plate for this date. No change appears to have been made in this line until the erection of Carroll County nearly a century later.

Up to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War no further change was made in the limits of Frederick County. Permanent settlements of Germans had in the meantime been made at Middletown, Taneytown, Sharpsburg, Thurmont, Union Bridge, Emmitsburg and Woodsboro as well as in the Hagerstown valley. At the Constitutional Convention of 1776 it was decided to divide this widely extended and now more or less populous Frederick County into three counties, Washington, Montgomery, and Frederick, corresponding to the Upper, Lower, and Middle Districts of Frederick County. The line of separation determined by this Convention was as follows: From the mouth of the Monocacy a straight line