



### **MASON-DIXON MARKERS** **From the Encyclopedia Britannica**

**"Mason-Dixon Line**, also called **Mason and Dixon Line**, originally the boundary between [Maryland](#) and [Pennsylvania](#) in the [United States](#). In the pre-[Civil War](#) period it was regarded, together with the [Ohio River](#), as the dividing line between slave states south of it and free-soil states north of it. The term Mason and Dixon Line was first used in congressional debates leading to the [Missouri Compromise](#) (1820). Today the Mason-Dixon Line still serves figuratively as the political and social dividing line between the North and the [South](#), although it does not extend west of the Ohio River.

"Between 1763 and 1767, the 233-mile (375-km) line was surveyed along the parallel 39°43' N by two Englishmen, [Charles Mason](#) and [Jeremiah Dixon](#), to define the long-disputed boundaries of the overlapping land grants of the Penns, [proprietors](#) of Pennsylvania, and the Calverts, proprietors of Maryland. The dispute arose over conflicting claims to the territory from the [Delaware River](#) westward. In 1632, King [Charles I](#) had granted Cecilius Calvert, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Baltimore, a charter to establish a colony north of [Virginia](#) to that point "which lieth under the Fortieth degree of north latitude" and westward to the source of the [Potomac](#). In 1681, [Charles II](#) granted [William Penn](#) the area between 43° N and a line extending westward from "a Circle drawne [sic] at twelve miles distance from New Castle..." to "the beginning of the fortieth degree..." In 1682, Penn then received a grant in the Delaware peninsula, which Lord Baltimore claimed. In 1685, the [crown](#) ordered that territory to be divided equally, the western half going to Baltimore. After years of bitter controversy, in 1750, British Lord Chancellor Hardwicke ruled that the southern boundary of Pennsylvania should be a line running westward from the point at which the line dividing the [Delaware](#) peninsula was tangential to a circle with a radius of 12 miles (19 km) from the centre of Newcastle.

"Mason and Dixon resurveyed the Delaware tangent line and the Newcastle arc and in 1765 began running the east-west line from the tangent point, at approximately 39°43' N. Along that line the surveyors set milestones brought from England, with every fifth stone in the eastern portion being a "crown stone" [bearing](#) the arms of Penn on one side and of Baltimore on the other. The line was completed in 1768 at a cost of \$75,000. In 1779 Pennsylvania and Virginia agreed to extend the line westward to a point five degrees from the Delaware river, a line running north from that point to be the westward boundary of Pennsylvania."

Source: Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Mason-Dixon Line". Encyclopedia Britannica, Invalid Date, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Mason-and-Dixon-Line>. Accessed 29 May 2023.

**Photos on the following pages are from HAHS's archives and show markers predominantly in York County, PA.**



*Figure 1 Marker 45 Original crown stone near Deep Pond Road, east of I-83.*



*Figure 2 Marker 46 near the Susquehanna Trail.*



*Figure 3 Marker 48 near Keeney Road.*



*Figure 4 Marker 50, a 1902 replica replacement crown stone near Ruhls Road.*





*Figure 5 Marker 51 near Steltz Road.*



*Figure 6 Marker 52 near Middletown Road.*



*Figure 7 Marker 53 near Shaffer Mill Road.*



*Figure 8 Marker 54 near Grave Run Road.*



*Figure 9 Marker 55 near Hokes Road.*



*Figure 10 Marker 57 near Black Rock Road.*





*Figure 11 Marker 58 near Glenville Road.*



*Figure 12 Marker 59 near Mt. Ventus #1.*



*Figure 13 Marker 60 Garrett Road crown stone.*



*Figure 14 Marker 62 near Bandhall Road.*





Figure 15 Marker 63 near Grand Valley Road.



Figure 16 Marker 64 near Tacker Lane,



Figure 17 Marker 65 Location of missing crown stone near Line Road.



Figure 18 Marker 66 inside protective pipe near Biermiller Road.



Figure 19 Marker 97 in a farm field near Hwy.97.

#### Other Sources of Information about the Mason-Dixon Line and Markers:

- [Mason and Dixon Line Preservation Partnership \(MDLPP\)](#)
- [History Cooperative](#)
- [Study.com](#)
- [History.com](#)
- [Pennsylvania Center for the Book](#)