

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



January 21, 1980

To Friends of the Brandywine-Susquehanna Trail:

Representatives of the Keystone Trails Association called a meeting of all parties interested in the proposed Brandywine-Susquehanna Trail on July 29, 1979, at York, Pennsylvania. In attendance were representatives of some of the major land holders along the proposed trail route.

At this meeting, it became apparent to all concerned that it would be necessary to form an independent service organization to meet the requirements of the landowners. As a result, an organizational meeting was held on September 19, 1979, in Rohrerstown, Pennsylvania. A Board of Directors was formed and officers were elected. An agreement was reached indicating the organization should take steps to become incorporated with a tax-exempt, nonprofit status.

The rather cumbersome name, "Brandywine-Susquehanna Trail," prompted those present to change the name of the trail to the "Mason-Dixon Trail" and to name the organization the "Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc."

At this writing, we have six member clubs and seventeen individual members. Each Club will be responsible for a particular section of the trail. We were granted our Certificate of Incorporation on October 18, 1979, by the State of Pennsylvania and have made application to the Internal Revenue Service for our tax-exempt, nonprofit status. We have contracted with the Hartford Accident & Indemnity Company to provide us with liability coverage. The limits of liability for bodily injury are \$500,000 per occurrence and \$100,000 per occurrence for property damage.

We expect to be in touch with you in the very near future with regard to some aspect of this project.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Yost, President

/rgs

Telephone [REDACTED]

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



TREASURER'S REPORT

JANUARY 31, 1980

<u>BALANCE:</u> December 31, 1979	\$ 531.36
<u>RECEIPTS:</u>	
Toward Life Membership (David H. Toland)	11.34
<u>EXPENSES:</u>	
Liability Insurance Premium to November 13, 1980	\$ 53.00
Artwork, Printing, etc.	174.25
Typing	10.00
Secretary's Expense (David H. Toland)	11.34
	<u>11.34</u>
	- \$ 248.59
<u>BALANCE:</u> January 31, 1980	\$ 294.11

Respectfully submitted,

Padraic P. Boyle

Padraic P. Boyle
TREASURER

FPB:kb

84 mi on anything with the Trail - mtgs etc.

Telephone [REDACTED]

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

DECEMBER 31, 1979

BALANCE: November 30, 1979

\$ 175.36

RECEIPTS:

Dues and Application Fee		
York Hiking Club	\$ 28.00	
Life Membership and A. Fee		
Lelia W. Yost	253.00	
Dues and Contribution		
Chester County H. Club	50.00	
Dues and Application Fee		
Wilmington Trail Club	<u>28.00</u>	\$ 359.00

EXPENSES:

Delaware Trust Co.		
Service Charge 11/26/79	\$ 2.00	
" " 12/24/79	<u>1.00</u>	- \$ 3.00

BALANCE: December 31, 1979

\$ 531.36

Respectfully submitted,

Padraic P. Boyle
Padraic P. Boyle,
TREASURER

The Mason- Dixon Trail

~~THE BRANDYWINE SUSQUEHANNA TRAIL (Proposed)~~

The Wilmington Trail Club, with the help of several other clubs in the Keystone Trails Association, is currently engaged in building a 205-mile trail, beginning at the Horse-Shoe Trail in West Vincent Township, (15 miles south of Pottstown, Pennsylvania) and ending at the Appalachian Trail, near Whiskey Spring Road, a few miles from Mount Holly Springs, Pennsylvania.

The proposed trail will utilize the present Brandywine Trail from Horse-Shoe Trail Road. It will pass through the newly-formed Marsh Creek State Park, where trail elevations afford a magnificent view of the new Marsh Creek Reservoir, to Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. Several re-routings are planned to eliminate much of the hard roads presently in use.

At Chadds Ford the trail will assume a southwesterly course through the farm, mushroom, and Quaker area around Kennet Square, Pennsylvania. There will be some road walking in this section to the lovely White Clay Creek Valley, near Landenberg, Pennsylvania, and then south, winding along the White Clay to Newark, Delaware. From Newark it will proceed west into northeastern Maryland, traversing Elk Neck State Forest, a section of wildlife sanctuary, and much public hunting ground.

At Perryville, Maryland, one will have to drive across U.S. Route 40 bridge over the Susquehanna River to Havre de Grace. No pedestrian traffic is allowed on the bridge.

Hiking north from Havre de Grace, one will encounter unique terrain running along the Susquehanna River for the next 90 miles. Although farms have crept rather close to the Susquehanna, the deep gorges cut by the river and its tributaries remain in a true wilderness state. Hiking this section will be rather strenuous and awe-inspiring. One may hike for days and, aside from passing an occasional road or cabin, would never imagine that one is so close to Philadelphia or Baltimore.


About five miles northwest of U.S. Route 30 (Wrightsville, Pennsylvania), at Codorus Furnace, the trail will proceed west through farmlands (more road walking) on its way to the small but mighty Conewago Mountains north of York, Pennsylvania. From the Conewago's west it is a short 30 miles over wooded hills and mountains to the A.T.

Camping areas will be set up approximately one days journey apart and ~~blue~~ blazed side trails are being planned, ~~but there will be no shelters~~. In some areas water may be a problem, since one may have to carry a one-day supply or prevail upon the local inhabitants.

Towns, parks, forests, and points of interest which the trail will traverse or by-pass are listed as follows in a clockwise direction of travel: Marsh Creek State Park, Downingtown, Pennsylvania; Battlefield of the Brandywine; Brandywine River Museum; Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania; White Clay Creek State Park, Newark, Delaware; Rittenhouse Park; Iron Hill County Park; Elkton, Maryland; Elk Neck State Forest, Perryville, Maryland; Havre de Grace, Maryland; Susquehanna State Park; Conowingo Dam; Peach Bottom Atomic Power Plant; P.O. & L's Otter Creek Recreation Area; Safe Harbor Dam, Wrightsville, Pennsylvania; Codorus Furnace; Conewago Mountains; Game Lands #242; Gifford Pinchot State Park; Round Top Ski Area, Dillsburg, Pennsylvania; Long Mountain.

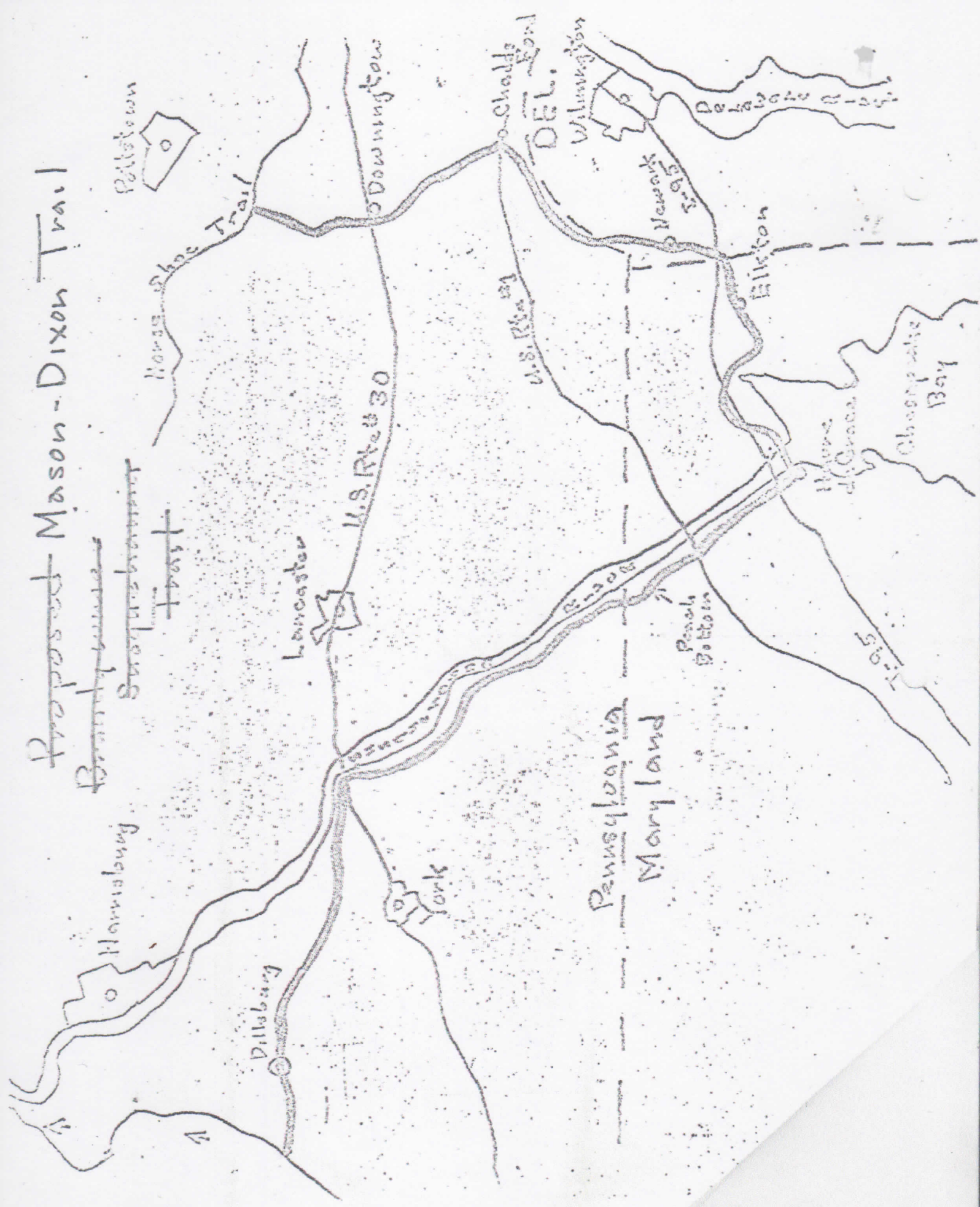
The trail will be marked with 2 x 6 inch ^{blue} paint blazes. Further information may be obtained from ~~Wilmington Trail Club, P.O. Box 1184, Wilmington, Delaware 19802~~

Glen Thompson, Secretary
Mason Dixon Trail System, Inc.



Proposed Mason-Dixon Trail

~~Brandywine~~
~~Southern~~
~~Trail~~



MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM

A major new volunteer trail-building effort, to serve the heavily populated southeastern Pennsylvania metropolitan area, is now moving into high gear. The *Mason-Dixon Trail System* (M-DTS), conceived as a 250-mile hiking trail, mostly in Pennsylvania, but with sections also in Delaware and Maryland, is being vigorously promoted by a consortium of individuals and established hiking clubs.

As proposed, the M-DTS would begin at the Horse-Shoe Trail in West Vincent Township, Pennsylvania, head south into Delaware, then west through Maryland to the west side of the Susquehanna River where it would turn north, returning to Pennsylvania and eventually linking with the Appalachian Trail at Whiskey Springs.

Although Pennsylvania has an extensive hiking trail system, most of the trails are, not surprisingly, located in the more sparsely populated parts of the state. The M-DTS, on the other hand, will be readily accessible to major population centers, and will fill a significant need in this era of growing sensitivity to the requirements for energy conservation.

The many dedicated people working on this project have an abundance of energy and enthusiasm, but they need help--both time and money. Volunteers to work on the project and funds to finance it are both needed.

To obtain more information, to make a contribution, or to become a member; write to *Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.*, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Basic membership is only \$4.00 per year, plus a one-time application fee of \$3.00.

8. Al Perrin will have MDTS brochures ready by 29 Feb. 80. KTA and WTC will send them out with their publications.
9. Legal chairman Walt Pepperman said a landowner agreement draft will be ready for approval 30 March 80.
10. A letter is being made up for individual landowner information on MDTS.
11. MDTS is seeking endorsements of local groups and clubs for our trails.
12. KTA grant information: MDTS has applied for a \$1500 grant from KTA.
13. Discussion on paint for blazes:
 - a. MDTS color and manufacturer is standardized as: Fuller O'Brien Weather King, Latex, House and Trim 644-91, color name D-27D. This is a light blue waterbase paint.
 - b. Tips on painting blazes:
 - (1) Don't paint on pine. It won't stay.
 - (2) Scrape outer surface of bark, but not into cambium layer.
 - (3) Use two coats of paint.
14. Progress Reports:
 - a. Bernie Frick, York Club, reported that Carl Reachard has flagged from Lock 12 north to the Dam.
 - b. Oreste Onti, Batona Club, stated that although there is some opposition to building the M-D Trail, he believes that future trails are needed.
 - c. Kay Way, WTC & Chester Co. Club, raised a question about need to acquire permission to use railroad right-of-way for trail. It was decided that permission is necessary. Use of roads for trail in Chester Co. may be necessary for now in some sections.
 - d. D. Toland, WTC, reported that the old MDTS blue paint color used by WTC is not visible at dusk. The new standardized MDTS paint blaze color should correct this problem.
 - e. P. Boyle made a motion to send a letter of appreciation from MDTS, through the membership chairman, to Mrs. Lelia W. Yost for her life membership. This motion was passed.
 - f. Getty Oil Co. Financial Assistance: MDTS has verbal support locally. We need IRS application for tax exempt status to be approved for company financial support consideration.
15. Bob Yost reported in regard to a newsletter of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Dept. of the Interior National Trails Council, that MDTS has been approached by [REDACTED] (a lobbyist in Wash., D. C. and a Dr. of Political Science) to have the Mason-Dixon Trail included in an omnibus Bill for study to include the M-D Trail in the National Trail System. After discussion, it was the consensus of the MDTS Directors not to have the M-D Trail included in the Omnibus Bill.
16. Notice was taken of the KTA hosted ATC Regional meeting on 9 & 10 May at Camp Swatara.
17. The next MDTS meeting was tentatively set for 7 & 8 June 1980.
18. The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
David H. Toland

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
1330 24 February 1980

1. In attendance: See attached sheet.
2. The minutes of the MDTS meetings of 11 Nov. 79 were accepted with the following corrections:

MDTS DIRECTORS MEETING:

Section 4 - Change to read: R. Yost appointed Walter Pepperman, ESQ. legal chairman. The appointment was unanimously confirmed by the Executive Committee.

MDTS GENERAL MEETING:

Section 13 - Methods of contact of private landowners: It was suggested that the contacting group consist of a man and a woman...

Section 13 - Add: We will have landowner's agreements drawn up which will be signed by any member of the Board of Directors of MDTS. W. Pepperman by the end of March will have landowner agreement forms.

Note at bottom of page - Change to read: D. Toland was appointed Secretary of MDTS as successor to G. Thompson after his resignation as secretary.

3. Treasurer's Report: P. Boyle stated that the balance on 24 Feb. 80 is the same as on 31 Jan. 80: \$294.11.
4. Old Business - None.
5. New Business -
 - a. Turner Darden, MTDS Director, was appointed by Bob Yost and confirmed by the Board of Directors to be assistant trails manager and Eastern section trails coordinator (Trails supervisor East of the Susquehanna.)
 - b. Dick Tobias, MDTS Vice President, will be Western section trails coordinator (Trails supervisor West of the Susquehanna). Dick will also be responsible for trail routing and construction, and will act as a consultant to MDTS.
 - c. Bob Yost said that the office of President will deal in administrative details, acquiring new members, landowner relationships, acquiring revenues, organization details, and endorsements.
 - d. The Batona Club has become a Maintaining Club Member of the MDTS. Their MDTS representative (and MDTS Director) is Oreste Unti.
6. Discussion: Correspondence to MDTS shows both favorable and unfavorable response to "Pennsylvania Naturalist" article.
7. Insurance agreements will necessitate additional insurance cost.

Telephone [REDACTED]