



Historical Sites Along the Trail

Rogers Tavern

MDT Map 7 | Mile 3.0 W→E; 11.5 E→W

The Mason-Dixon Trail goes by the Rogers Tavern in Perryville. Located near the mouth of the Susquehanna River, near where a ferry crossed the Susquehanna. It was located on the Post road, the major colonial route between Baltimore and Philadelphia. The ferry dates back to 1695. John Rogers opened the tavern in 1740.

Colonel John Rogers raised the fifth company of the Maryland Militia, who became part of the Maryland Flying Camp. They fought in New York.

Most of the continental congress members from the south paused at the Tavern on their way to and from Philadelphia. In 1781, George Washington passed thru with his staff and troops on his way to Yorktown to his victorious victory over the British general Cornwallis.

After the revolution, George Washington traveled by the Tavern to become our first president. Again, the members of congress traveled thru to meet in New York.



Commodore John Rodgers, John Rogers's son, was one of the founders of the United States Navy. He fought with the Barbary States and with the British in the War of 1812. His son, Rear Admiral John Rogers fought in the civil war.

The tavern operated until 1886 when the bridges and railroads supplanted the ferry. At this time the Tavern is being restored.



Mason-Dixon Quarterly Meeting and Hike

Quarterly Hike and Meeting

Sat, Dec 1, 2012

Hike:

9:15 am

Meeting:

1:00 pm

The hike will be a five mile hike on the proposed relocation at the mouth of the Susquehanna River around Stump Point (Perry Point). We will meet at the greenway parking lot next to the Rogers Tavern in Perryville at 9 :15 am. (Map 7 : 3.0 miles west to east).

The meeting will be at the Perryville Library, 500 Coudon Boulevard, Perryville, MD 21903 at 1 pm. From I-95 North: Take the Perryville/Port Deposit Exit and make a left onto Rt.222 east toward Perryville. In 1.9 miles, Rt. 222 intersects with Rt. 40. Make a left onto Rt. 40 and travel east .2 miles getting into the right-hand lane. Yield to the right onto Coudon Blvd. and proceed another .2 miles to library, which will be on the right.

President's Message

NOMINATIONS

We are having trouble getting all of our positions filled for the election of the board of directors. Please contact Rob Campbell at rbc1@psu.edu with recommendations.

EXELON

Our proposed relocations on Exelon land have gotten tied up in the negotiations over the relicensing of the Conowingo Dam. The negotiations involve some expensive mitigations that the State of Maryland wants. However, the only Exelon expense in what we are talking about is getting a Muddy Creek parking lot at the Paper Mill Rd Bridge. Since Paper Mill Rd is a state road, that will involve getting a PennDOT permit for the entrance of the parking lot. Other township and state permits may be required to do its location. We are proposing a gravel parking lot so there should be no runoff issues. The last issue will be who takes ownership of the parking lot when it is open. Due to the heavy use of Muddy Creek, the lot will need patrolling and the local township does not have a police force.

OTTER CREEK

We have opened and blazed the relocation at Otter Creek. It is a beautiful section along the creek. The old route was blazed orange so one can make a loop. The new section starts below Urey Overlook where the trail hits the old woods road at the bottom of the hill and then rejoins the old route just above the Otter Creek Bridge. I have asked our map committee to make up a map of all of the trails in the Otter Creek area so that we can provide the map to hikers, our web site and to Otter Creek Camp Ground.

FURNACE RUN

Every time we get a major storm, the culvert crossing the old Saw Mill Run Rd gets clogged with debris. The water then goes around the culvert and digs a new channel. The township abandoned the road just before last years storm and blocked the road with boulders so we can not get any equipment in there. The road reverted to the game commission. We need someone with the right engineering background to advise us on how to

solve the problem. Note that this is on the part of the trail that is used by the KTA's Susquehanna Super Hike.

PRINCIPIO PROPERTY

Due to an expansion of the warehouse and measures taken by Stewart Property security personnel to counter ATV and vandalism, the route thru the Principio Property has become about impossible to follow. Rick Pavao has taken the lead in trying to resolve the issues with rerouting the trail around the newly expanded warehouse and thru the Principio Properties.

Do not confront the miscreants yourself. I have found that if one starts to take a photo the miscreants rapidly disappear. Let us be a positive force in helping to solve the problem.

BOARD ORGANIZATION

Related to that I want to discuss at the next meeting how the board is organized and if we should change the board composition by rewriting the constitution and bylaws.

SHOW YOUR TRAIL PRIDE—GET YOUR MASON-DIXON TRAIL HAT!

There are two versions of the hat available as well as a visor. They make great gifts for all the hikers you know!

Stone Twill Low Profile Cap

Unstructured with mesh lining
Leather back strap
\$20 (shown)

Khaki Low Profile Cap

Unstructured, no lining
Cloth back strap
\$18



Forest Green Sandwich Visor

\$14



Visit the website www.masondixontrail.org for more info or to get the order form.

Broad Creek Bridge

On Oct 18, the York Hiking Club's Thursday work crew rebuilt the bridge at the Broad Creek boat launch. The work consisted of removing the old timbers and replacing them with new ten-foot 3x6 green white oak timbers. The timbers were very heavy!

The bridge consists of stone and concrete piers with three steel I beams and a wood deck. The oak planks

were laid on top of the beams and two oak curbs laid lengthwise and fastened with lag bolts to the planks. Exelon plans to put in railing at a later date.

Exelon supplied the materials, the power tools and two of their personnel helped with the work including hauling in the new wood and hauling out the old wood.



Bridge work in progress



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WHERE AM I?

Do you know where these images are from? While the site is not directly on the trail, it is marked on the map. Even if it is not open, it is worth the short detour to see the wonderful architectural details. As always, keep your eyes open as you hike. You never know what you will come across!



The M-DTS Newsletter is published about four weeks in advance of each of the four M-DTS board meetings held annually. Submissions are welcomed.

The Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc. is a non-profit all-volunteer, service-oriented association of trail clubs and individual hikers that has as its purpose the use and conservation of the backcountry through the development of new trails in the mid-Atlantic states. The nucleus of M-DTS is the 193-mile Mason-Dixon Trail which passes through historic and scenic areas of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware.

New members are welcome. To join, send \$25 (which covers cost of M-DT maps and patch) to:

Mason-Dixon Trail System

Rick Maerker

13 Denise Drive

Thornton, PA 19373

Thereafter, the annual fee is \$7. Life membership is available for \$250.

Visit the Mason-Dixon Trail web site at: www.masondixontrail.org