

# Fairfax Stone

## State Park



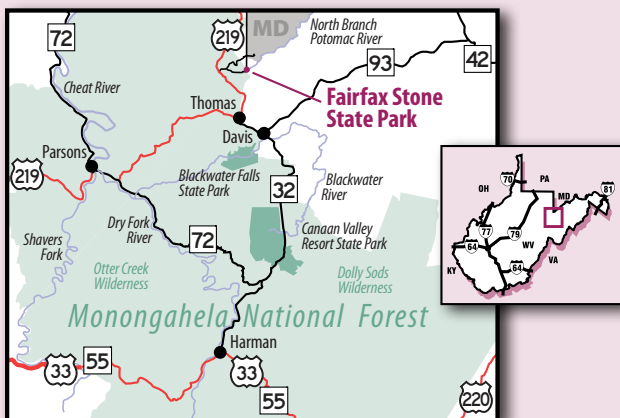
**THE FAIRFAX STONE** is one of the most significant historical landmarks in West Virginia. Located near Blackwater Falls State Park, the stone marked the western boundary of land granted to Lord Fairfax by the King of England in the 1700s. Almost two centuries later, the stone was used as the determining factor in the state boundary between West Virginia and Maryland.

Sitting at the source of the North Branch of the Potomac River, where three counties converge upon the southern tip of Maryland, the Fairfax Stone comes as near as anything to being a cornerstone of the entire state. Early surveyors in West Virginia started from this point.

The original stone erected for Lord Fairfax in 1746 was a small pyramid of sandstone bearing the letters "F X." However, this stone was destroyed by vandals on August 12, 1910. This modern stone was described as "a monument three and a half feet square, two feet deep, set flush with the surface of the ground, with a height of four feet by four inches. It was marked 'FX-1746' on the south side and '1910' on the north side."

The historic landmark became a part of the state park system in 1957. The land was given as a gift from the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway Company. After this acquisition, a new stone — a natural boulder with a bronze tablet — was placed over the spring that marks the source of the Potomac's North Branch.

Today this small historic park marks the meeting point for Preston, Grant and Tucker counties and for the West Virginia – Maryland border.



**NOTE:** There are no facilities or restrooms on the area.

## LOCATION

**From the south** at Thomas, West Virginia, take U. S. Route 219 north 3.5 miles. Turn right on county Route 9 and travel .5 miles. Turn right at Fairfax Stone Monument sign and travel 1.5 miles to Fairfax Stone.

**From the north** at Red House, Maryland, take U. S. Route 219 south 10 miles. Turn left on county Route 9 and travel .5 miles. Turn right at Fairfax Stone Monument sign and travel 1.5 miles to Fairfax Stone.

### Fairfax Stone State Park

Superintendent: Blackwater Falls

Route 29; PO Drawer 490

Davis, West Virginia 26260

**304-259-5216**

**[www.wvstateparks.com/fairfaxstone](http://www.wvstateparks.com/fairfaxstone)**

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, 324 4th Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303

**STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY  
TO USE FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS**

Visitors are responsible for observing park rules and regulations.

"It is the policy of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, accommodations, services and programs to all persons without regard to gender, race, color, age, religion, national origin or disability. Proper licenses, registration and compliance with official rules and regulations are the only sources of restrictions for facility use or program participation."

"The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is an equal opportunity employer."

Information provided in this brochure is current as of design date, but subject to change thereafter.

rev 041210