

The Counties of Maryland

1632 – Today

386 years of refinements

Sir George Calvert (1st Lord Baltimore)

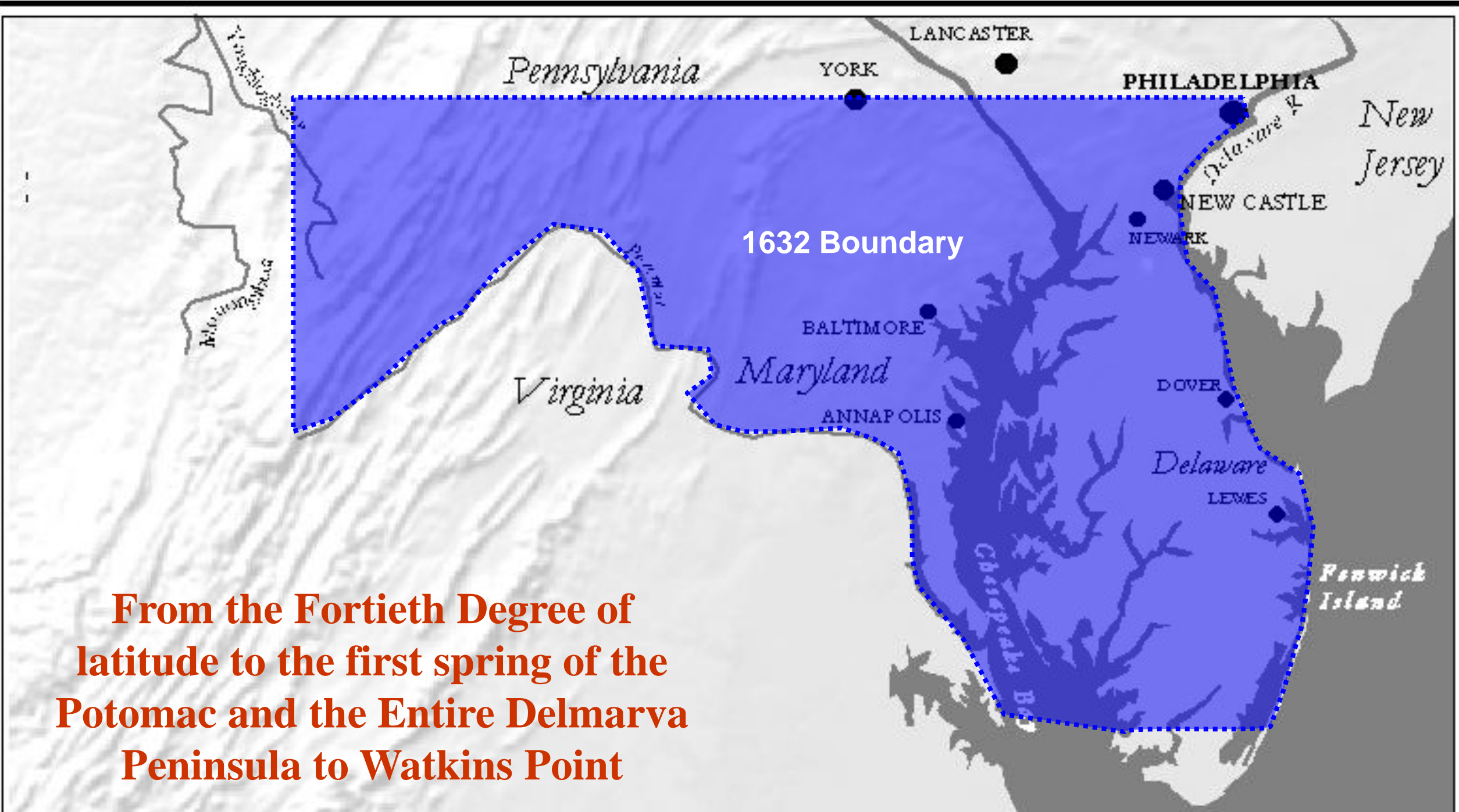
Born 1579 - Died April 15, 1632



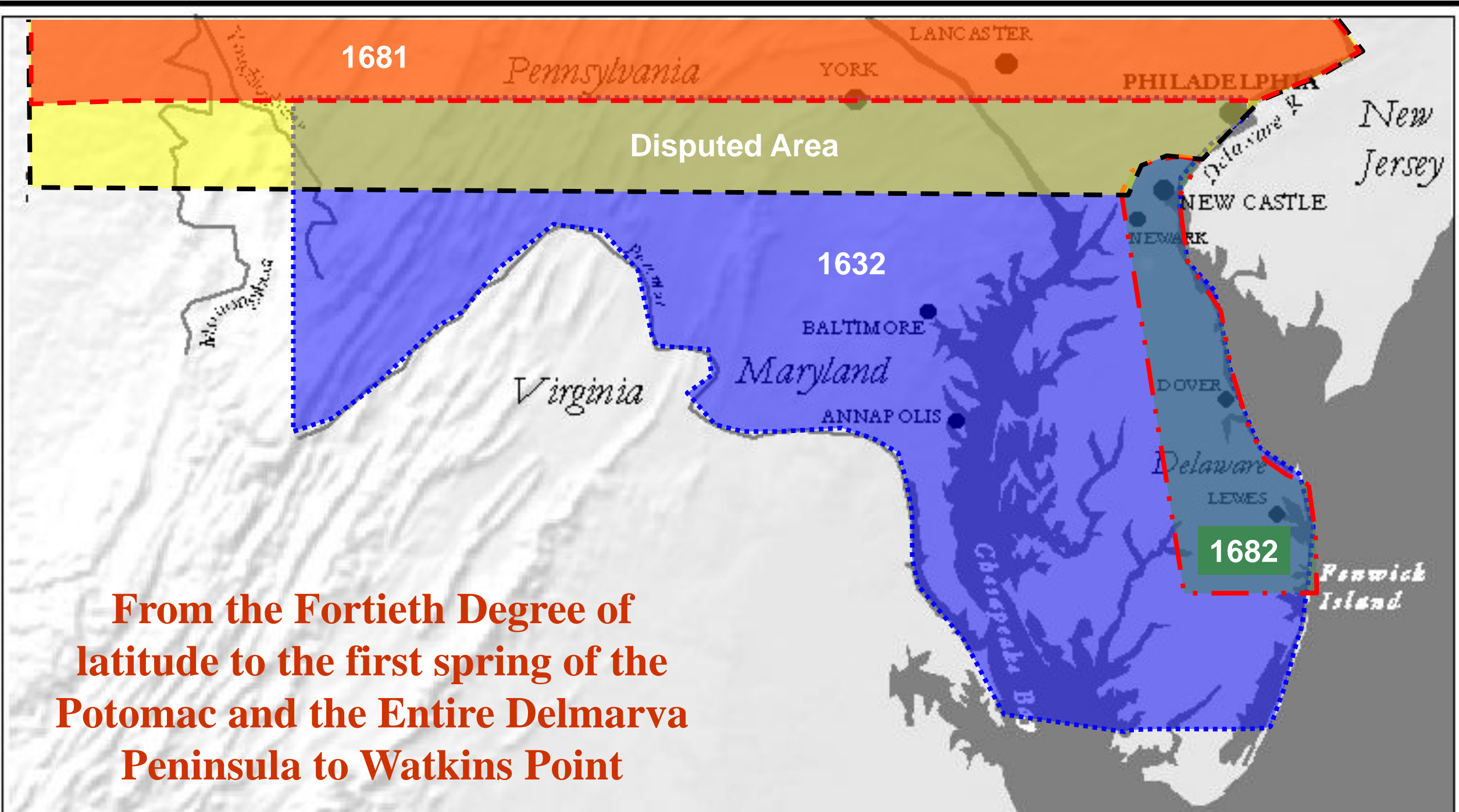
June 20, 1632 - King Charles I

Charter of Maryland granted to Cecil Calvert
(2nd Lord Baltimore) Heir of Sir George Calvert

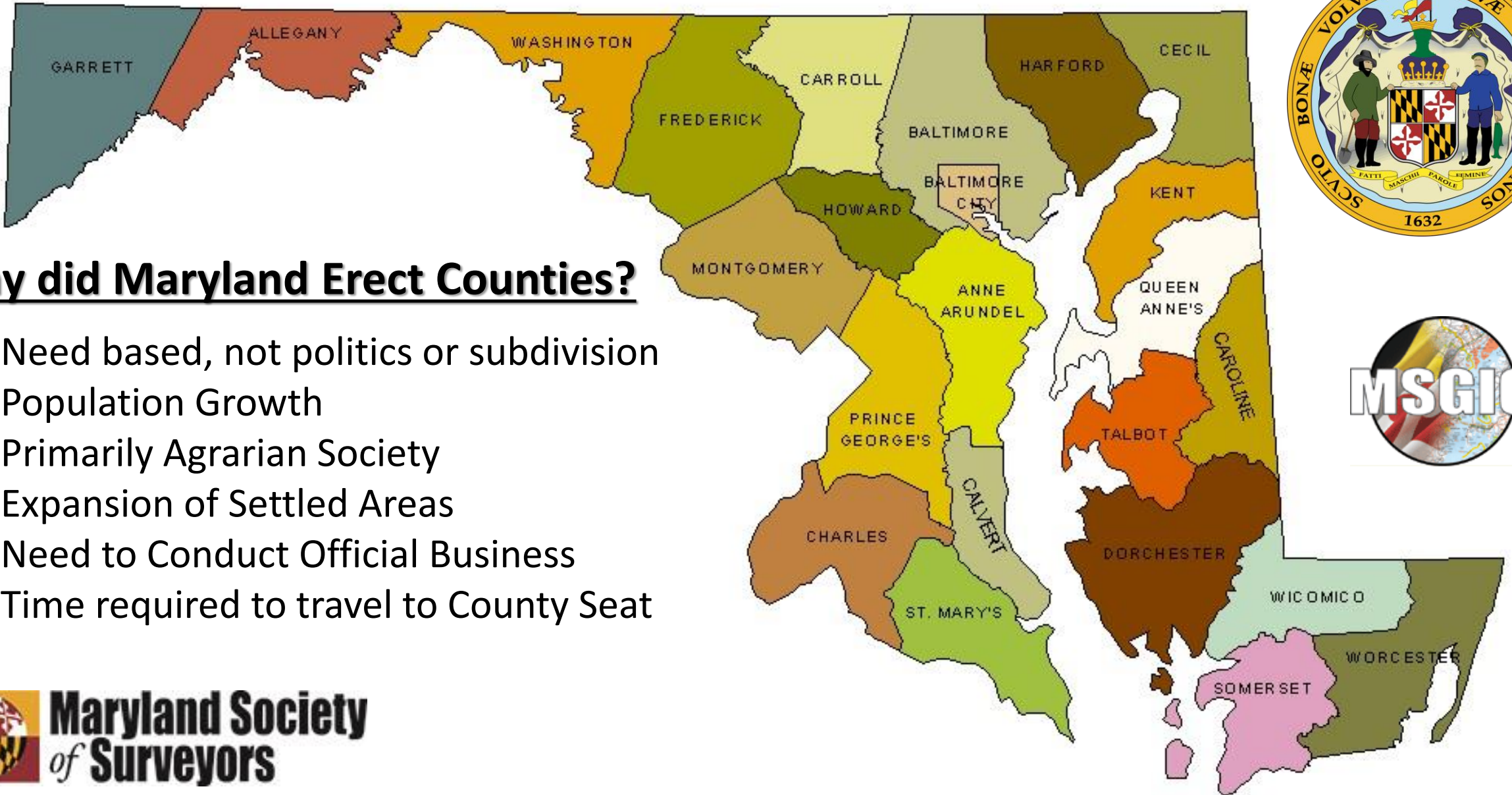
III. Know Ye therefore, that We, encouraging with our Royal Favour, the pious and noble purpose of the aforesaid Barons of Baltimore, of our special Grace, certain knowledge, and mere Motion, have Given, Granted and Confirmed, and by this our present Charter, for Us our Heirs, and Successors, do Give, Grant and Confirm, unto the aforesaid Caecilius, now Baron of Baltimore, his Heirs, and Assigns, all that Part of the Peninsula, or Chersonese, lying in the Parts of America, between the Ocean on the East and the Bay of Chesapeake on the West, divided from the Residue thereof by a Right Line drawn from the Promontory, or Head-Land, called Watkin's Point, situate upon the Bay aforesaid, near the river Wigloo, on the West, unto the main Ocean on the East; and between that Boundary on the South, unto that Part of the Bay of Delaware on the North, which lieth under the Fortieth Degree of North Latitude from the Equinoctial, where New England is terminated; And all that Tract of Land within the Metes underwritten (that is to say) passing from the said Bay, called Delaware Bay, in a right Line, by the Degree aforesaid, unto the true meridian of the first Fountain of the River of Pattowmack, thence verging toward the South, unto the further Bank of the said River, and following the same on the West and South, unto a certain Place, called Cinquack, situate near the mouth of the said River, where it disembogues into the aforesaid Bay of Chesapeake, and thence by the shortest Line unto the aforesaid Promontory or Place, called Watkin's Point; so that the whole tract of land, divided by the Line aforesaid, between the main Ocean and Watkin's Point, unto the Promontory called Cape Charles, and every the Appendages thereof, may entirely remain excepted for ever to Us, our Heirs and Successors.



**From the Fortieth Degree of
latitude to the first spring of the
Potomac and the Entire Delmarva
Peninsula to Watkins Point**



**From the Fortieth Degree of
latitude to the first spring of the
Potomac and the Entire Delmarva
Peninsula to Watkins Point**

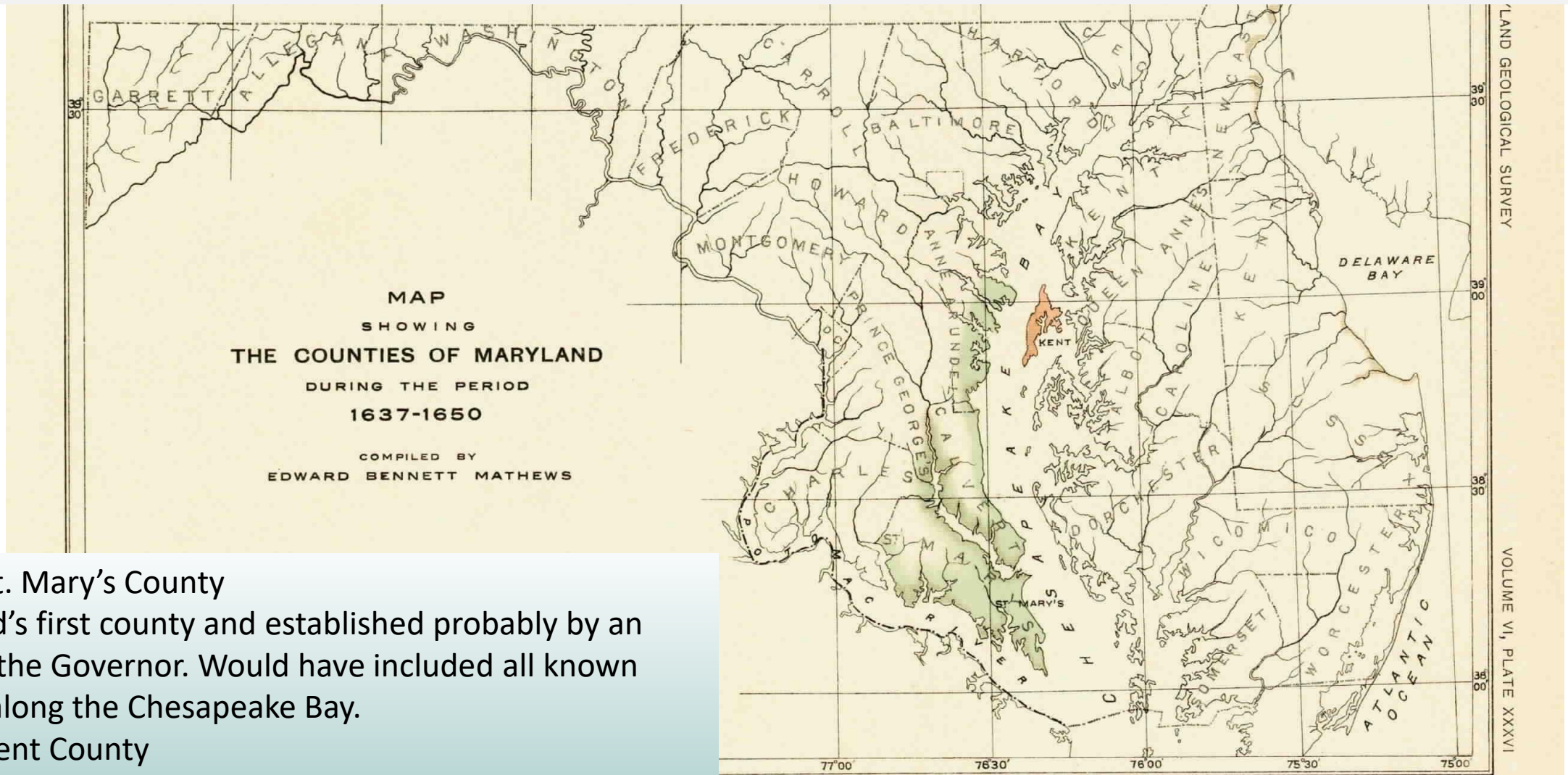


Why did Maryland Erect Counties?

- Need based, not politics or subdivision
- Population Growth
- Primarily Agrarian Society
- Expansion of Settled Areas
- Need to Conduct Official Business
- Time required to travel to County Seat

MARYLAND - named for English queen Henrietta Maria of France (1609-1669). Wife of Charles I, King of England

- St. Mary's County named for the Virgin Mary, as the landing at St. Mary's City been made on the Feast of the Annunciation
- Kent County named after the county on the southeastern coast of England



1632 – St. Mary's County

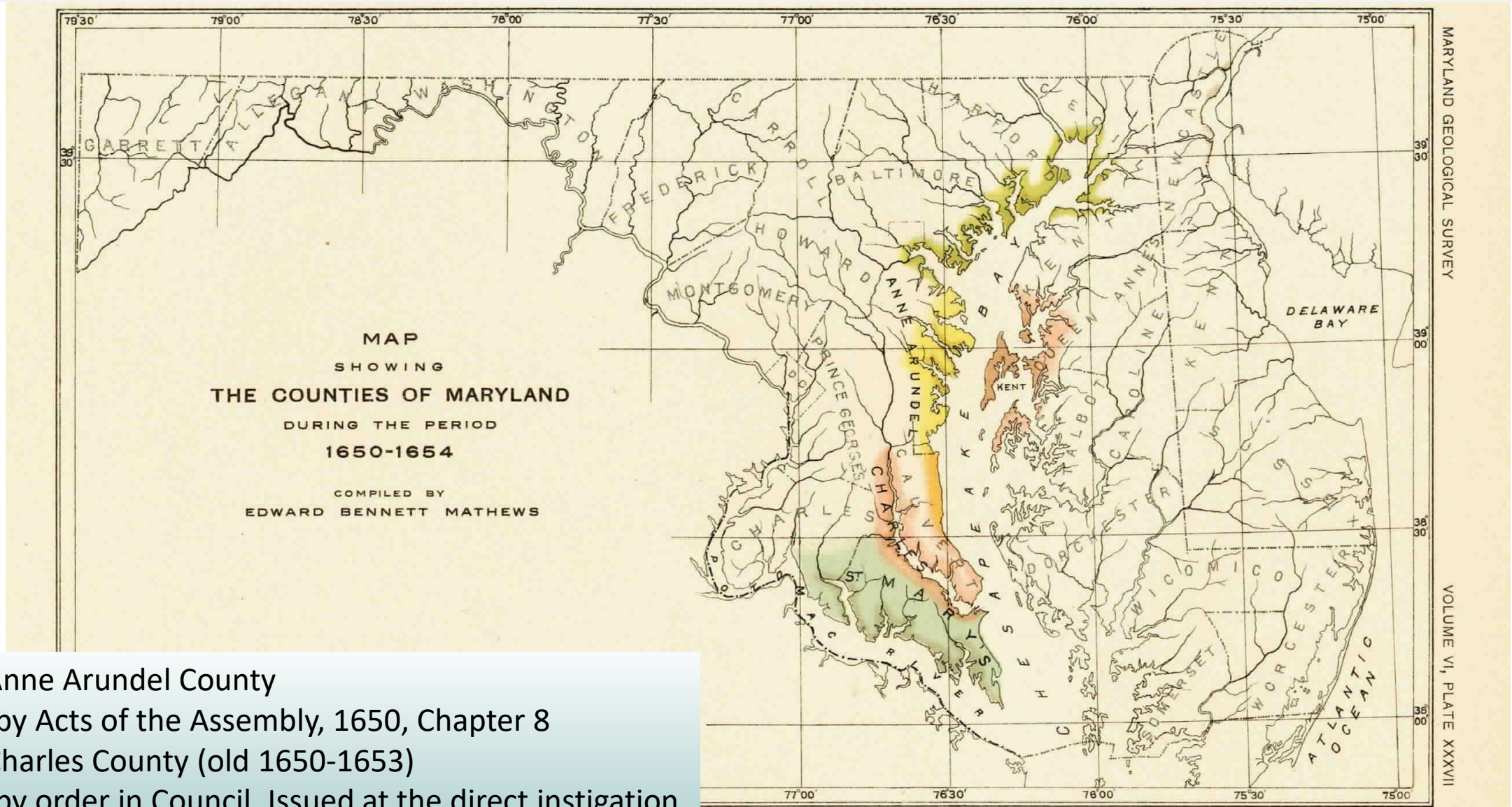
Maryland's first county and established probably by an order of the Governor. Would have included all known land on along the Chesapeake Bay.

1642 – Kent County

First mentioned when the Governor and Council appointed commissioners for the Isle.

The colored areas represent the probable extent of knowledge and the shading the extent of settlement at the end of the time period.

- Anne Arundel County named after Lady Anne Arundell, wife of Cecil Calvert, the 2nd Lord Baltimore (She died in 1649 in her early 30's)
- Charles County (old) named after King Charles I of England



1650 – Anne Arundel County

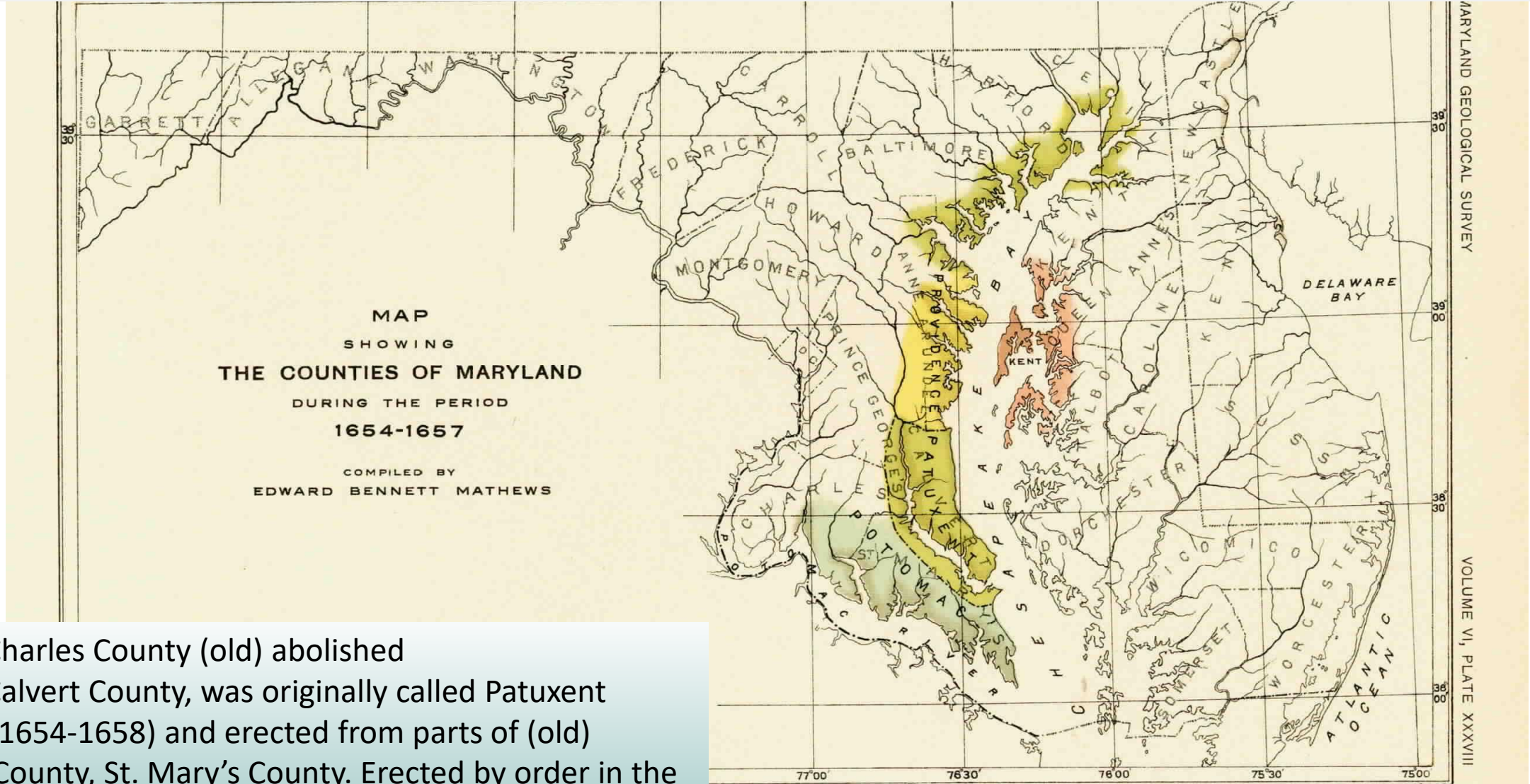
Erected by Acts of the Assembly, 1650, Chapter 8

1650 – Charles County (old 1650-1653)

Erected by order in Council. Issued at the direct instigation of the 2nd Lord Baltimore

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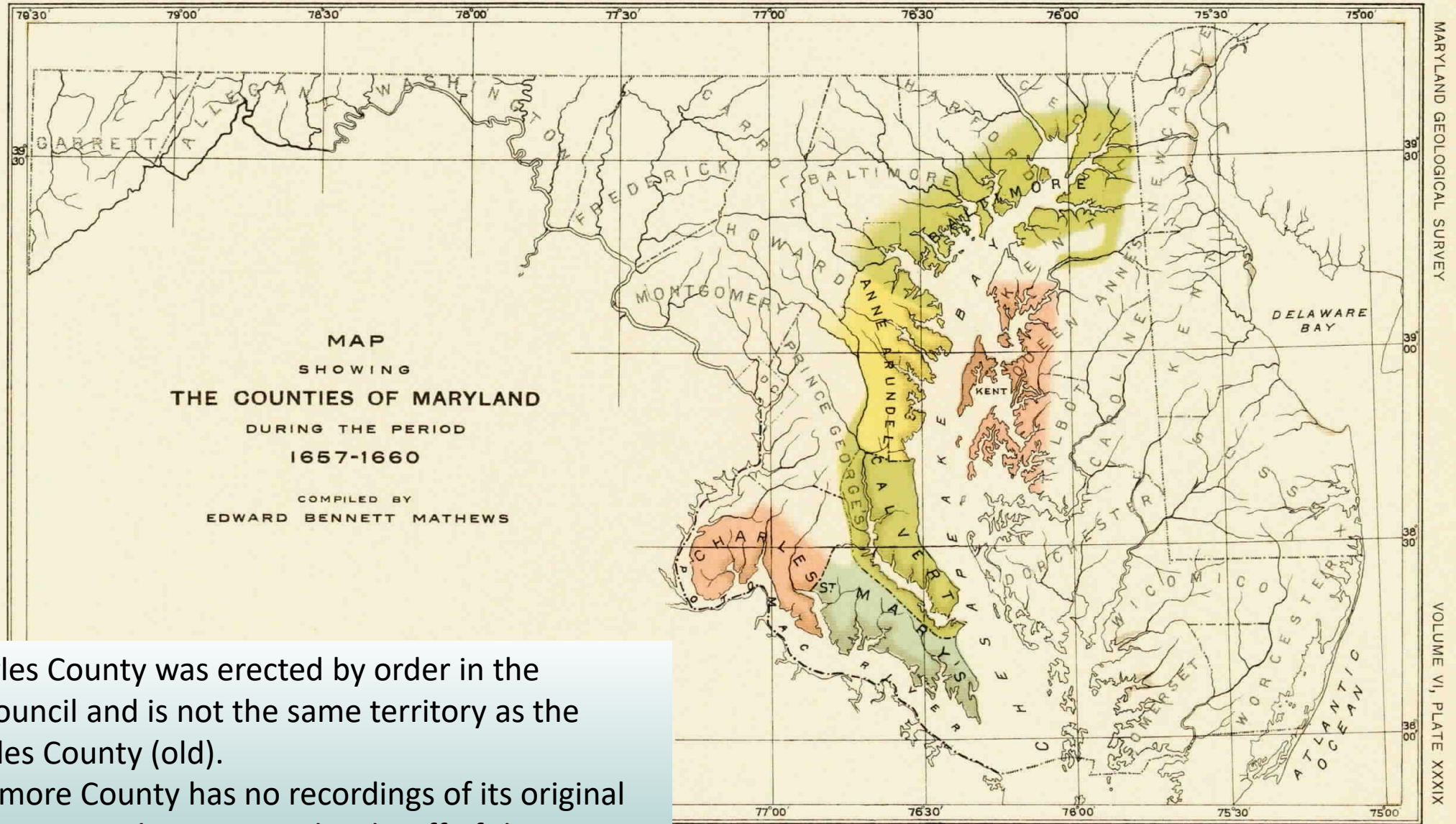
- Calvert County was named after the family name of the Proprietary of Maryland. While Calvert was the planned name, it was originally called Patuxent County (1654-1658) as a result of the Protestant revolution. In 1658 the name was restored to Calvert County.
- Anne Arundel County was called Providence County (1654-1658) during the Protestant revolution.



1654 – Charles County (old) abolished
 1654 – Calvert County, was originally called Patuxent County (1654-1658) and erected from parts of (old) Charles County, St. Mary's County. Erected by order in the Maryland Council.

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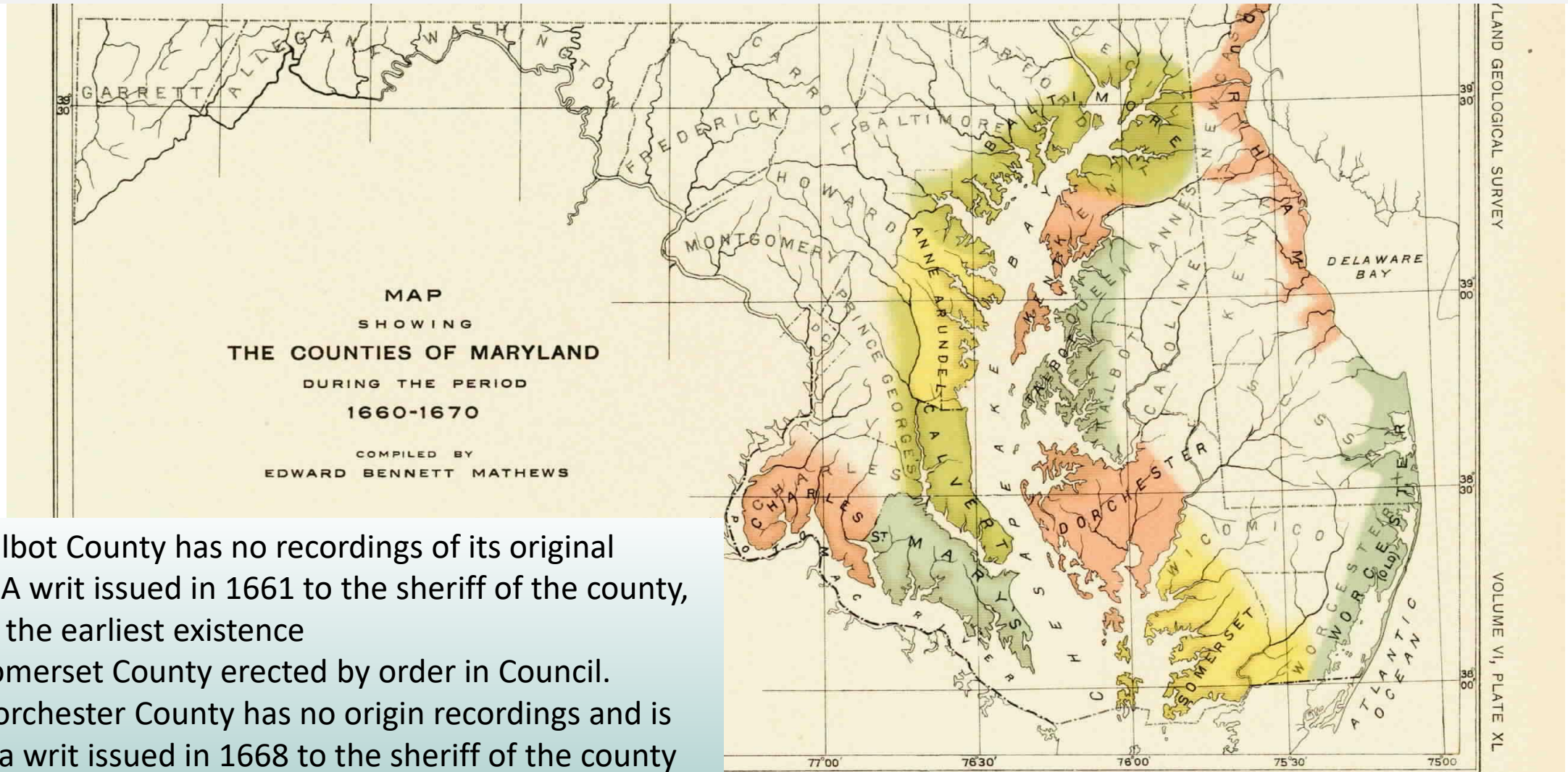
- Charles County named after Charles Calvert, the 3rd Lord Baltimore (Son of Cecil and Anne Arundell, he was 21 years old)
- Baltimore County named after the Calvert Family Irish Barony. Baltimore Manor was located in County Longford, Ireland.



1658 – Charles County was erected by order in the Maryland Council and is not the same territory as the earlier Charles County (old).
 1659 – Baltimore County has no recordings of its original erection. A writ issued in 1659 to the sheriff of the county, identifies the earliest existence.

The colored areas represent the probable extent of knowledge and the shading the extent of settlement at the end of the time period.

- Talbot County named after Lady Grace Talbot, daughter of George Calvert, the 1st Lord Baltimore, and was the wife of Sir Robert Talbot
- Somerset County named after Lady Mary (Arundell) Somerset, the sister of Lady Anne Arundell (wife of Cecil Calvert)
- Dorchester County named after Earl of Dorset, a family friend of the Calverts
- Durham and Worcester (old) County were proposed to offset the aggressions of the Duke of York along the Delaware coast



1661 – Talbot County has no recordings of its original erection. A writ issued in 1661 to the sheriff of the county, identifies the earliest existence

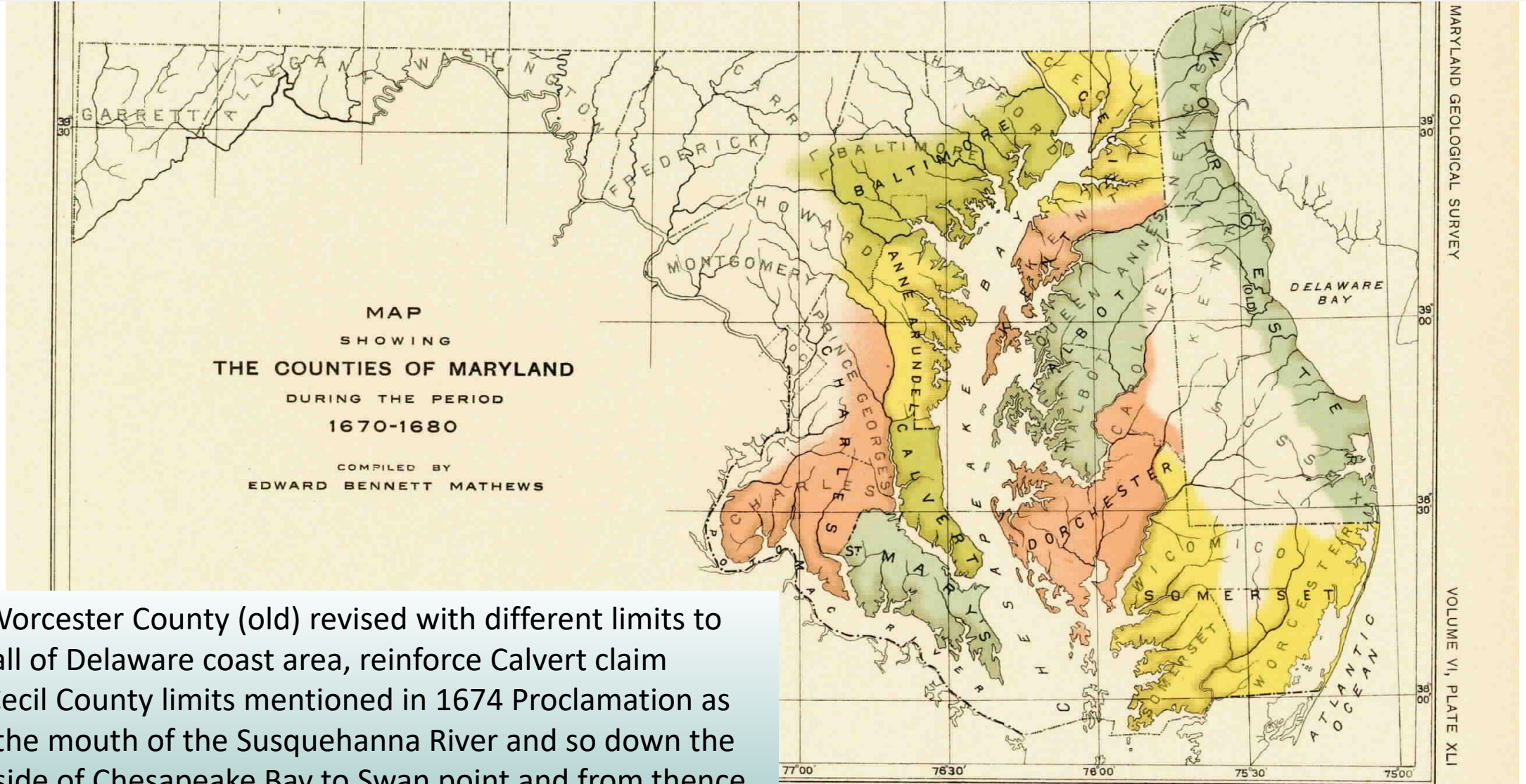
1666 – Somerset County erected by order in Council.

1668 – Dorchester County has no origin recordings and is dated by a writ issued in 1668 to the sheriff of the county

1669 – Durham and Worcester (old) Counties erection were proposed by Lord Baltimore and by order in Council

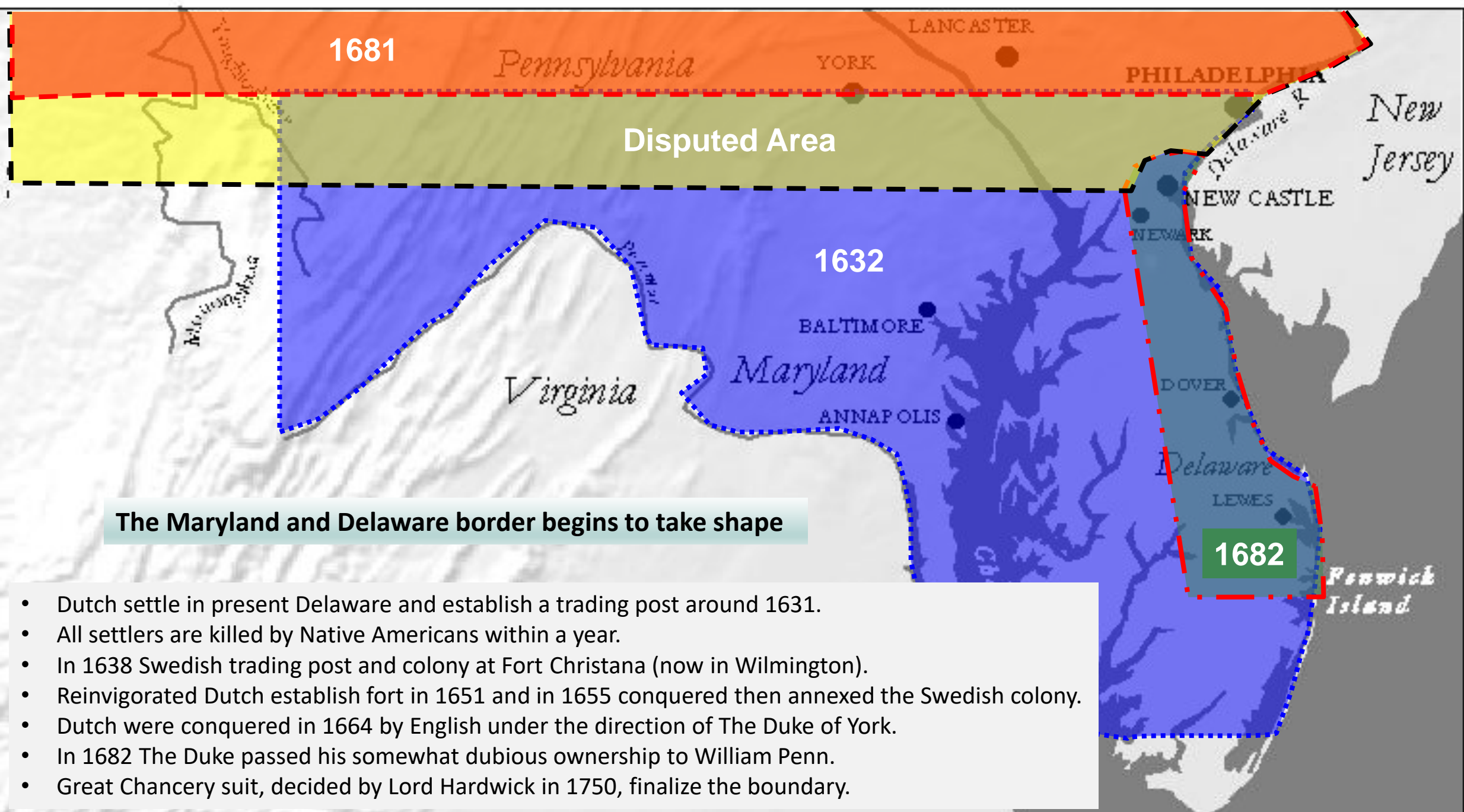
1661 – Charles Calvert is the first of the Lord Baltimore's to set foot in Maryland when his father appoints him Governor

- Worcester County named after Lady Mary (Arundell) Somerset, whose Father-in-law, Henry Somerset, was Marquess of Worcester, per the Worcester County web site. Also named after Earl of Worcester per "The Counties of Maryland," E.B. Mathews (1906)
- Cecil County named after the 2nd Lord Baltimore, Cecil (Cecilius) Calvert (1605-1675).



1672 – Worcester County (old) revised with different limits to include all of Delaware coast area, reinforce Calvert claim
 1674 – Cecil County limits mentioned in 1674 Proclamation as “...from the mouth of the Susquehanna River and so down the eastern side of Chesapeake Bay to Swan point and from thence to Hell point and so up Chester River to the head...”

The colored areas represent the probable extent of knowledge and the shading the extent of settlement at the end of the time period.



1681

Pennsylvania

YORK

LANCASTER

PHILADELPHIA

Disputed Area

New Jersey

NEW CASTLE

NEWARK

1632

BALTIMORE

Maryland

ANNAPOLIS

Virginia

Delaware

DOVER

LEWES

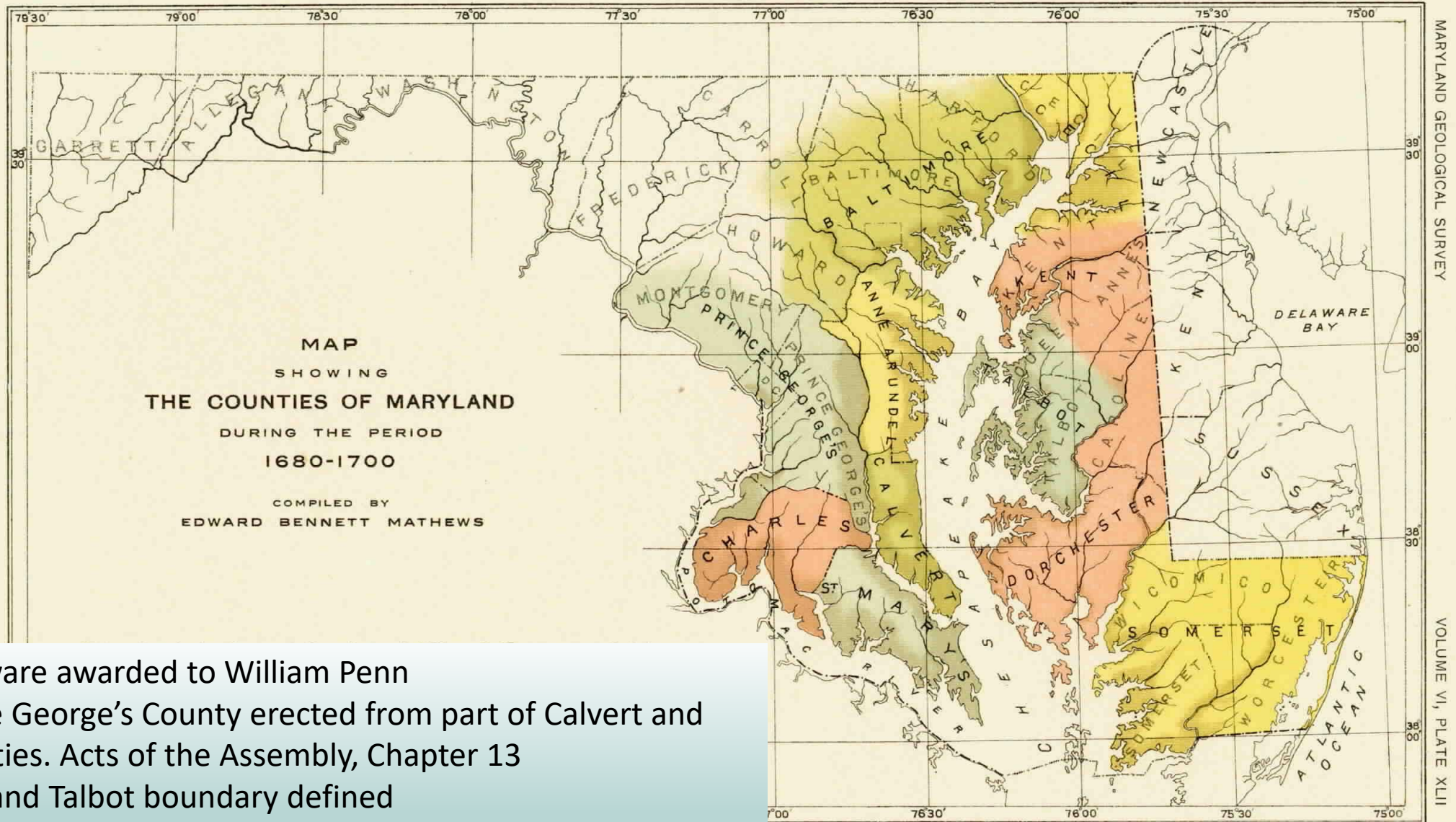
1682

Penwick Island

The Maryland and Delaware border begins to take shape

- Dutch settle in present Delaware and establish a trading post around 1631.
- All settlers are killed by Native Americans within a year.
- In 1638 Swedish trading post and colony at Fort Christana (now in Wilmington).
- Reinvigorated Dutch establish fort in 1651 and in 1655 conquered then annexed the Swedish colony.
- Dutch were conquered in 1664 by English under the direction of The Duke of York.
- In 1682 The Duke passed his somewhat dubious ownership to William Penn.
- Great Chancery suit, decided by Lord Hardwick in 1750, finalize the boundary.

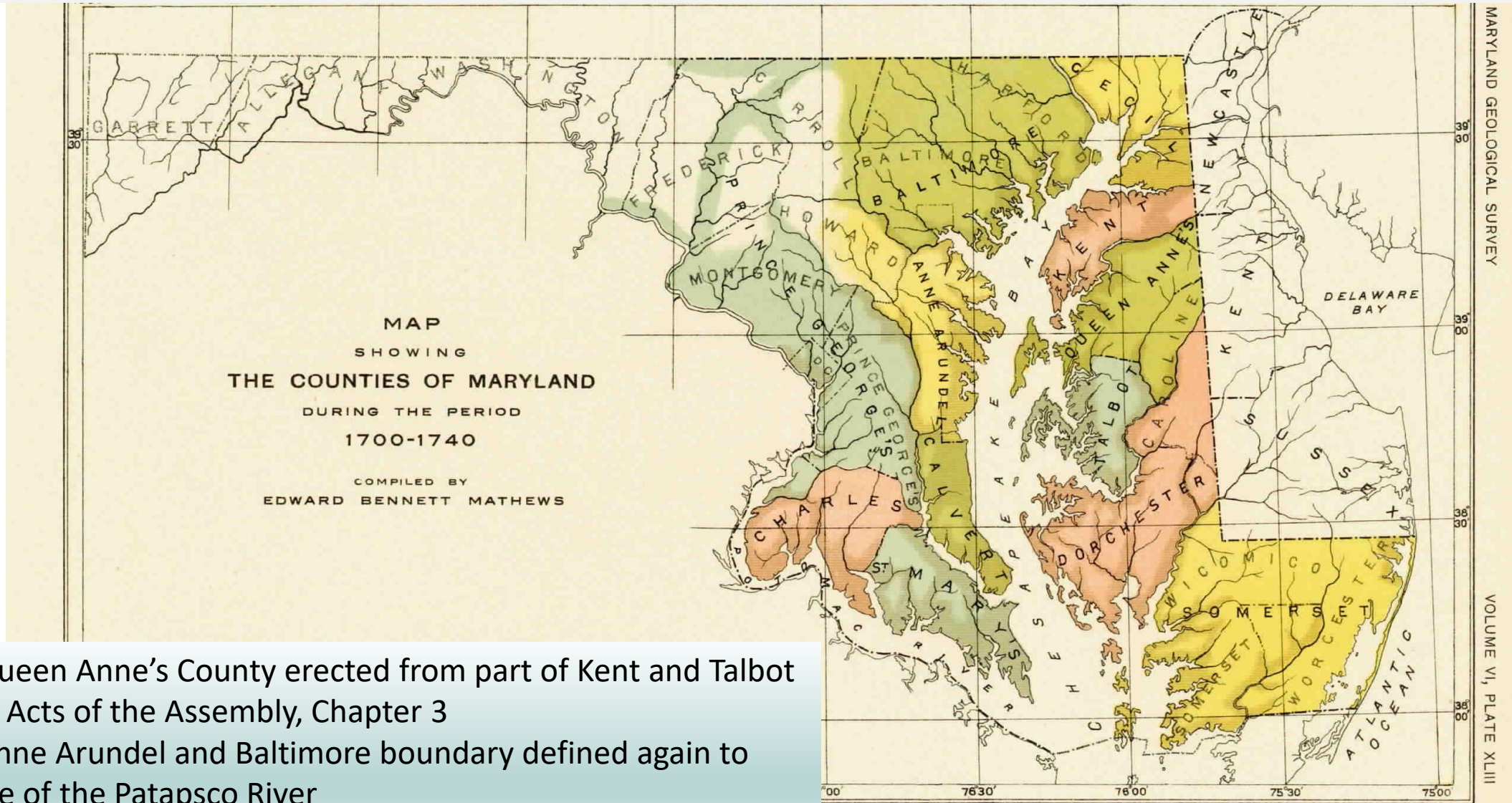
- Prince George's County named after Prince George of Denmark (1653-1708) husband of Queen Anne (to be - 1702) of Britain



- 1685 – Delaware awarded to William Penn
- 1695 – Prince George's County erected from part of Calvert and Charles counties. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 13
- 1695 – Kent and Talbot boundary defined
- 1698 – Anne Arundel and Baltimore boundary defined

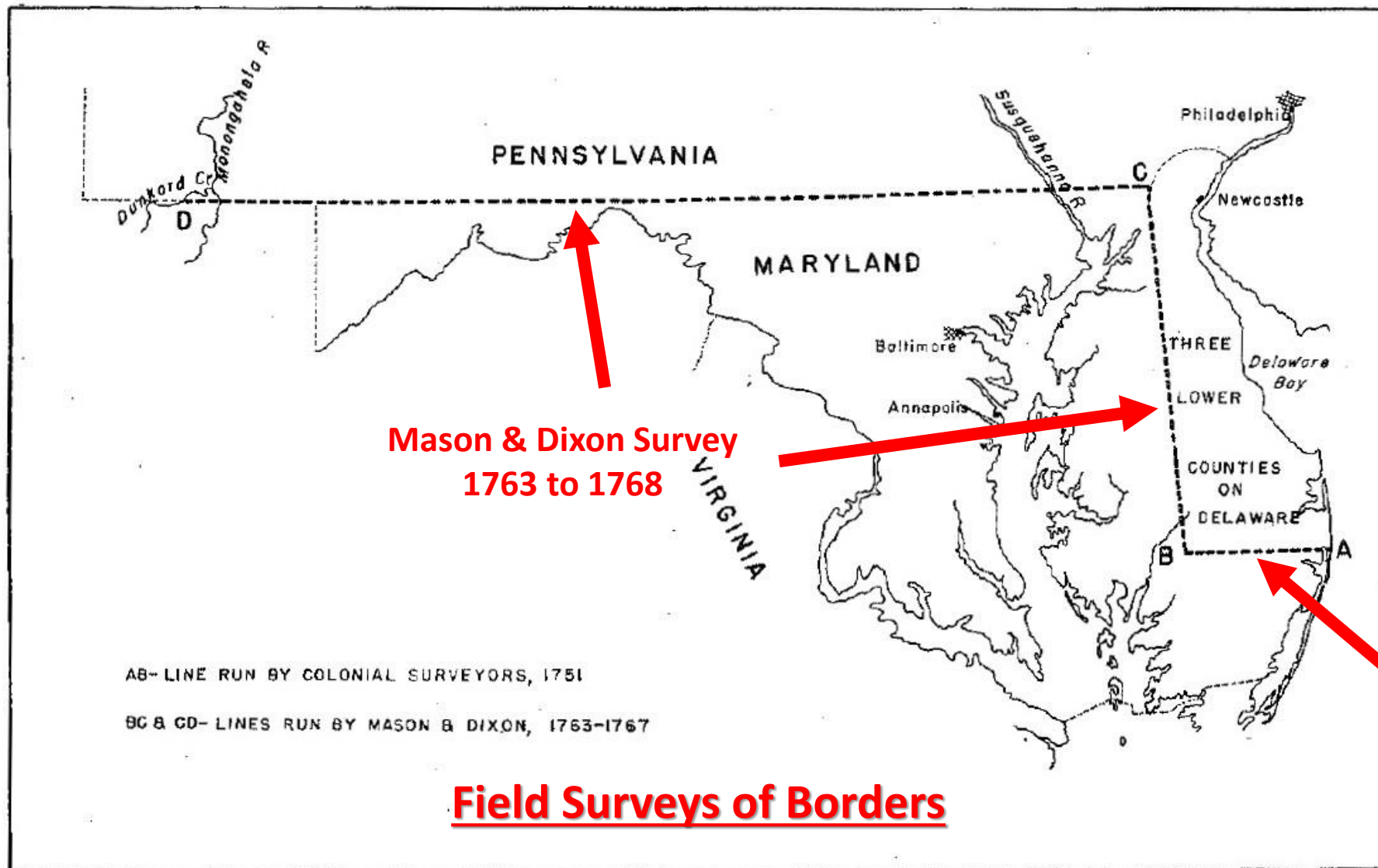
The colored areas represent the probable extent of knowledge and the shading the extent of settlement at the end of the time period.

- Queen Anne's County named after Queen Anne (1665-1714), daughter of the Duke of York, granddaughter of King Charles who granted Maryland to the Calvert Family. She was married to Prince George



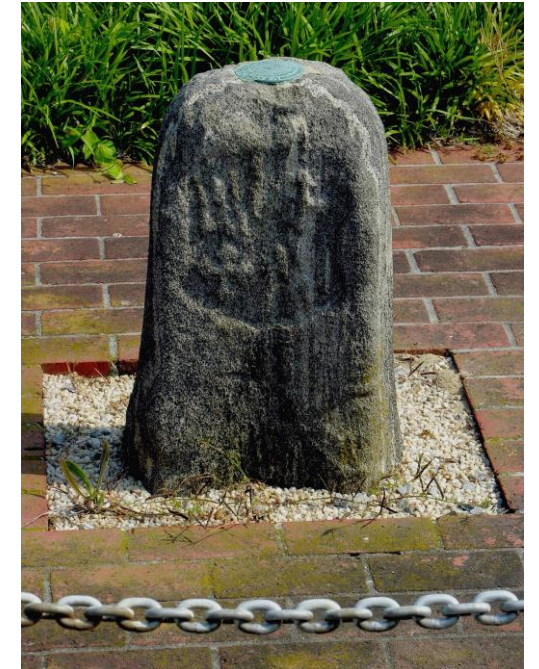
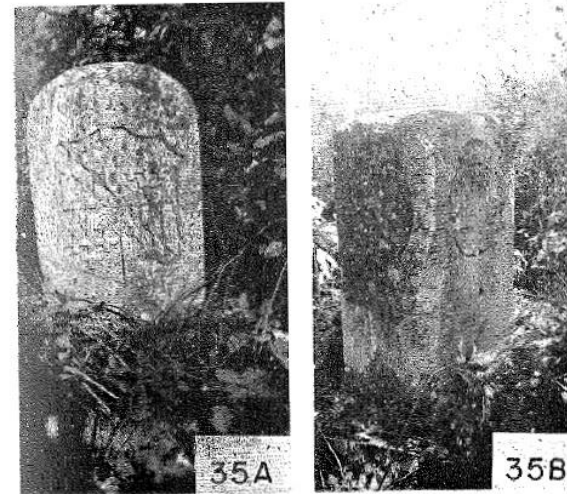
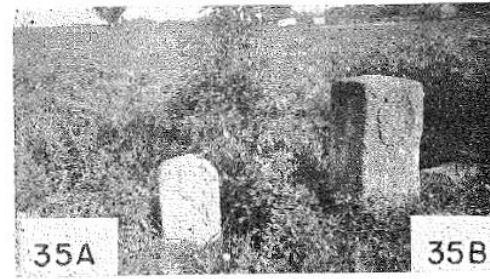
1706 – Queen Anne's County erected from part of Kent and Talbot counties. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 3
 1726 – Anne Arundel and Baltimore boundary defined again to south side of the Patapsco River

The colored areas represent the probable extent of knowledge and the shading the extent of settlement at the end of the time period.



80 years of
Calvert/Penn
conflict are over
and Boundary
Lines are starting
to be surveyed

Fig. 9. Extent of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary surveys 1751 to 1767.



1750 – 1751 Delaware southern border with Maryland (*Transpeninsular Line*) is surveyed by John Watson and William Parsons of PA and John Emory and Thomas Jones of MD

(Authoritative Source)



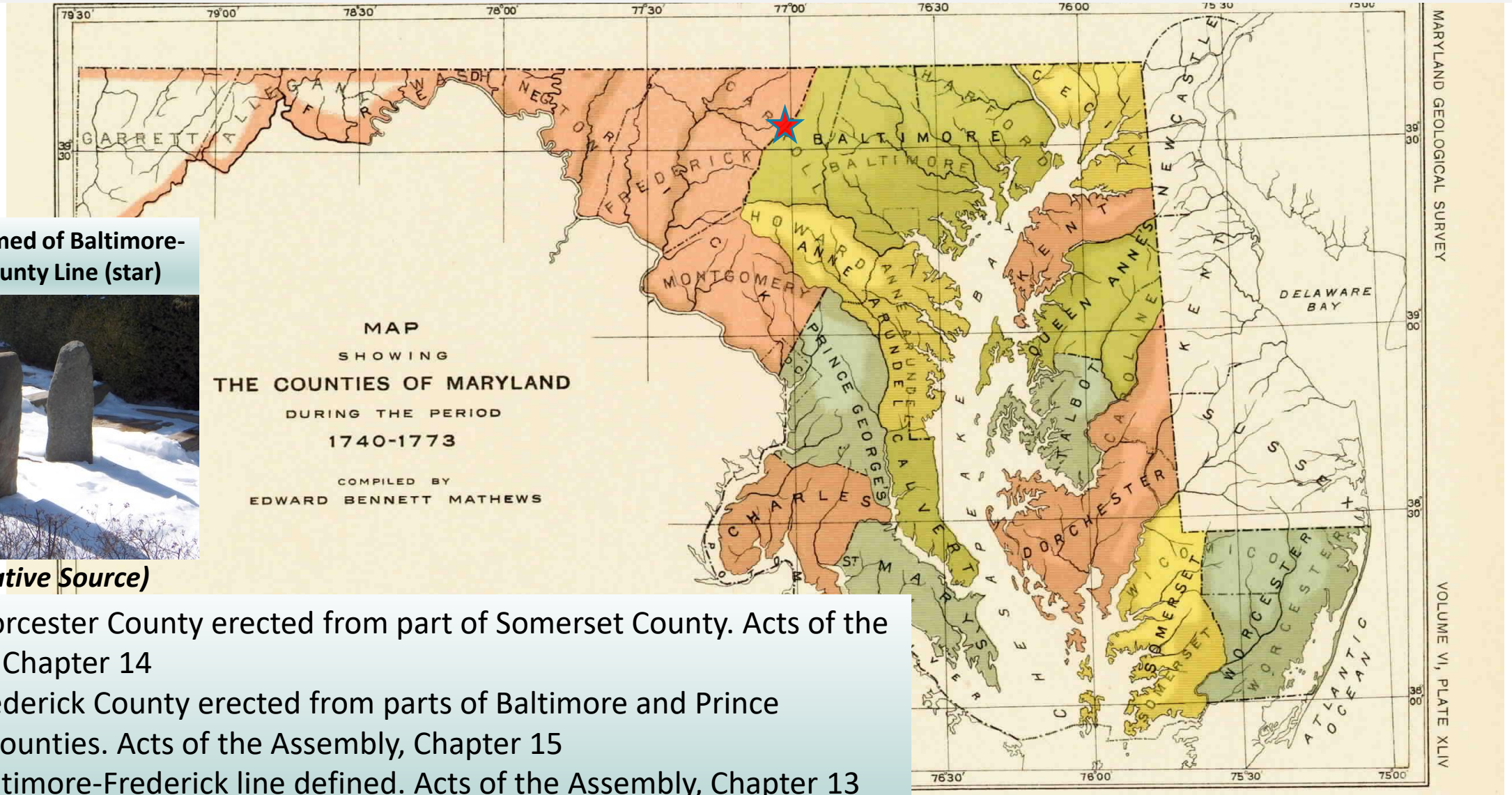
Maryland sides of the three boundary stones at the Middle Point, the tallest of them the Crown Stone set by Mason and Dixon and showing the Crown above the shield of the Lords Baltimore
Courtesy of Mr. Harold K. Trout.



1763 – 1768 Maryland eastern border with Delaware and its northern border with Pennsylvania are surveyed by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon from England

(Authoritative Source)

- Worcester County (old) was lost when land became part of Delaware and returned with division of a Somerset County
- Frederick County named for either Frederick (1707-1751), Prince of Wales (heir apparent) or Frederick Calvert the 6th Lord Baltimore



Survey performed of Baltimore-Frederick County Line (star)



(Authoritative Source)

1742 – Worcester County erected from part of Somerset County. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 14

1748 – Frederick County erected from parts of Baltimore and Prince George's counties. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 15

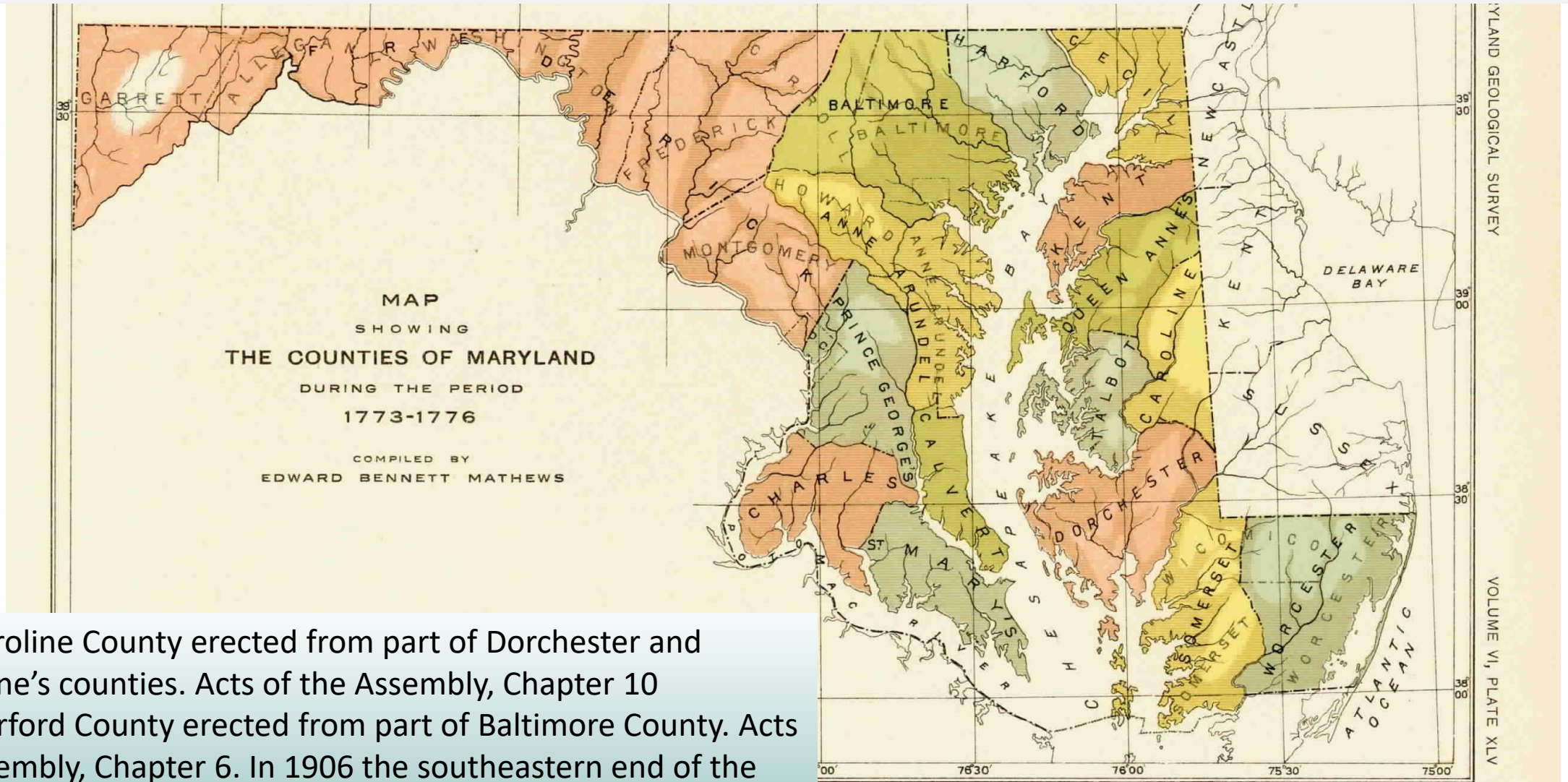
1750 – Baltimore-Frederick line defined. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 13

1750 – 1751 – Transpeninsular Line Survey

1763 – 1768 – Mason and Dixon Line Survey

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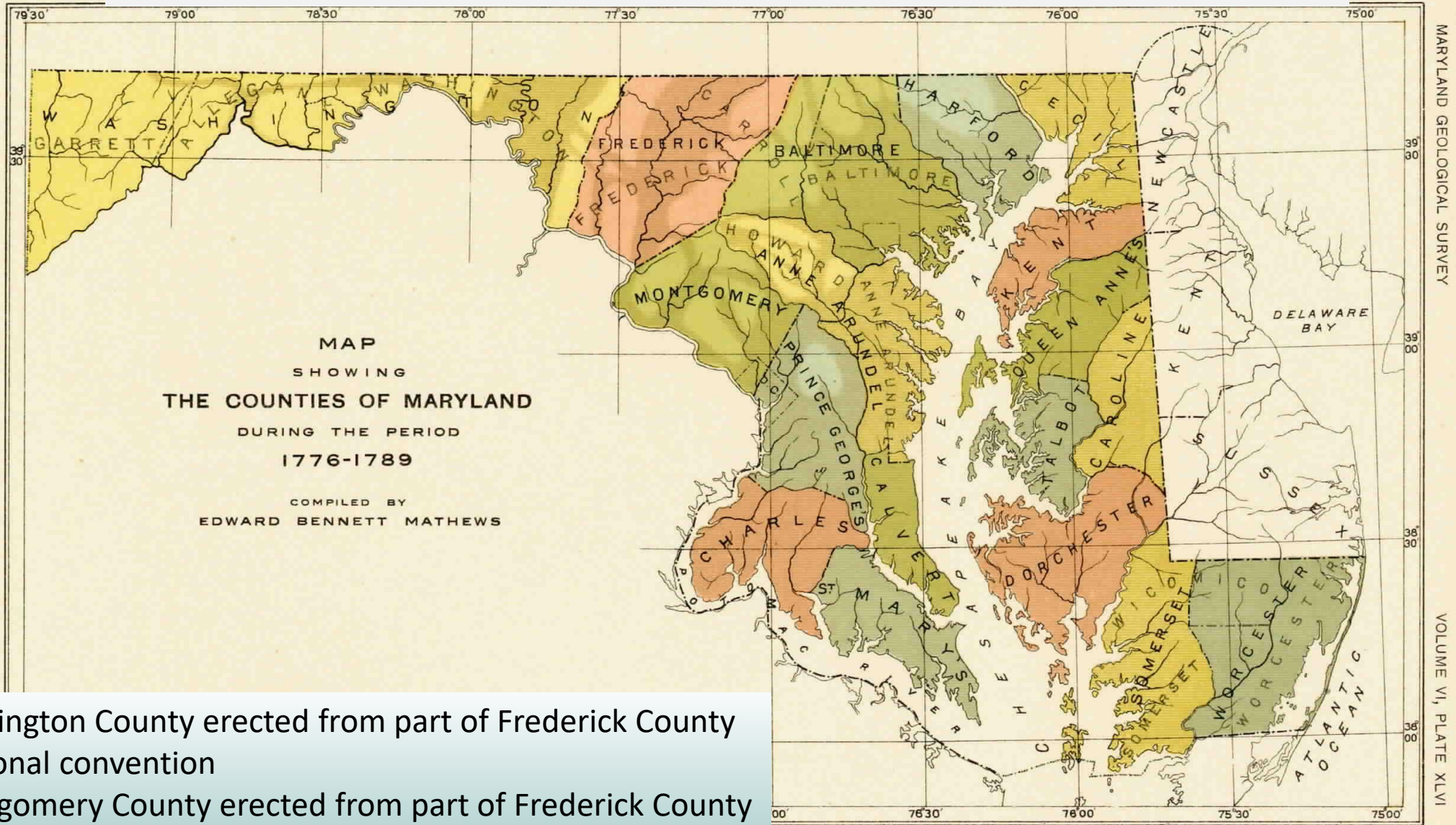
- Caroline County named after Lady Caroline Eden (1745 - ?), daughter of Charles Calvert the 5th Lord Baltimore, wife of Robert Eden the last colonial governor of Maryland
- Harford County named after Henry Harford (1758 – 1834), the illegitimate son of 6th Lord Baltimore, Frederick Calvert (Caroline's brother)



1773 – Caroline County erected from part of Dorchester and Queen Anne's counties. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 10
 1773 – Harford County erected from part of Baltimore County. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 6. In 1906 the southeastern end of the Baltimore-Harford line was defined where it crossed Edel's Island

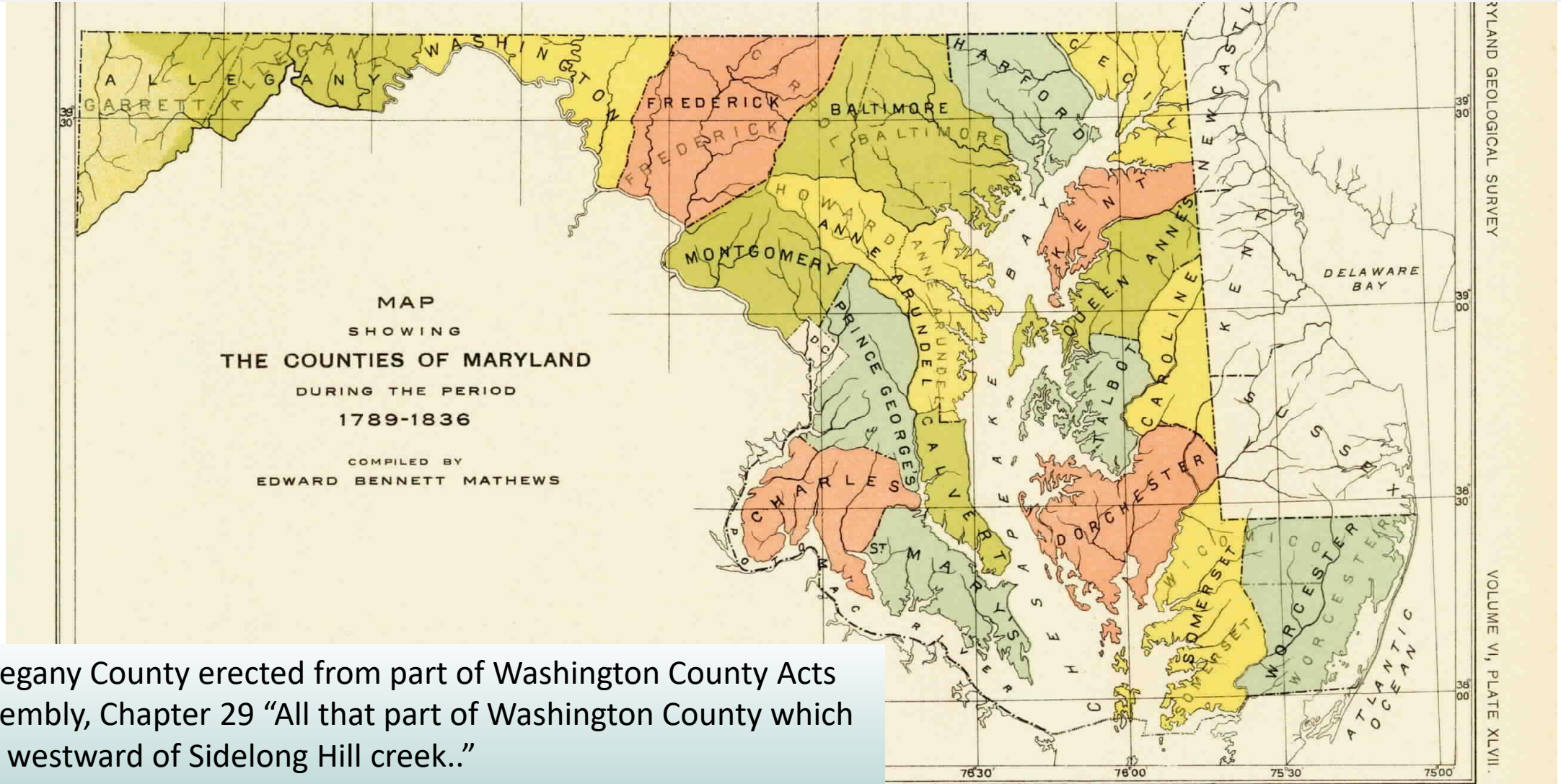
The colored areas represent the probable extent of knowledge and the shading the extent of settlement at the end of the time period.

- Washington County named after General George Washington (Revolutionary War Hero)
- Montgomery County named after General Richard Montgomery (Revolutionary War Hero)



1776 – Washington County erected from part of Frederick County by constitutional convention
1776 – Montgomery County erected from part of Frederick County by constitutional convention

- Allegany County name may come from native American word meaning “best flowing river of the hills” or “beautiful stream”
- District of Columbia original named Territory of Columbia after Christopher Columbus. The 10-mile square was surveyed by Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker from 1791-1792 with stones set every mile around the boundary.



1789 – Allegany County erected from part of Washington County Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 29 “All that part of Washington County which lies to the westward of Sidelong Hill creek..”

1791 – District of Columbia, Congress passes the Residence Act

1822-1824 – Anne Arundel/Calvert County Line, Act to define line.



Map of Locations

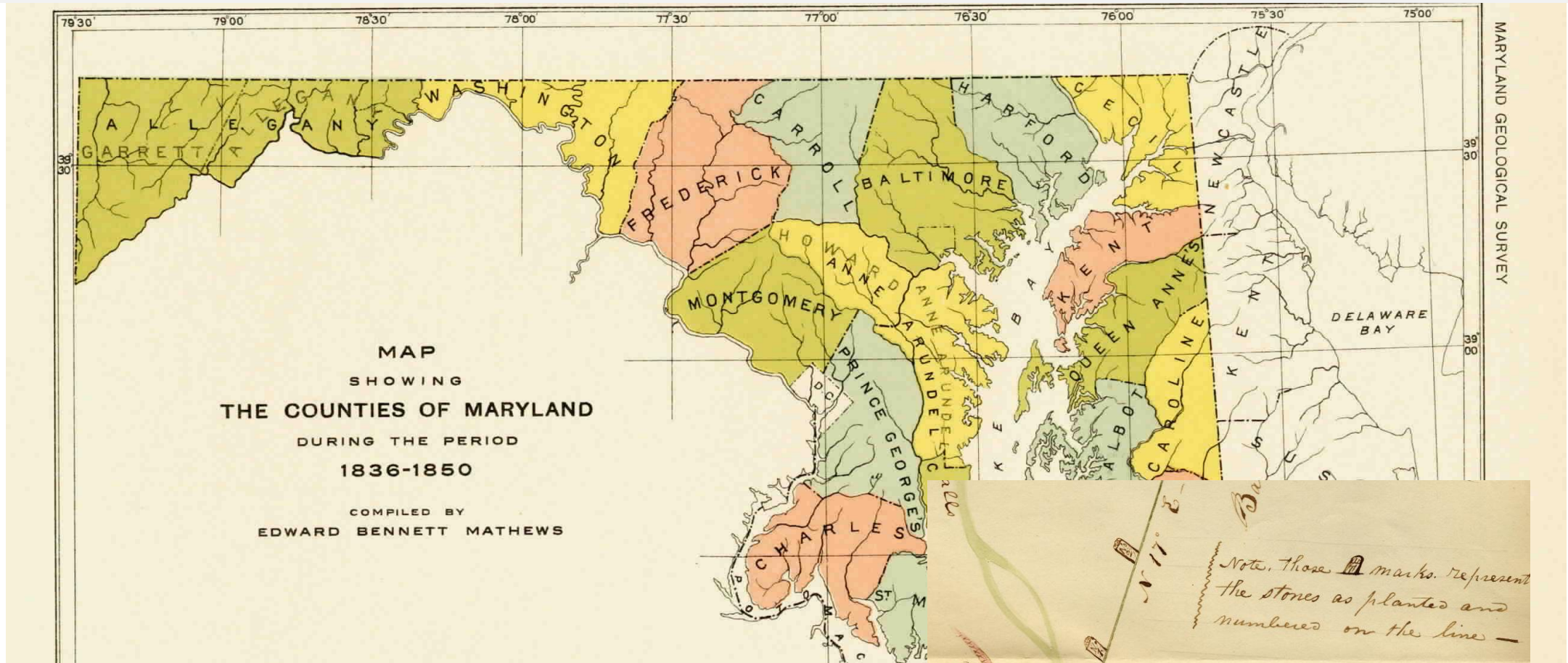
Click the map markers below for photos and information about each stone. The D.C. Geographic Information System's **2011 survey** provided precise GPS data for all but two stones that were repositioned after the survey and therefore have only approximate coordinates. Locations marked with "X" lack stones from the 1790s. A **printable list** of the locations appears at the bottom of the page. Save the map in **Google Maps**.



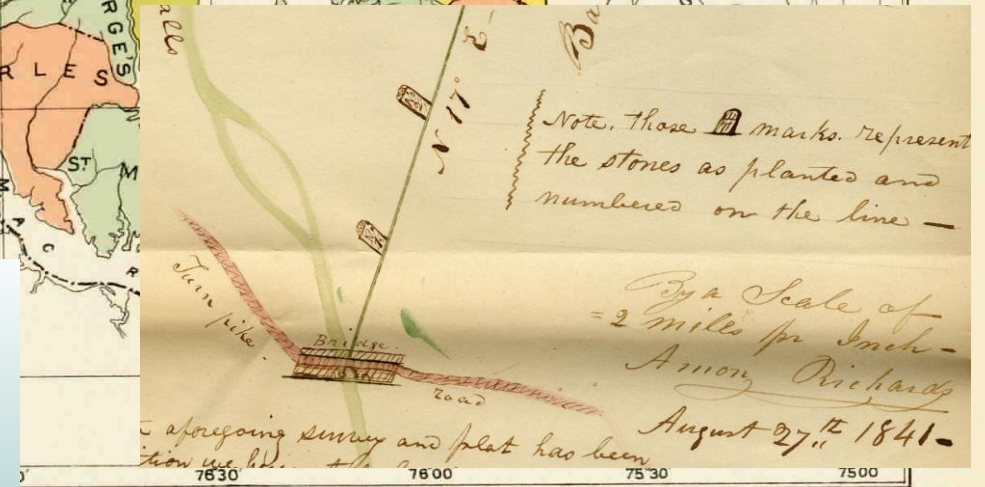
**1791 to 1792 – Field survey
setting stones every mile around
the District of Columbia**

(Authoritative Source)

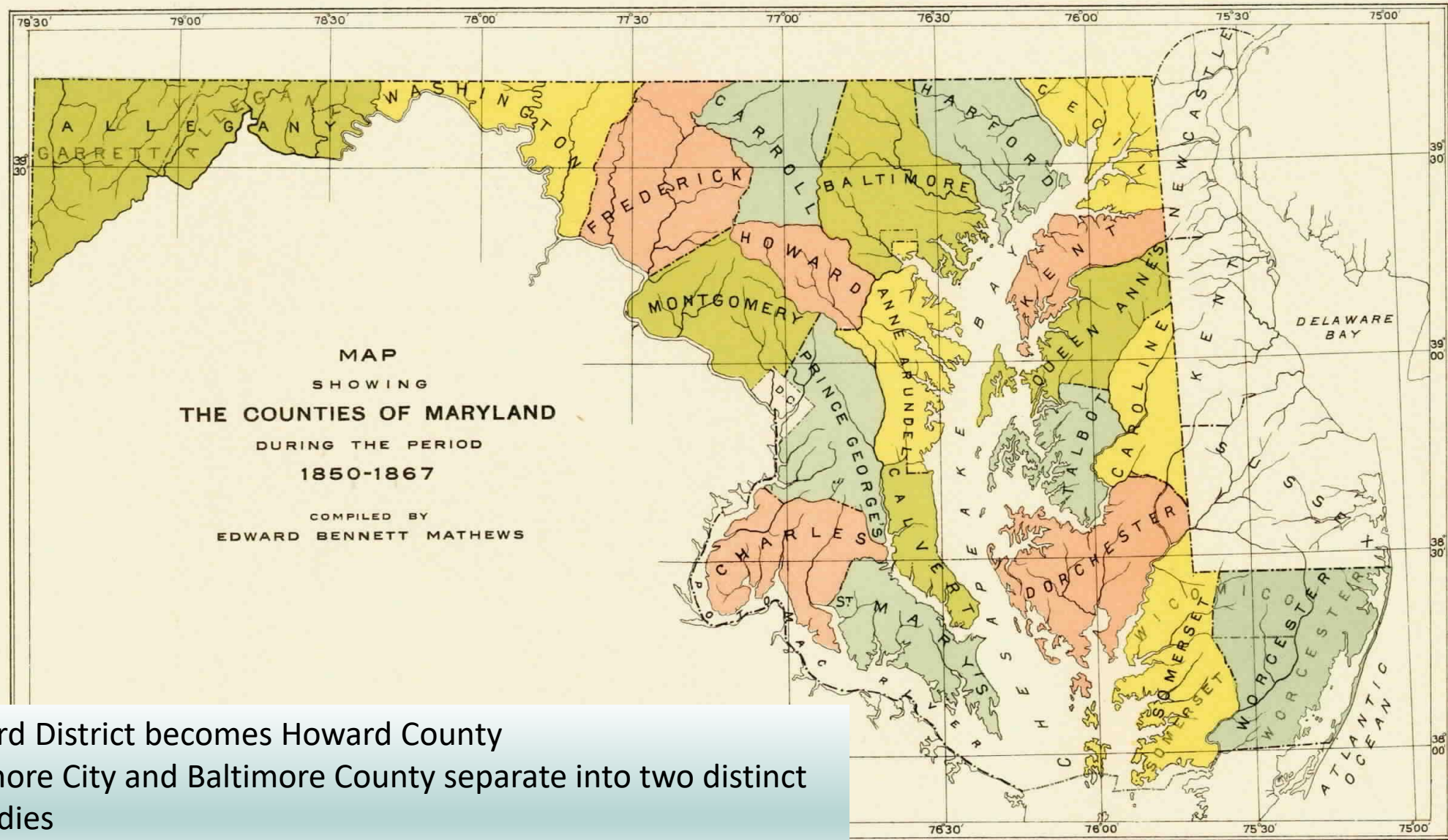
- Carroll County named for Charles Carroll of Carrollton (1737-1832), signer of the Declaration of Independence
- Howard County named for John Eager Howard (1752-1827), soldier, politician and Maryland governor



1837 – Carroll County erected from part of Baltimore and Frederick counties. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 19
 1838 and 1839 – Howard District erected from part of Anne Arundel County, Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 22 and Chapter 98
 1840 - Survey the North East line between Baltimore and Carroll counties. Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 10

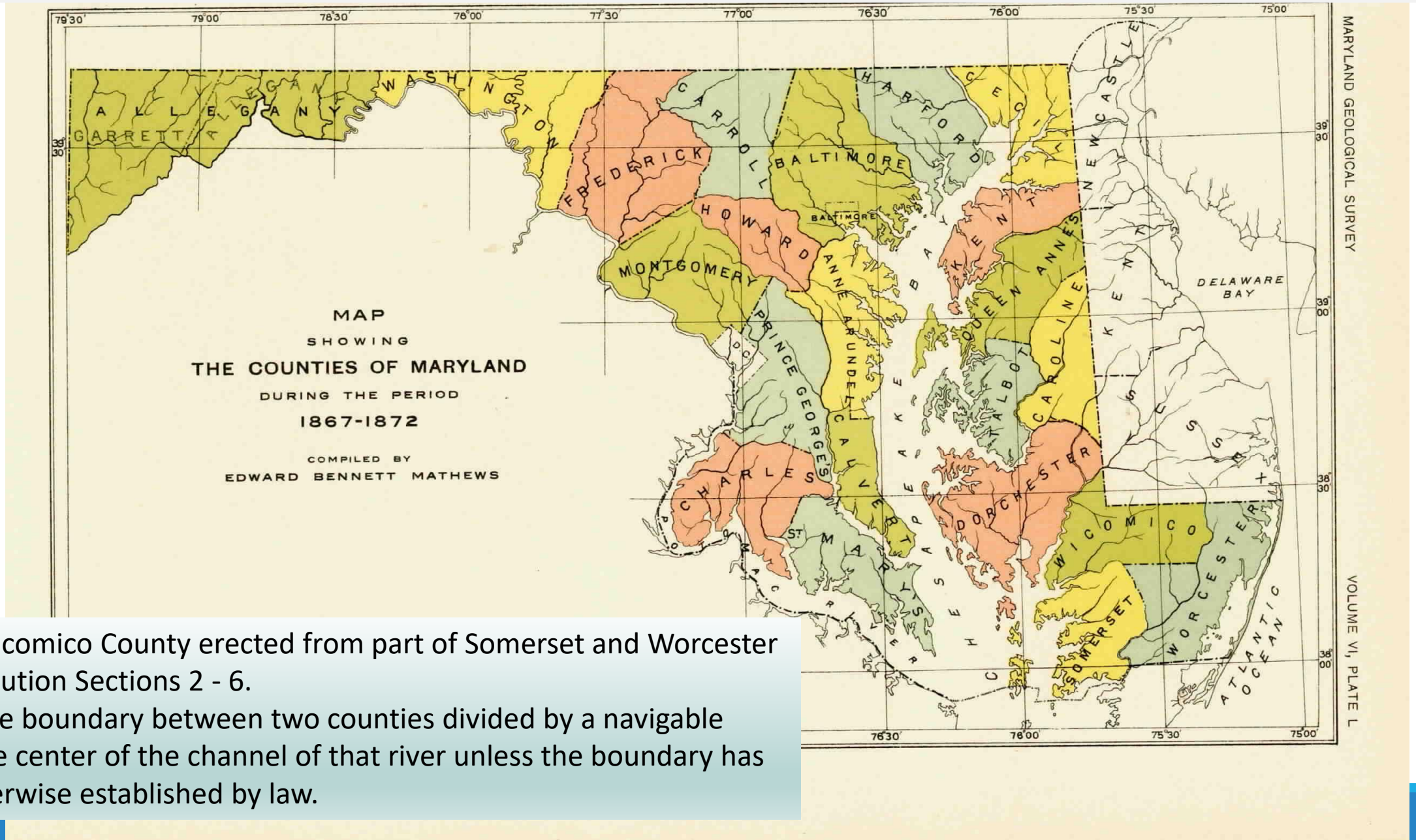


1841 – Field survey performed to set stones along Carroll-Baltimore Line. Retraced in 2007

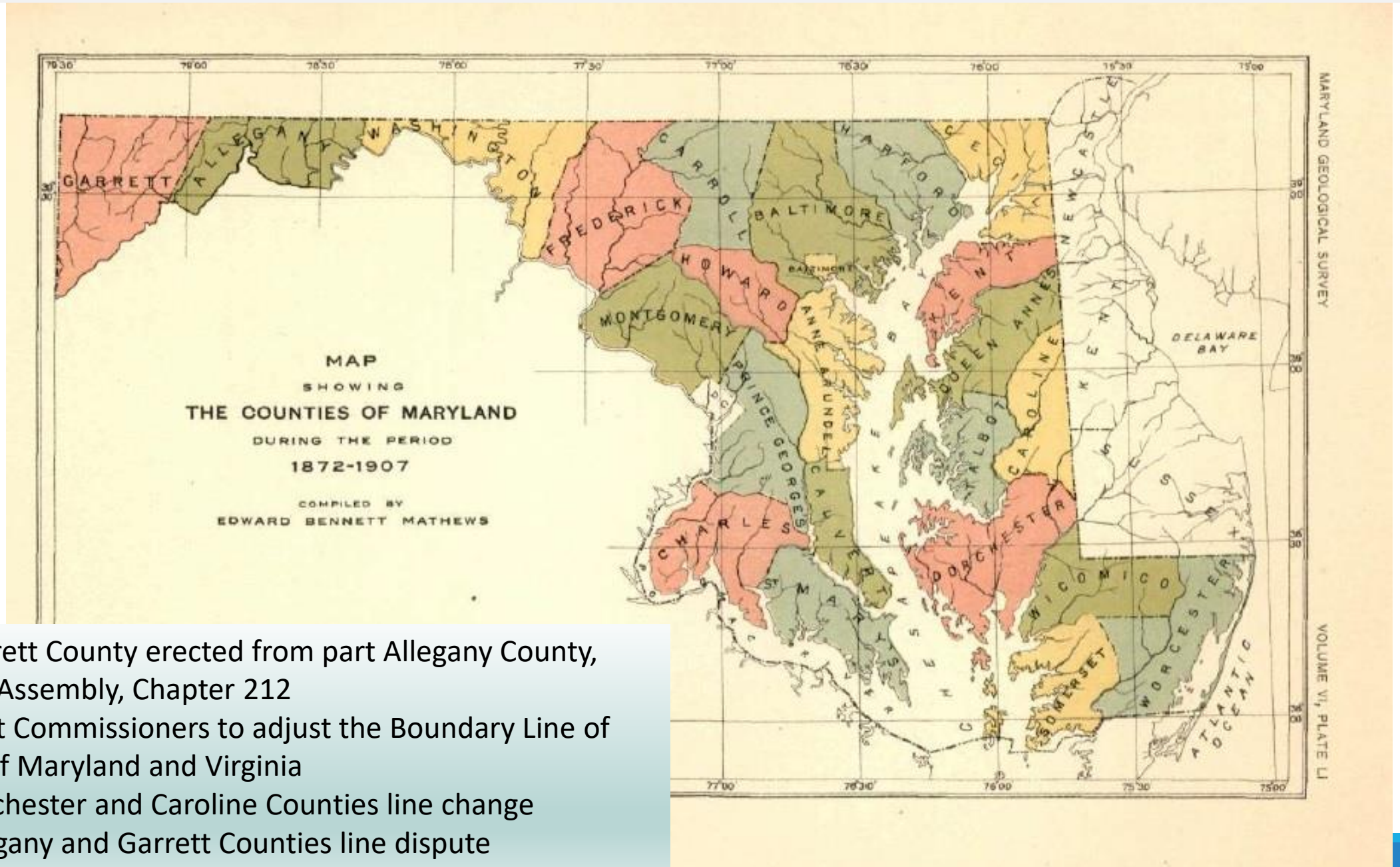


1850 – Howard District becomes Howard County
1850 – Baltimore City and Baltimore County separate into two distinct governing bodies

- Wicomico County named for the Wicomico River which comes from the words *wicko mekee*, meaning “a place where houses are built,” apparently referring to an Indian town on the banks.



- Garrett County named for John Work Garrett (1820-1884), president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad



- 1872 – Garrett County erected from part Allegany County, Acts of the Assembly, Chapter 212
- 1874 – Joint Commissioners to adjust the Boundary Line of the states of Maryland and Virginia
- 1880 – Dorchester and Caroline Counties line change
- 1898 – Allegany and Garrett Counties line dispute

Garrett County Surveys

Western Line

MD-VA Deakins Line – 1788
MD-VA Michler Line – 1859
State of West Virginia - 1863
MD-WV Brown-Bauer Line – 1897
Supreme Court Decision of 1910 (Deakins Line)

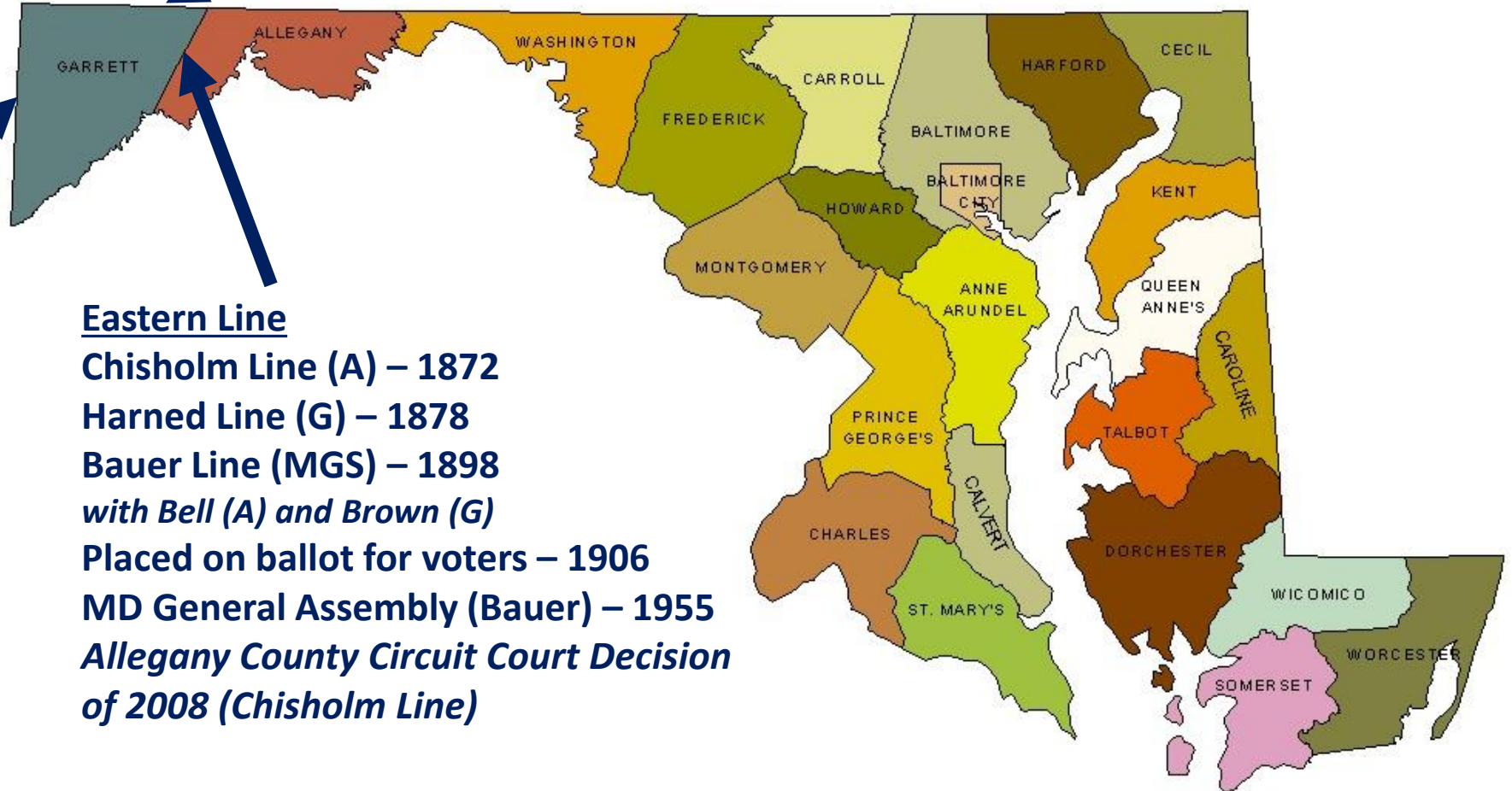
*(Authoritative Source)
Field Surveys and Court
Decisions*

Northern Line

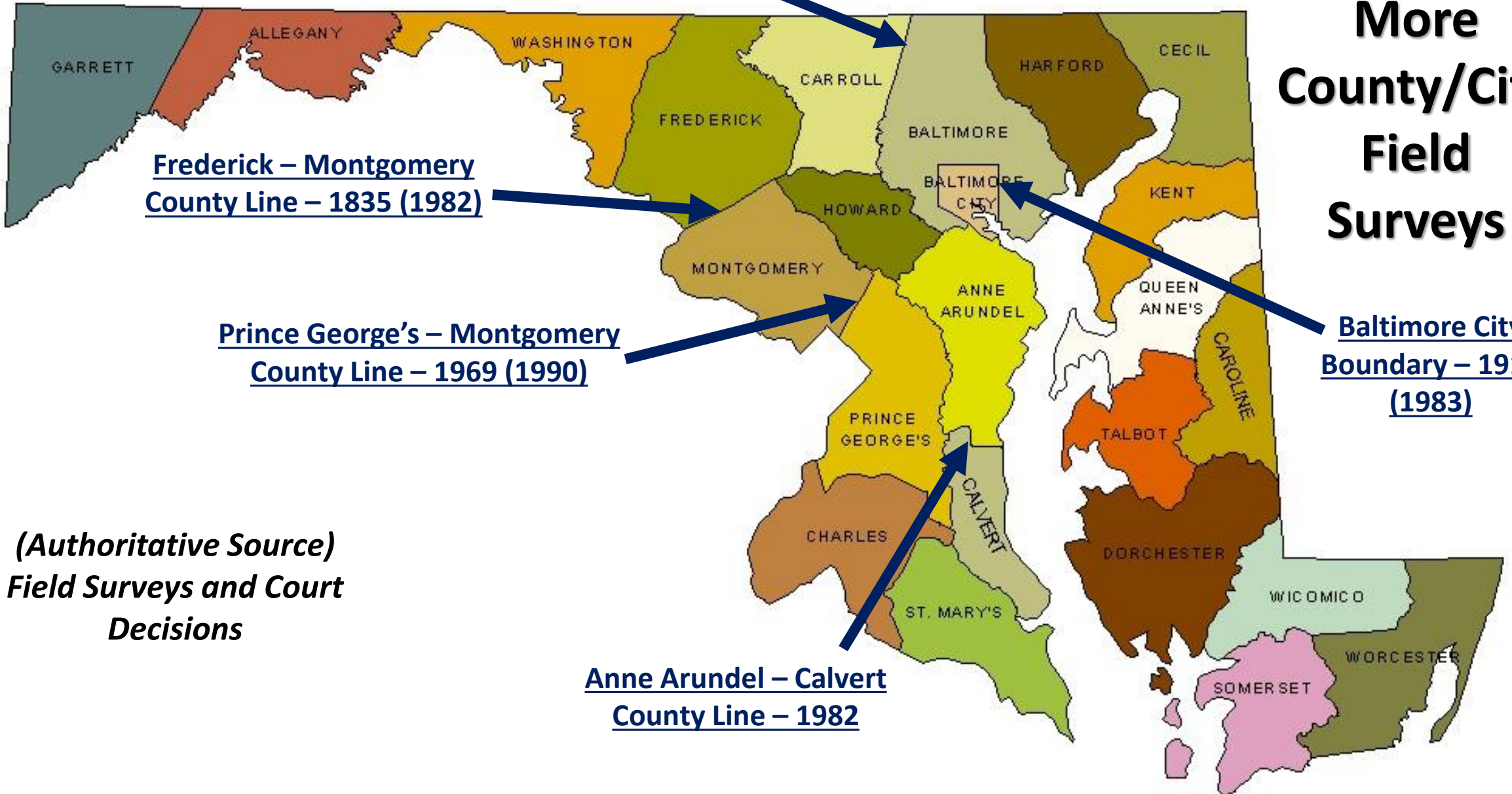
Mason and Dixon Survey – 1763 to 1768
MD-PA Commissioners resurvey – 1900 to 1903

Eastern Line

Chisholm Line (A) – 1872
Harned Line (G) – 1878
Bauer Line (MGS) – 1898
with Bell (A) and Brown (G)
Placed on ballot for voters – 1906
MD General Assembly (Bauer) – 1955
Allegany County Circuit Court Decision of 2008 (Chisholm Line)



Baltimore – Carroll County Line – 1841 (2007)



**More
County/City
Field
Surveys**

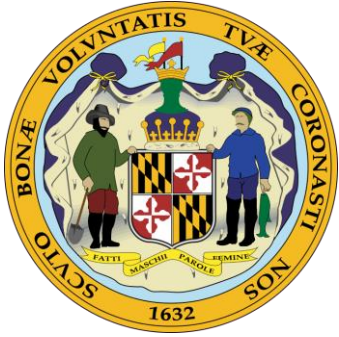
Frederick – Montgomery
County Line – 1835 (1982)

Prince George's – Montgomery
County Line – 1969 (1990)

Baltimore City
Boundary – 1918
(1983)

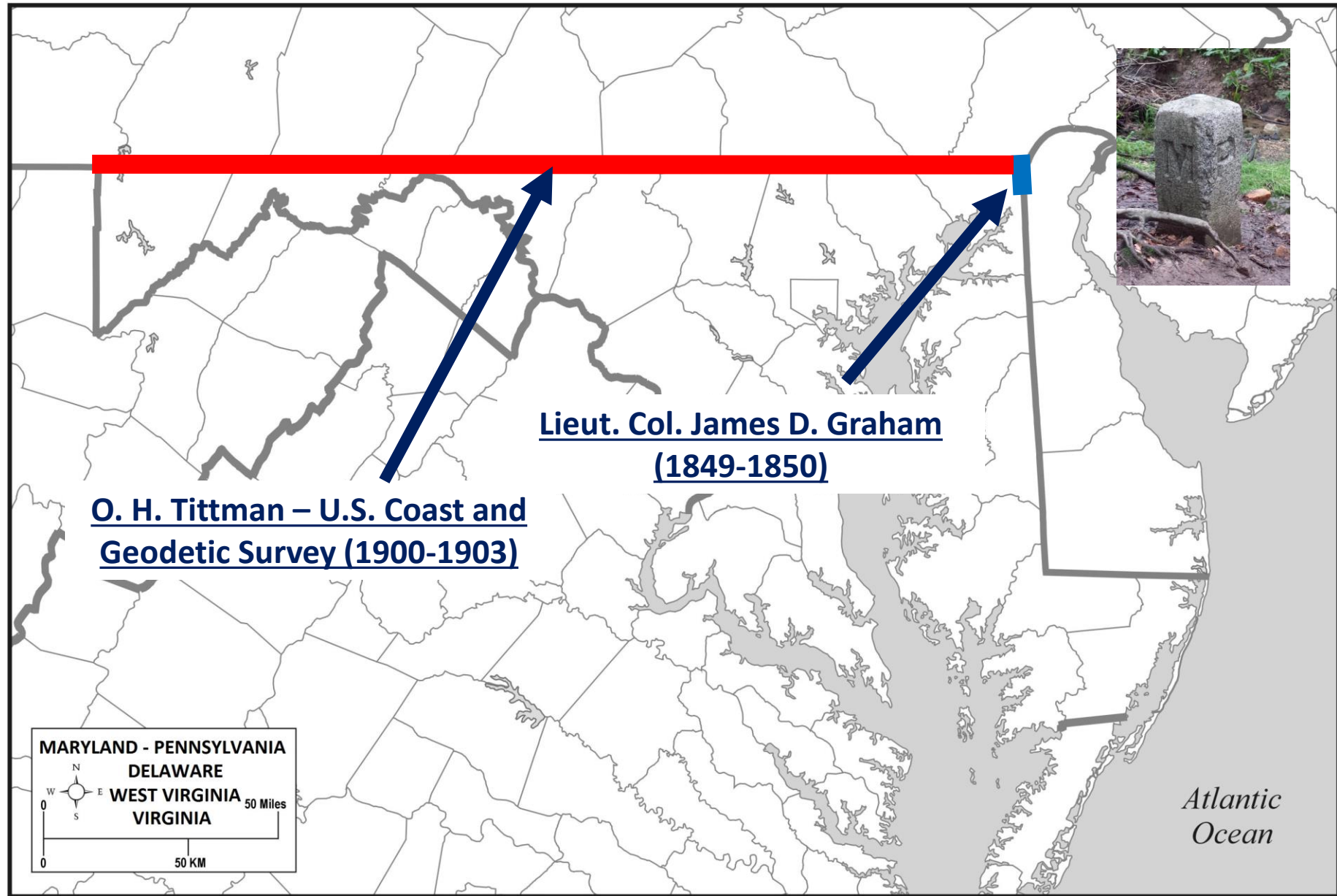
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Field Surveys and Court
Decisions*

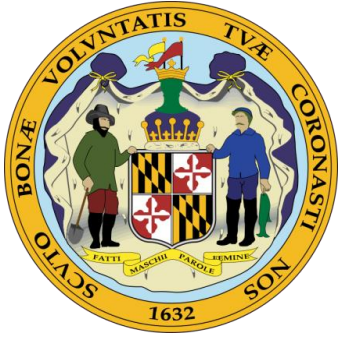
Anne Arundel – Calvert
County Line – 1982



Re-Surveys of State Boundaries

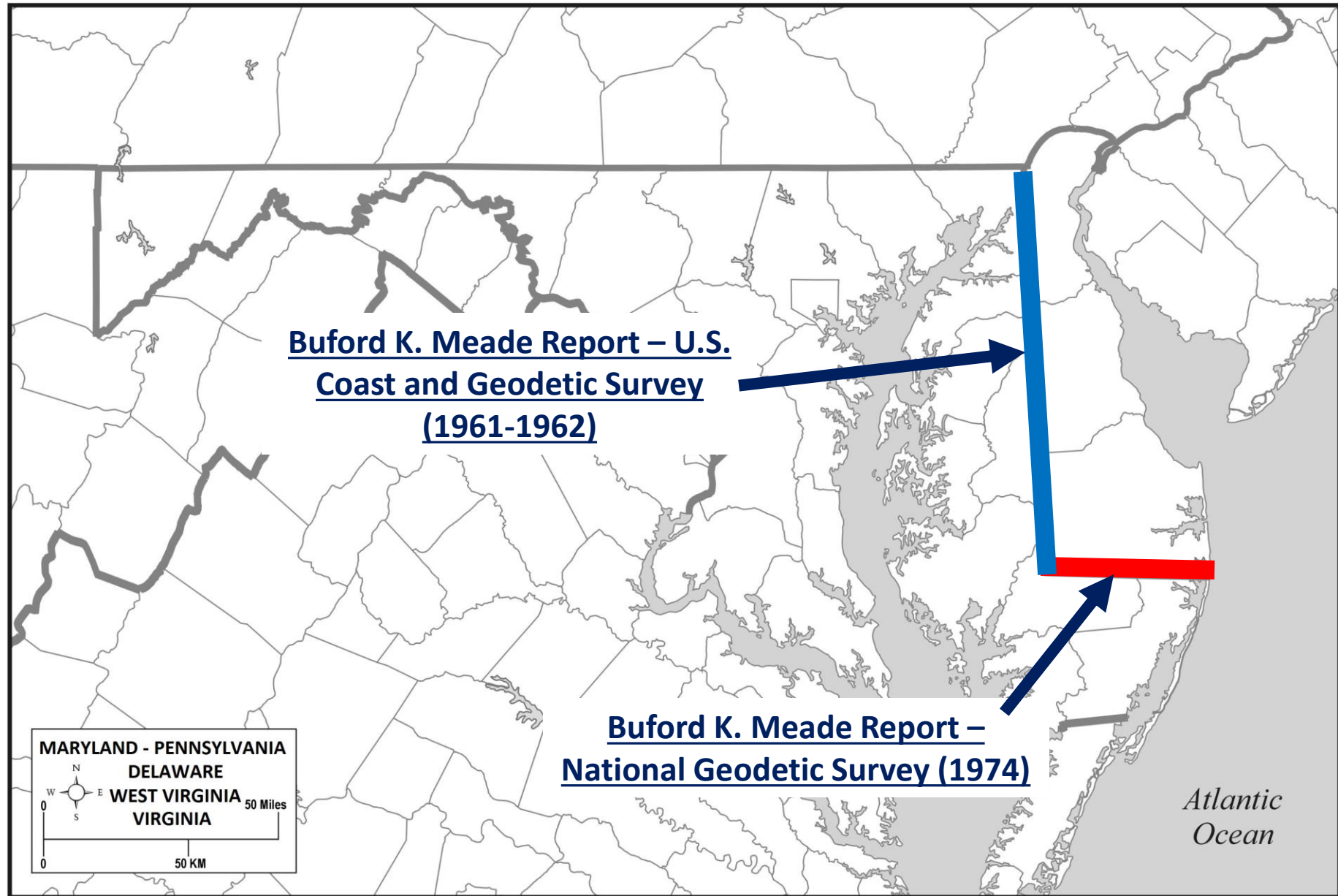
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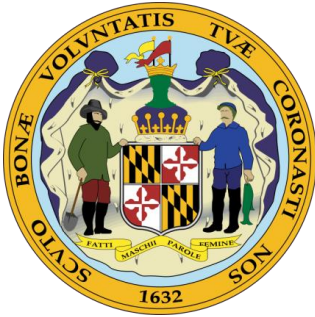




Re-Surveys of State Boundaries

*(Authoritative Source)
Field Surveys and Court
Decisions*





CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND

ARTICLE XIII

NEW COUNTIES.

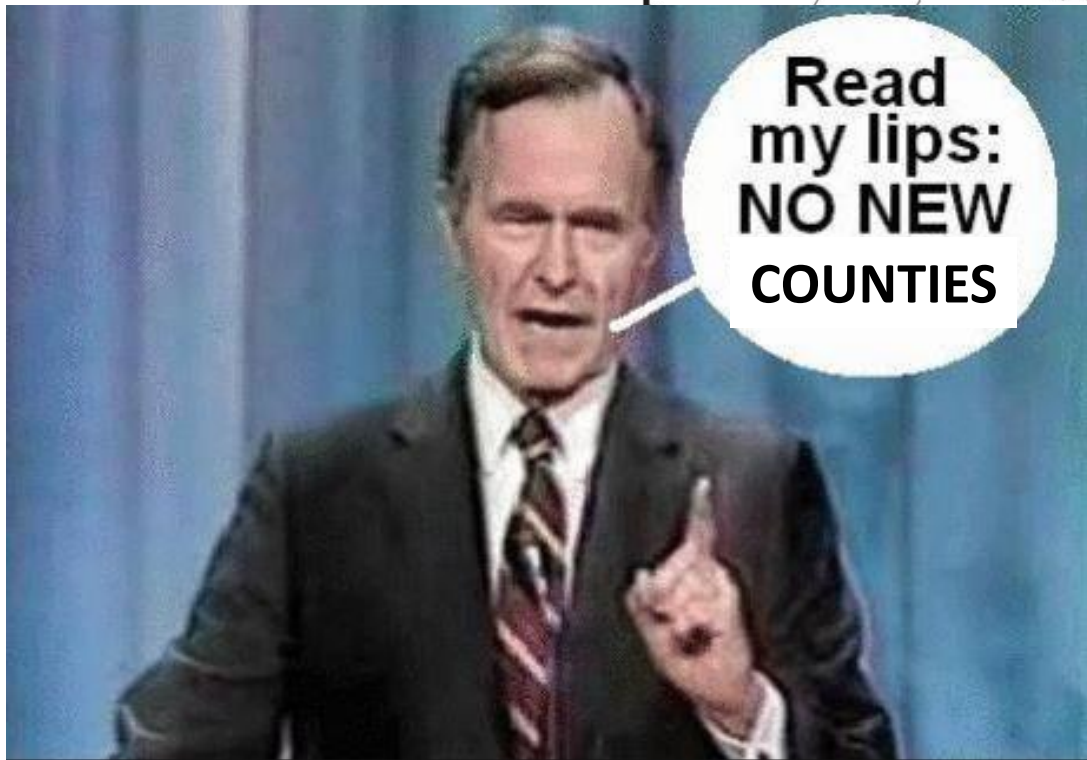
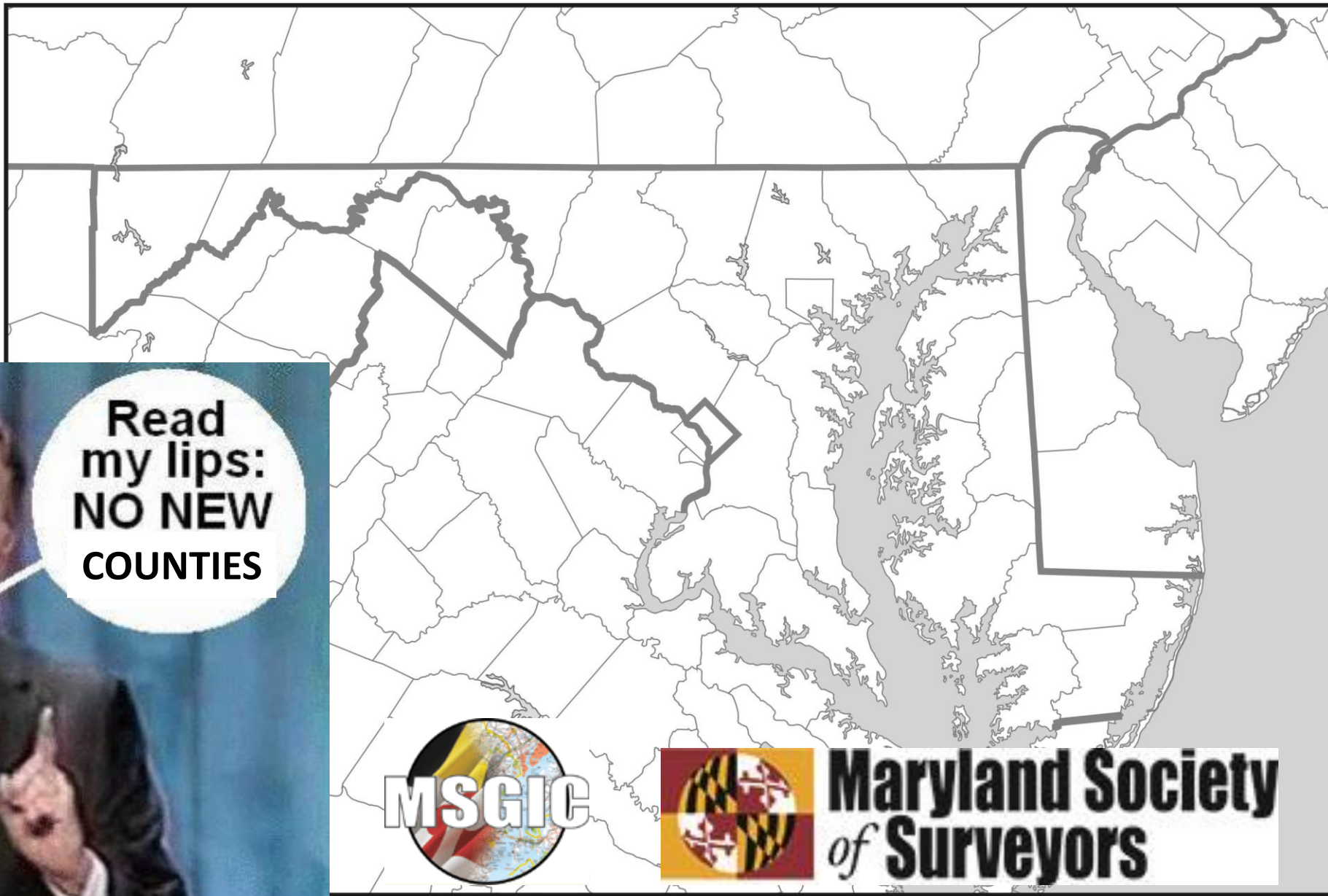
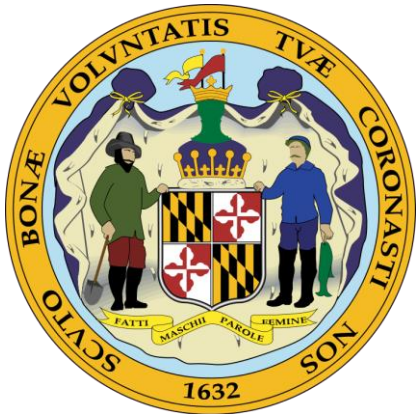
SECTION 1. The General Assembly may provide, by Law, for organizing new Counties, locating and removing county seats, and changing county lines; but no new county shall be organized without the consent of the majority of the legal voters residing within the limits proposed to be formed into said new county; and whenever a new county shall be proposed to be formed out of portions of two or more counties, the consent of a majority of the legal voters of such part of each of said counties, respectively, shall be required; nor shall the lines of any county nor of Baltimore City be changed without the consent of a majority of the legal voters residing within the district, which under said proposed change, would form a part of a county or of Baltimore City different from that to which it belonged prior to said change; and no new county shall contain less than four hundred square miles, nor less than ten thousand inhabitants; nor shall any change be made in the limits of any county, whereby the population of said county would be reduced to less than ten thousand inhabitants, or its territory reduced to less than four hundred square miles. No county lines heretofore validly established shall be changed except in accordance with this section (*amended by Chapter 618, Acts of 1947, ratified Nov. 2, 1948; Chapter 550, Acts of 1976, ratified Nov. 2, 1976; Chapter 681, Acts of 1977, ratified Nov. 7, 1978*).

“... no new county shall contain less than four hundred square miles ... or its territory reduced to less than four hundred square miles.”

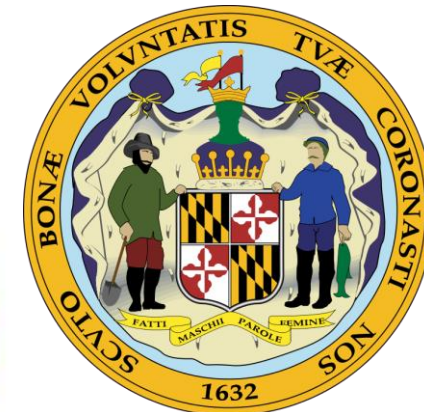
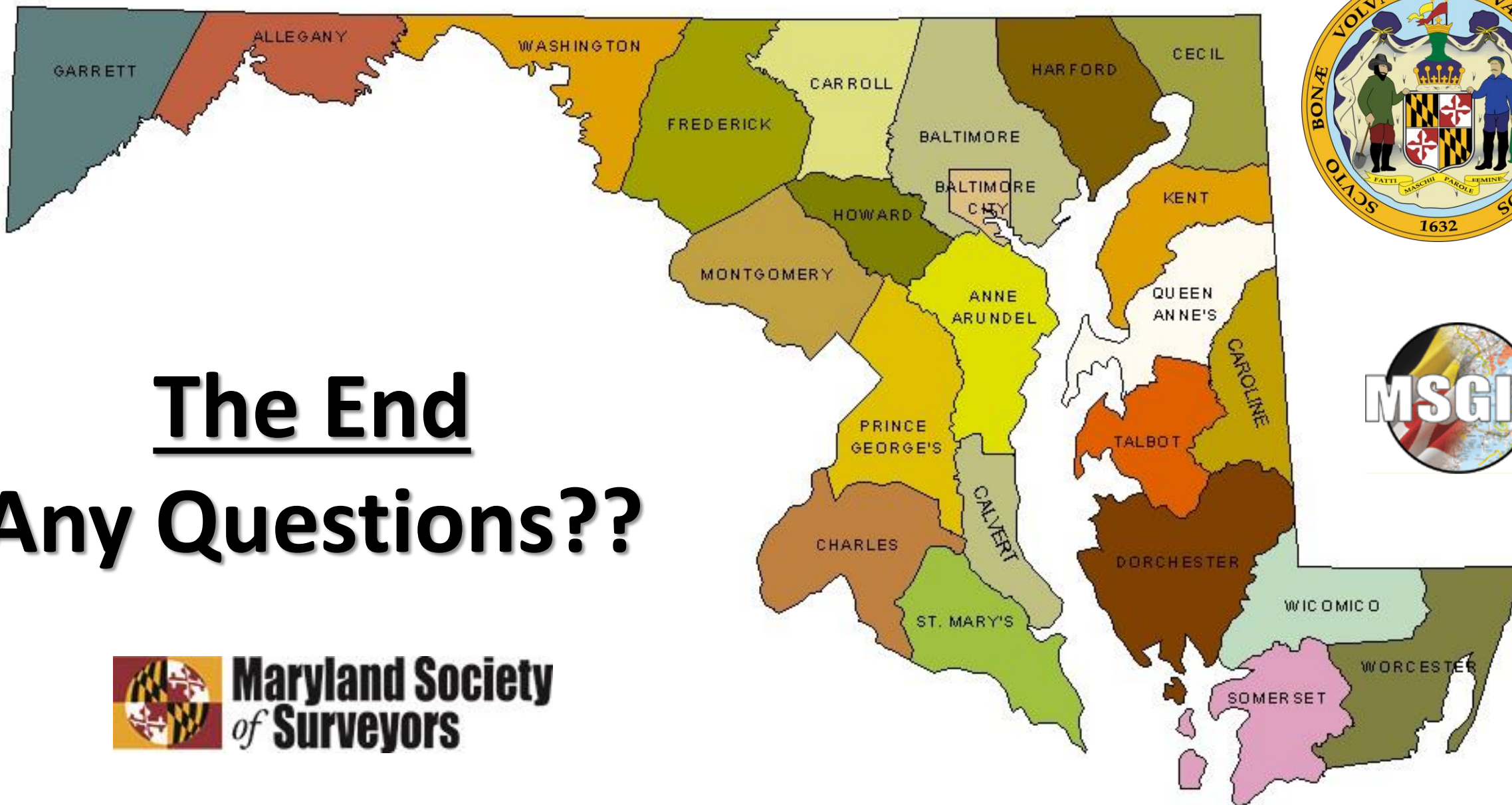
MARYLAND COUNTY SIZES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Square Miles</u>
ALLEGANY	430
ANNE ARUNDEL	588
BALTIMORE	682
CALVERT	345
CAROLINE	326
CARROLL	452
CECIL	418
CHARLES	643
DORCHESTER	540
FREDERICK	667
GARRETT	656
HARFORD	527

<u>Name</u>	<u>Square Miles</u>
HOWARD	254
KENT	414
MONTGOMERY	507
PRINCE GEORGE'S	498
QUEEN ANNE'S	510
SAINT MARY'S	611
SOMERSET	611
TALBOT	477
WASHINGTON	468
WICOMICO	400
WORCESTER	695



**Maryland Society
of Surveyors**



The End
Any Questions??



Maryland Society
of **Surveyors**