

to the Mason and Dixon line, which was intersected on Little Savage Mountain 4307 feet west of Big Savage Mountain, the point called for in the Act erecting the county. This line was marked by blazed trees and has been known as the old or Chisolm line. Six years later John Harned, County Surveyor of Garrett County, using similar methods, attempted to determine the true location of the line. Unlike his predecessor, he started at the summit of Big Savage Mountain and ran southward hoping to intersect the Potomac River at the mouth of Savage River, but his line reached the Potomac near Westernport. Neither line conformed to the demands of the original Act. Accordingly an Act was passed by the General Assembly in 1898 authorizing the Governor to procure a surveyor to run the line defined by the original Act. In accordance with this enactment a new line was run by L. A. Bauer, acting for the Maryland Geological Survey, who was assisted in his work by surveyors representing Allegany and Garrett counties. The method employed was that of triangulation with all the refinements commanded by modern geodetic practice. The line finally marked was a straight line intersecting the two terminal points as required by the law.

Subsequent to the running of the Brown-Bauer line its validity was questioned. An Act was passed by the Legislature of 1906 to the effect that the inhabitants living west of the line should vote upon its acceptance or non-acceptance. Since the Act did not specify the places where the inhabitants of the disputed territory should vote when transferred the validity of the line is still in question. Thus the eastern boundary of Garrett County is neither a straight line as called for by the original Act nor a crooked line connecting the two terminal points as originally defined.

The western boundary of Garrett County is also in dispute due to the fact that it is at the same time the western boundary of Maryland. According to the original charter to Lord Baltimore granted in 1632 the western limit of Maryland was to be a line running due north from the first fountain of the Potomac. When the region was a wilderness and but little known it was supposed that the head of the North Branch of the Potomac was situated at the Fairfax Stone and lines have accordingly been drawn north from this point which have served as the western