

CAPSULE SUMMARY

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Crain Highway Monument

Old Crain Highway at Main Street

Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland

1922

Public

The Crain Highway Monument was constructed in 1922 in the Town of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

The monument, designed by noted Baltimore architect Howard Sill, marks the spot where construction commenced for the new automobile route linking the City of Baltimore with the counties of Southern Maryland. The Robert Crain Highway was named in honor of Robert Crain, who was instrumental in the planning of the highway. The approximately 30-foot high stone and concrete monument has a square base with a pyramidal shape. The Crain Highway Monument retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a monument to the advancement of automobile travel in Prince George's County.

The Crain Highway Monument was constructed in 1922 in the Town of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

The tall, bottle-shaped monument was constructed using local sandstone with concrete accents. The monument stands in an oval medium formed by the confluence of Marlboro Pike, Old Crain Highway, and Main Street. The uncoursed stones are irregularly shaped and sized, extracted locally from a bank located behind Trinity Church. The base of the monument consists of two plinths of cut square stones. The base leads up to a square shaft constructed of stone with a concrete cavetto molding at the base of the middle section of the monument. The middle section of the monument has a square plan and is constructed of the same stone. The middle section of the monument, which includes the plaques, is topped by a concrete cyma reversa molding. The top section of the monument is pyramidal and is topped by a cyma reversa base capped by an acorn-shaped concrete finial.