

WO-246  
Snow Hill Municipal Building  
Snow Hill  
public

1908

The Snow Hill Municipal building is a distinctive early twentieth-century town government structure that originally combined the local fire department and town offices in the same space. The first floor was initially erected to include an entrance for fire equipment, but the front was refitted with a more classical doorway after the fire department relocated. The building exterior has otherwise remained essentially unchanged with a well preserved metal cornice that trims three sides of the structure.

Construction of the municipal building in 1908 is recorded by the date plaque above the entrance as well as in an entry of the Democratic Messenger of July 27, 1908, which offered local contractors the opportunity to bid on the project. The building proposal read,

The Mayor and Council of Snow Hill, Maryland will now receive until noon, August 10, 1908, sealed proposals for the erection of a two-story brick building on the corner of Bank and Green Streets, in Snow Hill. Plans and specifications for this building may be seen by application to the Secretary.

The said Mayor and Council reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

W. D. Corddry, Jr. Mayor  
William C. Powell, Secretary

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Snow Hill Municipal Building

MHT Inventory Number: NO. 246

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Government

2) Geographic Orientation:

Eastern Shore

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1870-1930 Industrial - Urban Dominance

4) Resource Type(s):

i. Standing Structure

a. City Hall (and former firehouse)

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic SNOW HILL MUNICIPAL BUILDING

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Bank Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Snow Hill \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district First

state Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ county Worcester

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Town of Snow Hill

street & number Municipal Building, Bank Street telephone no.:

city, town Snow Hill state and zip code MD 21863

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WO-246

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Snow Hill Municipal building stands on the southwest corner of Green and Bank streets in the center of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-story four-bay by four-bay brick building faces northeast. Despite the four-bay by four-bay elevations, the building is not exactly square with the rear wall shorter than the front wall.

Built in 1908, the two-story stretcher bond brick building is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and the flat roof is hidden by a bold metal cornice that trims three sides of the structure. The Bank Street (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking single-pane sash windows. A classical surround of pilasters and a pediment frame the front door which is bordered by six-pane sidelights and a multi-pane transom. This classical entrance was inserted in place of the round arched, double garage doors that allowed the entrance of the early hook and ladder fire equipment. The adjacent single-pane sash windows, originally doors topped by round arches, are surmounted by jack arches. Marking the wall between floors is a name plaque that bears the imbossed dates 1894 and 1908 to either side of "MUNICIPAL BUILDING." The second floor is lighted by four single-pane sash windows and the two center windows are paired together. Between the center two windows and the outer windows are inset brick rectangular panels. The windows are fitted with concrete sills and jack arches. Stretching across the top of the building is a heavy metal cornice with an array of molded patterns. Just below the crown molding is a egg-and-dart row.

The south wall is marked by three single-pane sash windows on the first floor and four windows light the second floor. As with the front of the building the center two windows are paired closer together. The north wall, on the other hand, is a three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking single-pane sash windows. Three identical windows light the second floor. The west (rear) is an asymmetrical two-bay facade with a rear door and single-pane sash windows. The metal cornice does not stretch across the back of the building.

The interior has been reworked to some degree as town offices, but some early twentieth-century features including the stair survive.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WO-246

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1908 **Builder/Architect**

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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Snow Hill Municipal building is a distinctive early twentieth-century town government structure that originally combined the local fire department and town offices in the same space. The first floor was initially erected to include an entrance for fire equipment but was refitted with a more formal classical entrance when the fire department relocated. The building exterior has otherwise remained essentially unchanged with a well preserved metal cornice that trims three sides of the structure.

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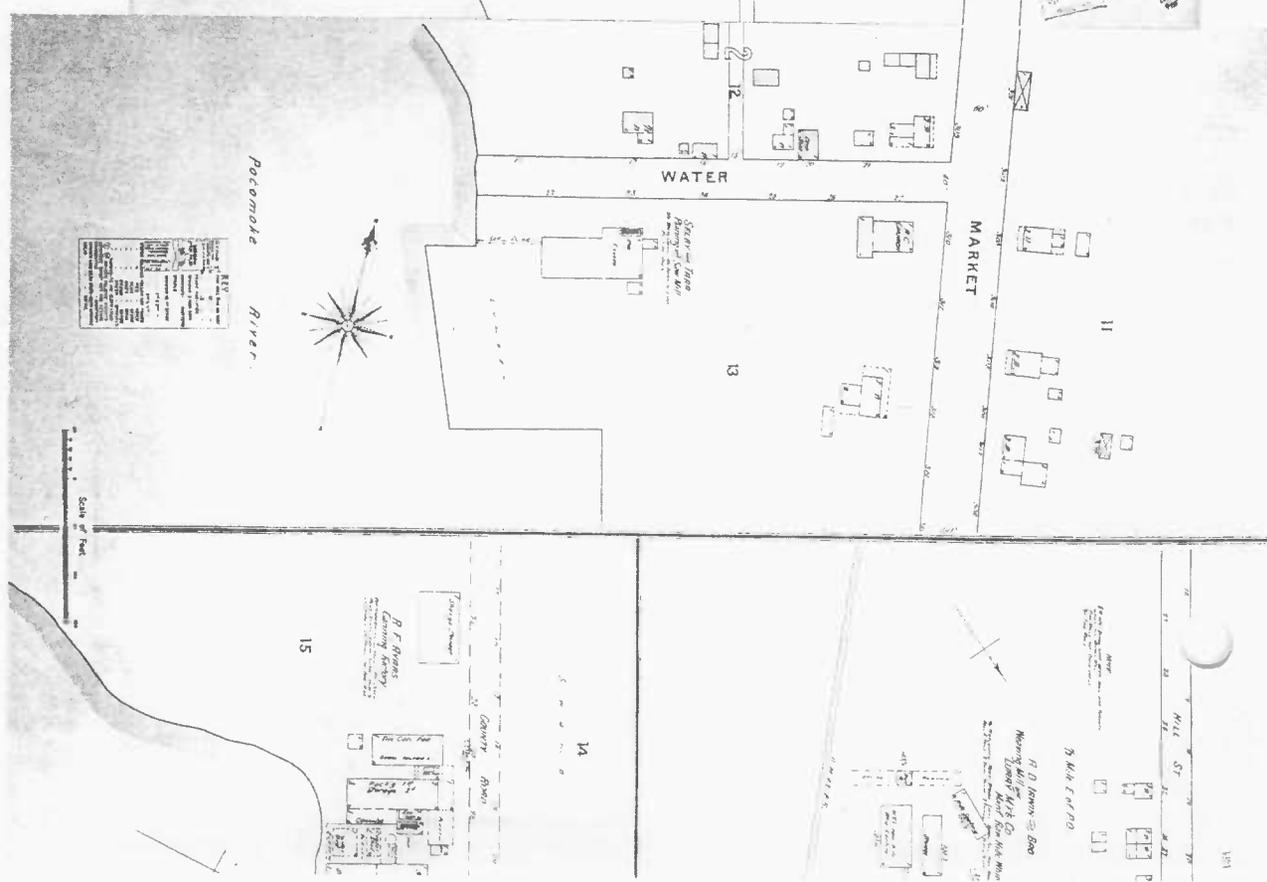
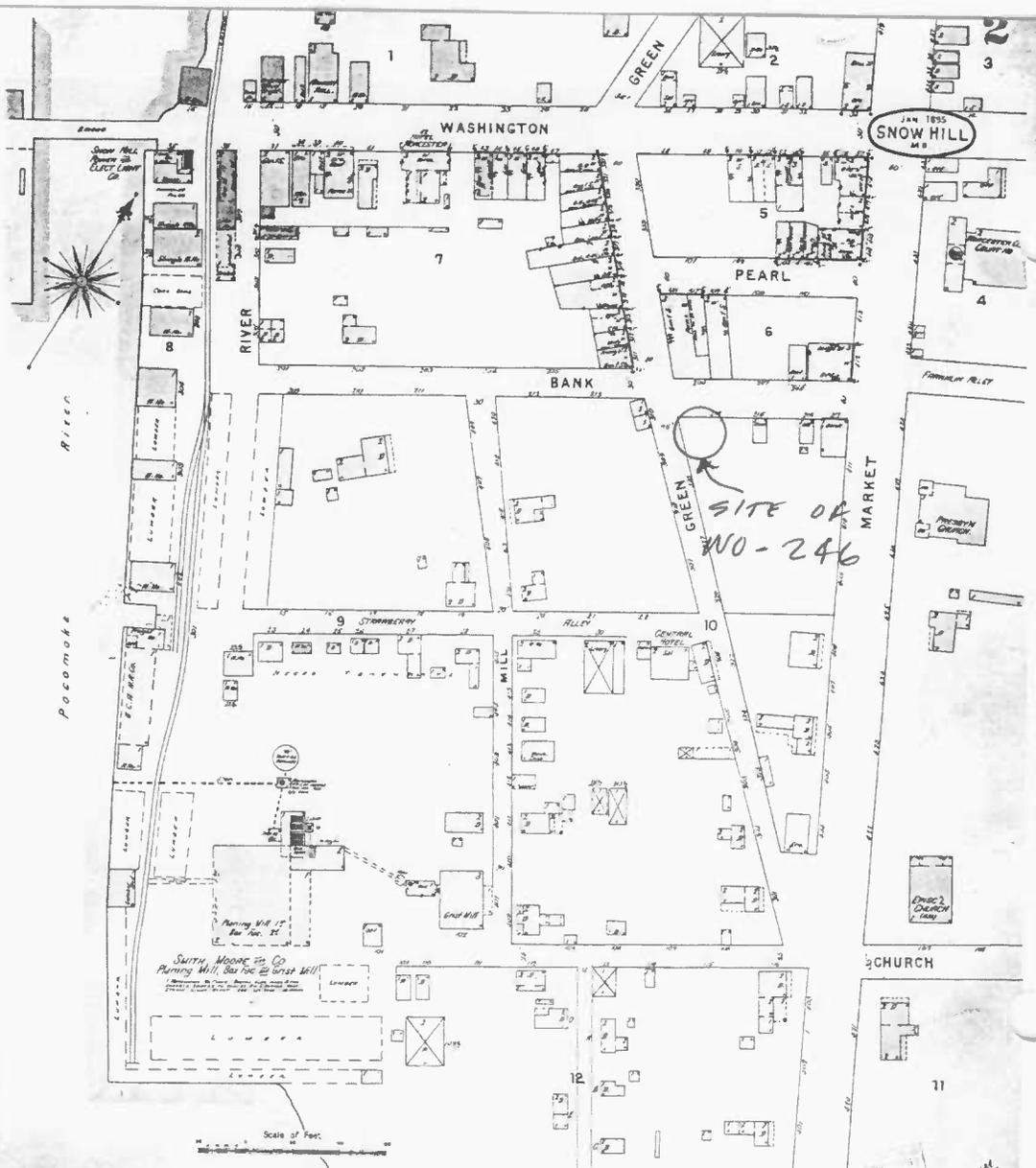
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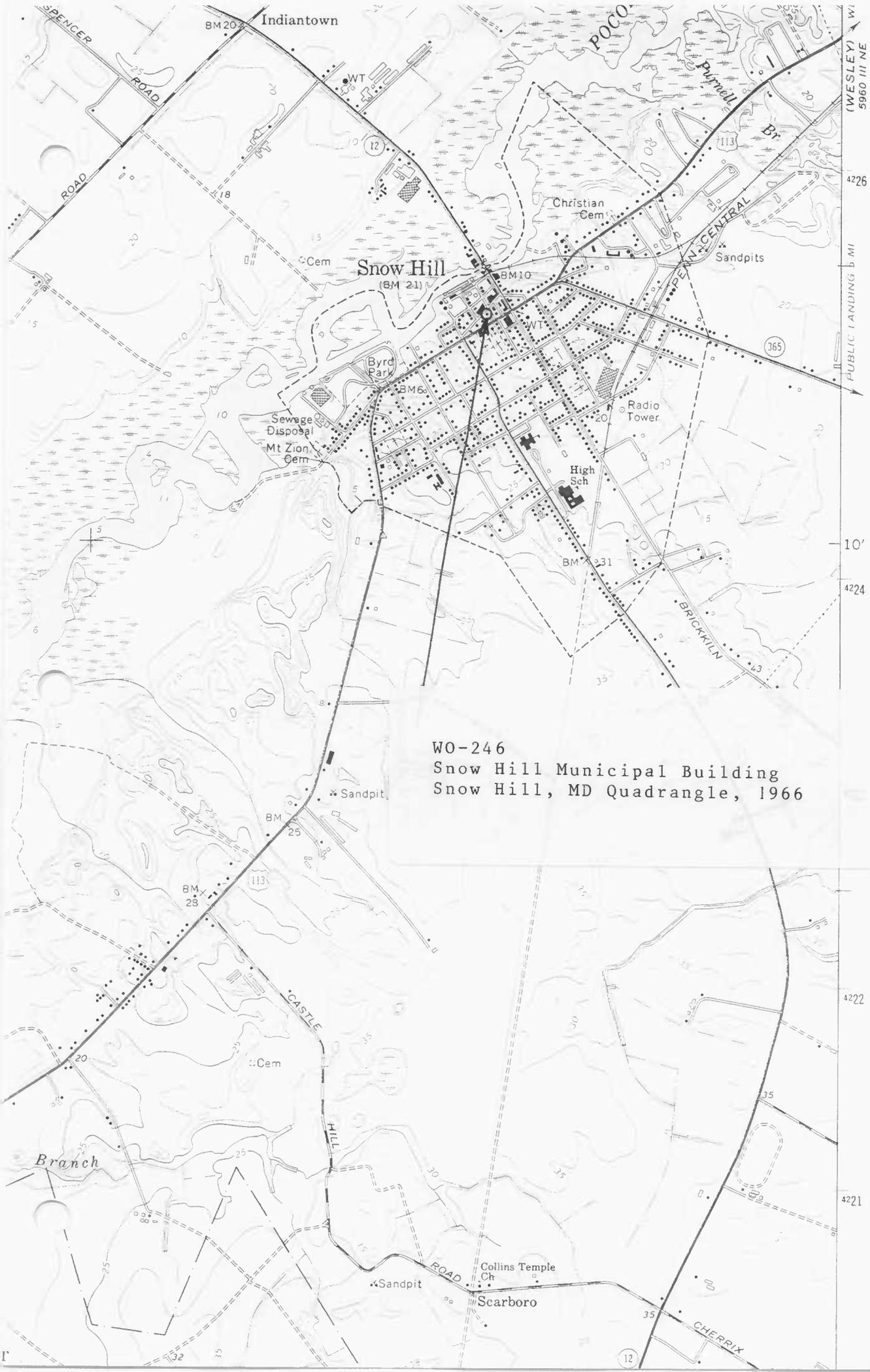
W. D. Corddry, Jr. Mayor  
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WO-246  
 Snow Hill Municipal Building  
 Snow Hill, MD Quadrangle, 1966