

WO-302  
Walter P. Snow House  
Snow Hill  
Private

c. 1850

The Walter P. Snow house, also known as "The Cedars," is an unusual frame dwelling for Snow Hill. Built around 1850, this large two-story, tee-shaped frame house follows an ambitious plan with a transverse stair hall that connects generous rooms at each end of the house. Late Federal and Greek Revival style woodwork finishes the exterior and interior surfaces. Evidently the original cooking service was accomplished in the separate building since the dining room/kitchen wing on the east end was added during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. The colossal Tuscan columned portico and porch dates from the early twentieth century.

Construction of this impressive house is estimated to date to around 1850 when Walter P. Snow (1818-1864) married Ann Jane Wilson (1824-1868) on April 1 of that year. Ann Wilson had inherited from her mother Ann E. Wilson part interest in town lots 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81, and five years later her sister, Ellen, conveyed her interest in the property for \$750. Walter P. Snow and his family are listed in the 1860 U.S. Census for Worcester County. Designated as a lawyer, Walter P. Snow, aged 40, was listed with close to \$19,000 in personal and real estate assets. His wife Ann, was joined with daughters Anna, Mary, and Lilly, and son, Charles. Even though Walter died in 1864 and Ann in 1868, the house remained in family hands until 1881 when a court settlement forced the sale of the property to Ann C. Johnson. It was probably during the ownership of Ann C. and Thomas Z. Johnson that the dining room/kitchen wing was added. Ann C. Johnson died in April 1902 and she devised a life estate to her husband, and after his decease the property was

intended to pass to her stepson, William F. Johnson. William F. and his wife, Lillian Johnson, sold "The Cedars" to Benjamin Hitman in 1945. The current owners purchased the property in 1975.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: WALTER P. SNOW HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: WO-302

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):  
AGRARIAN/INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION  
1815-1870
- 4) Resource Type(s): SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-302

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no.

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic WALTER P. SNOW HOUSE "THE CEDARS"

and/or common JOHNSON HOUSE

## 2. Location

street & number 107 West Federal 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 checked="" 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 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 Mr. and Mrs. Renard Romeo Monti

street & number 107 West Federal 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 FWH 480

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 509

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WO-302

<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 Walter P. Snow house, historically known as "The Cedars," is located at 107 West Federal Street in the center of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, tee-shaped frame dwelling faces northwest with the principal gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Built in two principal stages the main two-and-a-half story, tee-shaped main block dates to the middle years of the nineteenth century, while the east end wing was added around 1880. Supported by a raised common bond brick foundation, the expansive house is sheathed with a layer of asbestos shingles, and it is covered with a medium pitched asphalt shingle roof.

The northwest (main) elevation is an asymmetrical eight-bay facade with center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. A six-panel front door is framed by sidelights and transom which are protected by iron grills. Three six-over-six sash windows flank the entrance on each side. Dominating the center bay is a colossal Tuscan columned two-story portico, while a single story porch supported by Tuscan columns stretches to each side to shelter the first floor. At the far east end of the main block a projecting two-story bay pavilion comprises the eighth bay. The second floor of the main house is lighted by six-over-six sash windows, and a center door permits access to the second floor of the portico. Finishing the base of the roof is a modillioned cornice. Centered on the main roof above the portico balustrade is a cross gable trimmed with modillions as well. Paired four-over-four sash windows pierce the gable front. Rising through the center of the house is an internal brick stack.

The west gable end of the main house is marked by a pair of six-over-six sash windows on the first floor, while the second floor and attic levels are blind asbestos shingled walls. Piercing the roofline is an interior end brick stack, and the eave is finished with a molded bargeboard. The east gable end is fully covered by the late nineteenth century addition that is finished with similar details including a block cornice and six-over-six sash windows. A narrow brick stack rises through the center of the wing.

The interiors of this large house have been well maintained with few significant changes. Inside the front door a heavily turned newel post and a series of rectangular balusters support a ramped handrail. Bulls-eye block surrounds frame the window and door openings, and Greek Revival style mantels enhance the various fireplaces. A reused raised four-panel door is found on the first floor stair closet, and a reused six-panel door with an open spring latch and wrought HL hinges remains in the attic.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. W0-302

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

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 Walter P. Snow house, also known as "The Cedars," is an unusual frame dwelling for Snow Hill. Built around 1850, this large two-story, tee-shaped frame house follows an ambitious plan with a transverse stair hall that connects generous rooms at each end of the house. Late Federal and Greek Revival style woodwork finishes the exterior and interior surfaces. Evidently the original cooking service was accomplished in the separate building since the dining room/kitchen wing on the east end was added during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. The colossal Tuscan columned portico and porch dates from the early twentieth century.

Construction of this impressive house is estimated to date to around 1850 when Walter P. Snow (1818-1864) married Ann Jane Wilson (1824-1868) on April 1 of that year. Ann Wilson had inherited from her mother Ann E. Wilson part interest in town lots 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81, and five years later her sister, Ellen, conveyed her interest in the property for \$750.(EDM 6/300) Walter P. Snow and his family are listed in the 1860 U.S. Census for Worcester County. Designated as a lawyer, Walter P. Snow, aged 40, was listed with close to \$19,000 in personal and real estate assets. His wife Ann, is joined with daughters Anna, Mary, and Lilly, and son, Charles. Even though Walter died in 1864 and Ann in 1868, the house remained in family hands until 1881 when a court settlement forced the sale of the property to Ann C. Johnson.(ITM 8/208) It was probably during the ownership of Ann C. and Thomas Z. Johnson that the dining room/kitchen wing was added. Ann C. Johnson died in April 1902 and she devised a life estate to her husband, and after his decease the property was intended to pass to her stepson, William F. Johnson. William F. and his wife, Lillian Johnson sold "The Cedars" to Benjamin Hitman in 1945.(CWN,Jr. 1/382) The current owners purchased the property in 1975.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-302

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural historian

organization Private Consultant/Worcester Co. date 2/25/90

street & number P. O. Box 5 telephone 301-651-1094

city or town Westover state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

WO-302  
WALTER P. SNOW HOUSE "THE CEDARS"  
107 West Federal Street  
Chain of title

FWH 480/509 Benjamin Hitman and wife,  
Elizabeth R. Hitman

to

7/15/1975 Renard Romeo Monti and wife Shirley  
E. A. Monti

CWN 9/177 Helen B. Boone, unmarried

to

2/28/1946 Benjamin and Eliz. R. Hitman

CWN 9/176 Benjamin Hitman

to

2/28/1946 Helen B. Boone

CWN, Jr. 1/382 Lillian D. Johnson and William F. Johnson

to

5/10/1945 Benjamin Hitman  
house and lot "The Cedars"  
part of property conveyed to Ann C. Johnson  
from Ephraim K. Wilson, trustee

ODC 31/396 William F. Johnson

to

7/24/1918 Lillian D. Johnson  
Thomas Z. Johnson died c. 1918

WO-302  
WALTER P. SNOW HOUSE  
107 West Federal Street  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

...all that lot or parcel of land together with the improvements thereon erected...now occupied by me as a residence. the estate herein being subject to the life estate therein of Thomas Z. Johnson, and being certain of the property included in the residuary clause of the last will and testament of Ann E. Johnson, deceased dated 4/21/1902 TDP 12/256

Ann C. Johnson devised as part of residue of estate under husband Thomas Z. Johnson for life--remainder to stepson William F. Johnson

ITM 8/208

Ephraim K. Wilson, trustee

to

2/16/1881

Ann C. Johnson

Decree of Circuit Court--11/5/1872, in the case of Annie W. Snow and others vs. William F. Snow, Jr.

EDM 6/301

Walter P. Snow  
Ann W. Snow

to

1/1/1855

Ellen W. Wilson  
\$700

EDM 6/300

Ellen W. Wilson

to

1/1/1855

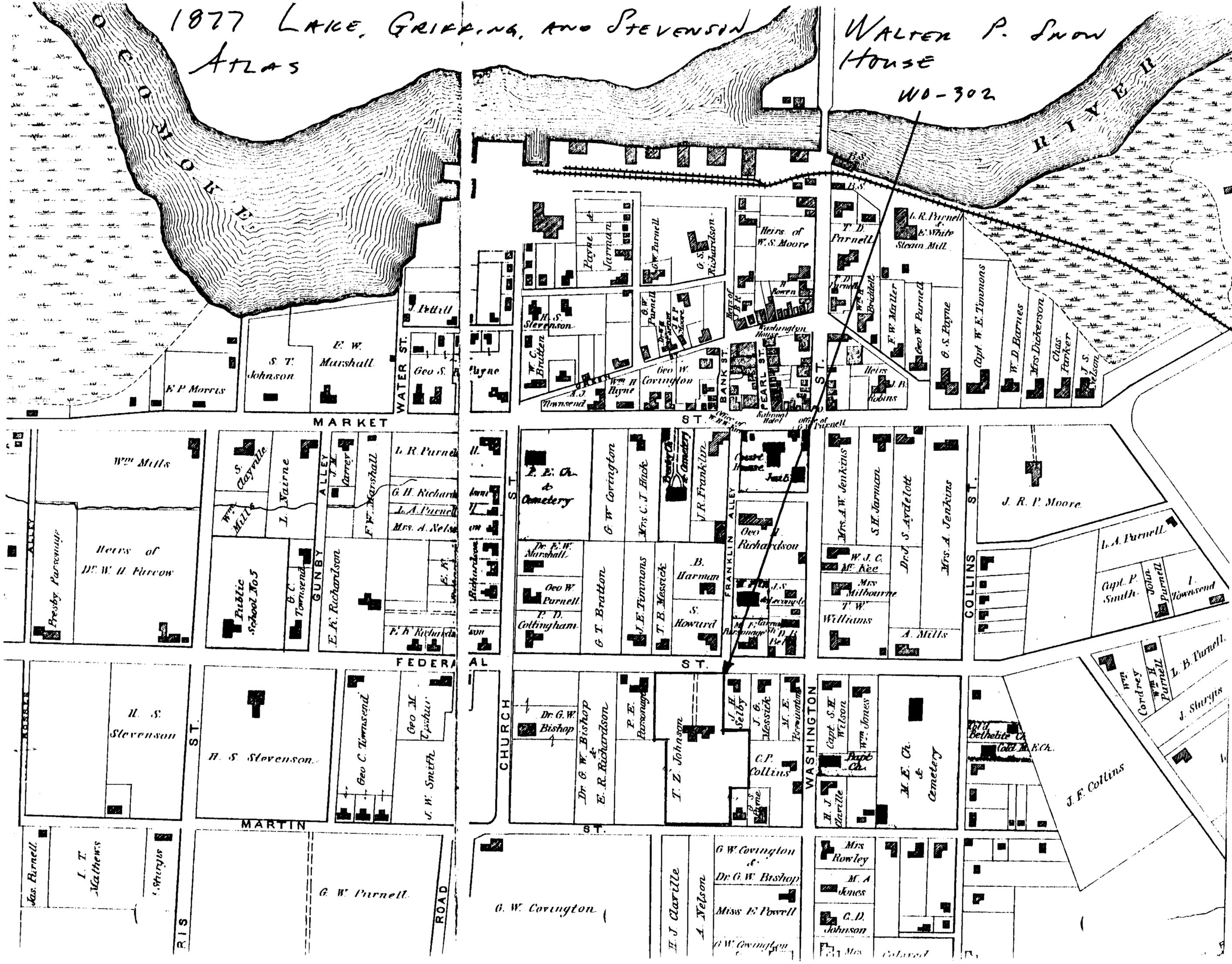
Walter P. Snow  
Anne W. Snow  
\$750 Lots 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81



1877 LAKE, GRIPPING, AND STEVENSON  
ATLAS

WALTER P. SNOW  
HOUSE

W0-302



COYOTE  
LAKE

RIVER

E. W. Marshall  
S. T. Johnson  
F. P. Morris  
WATER ST.

Payne  
H. S. Stevenson  
W. C. Bratten  
Geo. W. Covington  
Wm. H. Payne  
A. J. Townsend  
BANK ST.  
PEARL ST.

Heirs of W. S. Moore  
T. D. Purnell  
L. R. Purnell & B. White Steam Mill  
F. W. Muller  
Geo. W. Purnell  
G. S. Payne  
Capt. W. E. Timmons  
W. D. Barnes  
Mrs. Dickerson  
Chas. Parker  
J. S. Nelson

MARKET  
Wm. Mills  
S. Clayville  
L. Nairne  
Public School No. 5  
F. F. Marshall  
L. R. Purnell  
G. H. Richards  
L. A. Purnell  
Mrs. A. Nelson  
E. K. Richardson  
F. H. Richards

ST. WASHINGTON  
P. E. Co. & Cemetery  
G. W. Covington  
Mrs. C. J. Hick  
J. R. Franklin  
Geo. W. Purnell  
G. T. Bratton  
J. E. Timmons  
T. B. Messick  
B. Harman  
S. Howard  
Dr. F. W. Marshall  
Geo. W. Purnell  
P. D. Coltingham  
J. S. Purnell  
J. S. Purnell  
M. F. Purnell  
D. B. Purnell

Heirs of W. S. Moore  
Mrs. A. W. Jenkins  
S. H. Jarman  
Dr. J. S. Aydelott  
Mrs. A. Jenkins  
J. R. P. Moore  
L. A. Purnell  
Capt. P. Smith  
John Purnell  
L. Townsend

FEDERAL  
H. S. Stevenson  
H. S. Stevenson  
Geo. C. Townsend  
Geo. M. Upshur  
J. W. Smith

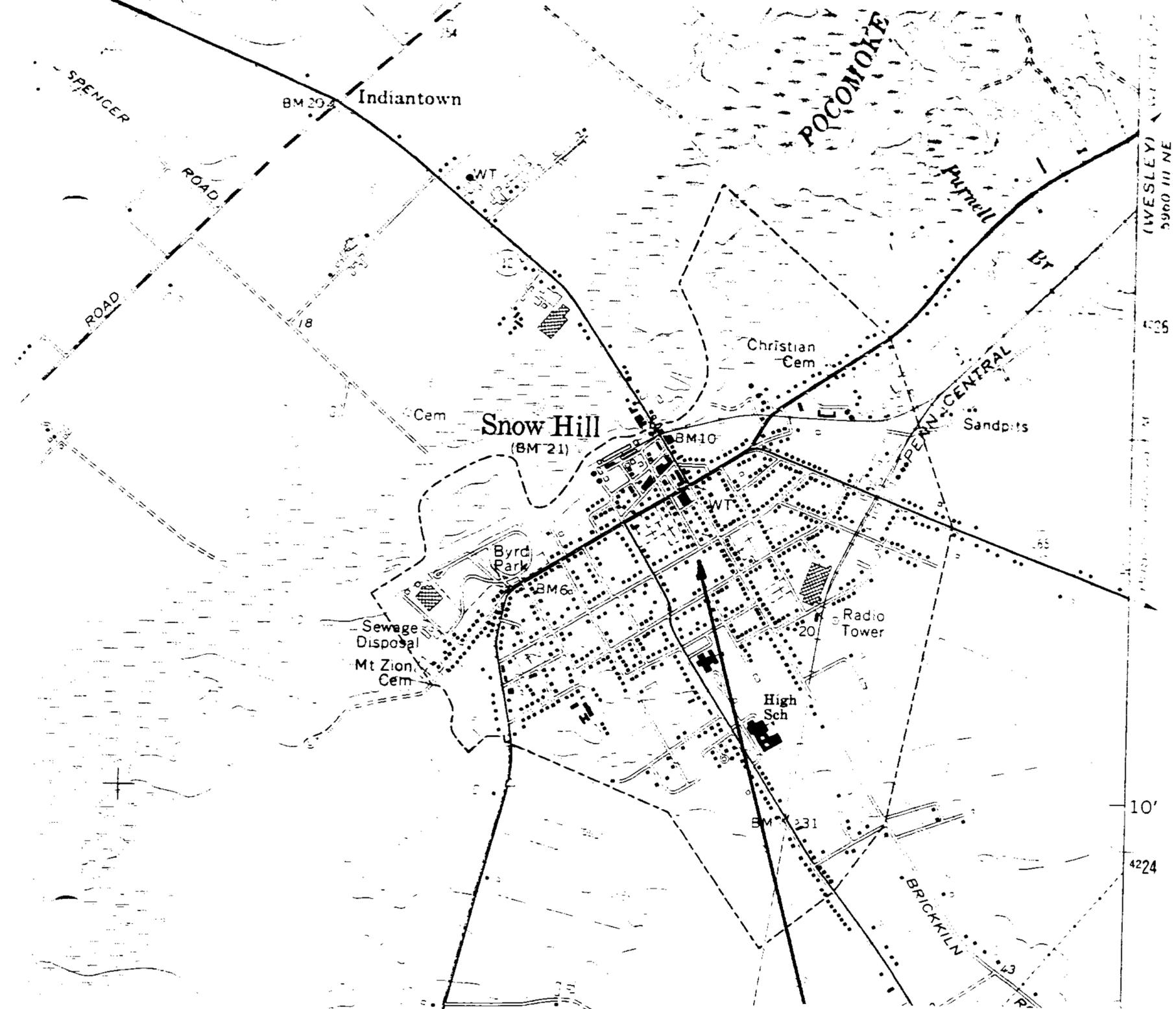
CHURCH  
Dr. G. W. Bishop  
Dr. G. W. Bishop & E. R. Richardson  
P. E. Personage  
T. Z. Johnson  
J. H. Selby  
J. G. Messick  
M. E. Purnell  
C. P. Collins

WASHINGTON  
Capt. S. H. Wilson  
Wm. Jones  
M. E. Co. & Cemetery  
Bethel Ch.  
Gold B. Ch.  
J. F. Collins  
Cordrey  
Wm. H. Purnell  
L. B. Purnell  
J. Shryves

MARTIN  
RIS ROAD  
G. W. Purnell

ST.  
G. W. Covington  
H. J. Clarille  
A. Nelson  
G. W. Covington &  
Dr. G. W. Bishop  
Miss E. Powell  
G. W. Covington

Mrs. Rowley  
M. A. Jones  
C. D. Johnson  
Mrs. Colvard



WO-302  
 WALTER P. SNOW HOUSE  
 Snow Hill, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1966

