

WO-249
Snow Hill Masonic Lodge
Snow Hill
private

c. 1894

Located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Green and Pearl streets is a three-story, five-bay brick building that houses the Snow Hill Masonic lodge as well as various commercial ventures. In the past this building was for many years the site of the local A and P grocery store. As with most of the downtown, the former buildings burned in 1893, and according to the Sanborn Insurance maps this impressive structure was in place by 1895. The stretcher and common bond brick exterior has not changed significantly since the late nineteenth century with recessed commercial fronts, arched window openings, and a bold modillioned cornice with classical sways and wreaths that enhance the frieze.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Snow Hill Masonic Lodge

MHT Inventory Number: No. 249

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Economic, Social

2) Geographic Orientation:

Eastern Shore

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1870-1930 Industrial - Urban Dominance

4) Resource Type(s):

1. Standing Structure

a. Stone Front and Fraternal Meeting Room

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic SNOW HILL MASONIC LODGE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number SW corner of Green and Pearl streets not for publication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 checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Worcester County Courthouse 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. W0-249

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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 Masonic Lodge is a three-story brick commercial building that stands on the southwest corner of Green and Pearl streets in the center of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. Facing southeast the five-bay structure is covered with a flat roof.

Built in 1894 after the Snow Hill fire of 1893, the three-story brick building was erected with a combination of stretcher bond and seven-course common bond. The finer pressed brick was limited to the main elevation while the more common brick was used in the side and rear walls.

The southeast (main) three-story elevation has a reworked first floor front with two recessed entrances and flanking glass display windows. The storefront rests on a granite foundation, and a Victorian bracketed cornice stretches across below the second floor. Lighting the second floor is a row of single-pane sash windows with high, finely jointed jack arches and rusticated red sandstone sills. The third floor is defined by five round arched openings. While the center bay is a blind, the adjacent window openings are filled with single-pane sash. Raised brick courses highlight the round arches. To enhance the corners of the building the outer bays protrude the thickness of a single brick, and the shift in the wall surface is reflected in the classical metal cornice that finishes the top of the structure. Swags enhance the ~~facade~~ ~~facade~~, and a row of bold modillions stretch beneath the crown molding.

The north facade faces Green Street and follows an asymmetrical fenestration with a five-bay facade. A center door is flanked by nine-pane windows topped by triple-course segmental arches. A second first floor entrance is fixed in the westernmost bay with a pedimented surround. The second floor is lighted by five nine-over-nine sash windows headed by segmental arches. The third floor is marked by five round arched nine-over-nine sash windows, and an interior brick stack pierces the north wall. The building steps down around the fourth bay from the east.

The west (rear) elevation has a side entrance, while three nine-over-nine sash windows light the first floor. Four six-over-six light the second floor. Fixed in the wall is plaque incised "Masonic Hall, A. I. 5893."

The interiors of the first floor shops have been remodeled with modern materials.

8. Significance

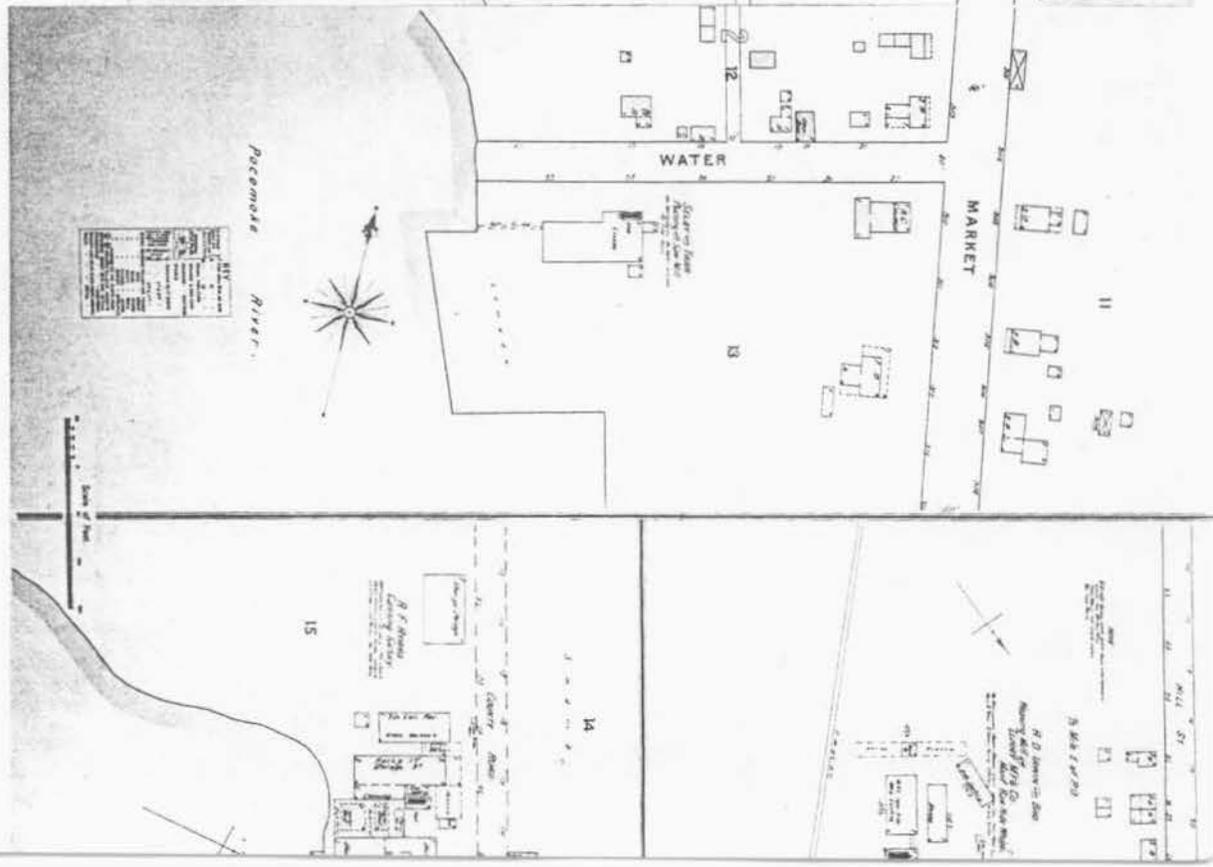
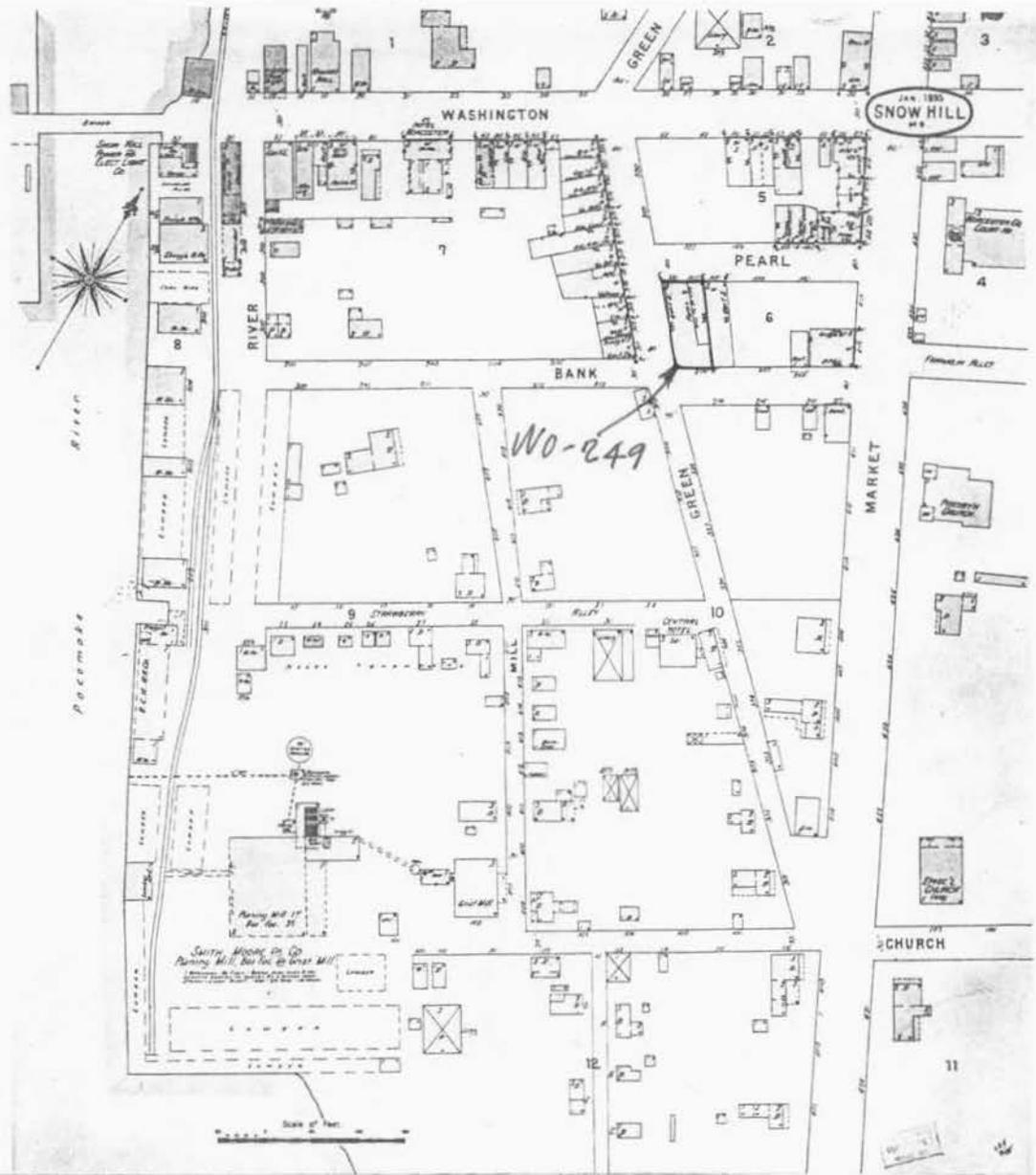
Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<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: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

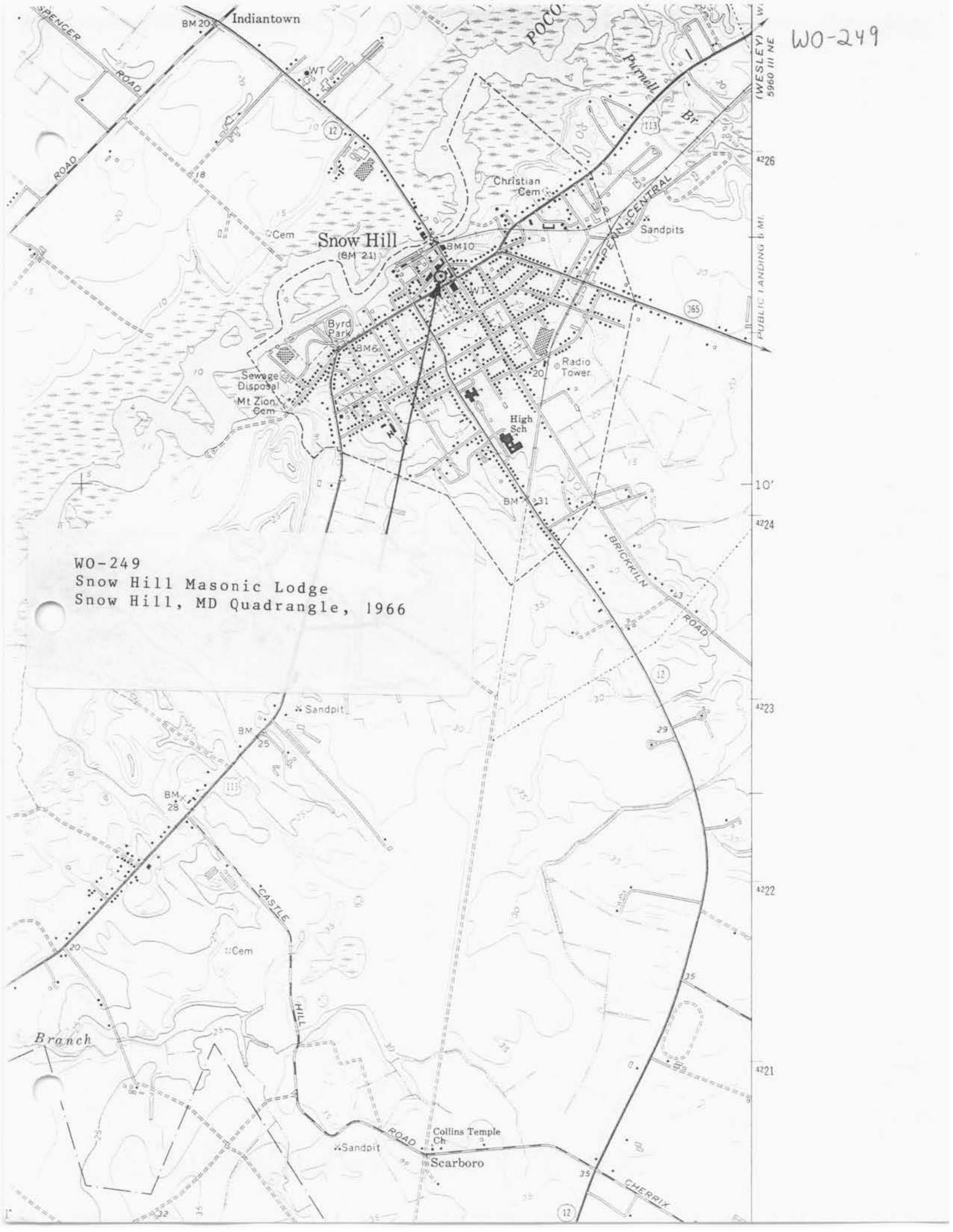
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Snow Hill Masonic Lodge building is a prominent three-story brick building that dominates the center of Snow Hill. Not only is the structure larger than most dating from the same period, but the stretcher and common bond building is generally well preserved with an intact metal cornice that enhances the front of the building. According to the Sanborn Insurance map of 1895 the three-story lodge building was standing at that time. In past years the first floor housed the Snow Hill branch of the A and P grocery store chain. In 1895 the northern commercial space was used as a general store.

1095 SANBORN
INSURANCE
MAP



WO-249



WO-249
Snow Hill Masonic Lodge
Snow Hill, MD Quadrangle, 1966

(WESLEY) W.
5960 III NE
4226
PUBLIC LANDING 1/4 MI.
10'
4224
4223
4222
4221