

WO-71  
Timmons Mansion  
Snow Hill (site)  
Private

c. 1840

The Timmons Mansion, reasonably believed to date to the second quarter of the nineteenth century, stood out in Snow Hill as one of its most architecturally distinctive dwellings until a fire destroyed the house during the early twentieth century. Its most dynamic feature was the two-story neo-classical porch that stretched around all four sides. Creative in its execution, the porch included plain Tuscan columns on the first floor and unusually short Ionic columns on the second floor. Highlighting the space between the second floor columns were decorative sawtooth arches, similar to the arches surviving on the house known as Salem that stands at the end of Park Row. The center hall, single-pile dwelling was replaced by an early twentieth century Queen Anne style house.

The exact construction date and history of this important Snow Hill house is inexact, but architectural features clearly suggest it was built during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, probably after the devastating 1834 town fire that cleared the eastern end of Snow Hill due to the prevailing northwesterly winds.

The house is named after Captain William E. Timmons, who resided in the house between his purchase of the property in 1856 and his death in March 1902. Standing on part of land known as "Snow Hill Confirmation" the lot, extending from Market Street to the river, transferred for \$4,100 in 1856 when Captain Timmons purchased the property. William E. Timmons served as Clerk of the Worcester Court Circuit Court during the 1860s. He is listed in the 1860 U. S. Census at

age 40 with his wife Harriet, and 19-year old son, Sydney. Ten years later William E. Timmons is designated on the 1870 census as a "waterman" with a personal estate valued at \$11,000. He evidently owned a large schooner or trading vessel, hence the designation of "Captain." After his second wife, Martha's death in July 1902, the town property was sold by her heirs to Samuel M. Zacharias of Philadelphia who only owned the house one year. He transferred the house to Charles L. Shockley in January 1904.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: TIMMONS MANSION

MHT Inventory Number: W0-71

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

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

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-71

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic TIMMONS MANSION

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number North side of East Market Street  not for publicationcity, 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 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 checked="" 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 State of Maryland

street &amp; number East Market 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 WCL 1236

street &amp; number Worcester County Courthouse folio 27

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-71

<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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The old Timmons Mansion formerly stood on the north side of East Market Street in the center of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-story, five-bay frame house faced southeast with the gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Estimated to have been erected during the second quarter of the nineteenth century after the devastating 1834 Snow Hill fire, the Timmons Mansion, as it is commonly called, stood on its East Market Street site until the early twentieth century when another fire destroyed the dwelling. Supported on a low brick foundation, the two-story center hall, single-pile dwelling was encircled by a two-story neo-classical porch that stretched around the entire structure.

The southeast (main) elevation was basically a symmetrical facade with a center sidelighted entrance and flanking sash windows hung with louvered shutters. A slightly uneven fenestration on the east end suggests the possibility that the main block was erected in two stages but an exact building history is impossible without the structural evidence. The second floor fenestration followed along the same pattern with a center entrance and flanking sash windows. The highly unusual two-story porch was supported by Tuscan columns on the first floor and by short Ionic columns on the second floor. Highlighting the space between the pairs of second floor columns were decorative saw-tooth arches similar to that still found on the house known as Salem or the Burroughs house, see WO-111. A railing stretched between the pairs of second floor columns as well.

The gable ends were sheltered by the two-story porch also. Rising against the gable end and through the porch roofs were exterior end brick chimneys finished with corbelled caps. Sash windows, lighting the first and second floors, flanked the chimney as well as small attic windows. The flush gable ends were finished with a plain bargeboard.

Stretching around to the north side, the porch sheltered at least part of the back side.

No interior description exists for the dwelling.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. W0-71

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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

### 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.

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WO-71  
TIMMONS MANSION  
East Market Street (site)  
Snow Hill, Maryland  
Chain of title

WCL 1236/27                      Mary Thomas Lewis

to

10/7/1986                      State of Maryland

354/138                      Janice Bauman  
Clyde W. Brown

to

6/16/1972                      William Thomas Lewis  
Mary Thomas Lewis  
and the said William Thomas Lewis conveyed  
his interest in the property to Mary  
Thomas Lewis 12/19/1979 695/270

FWH 301/96                      James Richard Baumann  
Janice Baumann

to

2/18/1971                      Janice Baumann  
Clyde W. Brown

FWH 262/165                      James F. McCabe, executor of the estate  
of Viola H. Burroughs

to

9/3/1969                      James Richard Baumann  
Janice Baumann

Whereas Viola H. Burroughs died August 29,  
1968 seized and possessed of land which was  
conveyed unto Viola H. Burroughs as Viola  
Holmes Burroughs and James S. Burroughs-  
the said James S. Burroughs having  
subsequently died on August 31, 1961



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TIMMONS MANSION  
East Market Street  
Snow Hill, Maryland  
Chain of title (continued)

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Orphans Court                      Will of William E. Timmons

to

Martha C. Timmons

JAP 1/10

John F. Purnell  
Eliza Purnell

to

9/4/1856

William E. Timmons  
\$4,100.00     "Snow Hill Confirmation"

EDM 4/490

Denard Williams, trustee to sell real  
estate whereof a certain Edward H. Bowen  
died siezed

to

5/7/1852

John F. Purnell  
\$3,100.00     Decree of Circuit Court  
5/14/1850     Real estate of Edward H.  
Bowen deceased-adjoining town of Snow  
Hill called Snow Hill Confirmation

EDM 1/236

Samuel D. Harper

to

1/11/1848

Edward H. Bowen  
\$2,700.00     "Snow Hill Confirmation"

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TIMMONS MANSION  
East Market Street  
Chain of title

Page 4

GMH 8/430

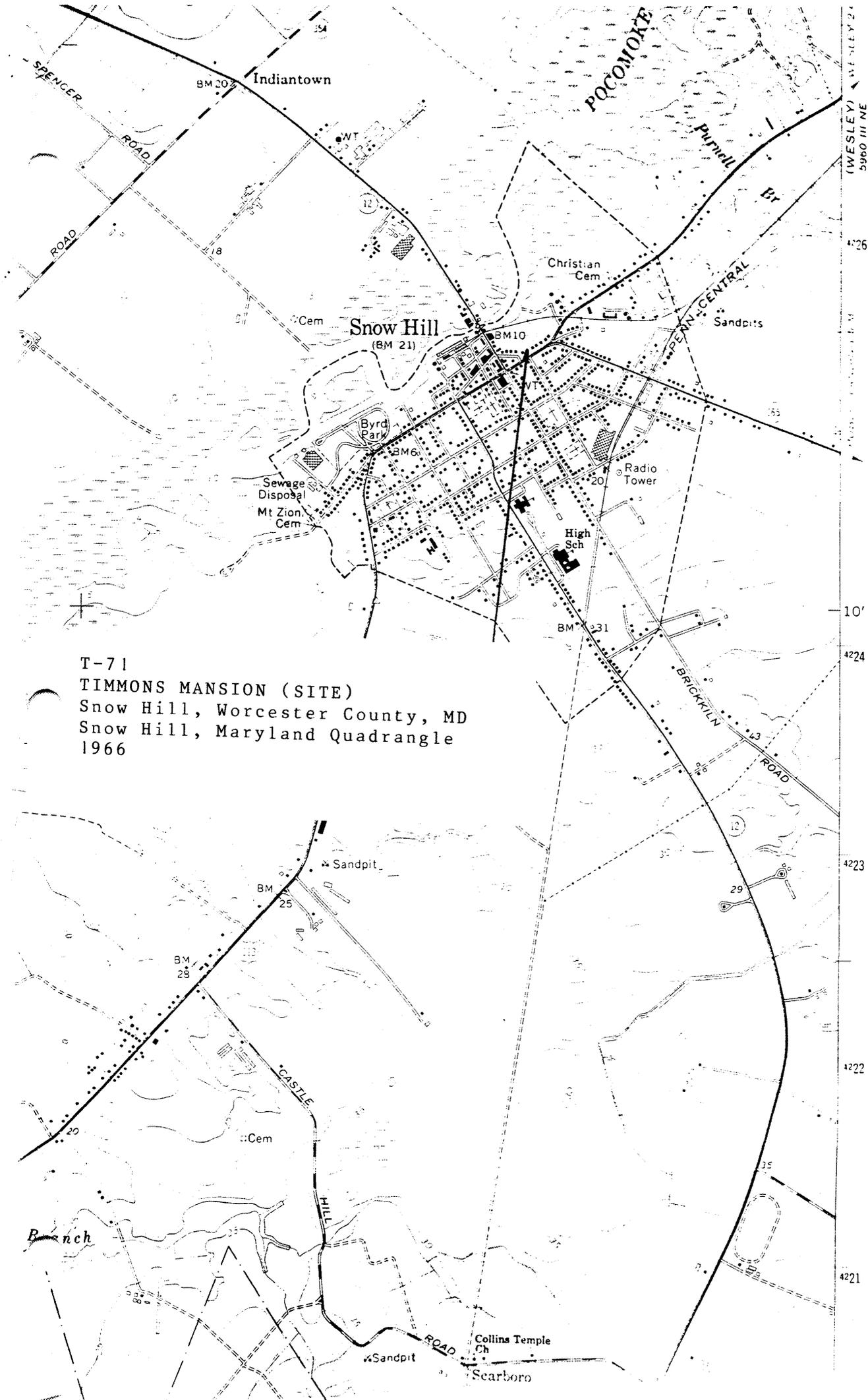
Thomas A. Spence  
Eleanora N. Spence

to

10/27/1845

Samuel D. Harper  
\$2,500 "Snow Hill Confirmation"  
\*long description of adjacent properties





T-71  
 TIMMONS MANSION (SITE)  
 Snow Hill, Worcester County, MD  
 Snow Hill, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1966

(WESLEY) 5960 III NE  
 4226  
 10'  
 4224  
 4223  
 4222  
 4221