

**HISTORIC
SNOW HILL**

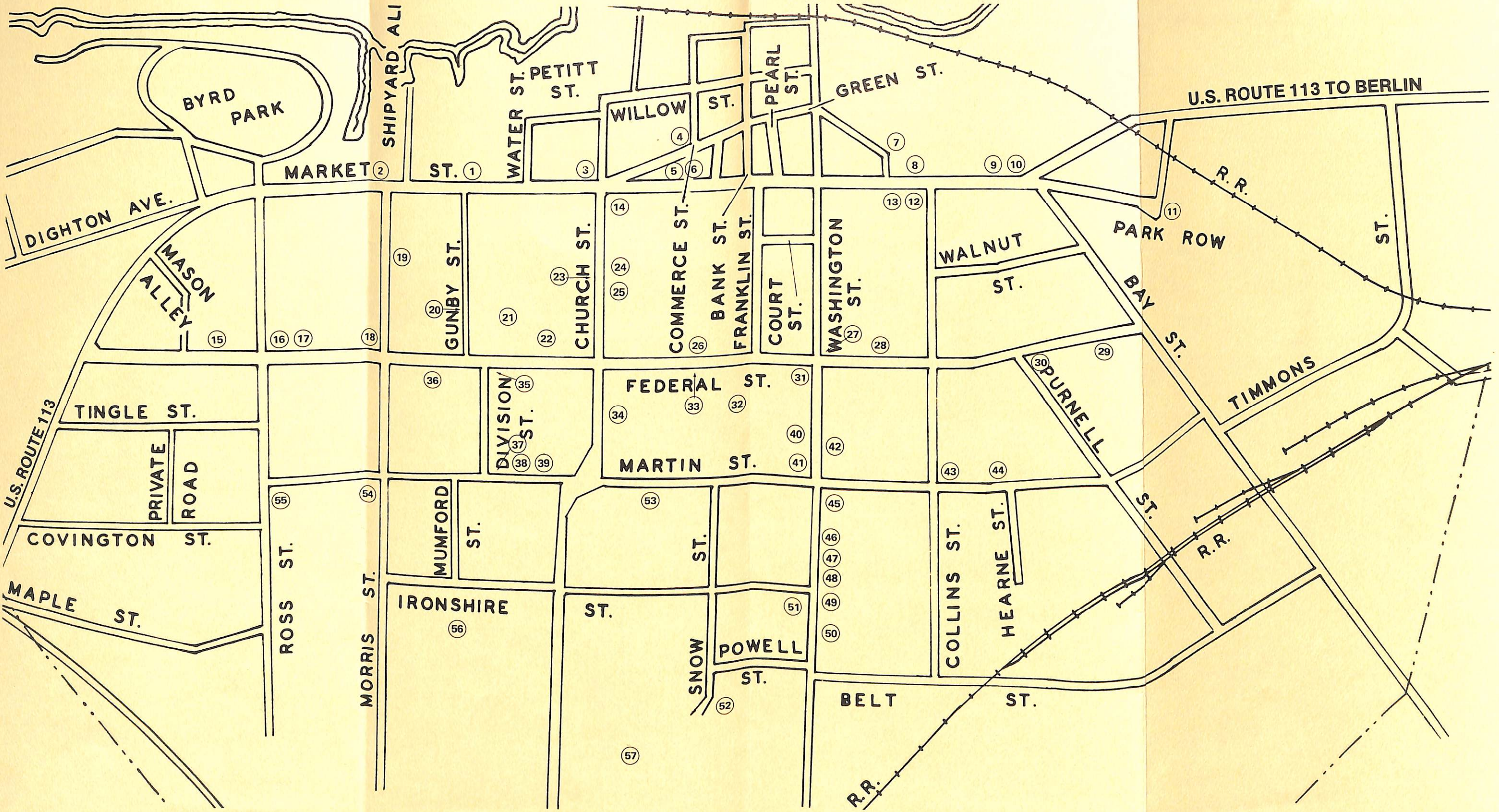
A Brief History of Snow Hill. . . .

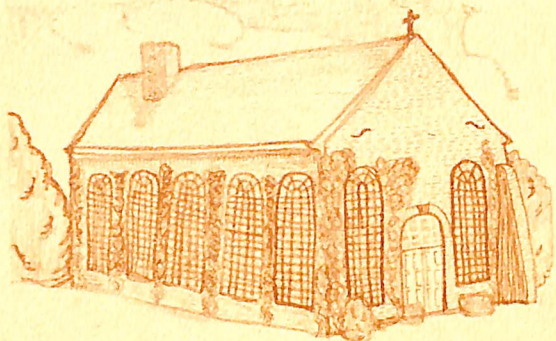
Snow Hill, located along the banks of the Pocomoke River, was founded in 1642 by a small group of settlers. The settlement grew and prospered as a farming community, with the river playing a key role in its development. In 1694 it was made a Royal Port, and schooners plied the river, carrying on a lively trade. Warehouses, a wheelwright and shipwright, and other supportive businesses sprang up. By 1754 the population had grown and when Somerset County was divided into Worcester County and Somerset County in 1742, Snow Hill was made the county seat of Worcester County. In 1793 the town was plotted into some 100 lots. Snow Hill was involved in the American Revolution and in June 1775 adopted resolutions to aid Massachusetts. Local records were hidden in the War of 1812. Northern and southern sympathies were both evident during the War Between the States.

As steamboats replaced the schooners, Snow Hill continued as an active port, carrying passengers and goods to the Western Shore. Steamers traveled up-river to the Nassawango Iron Furnace for shipments of bog iron. As the railroad superceded water travel, Snow Hill continued an active role, as the rail line ran through town on the main north-south peninsular route.

A disastrous fire in 1893 destroyed the original downtown area, and the early town and county records housed in the Courthouse. Thus many of the facts of early Snow Hill are unable to be validated.

Snow Hill today functions as Worcester's County Seat, with the Courthouse the nucleus of much activity. Small businesses are available to serve the needs of Snow Hill and the surrounding agrarian interests. Much emphasis is placed on maintaining Snow Hill with its quiet, brick-sidewalked, tree lined streets, enriched by lovely old houses, without repressing a vitality and energy that is a real part of the town.





Snow Hill's Churches. . . .

Snow Hill's churches are rich in historic significance. Makemie United Presbyterian Church, the seat of American Presbyterianism, was established in 1683 by Francis Makemie. The original building was built in 1683, and the present Gothic Revival structure constructed in 1889. Ebenezer United Methodist Church was established in 1869. The original log structure was struck by lightening and burned. The present building was erected in 1899. Bates Methodist Church, established in 1833, was originally built on Franklin Street. The present construction on Washington Street was erected in 1901. Whatcoat Methodist Church was first located in 1808 in the present cemetery on Federal Street between Washington Street and Collins Street. Two successive structures were built and moved before the site of todays church was chosen and this church built in 1900. The Old School Baptist Church, established in 1863, used one of the old Whatcoat buildings until 1924, when the present structure was erected. Snow Hill Christian Church was established in 1897, and the present building put up in 1899. All Hallows Episcopal Church, established in 1692, had its present structure built in 1756, with modifications in 1872 and 1899.



About the tour.....

Old, historically valuable houses are very much a part of present day Snow Hill. There are over one hundred such buildings still standing and in use today. The following map locates fifty-seven buildings throughout the town; a brief description about each is found under the Tour Listings. None of these places is regularly open to the public, although the Museum and the One-Room School may be visited according to the schedule below.

Tour Listings.....

1. Market Street

The Worcester County Historical Society's Julia A. Purnell Museum is situated on Market Street in Snow Hill. The collection occupies a small green frame building which was once a Catholic Church and features household and farm equipment from the Colonial period to the late 19th century.

2. 302 W. Market Street

This clapboard frame house was built in the late 18th century. It features bull's eye glass panes over the front door and a central chimney with three flues. The front gate in the picket fence uses a cannon-ball closure.

3. 300 Market Street

This home was built between 1740 and 1750. It still has the original flooring, and the original cellar windows with metal grids and the beaded siding above the first floor have been preserved.

4. 204 Green Street

Built before 1877, this house is notable for its lovely porches.

5. 118 W. Market Street

Built before 1800, the Handy House has five chimneys, no two of which are alike. The house still has its original "cross and Bible" doors. The Palladian window upstairs in the center of the house is an outstanding feature of the Handy House.

6. 116 W. Market Street

This two and a half story Georgian home was built in 1815, but the front porch was not added until the 1890's. It displays semi-engaged fluted columns and a pediment above the fanlight on the front door.

7. 106 E. Green

Perhaps the oldest house in Snow Hill, this tiny structure was built between 1750 and 1780, and has had two later additions. In the same family for over one hundred years, it has served as both residence and business.

8. 201 E. Market

Since its construction in the 1860's this house has been known as the Thebaud House, the George R. Purnell House and The Maples. There are eight fireplaces in the house and the original wall paper is on the walls of both parlors.

9. 209 E. Market

This home was built in 1868, a fact that was established by an imprint in the original plaster on the second floor.

10. 211 E. Market

Built in 1793, this housed the first telephone office in Snow Hill. Features of its early construction include wooden pegs instead of nails and horsehair in the plaster.

11. 310 Park Row

Salem was built in 1760, and the sycamore tree in the front yard is an official Bicentennial Tree. Salem has three outside chimneys, a fan-light doorway, a corner porch post decorated with medallions, and even some of the original window panes.

12. 106 E. Market

Necessity was built before 1810. Rooms on the first floor have twelve-foot ceilings, and an open spiral stairway climbs from the first to the third floor.

13. 104 E. Market

With original flooring and several fireplaces, this pre-1877 house has had an addition and has housed a physician's office.

14. 107 N. Church

All Hallows Episcopal Church was built in 1756 at a cost of 80,000 pounds of tobacco. The Flemish bond brickwork building was improved in 1872 and 1899, when wooden floors were placed over the original brick, the walls were plastered, and a stretched canvas ceiling was placed over tongue and groove.

15. 408 W. Federal

When this house was first built, during the early 1870's, it was on the outskirts of town.

16. 308 W. Federal

This is part of the Presbyterian Manse, and was constructed prior to 1877. It features hand-hewn timbers and a black marble fireplace. There is a fireplace with a warming oven in the cellar.

17. 306 W. Federal

A blend of New Bedford architecture and Southern influence, this home was built before 1877. The four front windows slide up into the ceiling, and the house is warmed by five fireplaces.

18. 300 W. Federal

The earliest part of this three-section home was constructed in 1750, and consisted of a kitchen and loft, a colonnade to the hall with an upstairs chamber and a full summer kitchen in the cellar. In 1850, the colonnade was enclosed and the living room added. Other additions were made in 1890. The home is warmed by seven working fireplaces.

19. 106 N. Morris

The White House was built before 1877 and was used as a school until 1930, when it was moved from its original site on Gunby and Federal Streets to its present location.

20. 105 Gunby

The original pre-1877 structure had two rooms and a kitchen. The kitchen mantle is part of this structure.

21. 208 W. Federal

The Teagle-Townsend House, as it is known, was built around 1814. A great chimney dominates the south end. Inside, an enclosed passage leads to a separate kitchen.

22. 204 W. Federal

This house was built before 1877.

23. 104 N. Church

Around 1920 two early houses were joined to form the present building.

24. 105 N. Church

Part of this house was built in the 1820's, but later additions were made late in the 19th century. The downstairs dining room is graced by a large fireplace.

25. 103 N. Church

An excellent example of Federal architecture, this L-shaped townhouse was built during the 1840's. The home features six fireplaces and still has the original flooring.

26. 110 W. Federal

A one-room house with sleeping loft and two-section shed was the original part of this house when it was built near 1851. Hand-hewn beams support the first floor. A bricked-walled cellar with a sleeping shelf for slaves is warmed by a fireplace.

27. 100 N. Washington

The Old Brimer House was built sometime before 1877. The house has six fireplaces.

28. 107 E. Federal

This two-level house retains some original flooring and one working fireplace.

29. 212 E. Federal

The original floors and several fireplaces enhance this home, which was built around 1877. It features wood peg construction.

30. 208 E. Federal

Wood peg construction is one of the features of this home that was constructed in 1868. The inside stairway is decorated with hand carved tulip design newl posts.

31. 101 W. Federal

The main part of this house was built around 1800. The earliest part consisted of one room with a loft and cellar, the stone walls of which were constructed with ship's ballast. This house may have been part of the Underground Railroad.

32. 107 W. Federal

This fourteen-room home has nine fireplaces and was constructed in the early 19th Century. It was built in several sections, the earliest of which features the original carved woodwork.

33. 109 W. Federal

Four fireplaces connected with one inside chimney is a feature of this mid-19th century home. It still has the original plaster with bulls-eye moulding, hand-rounded banister, and some of the original flooring.

34. 103 S. Church

This house was built before 1877.

35. 205 W. Federal

This house was built in three stages, the first being constructed before 1798, and appears to have been in the same family since it was built. The basic original structure with wooden peg construction still exists.

36. 209 W. Federal

Chanceford once stood on thirty-five acres, and might have been the repository of local War of 1812 records. The Greek Revival building was built between 1759 and 1795.

37. 208 W. Martin

Over one hundred years old, this home stands as a tribute to its builders' craftsmanship. It stands on the original foundation and the original stairway and sub-flooring are still intact.

38. 206 W. Martin

This is a typical townhouse of the late 1870's, and it retains much of its original charm. One of the original fireplaces still works, and the original stairway and upstairs floors still exist.

39. 204 W. Martin

The original foundation, stairway and upstairs pine flooring are still intact in this 100-year-old house.

40. 107 S. Washington

The Gingerbread House, as it is known, was built before 1877. It contains five fireplaces; the one in the living room is graced by a black marble mantle.

41. 109 S. Washington

This house was built before 1877.

42. 106 S. Washington

The Henry Clayville homeplace was built before 1877. It contains one working fireplace and still has the original flooring in one section.

43. 111 S. Collins

This house was built before 1877.

44. 207 E. Martin

This house was built before 1877.

45. 200 W. Washington

This house was built before 1877.

46. 204 S. Washington

This house was constructed prior to 1844.

47. 206 S. Washington

This home was built in 1859. The front door features glass side lights and a transom. The original corner pilasters have been left exposed and the living room fireplace is in its original condition.

48. 208 S. Washington

Part of this house was once an old school that was moved to this site from Church Street. It was built before 1877, and features a domed ceiling and a dirt-floored kitchen with a large, open fireplace.

49. 214 S. Washington

An original fireplace and some original flooring remain in this house and built before 1877. Wood peg construction is in evidence.

50. 214 S. Washington

This house was built before 1877.

51. 211 S. Washington

Built before 1877, this home contains some of its original panes and the original flooring upstairs.

52. 307 Snow

Constructed in 1877 and known as the Jim Lindsay property, this house originally consisted of four rooms, two up and two down.

53. 117 W. Martin

Originally built before 1877 on the lot next door, it was moved once to the corner of Martin and Snow Streets and then back to its present site. Wooden peg construction and some of the original doors still exist in this house that once stood in the middle of an apple orchard.

54. 301 W. Martin

Built before 1877, this home once had a summer kitchen, but it was converted to a garage.

55. 309 W. Martin

This house was built before 1877.

56. 207 Ironshire

Built about 1710, the Mumford House features large bricks in the foundation that were commonly used in the 18th century. The main entrance is on the gable end. The side porch was added in 1840. A three-hundred-year-old sycamore tree grows in the side yard.

57.

The one-room school, moved and restored by the teachers of Worcester County, is a symbol of early education in Maryland. Originally the Mount Zion School, it was given by the Samuel Shockley family and officially dedicated on June 6, 1964 as a museum. The books and furnishings are authentic.

Buildings at the following street addresses are also believed to be over one hundred years old. These are in addition to those already included in the tour listings.

102 E. Market	102 S. Bay
205 E. Market	104 S. Bay
105 W. Market	11 N. Bay
202 W. Market	104 N. Collins
203 W. Market	106 N. Collins
204 W. Market	108 N. Collins
207 W. Market	110 N. Collins
212 W. Market	103 S. Collins
100 N. Washington	205 S. Collins
106 N. Washington	210 S. Collins
110 N. Washington	212 S. Collins
216 S. Washington	109 E. Federal
219 S. Washington	210 E. Federal
220 S. Washington	219 E. Federal
222 S. Washington	220 E. Federal
210 W. Green	221 E. Federal
102 W. Martin	105 W. Federal
104 W. Martin	108 W. Federal
119 W. Martin	202 W. Federal
106 E. Martin	208 W. Federal
204 E. Martin	402 W. Federal
205 E. Martin	101 N. Church
107 Ironshire	110 N. Church
100 Powell	112 N. Church
corner of Powell and Snow	101 S. Church

This brochure was made as a guide to houses in Snow Hill that are over one hundred years old. Other beautiful homes with fine architectural interest have been built since 1876. Enjoy all of Snow Hill, Maryland.