PART IV, SNOWSTORM OF OCTOBER 17, 1977.

Figure 1 First snowflakes of the season in Carroll County on Oct. 17, 1977. The Evening Sun.

1st Snowflakes Fall

WESTMINSTER—Rain which began Sunday measured one-half inch by this morning, some of it mixed with snowflakes, according to Larry Myers, local observer for the National Weather Service. The weekend rainfall pushed October’s total above normal, Myers said. He could not give an exact time when the first snowflurries of the season began to mix with the rain, but observed that it was sometime after midnight.

Temperatures this month have been mild compared with October, 1976, the coldest on record. Tonight is expected to be clear and cold, with lows from the mid 30s to near 40. The forecast Tuesday is for mostly sunny and a little warmer, with highs in the mid 60s.

County roads crews were at work this morning attaching plows to some of the trucks in preparation for the first snowfall which requires road clearance.
Figure 2 Up to 18 inches snow falls in northern Pa. The Evening Sun
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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NOAA, National Weather Service, New York, NY

NOAA, National Weather Service, Binghamton, NY

NOAA, National Weather Service, Taunton, MA

NOAA, National Weather Service, Portland, Me.

NOAA, National Weather Service, Grey, Me.

NOAA, National Weather Service, Caribou, Me.

NOAA, NWS, STORM PREDICTION CENTER, NORMAN, OK

NOAA, NATIONAL CLIMATE DATA CENTER in Asheville, N.C.
A report by Matt Daniel of earthsky.org
“Unprecedented snowfall hits New England late October 2011”.

THE WEATHER CHANNEL

WEATHER.COM  (The Weather Channel)

Special thanks to the media, all the newspapers, broadcast media, and private forecast services, ACCUWEATHER, THE WEATHER CHANNEL, Capital-Weather-Gang of the Washington Post, earthsky.org, and the DC Weather Examiner.

Washington Post, Washington, D.C.

The Baltimore Sun, Baltimore, Md.

The Evening Sun of Hanover, Pa.

The Carroll County Section of the Evening Sun in Westminster, Md.

The Carroll County Times, Westminster, Md.

The New Haven Register, New Haven, Ct.

Daily News Record

WGAL TV Channel 8 in Lancaster, Pa.

FOX 43 News in York, Pa.

Thanks to Google for all their help in my research.

For further reading on October snowstorms including the historic snowstorm of October 29, 2011 check out the web sites from Google and the World Wide Web. There are many great reports out there including the web sites of the above credits. Check them out!

In the months ahead, I hope to do a follow up report on early snowstorms focusing on storms from the 1800s back. I’ve been continuing my research in old diaries, garden books, journals, weather history books including those by David M. Ludlum. I was hoping to include that information in this report. However this report was quickly becoming too large and this report was taking much longer to finish than I thought it would. I will have to do a second report. There are a number of very interesting October storms that hit the northeast United States in the past. I would like to share those with you.

Until then, take care and Happy Holidays!
Herbert Close, Jr.