

Province of Maryland in 1634. Every clerk, after he records any deed, mortgage, release of mortgage, or lease of real estate, must make or have made a 35 mm. microfilm copy of every such record and transmit it to the Commissioner of the Land Office at the end of each year. The Commissioner hears and determines all disputes which may arise concerning the validity of surveys. The Land Office is now engaged in making, filing, and recording plats for current subdivisions of land; copies of such plats are sent to the Supervisors of Assessment upon request. All plats filed with the Clerks of Courts before June 1, 1945, have been microfilmed by the Land Office (Code 1957, Art. 17, secs. 57, 58, 61, 62; Art. 54, secs. 1-53).

All land now included in the limits of the State of Maryland was granted to Cecil, Lord Baltimore, in 1632. In 1680, the Proprietor established a Land Office, and four years later "The Land Council." This body was authorized to hear and determine all matters relating to land. Four years later, when Maryland became a crown colony, the Land Office closed. In 1715, after a long contest with the Governor, Council, Secretary, and Assembly, the Lord Proprietor emerged with his rights restored, and the Land Office reopened. After the Revolution, the State assumed control of the Land Office (Acts Feb. sess. 1777, ch. 15). From 1781 until 1841, there was a Land Office for the Western Shore and another for the Eastern Shore. The Constitution of 1851 created the office of the Commissioner of the Land Office.

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|---------------------|----------|----------|
| Appropriations      | 1965     | 1966     |
| General Funds ..... | \$31,260 | \$31,335 |
| Staff: 6.           |          |          |

### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Chairman: Mrs. Charles W. Williams, 1967

Ex officio members: J. Millard Tawes, William S. James, Marvin Mandel.

Appointed members: Paul D. Brown, 1966; John E. Clark, 1966; Charles W. Kellogg, 1966; Kent R. Mullikin, 1967; Morris L. Radoff, 1967; Mrs. George E. Burnett, 1968; Goodloe E. Byron, 1968; Wilbur R. Hubbard, 1968; Mrs. William T. Hamilton, 1969; George L. Radcliffe, 1969; Mrs. Oliver H. Reeder, 1969.

Director: Orlando Ridout IV

Old Treasury Building, Annapolis 21404 Telephone: Colonial 8-0004

The Maryland Historical Trust was created by Chapter 620, Acts of 1961, to have perpetual existence. Its purpose is to preserve and maintain historical, aesthetic and cultural properties, buildings, fixtures, and furnishings pertaining to the State of Maryland.

The Trust, which is a corporate body, is composed of fifteen trustees of whom the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Delegates, or their representatives, are ex officio members. The remaining trustees were originally appointed by the Governor as follows: three for one year; three for two years; three for three years; and three for four years. As their terms expired, their successors were elected by a vote of the trustees for four-year terms. The trustees serve without compensation, and elect one of their number as chairman. The trustees may also appoint a Director and such other persons as may be necessary to operate the Trust. The Trust is to make a report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly together with any recommendations to further the purpose of the Trust (Code 1957, 1965 Supp., Art. 41, secs. 181A-181K).