

Draft of Proposed Changes
To Paragraph 1, Article 54
Concerning the Membership of the
Hall of Records Commission

Paragraph 1.: Membership

There is hereby created as part of the Department of General Services a Commission to be known as the Hall of Records Commission, which shall be composed of the Secretary of General Services, the State Comptroller, the State Treasurer, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, the President of St. John's College, the President of the Maryland Historical Society, the President of the University of Maryland, the President of The Johns Hopkins University, and the Director of the Peabody Institute of Baltimore. The chairman shall be the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland and the vice chairman shall be the President of St. John's College. A majority, including the chairman or vice chairman of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Members may designate alternates in writing to the chairman, for meetings they are unable to attend. Alternates shall have full voting privileges and shall be members of the Society of American Archivists or responsible for archival administration at their respective institutions, and shall have full voting privileges for the designated meeting of the Commission.

Note: Underlining indicates suggested new wording to be added to the present law.

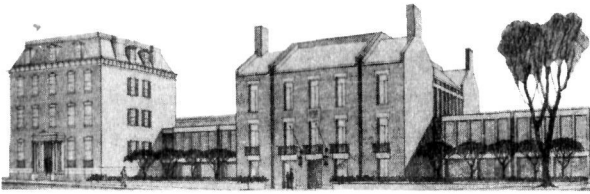
AGENDA ITEM 4

The Maryland Historical Society proposes a preservation microfilm be made by the Hall of Records of Maryland newspapers in collections of both agencies that are too brittle for researchers to handle and which, if left alone will steadily deteriorate to the point where they cannot be used at all.

The Hall of Records would film the newspapers at the going rate of \$.10 a page and would store any salvageable volumes on the top of its shelving in the warehouse at Cheltenham. The Maryland Historical Society has a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities which stipulates that for every dollar they can raise for operating costs of the Library (including preparation of the microfilm project), the National Endowment for the Humanities will match with a dollar. If the Board of Public Works were willing to provide the \$20,000 in matching funds to NEH, that sum in turn would be paid by the Historical Society to the Hall of Records for filming the newspapers, bringing the money back to the State as General Fund Revenue.

The project is eminently worthwhile. Valuable newspapers that in years to come would be too brittle to use can be preserved permanently on film for reference purposes today. I would recommend that the Commission adopt the proposal and suggest to the Maryland Historical Society that it seek a \$20,000 emergency fund appropriation from the Board of Public Works as matching funds for the NEH grant.

→ moved approval
→ seconded.



MUSEUM AND LIBRARY OF MARYLAND HISTORY

The Maryland Historical Society • 201 West Monument Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201 • (301) 685-3750

Leonard C. Crewe, Jr., President

October 27, 1978

Romaine S. Somerville, Director

Edward C. Papenfuse
Maryland Hall of Records
P.O. Box 828
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Ed:

Here is our proposal for the newspaper microfilming. Let me know if you think I should take another tack.

Also, this morning I found that a few years ago the City dumped on us about 75 volumes of the Baltimore Morning Herald 1875-[1904], and the Baltimore Evening Herald 1875 - [1906]. These are in far worse shape than the Baltimore Gazette or the Baltimore Patriot. The Heralds also appear to be more rare. What do you think about adding the Heralds to the list (and increasing the page count)? This increase in the filming costs could be paid for out of the NEH money matching the State's \$20,000.

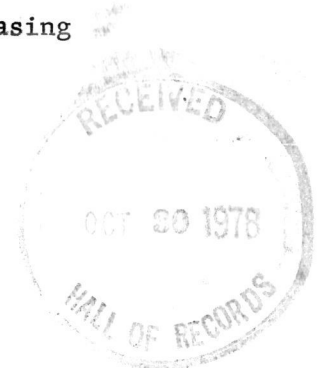
Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Cynthia H. Requardt
Manuscripts Librarian

CHR :pkm

Enclosure



PROPOSAL FOR GRANT TO MICROFILM MARYLAND NEWSPAPERS

Maryland's nineteenth century newspapers are a valuable but fragile record of the State's past. For this reason the Maryland Historical Society would like to apply for a \$20,000 Emergency Grant to ~~microfilm~~ 196,990 pages of Maryland newspapers. *be filmed.* *match an NEH grant in order that* *deleverage*

We have identified seven newspapers which are valuable resources and warrant preservation through microfilming. They are listed in Appendix I. None of these newspapers are now available on microfilm. After being microfilmed the newspapers would be available to libraries throughout the state either on inter-library loan or through the purchase of a copy of the microfilm for a nominal fee.

These newspapers must be microfilmed if they are to be saved. Newsprint is an extremely fragile paper. The chemicals used to break down the wood pulp in order to form newsprint continue to act on the paper. As the paper ages it becomes more and more brittle until it crumbles to the touch. Most late nineteenth century newspapers in the Maryland Historical Society are presently in this highly brittle condition. In fact we have had to deny readers access to these papers since the pages are damaged each time the page is turned. Microfilming would not

only allow a wider dissemination of Maryland history but would insure that this source will be available to future historians.

The Maryland Hall of Records would be contracted to do the microfilming. Edward Papenfuse has quoted a price of \$0.10/frame. The cost of filming the 196,990 pages of newspapers identified in Appendix I would be roughly \$20,000. After the microfilming is completed the newspapers would remain on permanent deposit at the Hall of Records. These original newspapers would not have to be consulted after they were filmed so they could be stored in the Hall of Records' dead storage facilities.

The \$20,000 Emergency Grant ^{from the Board of Public works} would cover the actual filming of the newspapers. The salaries of the Society staff who would prepare the newspapers for filming would be covered by the Society's grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities which will match the State's Emergency Grant. There is a precedent for this when, in 1976, the NEH matched the State's Emergency Grant to the Maryland Historical Society. (See attached letter)

This project to microfilm Maryland newspapers is planned to preserve a valuable resource of our State's history. It also will promote research of Maryland by making these newspapers available to researchers throughout the state and country.

APPENDIX I

NEWSPAPERS AT MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY SCHEDULED FOR MICROFILMING

<u>Baltimore Gazette and Daily Advertiser</u> 1796-1837*	46 vols.	ca.	9,625 pp.
<u>Baltimore Patriot & Mercantile Advertiser</u> 1812-15, 1817-24, 1834-47	37 vols.	ca.	9,000 pp.
<u>Baltimore American</u> (twice-a-week) 1896-1917*	25 vols.	ca.	7,400 pp.
<u>Baltimore Daily Gazette</u> 1862-1880*	29 vols.	ca.	10,150 pp.
<u>Baltimore Republican & Daily Argus</u> 1842-1861*	27 vols.	ca.	11,115 pp.
<u>Baltimore News</u> 1897-1933*	185 vols.	ca.	131,700 pp.
<u>Baltimore Star</u> 1908-1920*	27 vols.	ca.	18,000 pp.

TOTAL PAGES 196,990

* May not have every issue within these years

State of Maryland



Board of Public Works
Annapolis, Maryland

V.W. Cox
Arubin Mundel
Governor
Louis F. Goldstein
Comptroller
William S. James
Treasurer
Andrew Henrich, Jr.
Secretary

June 18, 1976

Mr. P. William Filby, Director
Maryland Historical Society
201 West Monument Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Mr. Filby:

On November 19, 1975 the Board of Public Works approved an allocation in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the General Emergency Fund. This grant was made to the Maryland Historical Society for the purpose of assisting the Society in keeping its building open to the public one additional day per week during calendar year 1976. The grant is being paid in quarterly installments during this year.

In reviewing the transcript of your testimony before the Board concerning this grant, I note that you pointed out to the members of the Board that among the reasons you found it necessary to reduce the number of days per week on which the Library is open was the necessity of reducing your Library staff and also that you lacked proper security.

You have recently advised me that you are using \$9,000.00 of this grant (which includes fringe benefits) to pay a member of your Library staff and an additional \$4,000.00 is being used to pay for the services of a guard.

You further advised that if there were no objections by the Board of Public Works as to the use of the above mentioned \$13,000.00 in the manner you have described, the Society would be eligible for a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

I have discussed this matter with Dr. H. Louis Stettler III, Assistant Secretary, Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning. As you recall, it was this Department which reviewed the initial request and recommended approval to the Board of Public Works. Based on

Mr. P. William Filby

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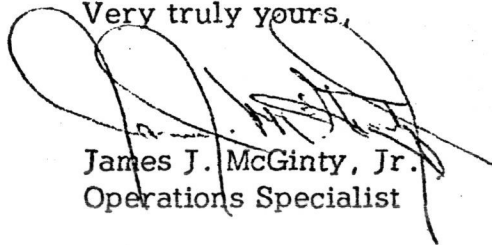
June 18, 1976

this discussion I am pleased to advise you that there is no objection by the State of Maryland on the use of the \$13,000.00 in the manner in which you have described and you may so advise the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The final two installments, in the amount of \$12,500.00 each, will reach you early in July and October.

For your information, I am attaching an "Extract" from the Minutes of the Board of Public Works meeting of November 19, 1975, together with a copy of the transcript of your testimony.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James J. McGinty, Jr.', written over the typed name and title.

James J. McGinty, Jr.
Operations Specialist

JJMcG:mb

Enclosure

MICROFILM PRESERVATION PROGRAM FOR MARYLAND NEWSPAPERS
JOINT PROPOSAL OF THE HALL OF RECORDS
AND
THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Maryland's nineteenth century newspapers are a valuable but fragile record of the state's past. For this reason the Maryland Historical Society would like to apply for a \$20,000 Emergency Grant to match a NEH grant in order to microfilm 193,441 pages of deteriorating Maryland newspapers.

We have identified eight newspapers which are historically significant and valuable enough to warrant preservation through microfilming. They are listed in the Appendix. None of these newspapers has been available on microfilm before to the great detriment of historical research on this period of Maryland history. In fact we have had to deny readers access to these materials since the pages are damaged each time one is turned. After being microfilmed the newspapers would be available to libraries throughout the state and country on interlibrary loan or through the purchase of a copy of the microfilm for a nominal fee.

Newsprint is an extremely fragile paper. The chemicals used to break down the wood pulp in order to form newsprint continue to act on the paper. As the paper ages it becomes more and more brittle until it crumbles to the touch. Most late nineteenth century newspapers in the Maryland Historical Society are presently in this highly fractile condition.

The Maryland Hall of Records would be contracted to do the microfilming. Edward Papenfuse has quoted a price of \$0.10/frame. The cost of filming the 193,441 pages of newspapers identified in Appendix I would be roughly \$20,000. After the microfilming is completed the newspapers would remain on permanent

deposit at the Hall of Records. These original newspapers would not have to be consulted after filming so they could be stored in the Hall of Records' dead storage facilities.

The \$20,000 Emergency Grant would cover the actual filming of the newspapers. The salaries of Society staff preparing the newspapers for filming would be covered by the Society's grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities which will match the State's Emergency Grant. In 1976 the NEH matched the State Emergency Grant.

This project to microfilm Maryland newspapers is planned to preserve a valuable resource of our State's history and will promote research on Maryland by making these materials available to researchers throughout the state and the country.

NEWSPAPERS AT THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SCHEDULED FOR MICROFILMING

BALTIMORE

<u>Baltimore Daily Gazette</u> 1862-1880	28 vols.	ca. 18,900 pp.
<u>Baltimore Evening News</u> 1897-1918	94 vols.	ca. 111,800 pp.
<u>Baltimore Republican & Daily Argus</u> 1842-1861	26 vols.	ca. 15,200 pp.

HAGERSTOWN

<u>Morning News</u> 1874-1894	31 vols.	ca. 9,300 pp.
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TOWSON

<u>Maryland Journal</u> 1865-1896	8 vols.	ca. 3,600 pp.
<u>Union News</u> 1865-1930	13 vols.	ca. 5,400 pp.

WESTMINSTER

<u>American Sentinel</u> 1835-1928	59 vols.	ca. 11,448 pp.
<u>Democratic Advocate</u> 1865-1969	42 vols.	ca. 17,793 pp.

<u>TOTAL</u>		193,441 pp.
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