

# PROPOSAL FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE OLD HOUSE OF DELEGATES CHAMBER



Prepared for the State House Trust  
By the Maryland State Archives  
*September 2005*

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    - George A. Frederick, *Architect*

To: The State House Trust

From: Edward C. Papenfuse  
State Archivist

Date: September 26, 2005

Re: Proposal for Restoration of the Old House of Delegates Chamber

As requested by the State House Trust, Archives' staff has prepared the enclosed proposal for restoring the old House of Delegates Chamber to its late 19<sup>th</sup> century appearance. As envisioned, the room will be a multi-use facility with state-of-the-art meeting facilities and will also be a beautiful venue for ceremonies and receptions. Its 19<sup>th</sup> century decor and interpretation will be an excellent counterpoint to the 18<sup>th</sup> century Old Senate Chamber across the lobby and will feature the role of the noted Maryland architect George A. Frederick in the 1876 renovation of the State House.

The interpretation of the room will celebrate two major periods of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The first will be the two constitutional conventions of 1864 and 1867 that were held in the Chamber. The Constitution of 1864 abolished slavery in Maryland. The Constitution of 1867 revised the Constitution of 1864 and, as amended to date, is still in effect today as the guiding document of Maryland state government. The Archives has, on deposit, the desk that was used by Fendall Marbury, a delegate from Prince George's County to both conventions.

The second major theme of the Chamber will be its complete renovation in 1876, a time when America was celebrating its centennial and demonstrating its accomplishments at the Philadelphia Exposition. This was a period of enormous national pride and a time of great rebuilding and showcasing of American craftsmanship and industry. The Archives has many photographs and other documentation of this renovation.

The proposal envisions the use of a number of portraits and other objects that the Archives already has as part of the Commission on Artistic Property inventory. Other pieces would need to be acquired through loan or purchase.

We believe that the next step is to engage a preservation architect to advise on architectural and decorative elements of the re-creation and to provide detailed drawings and specifications for the work. A working estimate as to the cost of the project is \$3 million, including renovations encompassing the current Calvert Room, Silver Room, and the Visitors' Center. This would include reconstruction, furnishings, such as the Speaker's rostrum, and interpretive exhibits.

This proposal is a key component of an overall action plan for refurbishing of the historical interpretive exhibits in the State House which will require an additional allocation of about \$700,000.

**The Old House of Delegates Chamber:**  
*A Case for a 19th Century Interpretation*  
Prepared by the Maryland State Archives  
for the State House Trust  
*September 2005*

Currently, the interpretation of the Maryland State House emphasizes the historic events of the 18th century that took place in the Old Senate Chamber, and the modern achievements of the 20th century exemplified by the working House and Senate Chambers. The events of these two centuries are further enhanced by the restored 18th century architecture in the "old" State House and the neoclassical architecture of the "new" annex of 1902-1906. The creation of a space decorated in the style of the 19th century, and devoted to interpreting the events of that period, will allow visitors to the State House to experience over three centuries of Maryland's history in one building, from the colonial period up to the present day.

The proposed restoration of the Old House of Delegates to its appearance during the late 19th century will provide a richly decorative backdrop for interpreting the critical era between the early and the modern history of the State House, when two of the most significant legislative events took place there: the passage of the Declaration of Rights in 1864 that abolished slavery; and the signing of the Constitution of 1867, that is, to this day, the Constitution of Maryland. Earlier in the 19th century, the General Assembly passed, at the persistent urging of Delegate Thomas Kennedy, the so-called "Jew Bill" which gave Jewish citizens the right to hold public office in Maryland. In the very early days of the century, the General Assembly voted, in 1802, to abolish all property qualifications for voting and extend suffrage in state elections to free white males over the age of twenty-one, rights it extended to federal elections eight years later. Events of the 19th century clearly show that Maryland was on the leading edge of securing the democratic principles of the United States for its citizens.

Several refurbishments are documented to have taken place in the Old House of Delegates during the 19th century. However, the most vividly documented redecoration took place in 1876, during America's Centennial, when the country was looking back to its colonial beginnings and celebrating the modern achievements of the Industrial Age. The great Philadelphia Exposition of 1876 was a pivotal event that inspired not only national pride, but a host of restorations and redecorations in public buildings throughout the country. The Maryland State House was no exception, undertaking a complete refurbishment of the House of Delegates Chamber as well as renovations to the Senate and Executive Chambers, rotunda, windows, and exterior overseen by Baltimore architect George Frederick. In fact, it was George Frederick who designed the Maryland State Building at the 1876 Exposition, which today is installed at Druid Hill Park in Baltimore. Further research into the decor of Frederick's State Building at the Exposition may yield some important links between the design of the State House and Maryland's presence on the national stage.

Two highly detailed photographs of the chamber during this period provide ample physical evidence to recreate the architecture, furniture, window treatments, and lighting of the 1876 redecoration. A high-style Victorian room, the House of Delegates Chamber exemplified the very latest tastes in both domestic and public buildings. Other photographic evidence of the period shows similar Victorian decoration throughout the State House, including elaborate architectural elements, which, over time, were lost. A recreation of this excessively decorative style in the Old House of Delegates Chamber will provide a glimpse of how the building looked during the period, and provide a dramatic contrast to the austere Classical architecture of the Old Senate Chamber across the hall.

It is proposed that the Old House of Delegates Chamber be re-created as a multi-use space, architecturally restored and decorated to its appearance in 1876, but including reproduction seating and interpretative areas to accommodate tour groups, meetings, and special events.

### **Historical Evidence and Proposed Furnishings**

Two photographic views of the Old House of Delegates Chamber provide extensive information about the decoration of the room during the last quarter of the 19th century. These photographs include detailed views of the Speaker's desk, the delegates desks and seating furniture, the light fixtures, window treatment, and decorative wall painting. To complement this visual evidence, an historic paint analysis was conducted in 1998 by Matthew Mosca in order to determine the color scheme of these decorations. While not a complete identification of colors, this analysis does indicate that the woodwork was faux painted in a wood grain pattern, which was very fashionable during the period. Additional research into the textiles may identify a particular pattern for the window treatments which could be used as a guide for determining an overall color scheme for the room.

Elements of the proposed restoration would include:

- A re-created Speaker's rostrum in the space where the original would have been;
- The 1858 Gould & Glanville desk with its label (MSA S 1259-142-220);
- Victorian window treatments;
- Re-created paint scheme on walls and woodwork from 1876-1878 renovations;
- Interpretive exhibits about important events that took place in the chamber in the 19th century;
- Pair of Victorian era pier mirrors from the original Governor's Mansion and previously stored in the State House basement;
- Period lamps, chandeliers and scones. Light fixtures installed in the 1876 renovation of the State House were created by Cornelius & Co. of Philadelphia, a major supplier of gas light fixtures in the late 19th century;
- Period photographs of the chamber in the 1880s and 1890s;

- Facsimile copy of the 1864 Declaration of Rights;
- Facsimile copy of the first page of the 1867 Maryland Constitution;
- Plaque honoring Thomas Kennedy, now in Silver Room;
- Portrait of Thomas Holliday Hicks (MSA SC 1545-1175), delegate and Civil War governor;
- Portrait of Thomas Swann, (MSA SC 1545-1044) governor, 1866 - 1869
- Portrait of Augustus W. Bradford, (MSA SC 1545-1107) governor 1862 - 1866
- *The Planting of the Colony* by Frank B. Mayer, (MSA SC 1545-1125), which was originally in the chamber
- *The Burning of the Peggy Stewart* by Frank B. Mayer, (MSA SC 1545-1111), also originally in the chamber;

Investigation of the architectural and structural issues involved in the restoration of the Old House of Delegates Chamber was part of Phase II of the Historic Structure Report and the findings are incorporated into the Archives' research website *mdstatehouse.net*. *Mdstatehouse.net* forms Phase I of the Historic Structure Report and a publication of the Archives of Maryland series of the Maryland State Archives. It incorporates all known documentation and images relating to the construction of the State House and changes to the building over time, from 1769 to the present.

### **Proposed Uses of the Re-created House of Delegates Chamber**

The re-created Old House of Delegates Chamber will be a flexible, multi-use room that can be used as interpretative space for visitors as well as a meeting room or location for special events, rather than a museum space like the Old Senate Chamber. The reproduction speakers' rostrum, which will be set apart by a wooden gallery based on an original design, could be wired for state-of-the-art audio/visual equipment to support high-tech presentations. Reproduction chairs, modeled after original sidechairs seen in period photographs of the room, will allow for public seating that can be rearranged according to the individual uses of the room. The room will also be a beautiful venue for receptions, ceremonies and other gatherings related to the work of state government. A space such as this is much needed within the State House.

The room will include exhibits highlighting some of the important events that took place in the chamber, including the writing of the Constitution of 1864 in which slavery in Maryland was abolished and the Constitution of 1867 which is still in force today. It will also feature portraits of mid-19th century governors of Maryland and two of the most important paintings acquired by the legislature during the late 19th century by Annapolis artist Frank B. Mayer. Two original desks from the chamber will be used as interpretive anchors for describing the historic events that occurred in the room over the 19th century.

### **Attachments**

- House of Delegates Timeline extracted from *The State House at Annapolis* by Morris L. Radoff, 1972
- House of Delegates Chamber, 1878-1893. MSA SC 182-02-160
- House of Delegates Chamber, 1893-1904. MSA SC 182-02-0520
- House of Delegates Chamber, as Department of Legislative Services office, 1948. MSA SC 4082-1-85
- House of Delegates Chamber Chronology. MSA SC 5287-33-4
- "Improvements at the State House," *The Planters Advocate*, March 31, 1858
- 1858 House of Delegates desk made by Gould & Glanville
- 1998 Plan for Victorian Restoration of Old House of Delegates by Henry Johnson
- Historic Paint Finishes Report for the Calvert Room and the Maryland Silver Room, MSA S 1259-131-1092b
- Paint samples from Historic Paint Finishes Report
- Details:
  - Window behind podium
  - Chandelier
  - Sconce

A publication of *mdstatehouse.net*  
MSA SC 5287-33

***What Really Goes on in This Building?***  
Orientation to the State House and  
Interpreting State Government

Two interpretive elements that are missing from the State House are an orientation to the building and the Annapolis complex and an explanation of the process of government that takes place in the building.

The ideal place to offer these interpretations is in the space now occupied by the Visitor's Center. While the Visitors' Center staff would maintain a presence in the space, it would also be used for exhibits and interactive kiosks for people to learn about the State House, and the process of modern state government. These exhibits would be, for the most part, state-of-the-art electronic exhibits, designed to engage school children who are increasingly accustomed to using 21st century technology.

Some of the subjects of the exhibits would include: How are laws introduced? How are they passed? How do the two branches of government work together to make the laws of our state? Who are the major players in both branches of government? This will be an opportunity to introduce visitors to Maryland's system of government, as well as to its most important elected officials.

A major enhancement to visitors' experience in the State House would be the creation of an orientation film about the history and use of the State House. Visitors to historic sites have come to expect this sort of introduction as a way to begin their visit, and put into context the rooms and exhibits they are about to see. Today's technology would allow for a large flat-screen LCD monitor to be installed at the far end of the room, between the windows, allowing for a continuous loop video presentation introducing visitors to the State House.

We also propose one or two small exhibit cases that could be utilized for changing exhibits related to a specific historic objects or event that might not otherwise be interpreted in the State House, and for focusing attention on current events and activities of state government. An example of one such exhibit would be a small selection of pieces from the *USS Maryland* silver service, which will be displaced by the restoration of the Old House of Delegates Chamber. (The remainder of the service would be retired to the Archives and would be placed on display in the new exhibit space that is being proposed as part of the renovation and expansion of the Archives building.) Another example (using today's current events) might be a display about the state's response to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, or an exhibit about how recent legislation is being enacted to benefit Maryland's citizens.

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September 2005*

## **A Brief History of the House of Delegates Chamber**

The first known floor plan of the Maryland State House, published in the *Columbian Magazine* in February 1789, shows a classically Georgian plan, with the Old Senate Chamber to the right of the main door and the House of Delegates Chamber to the left. The two chambers were of the same size and were mirror images of each other, with raised podiums - "thrones" for the Speaker and the President - and a gallery at the back of the room. The first meeting of the General Assembly in the new State House took place in the Old House of Delegates Chamber at the start of the March 1779 Session. It was one of the very few rooms in the building that were finished.

In 1807, an earlier plan to model the Maryland House of Delegates on the U.S. House of Representatives was revived. By this time, the House of Representatives had moved into its new Chamber in the Capitol Building, which had been designed by William Thornton and Benjamin Henry Latrobe. The Governor and Council ordered that the room be "laid off in circular form, and that the desks be raised one above the other, as nearly like the room occupied by Congress as may be practicable" and that it be furnished with a new carpet and completed by the meeting of the legislature.

At the time, members of delegations from each county and Annapolis and Baltimore shared a single desk. A combination of twelve straight and nine circular desks were clustered in one group of three and the rest in twos and covered with green cloth. A desk believed to be that of the Speaker was furnished to the Chamber at this time. This desk is now the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Although built more than two decades before the completion of the U.S. Capitol, the Maryland State House may have been the first state house in the United States to show deference in its construction to the Capitol in Washington D.C. Until 1824, state capitols across the nation were built and arranged according to regional architectural elements. The General Assembly's decision to model the House of Delegates Chamber after the Hall of the House of Representatives was truly a revolutionary one, as Maryland legislators grasped the importance of bridging the separation between the state and federal governments to unify the nation.

Very few substantive changes were made to the House of Delegates Chamber until around 1837, when the desks were painted and six new ones were added to accommodate two more delegates from Baltimore City and four delegates from the newly created Carroll County. Thus, the layout of the chamber devised in 1807 would have been the one that the Marquis de Lafayette would have seen when he made his historic visit to Annapolis in December 1824, accompanied by his son, George Washington Lafayette. During this visit, the Marquis, on December 20, visited the Senate and the House of Delegates where, according to a contemporary newspaper account, "addresses were made to him by the President and the Speaker."

This is also the layout that would have been seen when Thomas Kennedy, delegate from Washington County, waged his long battle for the right for Jews to hold public office in Maryland. This fight, which began in 1819 with the introduction of the bill entitled "An Act to extend to the sect of people professing the Jewish religion the same rights and privileges that are enjoyed by Christians," culminated in the bill becoming law in 1826.

The most dramatic change to the House of Delegates Chamber occurred in 1858 when it was expanded to almost twice its original size to accommodate its growing roster of members which reflected the state's increasing population. To accomplish this, the adjoining Committee Room was added to the space. New desks were purchased from the Baltimore firm of Gould & Glanville. It was reported that the room was now so commodious for both members and spectators that at least two Constitutional Conventions were held in it, in 1864 and 1867. The Constitution of 1864 was significant historically because it contained a Declaration of Rights that, in its first article, abolished slavery in Maryland. The Constitution of 1867 is still the Constitution of Maryland, with amendments that have passed since its adoption.

In 1878, more renovations were made to the Chamber and new desks were purchased. Contemporary photographs show a crowded room with an elaborate podium decorated in the high-Victorian style. Paint analysis has revealed that the plaster walls, including the heating grates installed in 1858, were likely painted a soft light brown and the woodwork, including window surrounds, shutters and chair rail, were grained with a brownish-yellow finish. The decorative appearance of the Chamber at the close of the 19th century was a combination of the 1858 and 1878 renovations. The existing plaster ceiling with beams and three large panels dates to the 1858 expansion, and the elaborate ornamentation visible in photographs was added in 1878. Victorian renovations in 1878 also replaced the original woodwork, including shutters and window frames, and the chair rail was removed sometime after 1893.

By the beginning of the 20th century, it was clear that the State House need a major modernization to meet the needs of growing legislative and executive branches of government. The two 19th century annexes were removed and the present Annex was built under the direction of architects Baldwin & Pennington. In 1904, the House of Delegates held its first session in its new chamber.

Since 1904, the space that had been occupied by the House of Delegates has been used for many different purposes, including as a state museum space, as office space for the Department of Legislative Reference and then, in 1968, the current dividing wall was erected to form two committee rooms. The doors in these spaces probably date to c. 1905, and renovations in 1948 removed all of the remaining 19th-century plaster from the walls. By 1985, these two rooms had been designated the Calvert Room and the Maryland Silver Room. At present, the Calvert Room is used as meeting space and is under the jurisdiction of the office of the president of the Senate. The Silver Room contains exhibits of the USS Maryland Silver Service and documents and images relating

to Maryland and the U.S. Constitution; it is also used by the office of the speaker of the House as meeting space. Two famous paintings by Francis B. Mayer are also on display in the Silver Room: *The Planting of the Colony of Maryland* and *The Burning of the Peggy Stewart*.

House of Delegates Chamber, 1858-1878

1858

- Proceedings of the House of Delegates, 1858 Session.
  - 15 January - Ordered that 18 old chairs used by this House be appropriated for the use of the Court of Appeals. (60)
  - 25 January - State Librarian ordered to transport to the President and Board of Trustees of Cambridge Academy, in Cambridge, Dorchester County, for the use of said Academy, the balance of old chairs formerly used by this body. (134) Also, bill entitled an "Act appropriating a sum of money to Gould and Glanville for desks and chairs furnished the House of Delegates," passed and sent to the Senate. (139)
  - 28 January - State Librarian ordered to procure and set up in this House, a new table for the Speaker of such material and design as the Speaker may approve. (170)
  - 29 January - Ordered that the present speaker's desk shall be delivered to Charlotte Hall Academy when replaced by the new one. Motion amended and rejected. (185-186) Also, Bill entitled an "Act supplementary to an act appropriating a sum of money to pay for a painting illustrating the surrender of George Washington and his commission of Commander in Chief," passed and returned to the Senate. (192)
  - 4 February 1858 - Correspondence between House and Senate re: appointing joint committee re: constructing a fire-proof building to preserve the records of the State; to increase the dimensions of the House Chamber, and adding two committee rooms for the accommodation of each branch of the Legislature lighting the whole building with gas and warming the same with furnaces. (247-248)
  - 11 February 1858 - Librarian directed to have American Flag displayed from dome of the State House each day as soon as the House of Delegates shall be in session, and not lowered until both Houses shall have adjourned. (330)
  - 15 February 1858 - Joint Committee on Public Buildings requested to examine and ascertain whether the State House is safe from the accident of fire by the mode now used to heat House Chamber and the Library. (381)
  - 25 February 1858 - Senate endorses House bill from 4 February 1858. (603)
  - 26 February 1858 - Senate passes said bill. (623)
- Proceedings of the Senate, 1858 Session.
  - 25 January - Report of the Special Committee appointed to contract for and procure a painting for the use of the Senate Chamber illustrating the surrender of George Washington of his Commission as Commander in Chief. (77-78)
  - 4 February - Message to the House, proposing a joint committee to inquire into the expediency of constructing a fire-proof building for preserving the records of the State, of increasing the dimensions of the present chamber used for the sittings of the House of Delegates; of adding two committee rooms for the

accommodation of each branch of the Legislature; of lighting the whole building with Gas, and warming the same with Furnaces. (133) House appoints members to the committee. (139)

- 23 February - Bill entitled, "an Act appropriating a sum of money for the rendering the more secure, against fire, the State House and the public archive, for erecting a fire-proof record office, and for enlarging the State Library room, and the Hall of the House of Delegates." Bill referred to committee on Finance. (294-295)
- 24 February - Bill entitled, "an Act appropriating a sum of money for the rendering the more secure, against fire, the State House and the public archive, for erecting a fire-proof record office, and for enlarging the State Library room, and the Hall of the House of Delegates," is considered, and amendments proposed. (325-326) Bill passed by the House on 26 February. (359)
- January-March - Laws of Maryland, 1858 Session. General Assembly (Laws, Original)
  - 28 January 1858 - Chapter 26 entitled "An Act appropriating a sum of money to Gould & Glanville, for desks and chairs furnished the House of Delegates and freight on the same. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, that the Treasurer, upon the warrant of the Comptroller, is hereby authorised and required to pay Gould & Glanville the sum of 1679 for 73 desks and chairs, and freight on the same, furnished the House of Delegates of Maryland," is passed. (30)
  - 25 February - Chapter 105 entitled "An Act appropriating a sum of money for the rendering the more secure, against fire, the State House and the public archive, for erecting a fire-proof record office, and for enlarging the State Library room, and the Hall of the House of Delegates, &c," is passed. (140-142)
  - 10 March 1858 - Chapter 219 entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support of Government for the year ending on the first day of January eighteen hundred and fifty-nine" is passed. \$100.00 appropriated to the superintendent of the Public Buildings and grounds.
  - 10 March 1858 - Chapter 409 entitled "An Act making appropriations for the support of Government for the year ending on the first day of January eighteen hundred and sixty" is passed. \$100.00 appropriated to the superintendent of the public buildings and grounds.
- 8 December 1857 - 21 June 1858 - COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY (Paying Warrants) MSA S 703-10 (2/65/11/20)
  - 1 February No. 316 to Gould and Glanville in payment of special appropriation passed in their favor at Janry session of 1858 for their bill of desks and chairs and furniture supplied for the House of Delegates of MD. \$1,679.00.
  - 5 February No. 333 to Louis Gootie[?] in payment of amount of special appropriation passed in his favor at January Session of 1858 for services rendered [cleaning and repairing?] House of Delegates of MD. \$200.00.

- 21 June 1858-1 January 1859 - List of expenses paid by the State of Maryland relating to work done on the State House and the Public Buildings and Grounds. Expenses include fireproofing, brick, stone, and iron work, plastering, and wages of laborers. Includes 25 August No. 1139 to Collins, Heath & Hutchinson in payment of their draft for amount of special appropriation passed in their favor at January Session 1858 for material supplied and labor on Furnace of House of Delegates. \$70.00  
COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY (Paying Warrants) MSA S 703-12 (2/65/11/22)
- Photographs of Gould & Glanville desk and label. MSA s1259-142-220.
- Desk from the House of Delegates Chamber made by Gould & Glanville. The Walnut desk is 24 inches across by 24 inches wide, 27 inches high in the front and 31 1/2 inches high in the back. Desk owned by private collector. (MSA S 1259-131-1402)
  - Front
  - Left Side
  - Top
  - Inside
- Black and white photograph Gould and Glanville Desk. See also: note on back of the photograph shows desk owned by Mrs. Charles Ligon, of Ellicott City. Bottom of desk signed "A Kimmel, 1858-60." Anthony Kimmel was a Senator from Frederick County in 1858 and in 1860. (MSA SC 617-1)
- 31 March 1858 - Annapolis Gazette reports on the progress of the improvements in the Hall of the House of Delegates, the Senate Chamber, the Library, and the fire-proof Record Building. *Planters Advocate* MSA SM 3601.

1860

- January - Documents from the House of Delegates, 1860 Session.
  - 6 January - Message of the Governor Thomas Holliday Hicks to the General Assembly. Message summarizes provisions of the last General Assembly regarding the State House, and advocates the preservation of the Senate Chamber. Governor also speaks in support for providing the "necessary appointment of watchmen, keepers of the House and grounds" for the preservation of the Public Buildings. Includes previous enlargement of the House of Delegates Chamber. (Document B, 16-17)
  - 10 January - Report of the State Librarian to the Committee on the State Library. The State Librarian is Llewellyn Boyle. General Assembly (Public Documents) 1860 Session, Document NN.
  - 18 January - Report of the Committee on Repairs of the Public Buildings. Under the Act of 1858, the Committee was appointed to appropriate a sum of money to render the State House more secure against fire, and enlarging the State Library room and the hall of the House of Delegates. (Document G, 1-5)
  - 20 January - Report of the Treasurer of Maryland of his Accounts with the

Comptroller for 1858 and 1859. (Document K, 20)

- Proceedings of the House of Delegates, 1860 Session.
  - 9 January - Speaker ordered to have the lobbies cushioned and that the center one be reserved exclusively for ladies. (26)
  - 10 January - Petition submitted from Thomas Godey for payment for furnishing speaker's desk. (38)
  - 11 January - Doorkeeper ordered to procure a sheet iron plate and have it covered with grass carpeting, and placed over the steam flue of the floor of this House. (46)
  - 30 January - Sergeant at Arms ordered to procure two gates to be made and hung at the entrance of the ladies gallery. (225)

1862

- 8 March - Chapter 192 of the Laws of Maryland appropriating a sum of money for various claims for repairs in the State House. Repairs include plastering, painting, and ventilation work in the House of Delegates and the Senate Chamber; work done in the water closets; and for purchasing furniture and other repairs in the Speaker's Room. Laws of Maryland, 1862 Session, Chapter 192. MSA S S 966-385.

1865

- 22 March - An Act to appropriate money to pay Sisco & Brothers for flags for the House of Delegates, and McDowell, Robinson & Co. for carpeting, mats and matting furnished for the House of Delegates, is passed. Laws of Maryland, 1865 Session, Chapter 64, p. 94
- 17 May - Receipt of payment of \$31.80 to William J. Jewell for lights in the Hall of the State House, the Senate Room, Armory, Water Closet, House of Delegates, Treasury Building, and glazing at the Executive Mansion. Governor (Miscellaneous Papers) 1862 MSA S 1274-89-32, Voucher 265
- 26 May - Payment to C.A.S. Wolf for repairing clocks in House of Delegates Chamber and Lieutenant Governor's Room. Governor (Miscellaneous Papers) 1862 MSA S 1274-89-32, Voucher 266

1867

- Proceedings of the Senate, 1867 Session.
  - 22 January - Secretary of the Senate directed to cause the Senate Chamber to be furnished with mats similar to those now in use in the House Chamber. Secretary also directed to have covered with matting, the entrances leading to the Committee Rooms of the Senate. (80)
  - 24 January - Noted that the Secretary has made and put up good and substantial steps to the back entrance of the Senate Chamber. (97)
  - 4 February - Secretary of the Senate authorized to have the lobby of the Senate

Chamber re-arranged and more comfortable seats furnished therein. Also, the State Librarian directed to cause a plan to be prepared for the enlargement of the State Library, embracing four additional Committee Rooms for the use of the Senate, beneath said enlargement, and also an estimate of the probable cost. Report to be furnished to the Senate by 15 February. (141)

- 19 February - Secretary of the Senate directed to cause the register to be removed from its present position, and placed in the center of the Senate Chamber, beneath the chandelier. (264)
- 22 March - Secretary of the Senate authorized to have constructed, in the interval between the session, some suitable means of ventilating the Senate Chamber by a ventilator or ventilators in the ceiling of the Chamber to communicate with the open air by openings in the outside walls, between the ceiling and floor of the Executive Chamber. (794)

1872

- Description of The State House, both exterior and interior, and other buildings on State Circle, from Owen M. Taylor's History of Annapolis, the Capital of Maryland, Includes History and Description of the Naval Academy. Title Page, Introduction, Pages 12-13, 14-15, 16-17, and the appendix, pages 52-53, and 54. Includes the enlargement of the House of Delegates Chamber.
  - "On the left of the hall, immediately opposite to the Senate Chamber, is the House of Delegates. This apartment originally was of the same dimensions as the former, and had also a gallery for the accommodation of spectators; and at that period was suspended from the walls a large picture, presenting a full length likeness of General Washington, attended by General LaFayette and Colonel Tilghman, his aides-de camp, the Continental army passing in review. In his hand he hold the articles of capitulation at Yorktown. This picture was painted by Charles Wilson Peale, in pursuance of a resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland.
  - The Chamber of the House of Delegates has within several years past been much enlarged and handsomely refitted, and is capable of accommodating all its members, who sit at desks conveniently arranged, together with the numerous spectators who from day to day visit that body. The last three Conventions to reform the organic law of Maryland assembled and held their deliberations in this hall." (MSA Library Call Number 1091)
  - Washington, Lafayette and Tilghman has been moved to the Court of Appeals Chamber (MSA Library Call Number 1091) See also Series 11,12,15, 21, 22, and 23 for specific descriptions of rooms and buildings.

1874

- March-April - Laws of Maryland, 1874 Session
  - 27 March - An Act to appropriate money to pay for various work in the Senate

Chamber and Committee Rooms, and painting in the House of Delegates and Senate Chambers, is passed. Chapter 119, 159-160.

- 11 April - An Act to authorize the payment for sewerage and for furnishing water pipes for the State House and the Governor's Mansion, is passed. Chapter 360, 525.
- 11 April - An Act to appropriate a sum of money to pay Henry W. Jenkins and Sons for chairs furnished for the Senate Chamber, is passed. Chapter 442, 665-666.
- 11 April - An Act to appropriate a sum to add a fire-proof addition to the building known as the Comptroller's Office. Chapter 445, 667-668. The act notes that "the building known as the Comptroller's Office is entirely too small to accommodate the increased business of the Comptroller of the Treasury, the Commissioner of the Land Office, the Board of Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, and the Insurance Commissioner, all of whom conduct and transact the business of their respective departments in said building."

1876

- 5 January-8 July - COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY (Paying Warrants)  
MSA S 703-40 (2/65/12/5)
  - 29 March, No. 732 to Wm. L. Pfiffer for work on and materials furnished for the Hall of the House of Delegates, the Speakers Room, and various committee rooms in accordance with the provisions of Chap. 100 of 1876. \$855.78
  - 29 March, No. 724 to James E. Tate, for articles furnished the Senate Chamber and the rooms of the House of Delegates & Senate Chamber in accordance with Chap. 100 of 1876. \$287.06
  - 14 April, No. 868 to Jeremiah W. Kalmey for work done in the Hall of the House of Delegates and rooms connected therewith as per order of the Chief Clerk of the House of Delegates & for work done in the Senate Chamber as per order of the Secy of the Senate. Chap 100 & 334 of 1876. \$898.50
  - 22 April, No. 942 to Samuel Stewart for plumbing and repairs to House of Delegates and rooms connected therewith. Chap. 334 of 1876. \$79
  - 28 April, No. 970 to James E. Tate for materials furnished the Senate and House of Delegates. Chap. 329 of 1876 \$75.30
- 5 January-8 July - List of expenses paid by the State of Maryland relating to work done on the State House and the Public Buildings and Grounds, including materials and work done in th Old Senate Chamber, the House of Delegates Chamber, and the Committee Rooms. COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY (Paying Warrants)  
MSA S 703-40 (2/65/12/5)
- 30 March - An Act to appropriate a sum of money for the repair and improvement of the State House (Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland 1876, Chapter 199) (The Archives of Maryland Vol 199, p. 3102)
  - "For the thorough heating and ventilation of the Senate Chamber, the Hall of

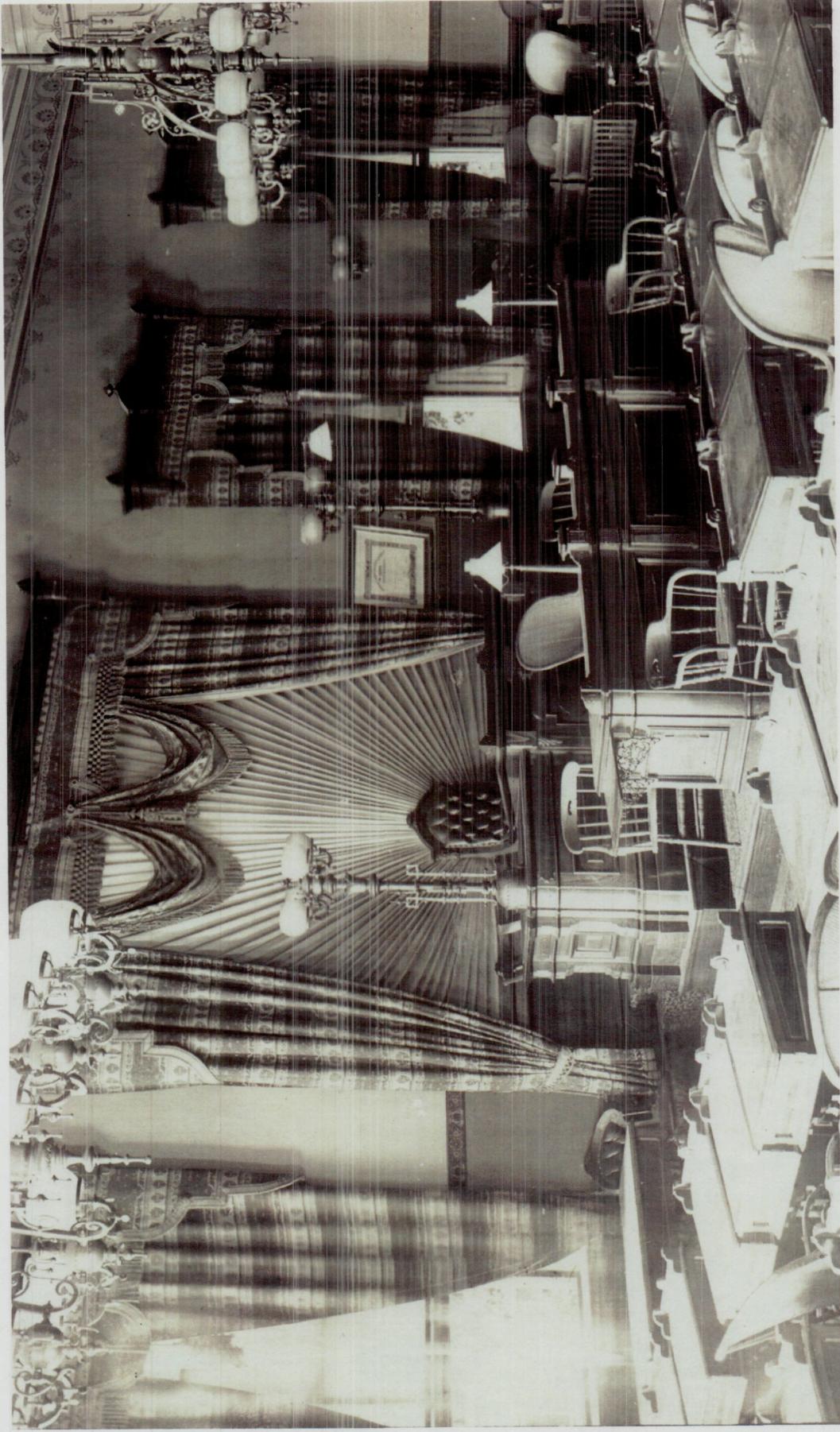
the House of Delegates and rooms generally, twelve hundred dollars; for plastering and repairs necessary, two thousand dollars; for painting and frescoing Hall, Senate, House of Delegates, Governor's room, and the painting of the work necessary on the interior and exterior of the building, six thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary."

- 30 March - General Assembly approves appropriation of \$32,000 for the repair and improvement of the State House. Discussion of work on roofs, floors, ceilings, windows, heating, ventilation, plastering, painting and frescoing in the Old Senate Chamber, the House of Delegates Chamber, and the Governor's office.(Chapter 194, 1876 Laws of Maryland, 303-304)

1878

- 3 January - Message of Governor John Lee Carroll to the General Assembly re: State House improvements. Also, letter from George A. Frederick to Governor John Lee Carroll re: heating improvements and other repairs to the State House. General Assembly (Public Documents), 1878 Legislative Session, Document A, 51-52, 76-80. Letter contains details of work done, conditions of the floor, ceiling and gas lights, and cost of replacing furniture in the House of Delegates.
- Report of Select Committee to Investigate the Repairs upon the State House. MSA SC 5287-5.
  - Report of Select Committee to examine into expenditures by the Board of Public Works. Recommends reduction of R. J. Davidson's bill by 20%.
  - List of bills unpaid, p.6 Total expenditures \$111,388.29
  - Additional Report of the Minority Committee, p. 11 Submitted by Edward L. F. Hardcastle, W. Campbell Hamilton, and S. Cox, Jr. Concludes that estimate was exceeded without Legislative approval and that expenses, particularly furniture purchases, are not all justified.
  - Testimony of Witnesses
    - George A. Frederick, employed as Superintendent Architect, p. 15. Testifies to a flexible estimate, a 5% fixed commission, and no existing contract between the Board of Public Works and Frederick. Testifies to condition of roof, rotunda, cellar, flooring, frescoing, and furniture.
    - Joseph M. Marshall, resident Superintendent of the State House Improvements, p. 23. testifies as carpenter, in charge of carpenter's wages, laborer's wages, scaffolding, and plastering of the cellar, doors, and roof, as well as furniture expenses. Includes scaffolding, plastering, fixing the floor and joists, and replacing the doors in the House of Delegates Chamber.
    - Joseph T. Jewell, Bricklayer, p. 32. Dealings with Frederick and Marshall, wages paid.
    - James A. Vansant, excavating and hauling, p. 33. Wages for horse and cart, as well as labor.
    - J.W. Kalmey, painting, p. 34. Testifies there was no commission in

- contract.
- George G. Watkins, plastering, p. 35. Odd jobs of altering doors, shelving, putting locks on, etc.
- Testimony of The Board of Public Works, p. 37. Committee consisted of Brown, Hamilton, Snowden, Cox, Hardcastle, and Spencer.
  - Governor John Carroll, p. 38. Testifies that there was not a difference between original estimate and appropriation, that once the building was stripped, that it was in a worse condition that was anticipated. The architect audited bills, and once the project was begun, it had to be finished.
- Testimony of Witnesses
  - Wm. E. Banks, lumber, p. 43. Georgia lumber used.
  - Thomas Jenkins, furniture, p. 45. Furniture supplied for the Senate Chamber, the Reception Room, and the Post-Office.
  - Thomas Hayward, heating, p. 47.
  - George Brewer, General Freight Agent Annapolis and Elkridge railroad, p. 49.
  - John Renwick, furniture, p. 49. Desks in the house of Delegates and Senate Chambers.
  - Mr. Knipp, furniture, p. 49. Senate rail and President's Desk.
  - John L. Lawton, doors, mouldings, brackets, p. 51. Also, counter, desk-rail, and bench in the Court of Appeals.
  - John C. Knipp, furniture, p. 55. Furniture for the House of Delegates, Senate Chamber, Court of Appeals, Senate Post-Office, President's Room, Speaker's Room, and Committee Rooms. Desk-wood shrinkage discussed.
  - Wendell Bollman, floor-beams, castings, and rods of roof, p. 56. Cellars and walls worked on.
  - George W. Starr, ornamental plastering, p. 57.
  - Jacob Green, lime, plaster, hair, p. 57.
  - James McAllister, cement, lime, hair, and calcinated plaster, p. 58.
  - George J. Dufur, wire work, p. 59. Railing in Senate Chamber, cellar windows, and basement doors.
  - Ambrose M. Emory, paint, window glass, p. 59
  - Plummer M. Ijams, hardware, p. 60.
  - Lewis Loewenstein, slate on roof, p. 61.
  - Joseph Harig, tinning, spouting and roofing, p. 62.
  - A.D. Emmart, frescoing and graining of woodwork, p. 63. Work done in the Court of Appeals and three adjoining rooms, the Senate Corridor and House of Delegates Corridor, the Executive Chamber, the Governor's Private Office, the Adjutant Governor's Room, the Post-Office, the Senate Chamber, and the Senate Reception Room..
  - Robert J. Hayes, carpets and maps, p. 64.
  - R.J. Davidson, plumber & gas-fitter, p. 68.



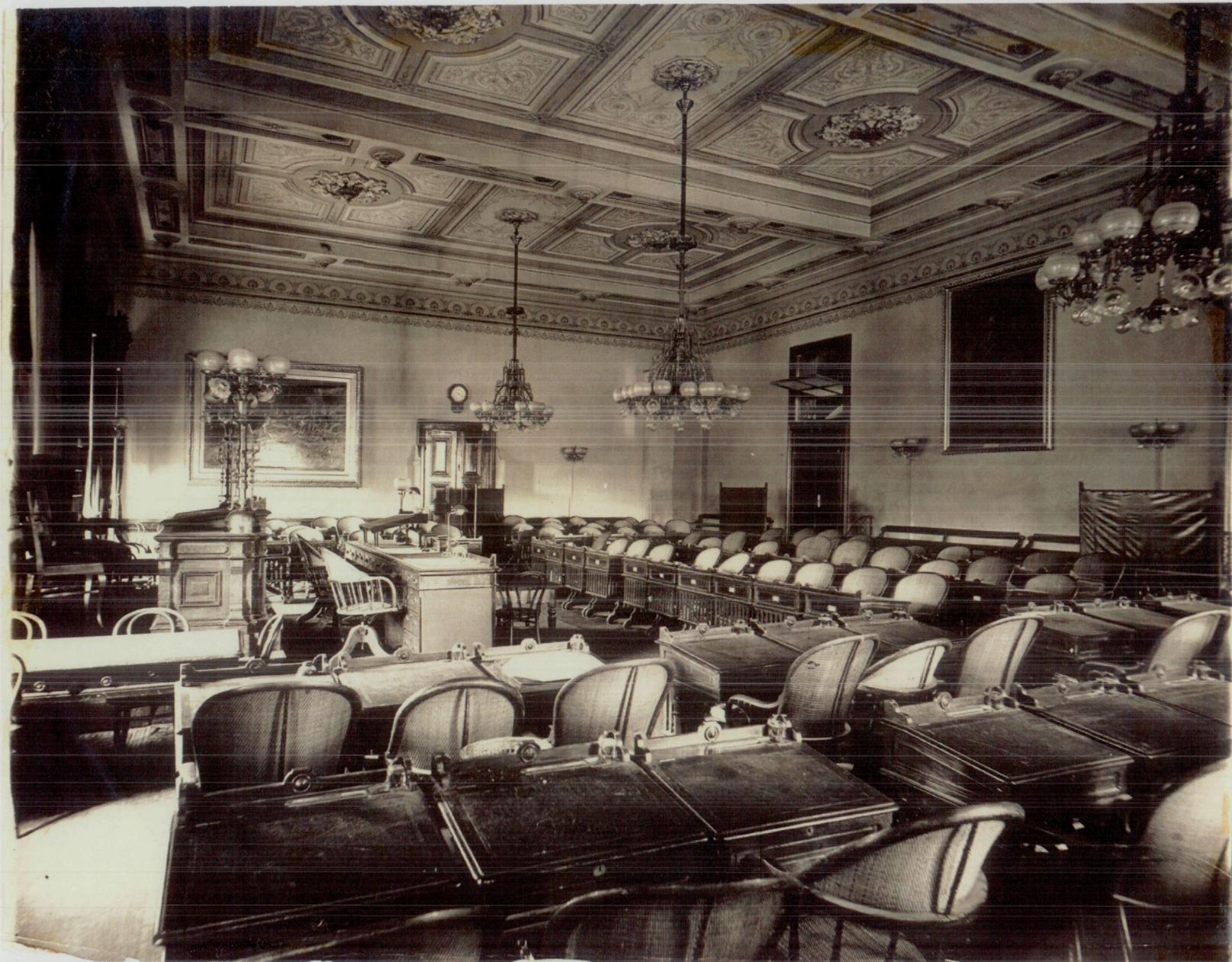
Speaker's Podium, House of Delegates Chamber, c. 1876-1893

Details include: Victorian window treatments and shutters, light fixtures, painted chair rail, furniture by Harrington & Mills, and 1876 certificate



House of Delegates Chamber, c. 1876-1893

Details include: Victorian window treatments and grained wood cornice, Speaker's podium, seating furniture, 1876 certificate



House of Delegates Chamber, c. 1893-1904, showing locations of F.B. Mayer's *The Planting of the Colony* (1893), and *Washington, Lafayette and Tilghman*, all chandeliers in Chamber, profile of Speaker's podium

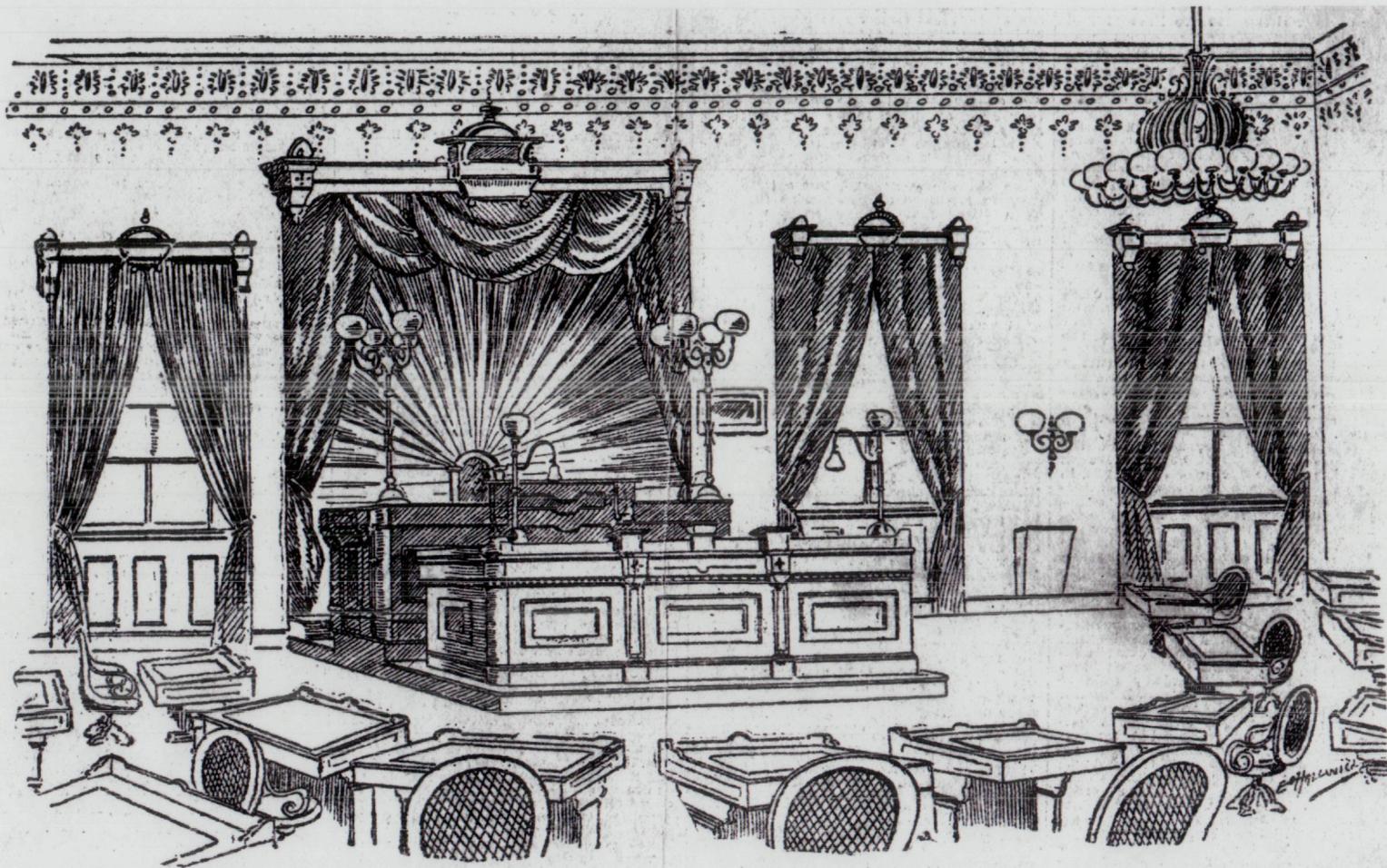


Drawing of House of Delegates Chamber

House of Delegates Chamber, c. 1876-1893, showing window treatments, grained door and cornices, all chandeliers, seating furniture, painted chair rail, and wall sconces



Painted ceiling, House of Delegates Chamber, 1876



SPEAKER'S DESK IN THE HALL OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Drawing of House of Delegates Chamber,  
"Maryland's State House...," *Baltimore American*, December 1, 1895

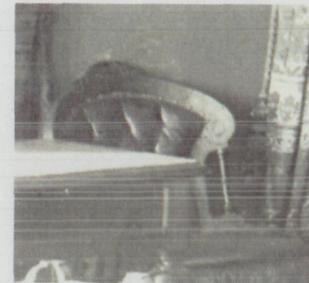
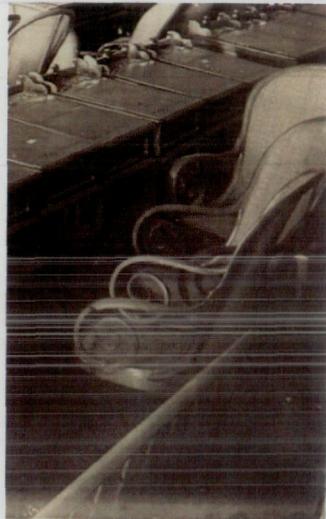


Grained doors and woodwork in House of Delegates Chamber, 1876.  
This door connects to present-day State House Visitors' Center

Types of Seating Furniture in House of Delegates Chamber, 1876-1904



1876-1893

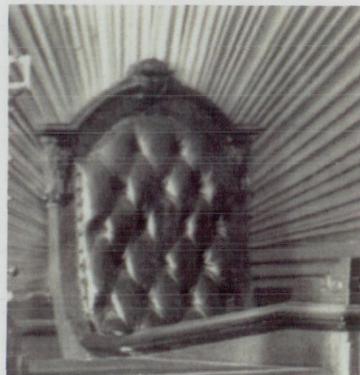


1876-1893



1893-1904

Member's chair, 1876-1893



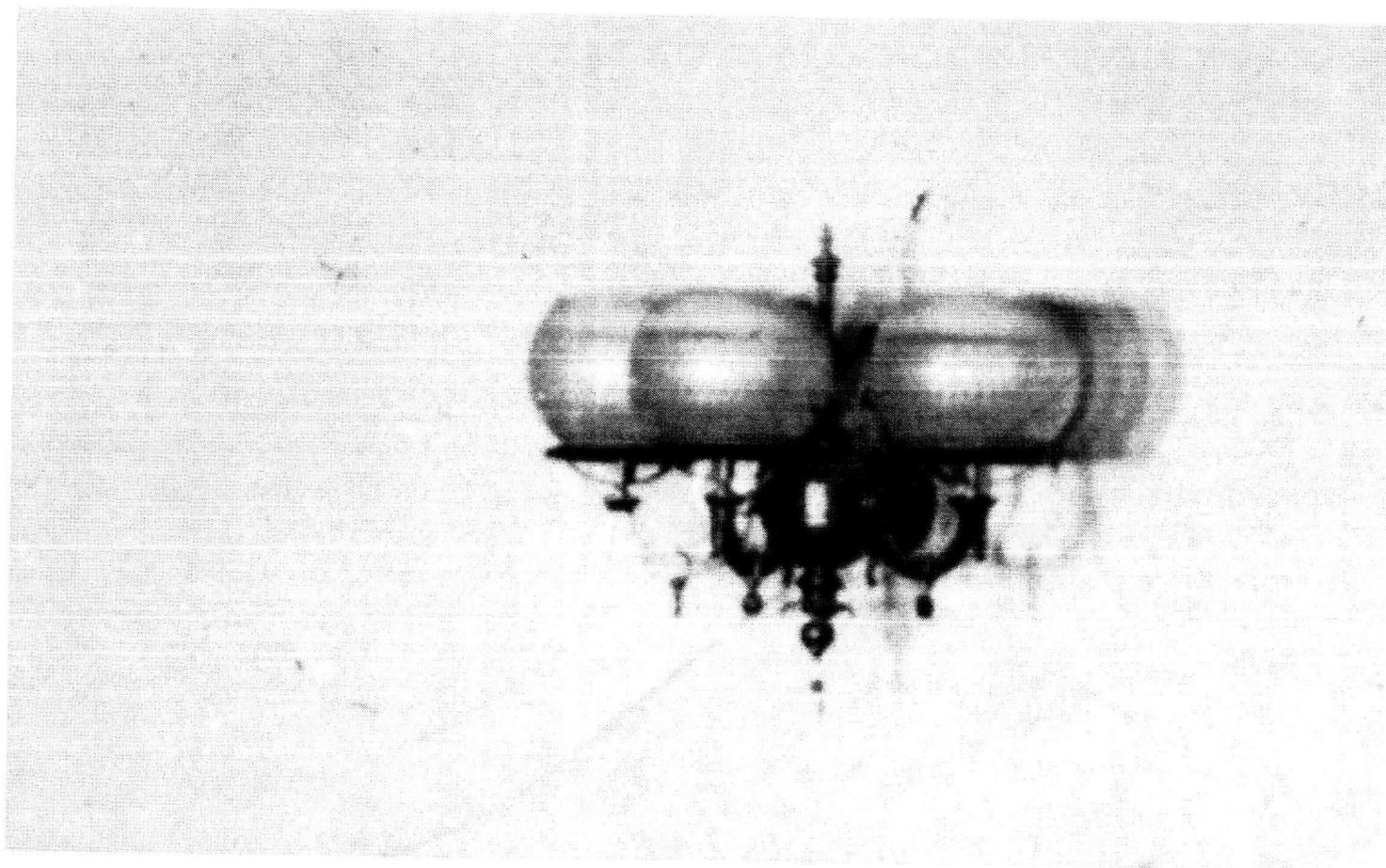
Speaker's chair, 1876-1904



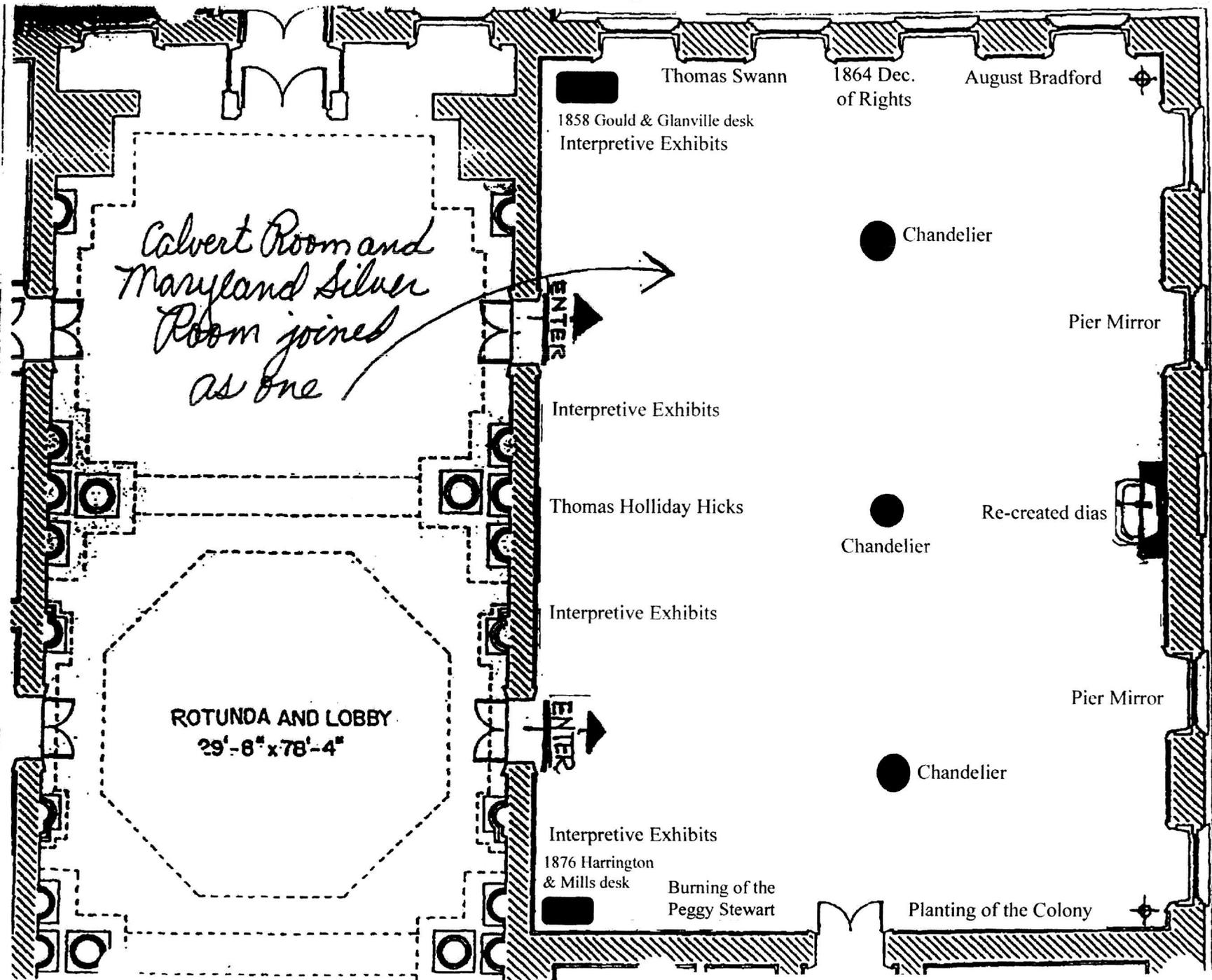
1893-1904



Chandelier fitted for gas and electricity, c. 1876, Cornelius & Co., Philadelphia

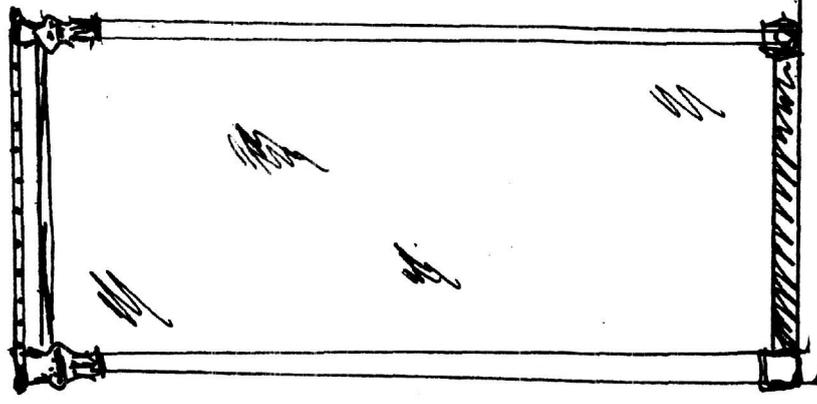
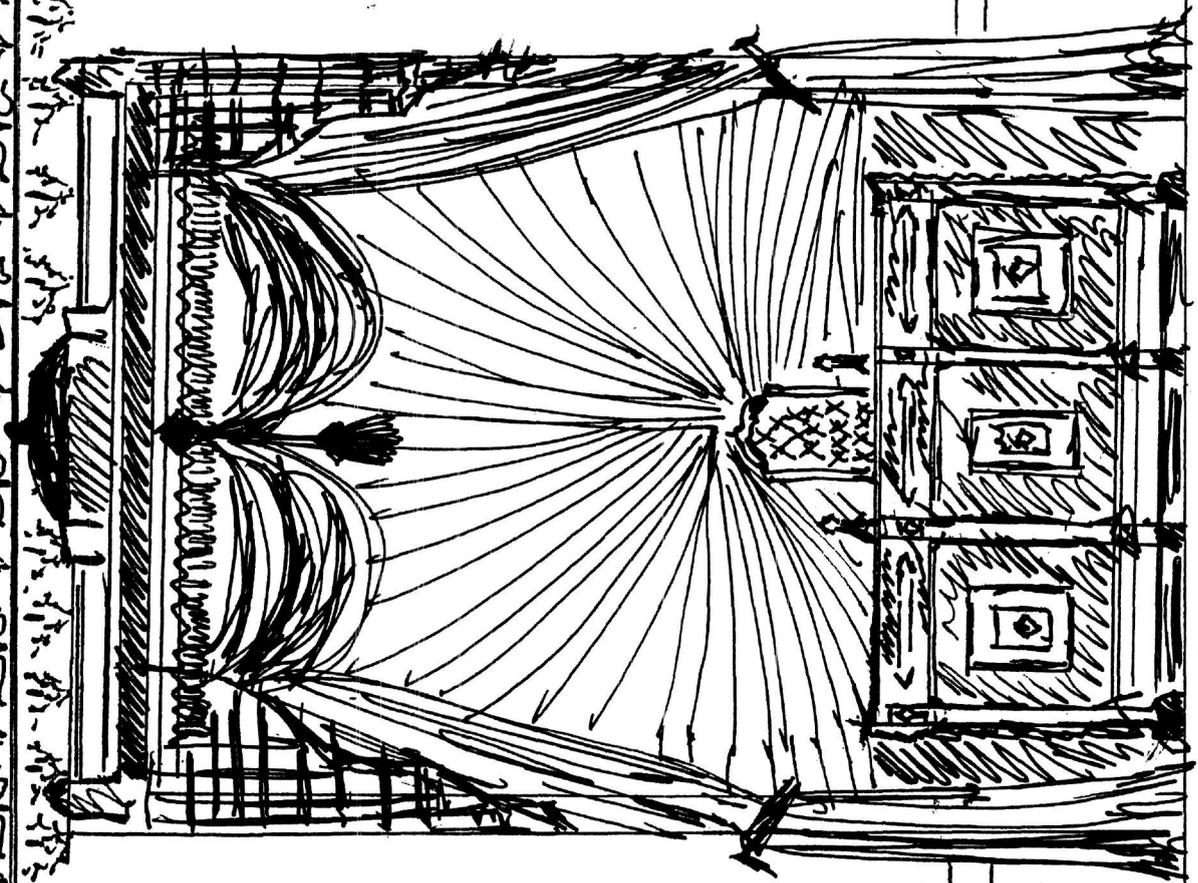
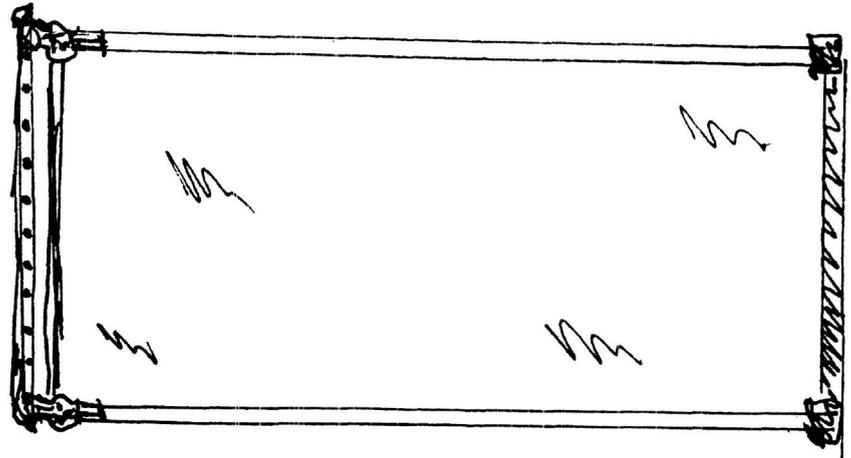


3-globe wall sconce in House of Delegates Chamber, c. 1876 by Cornelius & Co., Philadelphia



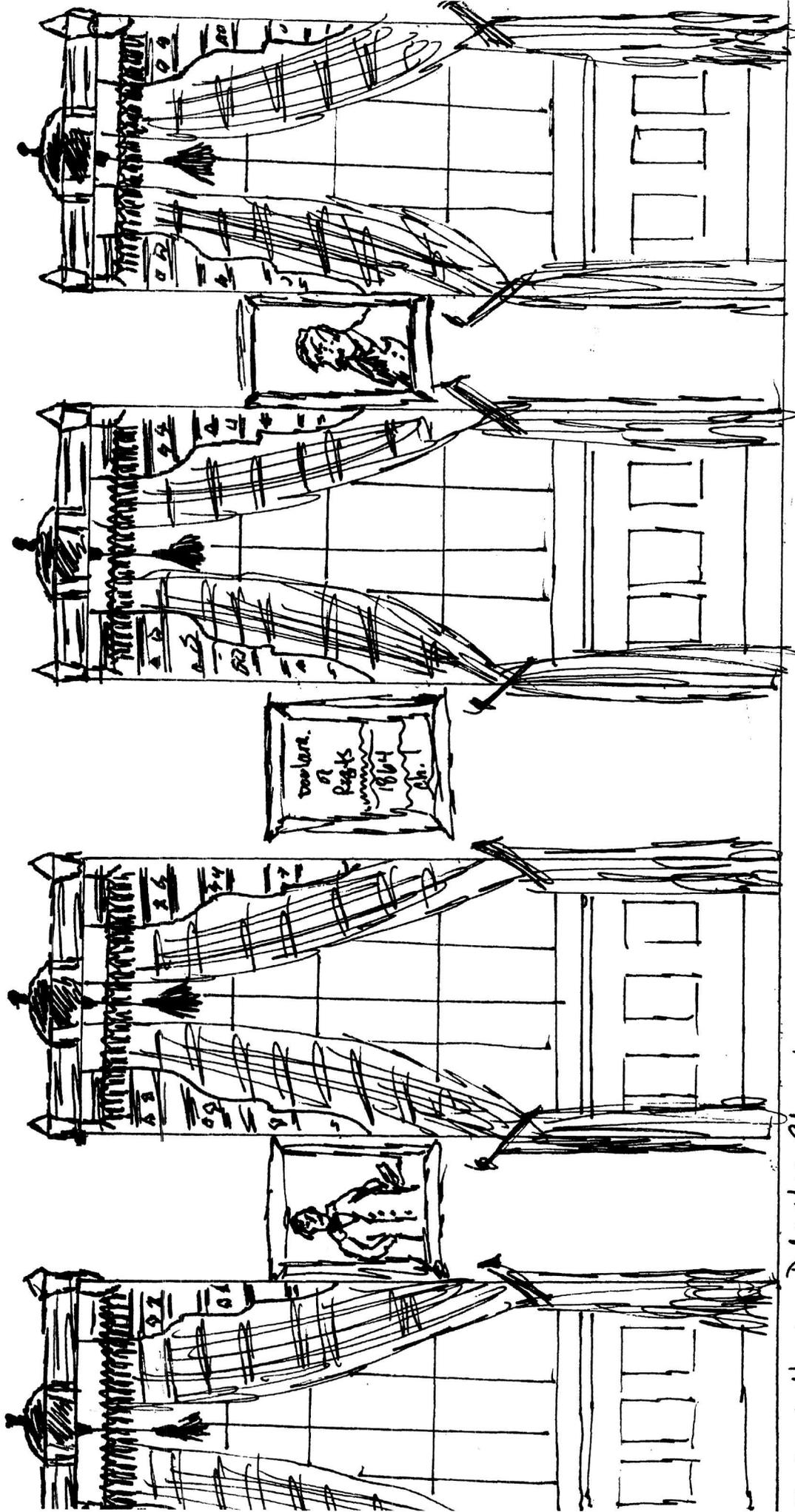
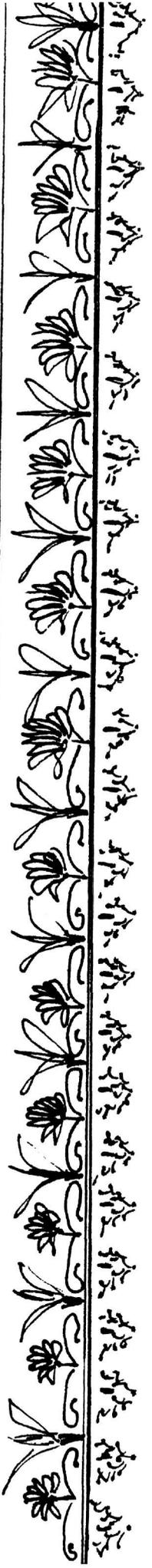
Proposed floor plan for re-created Old House of Delegates Chamber

Visitors' Center



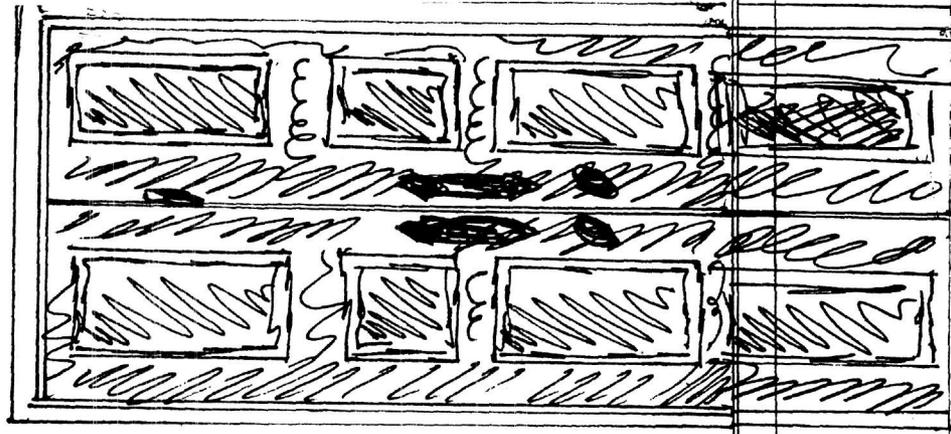
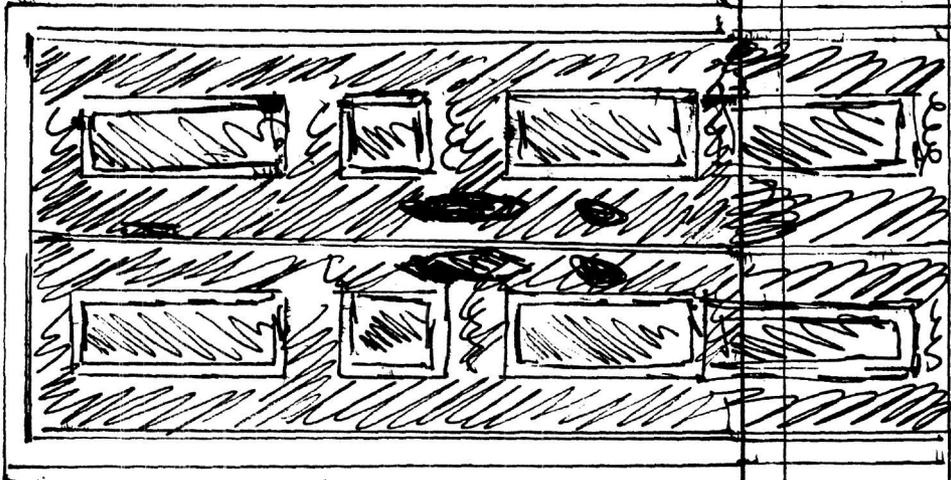
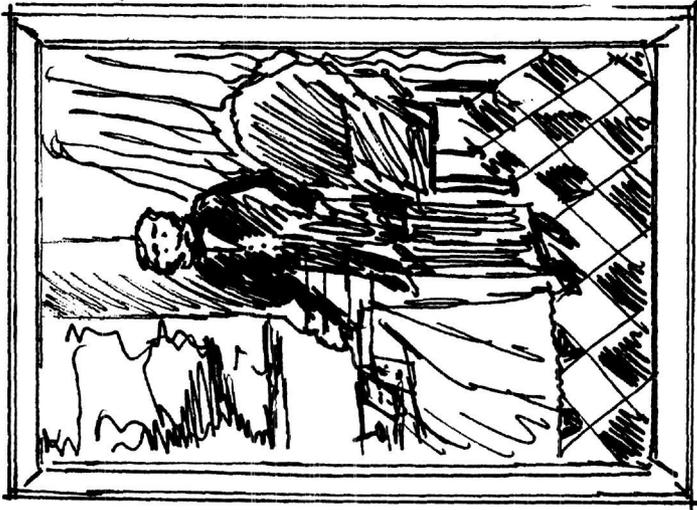
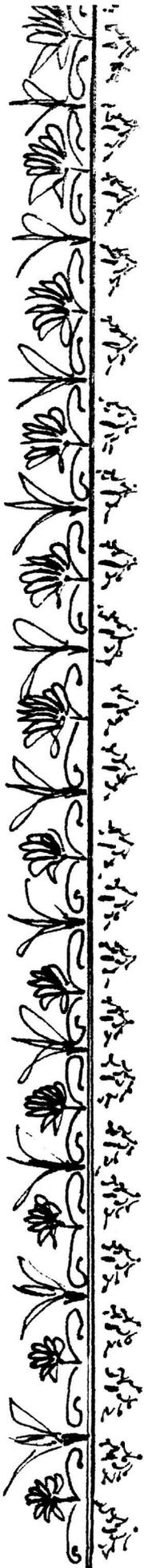
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Restored House of Delegates Chamber  
North Wall, Speakers' Dais



arbo:

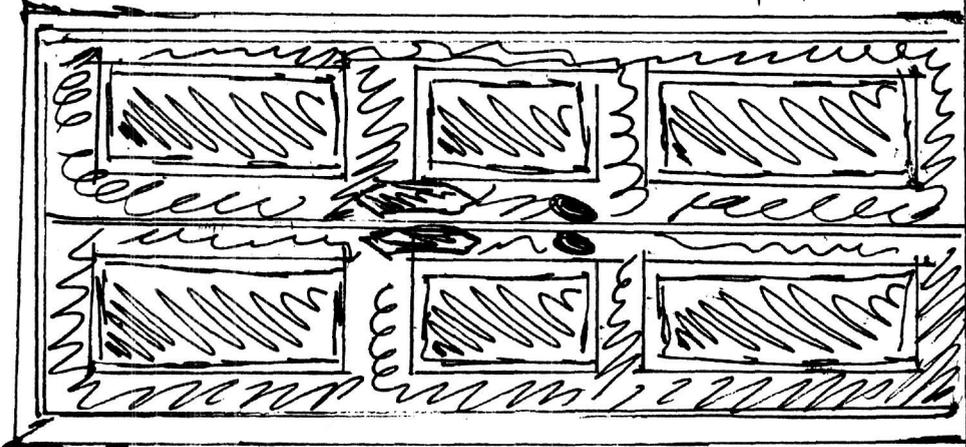
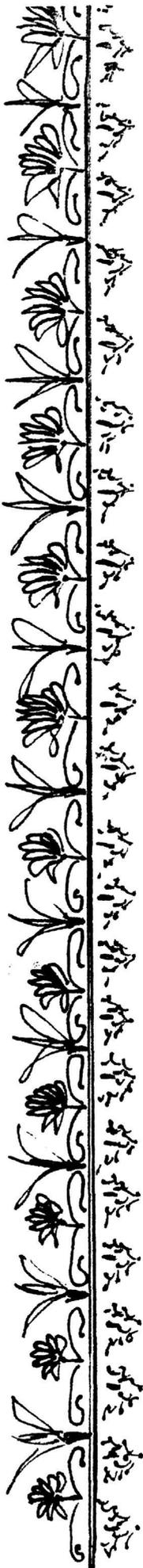
Restored House of Delegates Chamber  
EAST WALL



Restored House of Delegates Chamber

SOUTH WALL

enb'05



Restored House of Delegates Chamber

WEST WALL

enb'05

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber

## Proposed Furnishings



House of Delegates members desk

Gould & Glanville, Baltimore

1858

Walnut primary

Desk on loan to Maryland Commission on Artistic Property by Chris Menke, MSA S 1259-142-256

Two labels are on interior of desk. Interior of desk is inscribed: "Henry Fendall Marbury, Member of Constitutional Conventions of 1864 & 1867 [illegible] for states' rights." Marbury was a member of the Prince George's County delegation for both Constitutional Conventions, and served in the House of Delegates as a Democrat from that county in 1870.

Handwritten text on aged, brown paper, possibly a letter or document fragment. The text is written in cursive and is difficult to decipher due to fading and the texture of the paper. The visible words include:

My dear Mother,  
I received your letter of the 10th and  
was glad to hear from you.  
I am well and hope these few lines  
will find you the same.

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber  
**Proposed Furnishings**



Pier Mirror (Pair)  
Circa 1870  
MSA SC 1545-3243, 1545-3244

These Victorian era pier mirrors were originally installed in the Entrance Hall of Government House and remained in the house until approximately 1960. They were recently re-discovered in the basement of the State House and accessioned into the Artistic Property Collection.

Restored to their original gilt finish, this pair of mirrors are original examples of late Victorian design and are similar in design to the cornices seen in period photographs of the chamber. These mirrors, acquired by the state over one hundred years ago, would be an appropriate addition to the restored 19<sup>th</sup> century House of Delegates chamber. It is proposed that they be installed on either side of the Speaker's dais.

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber  
**Proposed Furnishings**



***Augustus W. Bradford (1806-1881)***

Oscar Hallwig (1865-1925)

Oil on canvas, 1920

46 x 34"

MSA SC 1545-1120

Governor of Maryland 1862-1866 (Whig, 1844; Unionist, 1861-1866; Democrat, ca. 1872)

This portrait Civil War era governor Augustus Bradford is proposed to hang on the east window wall of the chamber, to the left of the reproduction of the 1864 Declaration of Rights.

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber  
**Proposed Furnishings**



***Thomas Holliday Hicks (1798-1865)***  
James Kimball Harley (1829-1889)  
Oil on canvas, 1867  
105 x 69"  
MSA SC 1545-1175

Governor of Maryland, 1858-1862 (Whig, 1836; Democrat; American by 1857; Constitutional Unionist, 1860; Republican, 1861)

Thomas Holliday Hicks governed Maryland through the tumultuous years of the Civil War, and in spite of a record of human rights abuses, he is credited with preventing Maryland from seceding from the Union. This portrait, the largest in the state's collection, was commissioned by the legislature after Hicks's death in 1865. It is a striking example of the monumental style of portraiture that was fashionable during the Victorian period and the high regard in which Hicks was held by his contemporaries. This portrait was displayed in the State House for one hundred thirty years, originally installed in the room that is now the Governor's Reception Room. It is proposed for display on the south wall of the chamber between the two main doors of entry.

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber  
Proposed Furnishings



**Thomas Swann (1809-1883)**  
Florence Mackubin (1861-1918)  
Oil on canvas, 1906  
30 x 25"  
MSA SC 1545-1044

Mayor of Baltimore, 1856-1860  
Governor of Maryland, 1866-1869 (American, 1856-1860; Unionist, 1860-1866, Democrat,  
1866-1883)

This portrait of post-Civil War era governor Thomas Swann is proposed to hang on the east window wall of the chamber, to the right of the reproduction of the 1864 Declaration of Rights.

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber  
Proposed Furnishings



***The Planting of the Colony of Maryland***

Francis Blackwell Mayer (1827-1899)

Oil on canvas, 1896

67 x 98"

MSA SC 1545-1125

This monumental painting, commemorating the landing of the first settlers in the colony of Maryland on March 25, 1634, was purchased by the state from Annapolis artist Frank Mayer in 1894. Along with *The Burning of the Peggy Stewart* and *Washington Resigning His Commission*, this painting is one of the most important acquisitions made by the legislature in the late nineteenth century. The photograph of the House of Delegates chamber from this period shows this painting installed on the west wall to the left of the doorway. It is proposed that this painting be returned to that location in the restoration of the chamber.

Maryland State House, 19<sup>th</sup> Century House of Delegates Chamber  
Proposed Furnishings



***The Burning of the Peggy Stewart***  
Francis Blackwell Mayer (1827-1899)  
Oil on canvas, 1896  
72 x 53”  
MSA SC 1545-1111

This monumental painting, commemorating Annapolis’s own “tea party” resulting in the burning of Anthony Stewart’s brig in the Annapolis harbor, was purchased by the state from Annapolis artist Frank Mayer in 1898. Along with *The Planting of the Colony* and *Washington Resigning His Commission*, this painting is one of the most important acquisitions made by the legislature in the late nineteenth century.

It is likely that upon its acquisition it joined Mayer’s *Planting of the Colony* in the House of Delegates chamber. It is proposed that this painting be displayed on the west wall of the chamber, to the right of the doorway.

**Maryland State House History Project, MSA SC 5287**  
**An Archives of Maryland Publication**

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**MSA SC 5287-31-13**

**Dates:** 1842-1924

**Description:**

***Archives of Maryland***  
**(Biographical Series)**

**George A. Frederick**

*MSA SC 3520-13813*

**State House Architect**

**Biography:**

*Born George Aloysius Frederick in Baltimore, 16 December 1842; Son of John M. and Margaret (Hildt) Frederick; Catholic; Married Mary E. Everist (3/10/1838-2/24/1923), in Baltimore around 10 January 1865; Daughter: Katherine (b. 1876). Died in Baltimore City, 17 August 1942; Burial, New Cathedral Cemetery.*

Frederick began working with Edmund George Lind and William T. Murdoch at the age of 16. He also worked with Niernsee and Neilson. In 1862, he established his own practice. Frederick retired in 1903.

**Work on the State House:**

Frederick conducted a survey of the State House during the winter of 1876. This time period appears to have been one of great improvement. One of his goals was proper heating of the building. Excavation for a proper cellar took place, and a hot water heating system installed. The entire roof was removed and replaced with new wood, felt, and slate. The cornice was replaced and new gutters and down spouts hung. Floors and ceilings were replaced. Walls received new plaster and paint. So many changes took place, that the project exceeded the amount of funds the Board of Public Works had appropriated. In 1878 Frederick wrote to the Governor:

While the above amount may seem large, in addition to the amount of the appropriation expended, it will scarce appear so when you consider that the entire State House, except the outside walls, has been rebuilt, and even the latter in many cases repaired.

**Other notable projects include:**

Other than the State House, Frederick's most famous project was the City Hall building in Baltimore. He drew his winning design before the age of 20. The cornerstone of the building was laid on 18 October 1867. During the dedication ceremonies on 25 October 1875, Joshua Vansant, chairman of the building committee, said the following:

It is a monument of fame to the genius of the young architect who designed the structure, furnished the plans, drawings and specifications for executing the work, and who watched its progress from its foundation to its summitt. Colossal stone, column, entalature and dome, which contribute to the strength and grandeur of the structure will long after the present generation shall have passed away, stand as records of the artistic mind which ran its lines and fashioned its proportions, while the perfect construction of the building in that which gives solidity to it will attest his knowledge of the science of equilibrium of forces. "The City Hall of Baltimore." *The Baltimore Sun*, 26 October 1875.

Edgar Allan Poe Memorial Grave at Westminster Burial Grounds, Baltimore (Source: Edgar Allan Poe Society of Baltimore, <http://www.eapoe.org/>) (1875)

Cylburn - Jesse Tyson, a wealthy Baltimorean who made his fortune from the mining of copper, chrome, and nickel, commissioned Frederick to design the home. Tyson and his wife, Edyth Jones, moved into the home in 1889. Many features of the home are distictly Victorian.

pavilions at Druid Hill Park in Baltimore while working for the Baltimore city park commission

Abell Building, 329-335 West Baltimore Street (1878)

St. James and St. John's Church, Aisquith Street (1867)

St. Paul's Catholic Church

Rennert Hotel

St. Joseph's Hospital

U.S. Marine Hospital

the First National Bank

the old Baltimore City College (built 1874, Razed 1890s)

the Quaker Meeting House at Eutaw and Monument Streets

Bauernschmidt House, Broadway and North Avenue, Baltimore (ca. 1889-1890)

Sources say that Frederick designed other buildings, which were destroyed in the 1904 Baltimore fire.

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System design by Dr. Edward C. Papenfuse and Nancy Bramucci.  
Programmed in *Microsoft SQL Server 7.0* and *Cold Fusion 4.0* by Nancy Bramucci.  
Technical support provided by Wei Yang, Dan Knight, Tony Darden, and Greg Lepore.