

tional Historic Landmark. He spoke of "creative conservation," and said our capital city offered a "unique opportunity" to practice this concept. "I am eager," Secretary Udall said, "that Annapolis, known as the 'Athens of America' when it was a newly built city on a young continent, keep its heritage for present and future generation. Historic Annapolis," he went on to say, "reflects a past rich in American history." Later in the speech, he cited these amenities of Annapolis which provide its charm: "waterfront, superb view from the harbor, colonial atmosphere, picturesque streets and a sense of history." And he concluded that Annapolis must strive to preserve these values or else simply share the weakness of so many other American cities—sameness. I don't believe the Secretary of the Interior told us—and particularly you in this group—anything that we weren't aware of. But it is always well that we be reminded and warned that a failure on our part to exercise our responsibilities in the preservation and development of this beautiful city—one of Maryland's finest assets—could lead to its defacement and eventual ruination. This, of course, must not happen.

In her gracious letter inviting me to this meeting, Mrs. J. M. P. Wright, whose superb effort in "creative conservation" has gained for her the admiration and the gratitude of all the people of Maryland, was so kind as to mention what she called "constructive deeds" of this Administration which "are making it possible for Maryland to have a historic capital." She numbered among these the preservation of this home of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and one of our first Governors after independence. She also mentioned the conservation of the Brooksby-Shaw House, the establishment of the Capital City Commission and the Historic District Enabling Legislation.

From my point of view, "creative conservation" in Annapolis means a cooperative effort on the part of government and individual citizens, a cooperative task abundantly evident in what took place in the preservation of this home of William Paca. Annapolis has not been and never will be a "museum" city. On the contrary, as the active capital of a progressive State, it must remain an active, viable city. This condition has produced in the past—and I suspect will continue to produce in the future—some lively controversy among the populace. Inevitably there will be differences of opinion on how we are to accomplish our objective—a total preservation of historic and esthetic values, plus the orderly growth and development of a bustling capital city. The same spirit that prevailed in the savings of the Paca house will be effective in the attainment of that objective. Your State government, and the local