

Governor. (Constitution, Art. 7, Sec. 4.) All clerks are under the Merit System.

The Land Office is the State Record Office, pertaining to boundaries of land, and is the means by which discovered vacant land is passed by the State to the individual, and covers the period from the earliest to the present date. The Commissioner sits as a judge in contested disputes over vacant land, and there is a right of appeal direct to the Court of Appeals over his decision.

The duties of the Land Office, in regard to its clerical force, is to keep the indexing, answer the various questions that are daily brought to it by the mail, wait on the visiting public, and record the patents and certificates that are returned on the different kinds of warrants executed by the County Surveyors throughout the State.

Questions relating to confiscated British property.

Questions relating to Provincial Court Deeds, Chancery (Equity) Records to 1851 and original papers, Debt Books, Rent Rolls, Insolvent Proceedings and abstracts of Deeds, Mortgages and Releases of Mortgages for the Counties and Baltimore City.

Duplicate records of all deeds, mortgages and releases of mortgages throughout the State are filed in the Land Office, and it is the duty of the Commissioner to have them properly bound and indexed.

Photostating and blueprinting of any record.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS—
Annapolis

| Name. | Postoffice. |
|---|-------------|
| Superintendent: Philip A. Myers..... | Severn |

The Superintendent and all officers in this department are appointed by the Governor. (Ch. 551, 1906.)

The Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds is the custodian of the State Capitol, Court of Appeals Building and Executive Mansion in the City of Annapolis.

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE.
City Hall, Baltimore.

Director, Horace E. Flack, Baltimore.

The function of the Department of Legislative Reference is to collect, compile and index information on all questions of proposed legislation, to investigate and report upon the laws of Maryland and other States at the request of the Governor, any committee or member of the General Assembly, or the head of any State Department. It is also made the duty of the Department to prepare or aid in the preparation of any bill or resolution on the request of any member of the Legislature, and to maintain an office at Annapolis during the sessions of the Legislature. There is on file in the Department a complete set of all bills which have been introduced in the Legislature of Maryland from 1908 to 1937, inclusive, with a full index of same, and the Codes and Laws of the other States. Chapter 150 of 1935 provides that the several State departments shall transmit copies of their reports to the Department of Legislative Reference for exchange purposes. (Chapter 474 of the Acts of 1916, An. Code Art. 41, Sec. 64.)