

MARYLAND MANUAL

MARYLAND PENITENTIARY

Edwin T. Swenson, Warden

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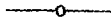
The concept of a central penitentiary for an entire State was a creation of eighteenth century humanitarianism in America. It was original in form in that for the first time a penal institution was designed to serve more than a single county, town or parish, and it was original in purpose in that it proposed to treat its inmates not as enemies of society to be punished, but as penitents to be reformed. With this concept in mind the General Assembly of Maryland, in 1804, appointed a Commission to construct such an institution; however, because of financial difficulties the penitentiary was not completed and opened until 1811; the second institution of its type in the United States. The institution has operated continuously since the date of its opening. During its first 100 years, the institution was governed by a Board of Inspectors or a Board of Managers. With the establishment of the Board of Prison Control (now the Board of Correction) in 1917, the institution was placed under its control.

Today, the Penitentiary is a maximum security penal institution, and long-term offenders are confined here. All sentences of death are also executed at the Penitentiary.

Prisoners are employed at the State Use Industries shops which are designed to provide employment and practical vocational training. The following shops are now operating: printing, auto tag, shoe manufacturing, woodworking, brush manufacturing, sewing, metal, mattress and upholstering.

The average population of the penitentiary is approximately 1,250.

	1948	1949
Appropriations	\$591,357	\$593,947
Staff: 128.		



MARYLAND HOUSE OF CORRECTION

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The Maryland House of Correction was established in 1878. It is a medium security penal institution for male offenders who are convicted of crime and sentenced to imprisonment for three months or more. The institution operates a farm and maintains a herd of dairy cattle which supplies dairy products to this institution, the Penitentiary and the Reformatory for Women. Under the States Use Industries Organization, a soap factory, cannery, tobacco and clothing shop are operated. Other inmates are employed under the Public Works program. A school is also operated at the House of Correction. The institution is located on a farm of 1,268 acres. The average population of the House of Correction is 1400 (Code 1939 and 1947 Supp. Art. 27, secs. 746, 766, 789).

	1948	1949
Appropriations	\$591,782	\$596,891
Staff: 101.		