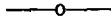


Clerks of Courts before June 1, 1945, are being microfilmed by the Land Office (Code 1947 Supp., Art. 17, secs. 72C, 72D).

All land now included in the limits of the State of Maryland was granted to Cecil, Lord Baltimore, in 1632. In 1680, there was established a Land Office, and four years later "The Land Council". This body was authorized to hear and determine all matters relating to land. Four years later when Maryland became a crown colony, the Land Office was closed. In 1715, after a long contest with the Governor and Council, the Secretary and the Assembly, the Lord Proprietor emerged with his rights restored, and the Land Office was reopened. After the Revolution, the State assumed the control of the Land Office (Act of Assembly of April Sess. 1777). From 1781 until 1841, there was a Land Office for the Western Shore and another for the Eastern Shore. The Constitution of 1851 created the office of the Commissioner of the Land Office.

Expenditures, 1950	\$29,935.84
Appropriation, 1951	31,316.00

Staff: 7



HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION

Chairman: Ogle Marbury, Chief Judge Court of Appeals

Theodore R. McKeldin, Governor; J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller; Detlev W. Bronk, President, The Johns Hopkins University; Richard D. Weigle, President, St. John's College; William L. Marbury, President, Board of Peabody Institute; George L. Radcliffe, President, Maryland Historical Society.

Morris L. Radoff, Archivist

Gust Skordas, Assistant Archivist

Roger Thomas, Assistant Archivist

Hall of Records, Annapolis

Telephone: Annapolis 4111

The Hall of Records Commission was created by an act of the General Assembly in 1935. The Commission is an ex-officio body composed of the Governor, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, the Comptroller, the President of The Johns Hopkins University, the President of St. John's College, the President of the Maryland Historical Society, and the President of the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Institute (Code 1939, Art. 41, sec. 123). The Commission supervises and controls the Hall of Records and appoints the Archivist, who is responsible for the functioning of the agency.

All public officials and all agencies of the State, as well as the counties, cities and towns of Maryland are authorized to deposit at the Hall of Records all records and documents not in current use. It is required, however, that all records, which are in the courthouses of the State and which were created prior to April 28, 1788, the date of ratification of the United States Constitution by the State of Maryland, be deposited at the Hall of Records (Code 1947 Supp., Art. 41,