

In 1949, the General Assembly established it as a separate agency. The Department is the central agency for the dissemination of information concerning the State. Under law, the agency collects and assembles data about Maryland and distributes it in the form of maps, films, photographs, pamphlets, posters, press and radio releases, and by other means to the public in general and to institutions of learning in particular. It endeavors to promote the interests of Maryland and its products and to this end serves as a center of information for the encouragement of tourism and vacation trade in the State (Code 1951, Art. 41, secs. 198, 199).

Appropriations	1957	1958
General Funds	\$49,894	\$57,577

WAR RECORDS DIVISION

Harold R. Manakee, Director

620 Park Avenue, Baltimore 1 Telephone: Saratoga 7-0907

Under delegation of authority from the Board of Public Works, the War Records Division of the Maryland Historical Society was established in 1945 to assemble and publish data about Maryland's participation in World War II. The Division maintains and services a small specialized library of such materials, including a file of the military service records of each Marylander who served in the armed forces during World War II. Five books have been published and one other is in preparation (Acts 1945, chap. 728).

Appropriations	1957	1958
General Funds	\$14,960	\$11,025
Staff: 3		

Veteran's Affairs

MARYLAND VETERANS COMMISSION

Chairman: David E. Kaiser

Godfrey E. Child, Jarrett M. Ward, D.D.S., Frank T. Powers, Vernon H. Randall.

Richard C. Manning, State Service and Executive Officer

8 South Street, Baltimore 2 Telephone Plaza 2-2000

The Maryland Veterans Commission is composed of five members appointed by the Governor, all of whom must be veterans. The Commission appoints the State Service Officer, who serves as administrative director of the agency. The State Commanders of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Spanish-American War Veterans serve as an advisory committee to the Commission.

The Commission administers a fund, appropriated annually, to provide the necessities of life to distressed veterans, widows of veterans and their infant children, to provide medical care for those who are ill, and funeral expenses for deceased veterans. The agency also assists veterans and their dependents in securing Federal aid to which they may be entitled. The Commission maintains a permanent registry of graves of all persons who served in the military or naval forces of the country in time of war and are buried in Maryland (Code 1951, Art. 96½, secs. 3-7). In addition to its main office, it has information centers located in the following cities: