

Director, Washington County Museum of Fine Arts.

EXHIBITS

Mimi Calver, *Director* (410) 974-3914

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Nancy M. Bramucci, *Director*
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STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Kevin J. Swanson, *Director* (410) 974-3862

APPRAISAL & SCHEDULING

Kevin J. Swanson (410) 974-3862

GEOGRAPHIC SERVICES

Arian D. Ravanbakhsh (410) 974-3914
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MARYLAND DEPOSIT INSURANCE FUND COLLECTION

Doris A. Byrne (410) 974-3914

PROCESSING

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TRANSFER & DESCRIPTION

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As the historical agency for Maryland, the State Archives is the central depository for government records of permanent value. Records date from the founding of the Maryland colony in 1634 to the 1990s. They include colonial and State executive, legislative and judicial records; county probate, land and court records; business records; publications and reports of the State, county and municipal governments; records of religious bodies; and special collections of maps, newspapers, photographs, and private papers.

Origins of the State Archives trace to the State's tercentenary celebrations in 1934. As the 300th anniversary of Maryland's founding approached, the Maryland Tercentenary Commission made a modern, centralized archives a key feature of the State commemoration. A "Memorial Hall of Records" was proposed as early as 1928 and in 1931 the General Assembly appropriated funds to erect an archives building. Construction began in 1934, and it opened to the public in 1935. There, the records remained until 1986 when the State Archives moved to the new Hall of Records on Rowe Boulevard across from the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building.

The General Assembly provided for the management of the public records when it created the Hall of Records Commission and provided for the collection, custody, and preservation of the official records, documents, and publications of the State (Chapter 18, Acts of 1935). The Hall of Records was formed in 1935 as an independent agency of State government and remained so until its incorporation into the Department of General Services in 1970 (Chapter 97, Acts of 1970). In 1984, the Hall of Records was reformed as the State Archives, an independent agency within the office of the Governor (Chapter 286, Acts of 1984). The 1984 law defined an advisory role for the Hall of Records Commission

and placed the Commission on Artistic Property under the State Archives (Code State Government Article, secs. 2-1513(b), 3-404(b), 7-213(a), 9-1001 through 9-1027, 10-604 through 10-608, 10-631 through 10-634, 10-637 through 10-642, 10-701, 10-702).

The State Archives produces guides to records, finding aids, historical monographs, essays, and directories. Every two years, the State Archives compiles, edits, publishes, and distributes the *MARYLAND MANUAL*. In addition, the State Archives prepares, edits, and publishes volumes of the new series of the *Archives of Maryland*. Examples of publications currently available are:

Archives of Maryland, new series I: An Historical List of Public Officials of Maryland—Governors, Legislators, and other Principal Officers of Government, 1632 to 1990.

Guide to County Records on Microfilm at the Maryland State Archives.

A Guide to Government Records at the Maryland State Archives: A Comprehensive List by Agency and Record Series.

Guide to Montgomery County Plats of Surveys, Subdivisions, and Condominiums, 1783-1993.

Guide to the Newspaper Collection on Microfilm at the Maryland State Archives.

Marylanders Who Served the Nation: A Biographical Dictionary of Federal Officials from Maryland.

Within the State Archives are the Commission on Artistic Property, and a number of units, including Computer Services; Education and Outreach; Exhibits; Government Information Services; Land Patents; Photographic Services; Preservation and Conservation; Reference Services; Special Collections; and State and Local Government Records. The State Archives is aided by the Hall of Records Commission.

HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION

Chair: Robert C. Murphy, Chief Judge,
 Court of Appeals

Secretary: Edward C. Papenfuse, Ph.D., State
 Archivist

(410) 974-3867

Created in 1935, the Hall of Records Commission is an advisory body to the State Archives (Chapter 18, Acts of 1935). The Commission reviews and comments upon policies of the Archives that concern proposed budgets, publications, and public access to records.

The Commission is composed of eleven members. Nine serve ex officio. The Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals serves as chair (Code State Government Article, secs. 9-1001 through 9-1006).