

house until the new State House was built in 1697. After the State House fire in 1704 the records saved were deposited in the Free School of Annapolis, probably till 1706 when the new capitol was completed.⁷⁰ In 1769 a more pretentious State House was built and here the Land Office remained till in 1858 a record office to house the Comptroller's office and the Land Office was authorized.⁷¹ This was situated at the northwest corner of Maryland Avenue and State Circle. When the Court of Appeals building was erected in 1903, the Land Office moved into offices there and remained there till 1935 when it came to its present office in the Hall of Records building.

The records are listed in the following pages in the order in which they appear on the Land Office shelves. The liber number in the margin indicates the present title; the italicized name in the case of the first two series represents the original liber title; in the last three series, Rent Rolls, Debt Books and Proprietary Leases, the italicized name represents the full title as printed on the present binding.

PATENTS SERIES

- Liber 0**—"Patent Records Original *WC No. 2 1679 to 1681*"; 416 numbered pages; index; title page: "WC No. 2 a Transcribed Record";⁷² entries from 1679 to 1681; contains warrants, proofs of rights, assignments, petitions, commissions, letters of Land Office officials.⁷³
- Liber 1**—photocopy of a copy, made in 1724, of missing original Proprietary Records *Liber F* (pp. 1-161) and part of missing original Proprietary Records *Liber B* (pp. 162-640).

Proprietary Records *Liber F*—176 numbered pages according to the original pagination retained in the copy; some 20 scattered pages of the original are not included in the copy, possibly through loss or error

⁷⁰ *Catalogue of Archival Material*, Maryland Hall of Records, p. 117.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, p. 37.

⁷² This title page is on a sheet of paper completely different from the rest of the book and may represent an error in binding as the book itself has all the earmarks of being an original.

⁷³ Notation in faded ink at top of pages 84-85 reads: "Mr. Zakaria Cooke of Corke Marchant is Debtor" and "Per Contra is Creditor" suggesting the possibility that this book was originally intended as a merchant's account book.