

both a Historical Commission and a Publicity Commission, the Hall of Records is called upon more often each year to supply materials little related to its primary function and for which it is ill-equipped.

There is listed below the record series most in demand by visitors.

	1944-45	1943-44
Wills	601	700
Testamentary Proceedings	434	504
Accounts	409	462
Inventories	256	301
Deeds, Baltimore County	230	301
Deeds, Anne Arundel County	197	195
Testamentary Papers, Anne Arundel County	155	58
Deeds, Prince George's County	132	127
Inventories and Accounts	118	216
Wills, Charles County	80	38
Judgments, Provincial Court	79	66
Testamentary Papers	75	39
Deeds, Frederick County	68	13
Balance Books	60	47
Wills, Original	46	58
Wills, Anne Arundel County	38	57
Wills, Original, Anne Arundel County	35	30
Minutes, Frederick County Court	29	---
Court Records, Prince George's County	20	---
Judgments, Frederick County	19	---

It will be noted from the above list that genealogical materials still compose the bulk of the items used by researchers who come in person. Moreover, the same series appear on this list every year and they vary only slightly in order. A new index or an improved index will always be reflected in an increase in use of a series. This year, for example, an improved index was completed for Charles County Wills. As a result, this series moved up from fifteenth to tenth in popularity. There are, of course, certain exceptions. In my last annual report I predicted that the acquisition of the Somerset County Land Record Series with a usable index would increase the use of that series. This prediction was not fulfilled for reasons not immediately obvious.

For the first time this year an effort was made to tabulate the materials used in the replies to queries involving genealogical matters. The results indicate that the same materials are in