

It has long been known that the Charles County Court and Land Records were among the most ancient and the most complete in the country. It was, therefore, with great satisfaction to the Archivist that arrangements were completed last winter for the transfer of all of these records made before 1788 to the Hall of Records. The Court and Miscellaneous Records have already been transferred; the Land Records are being brought to Annapolis several volumes at a time and photostatic copies are being deposited at the Courthouse in LaPlata.

Another important addition from Charles County was the Proceedings of the Orphans' Court from 1797 to 1827. When the other records of this office were transferred to the Hall of Records several years ago, only those Proceedings of the Court for this period which were contained in volumes partly devoted to Wills, Inventories, or other probate materials, were included. This was an awkward division of this record series and the reunion is well worth noting.

Transfer of the Frederick County Land Records continued. At the end of the year we had passed the terminus of the provincial period and had come to within six volumes of finishing the whole series through 1788. Since the collection was almost useless to us without an index, we borrowed the two volumes which covered the record from 1748 to 1803 and made photostat copies which are now available to searchers.

Finally, we completed during the year the photocopying of the Somerset County Deed Records. This record is now at the Hall of Records from 1666, date of erection of the county, to 1790.

There follows a detailed list of all accessions from public sources:

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Received April 5, 1945

Deeds, 1778-1789, 4 volumes (8461-8464).

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