

April 30, 1957

Mr. W. Andrew Seth, Clerk  
Circuit Court for Cecil County  
Elkton, Maryland

Dear Mr. Seth:

You ask whether or not you should proceed to carry out the Order of the Circuit Court for Cecil County, dated February 28, 1957, which directs you to contract for the work of compiling and installing a modern system of indexing of the Land Records of Cecil County, from May 1, 1918 through December 31, 1956, without first securing approval for the expenditure from the Comptroller's office.

Article 17, Section 2 of the Annotated Code of Maryland reads as follows:

"The clerk of the Circuit Court for each of the several counties is hereby authorized and directed, under the supervision and subject to the approval of the Judges of the Circuit Court for the County, to change the system of indexing of the Records of his Office, and to index, or cause to be indexed, or re-indexed, according to some modern and accurate system, the records now on file in his office, and from time to time, to continue such system of indexing with regard to the current volume of work resulting from the usual course for business of his office. For this purpose, the said Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County is hereby authorized to contract for the work compiling said indexes, and for the installation of such modern system of indexing, and the verification of said indexes when made, and to purchase all books, racks, shelves and other equipment necessary for the purpose, and from time to time thereafter, to purchase the necessary books, racks, shelves and other supplies and equipment to provide for the continuation