In 1963 we had a similar case which was submitted to your office and an opinion given by Honorable Gerard Wm. Wittstadt. Since the request for an opinion, and the opinion is rather lengthy, I am sending you a copy of my 29th Annual Report, in which the question and the reply both appear on pages 48, 49 and 50. I do this because the opinion was not included in the series Report and Official Opinions of the Attorney General. This was a case involving the Comptroller of the City of Cumberland, who had been authorized to set aside certain of his records for destruction. He was then asked by a private citizen for the records, and he asked me whether he had authority to dispose of them in this fashion.

I should appreciate an opinion from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Morris L. Radoff

MLR:je

State of Maryland STATE LAW DEPARTMENT One Charles Center Baltimore, Md. 21201

December 9, 1966

Mr. Morris L. Radoff Archivist and Records Administrator Hall of Records Commission Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Radoff:

Your letter of November 22, 1966 to Attorney General Robert C. Murphy has been referred to me for reply since I have been the Assistant assigned to represent the Hall of Records Commission. In your letter you state that as a result of the constitutional amendment that was approved by the voters on November 8, the duties of the Commissioner of the Land Office are to be taken over by the Hall of Records.

This poses a problem in record keeping in that there are many abstracts of conveyances that are now being kept by the Hall of Records