

microfilm, all plats in any of the clerks' offices or any other department of city or county where such plats would affect title to land, that have been heretofore filed in said office before June 1, 1945, and shall also furnish the said clerks with a copy of such film. ~~There shall be a new clerk appointed by the said [Commissioner of the Land Office] Archivist of the Hall of Records to do or supervise this work who shall receive such salary as may be provided in the budget, and the sum of \$6,000.00 shall be included in the State budget for the purchase of equipment, supplies and expenses for the preservation of the State's vital records.~~ Nothing in Sections 59, 60, 61 and 62 shall apply to Allegany, Carroll, Harford, Montgomery, Prince George's, Dorchester and Talbot counties.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That Section 132 of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume) title "Executive and Administrative Departments"; subtitle "1. The Executive Department," subheading "Commissioner of the Land Office," be, and it is hereby repealed; and Sections 172 and 175 of said Article, title and subtitle, subheading "Hall of Records Commission" be, and they are hereby, repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

172.

(a) The Commission shall have supervision and control of the Hall of Records building and shall have authority to equip and furnish the said building and to preserve and repair the records, documents and archives placed under its supervision, the cost of same to be paid for out of any funds which may hereafter be appropriated for that purpose.

(b) The Commission shall appoint a competent, qualified person, to be known as Archivist, who shall have charge of the active management of the building and its contents; provided that the Commission shall allot and designate a portion of the building for the use of the Land Office. The Commission shall employ such assistants, clerks and other employees as may be necessary for the work of collecting, repairing, indexing, copying, filing and preserving the records, documents, papers, books and other data under the jurisdiction and supervision of the Commission. The Archivist, his assistants, clerks and other employees shall receive such salary or compensation as may be recommended by the Commission and provided in the budget.

(c) *The words "Commissioner of the Land Office" or "Land Commissioner" as used in this Code shall be construed to mean the Archivist appointed pursuant to subsection (b).*

175.

(a) Papers, records and documents, now in the courthouses of this State, which were made prior to April 28th, 1788, the date of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States by the State of Maryland, shall be transferred as soon as practicable after June 1, 1945, to the Hall of Records Commission, which is hereby made the official custodian of such papers, records and documents, with full power to certify the same as provided in Section 177. Every clerk of court, register of wills, or other public official, now having custody of