

Maryland Historical Trust obtaining federal funds and contingent on the owners of the mill [[property]] property executing a preservation easement and maintenance covenant on the bridge and its abutments (Baltimore City)..... 55,000"

My reasons for vetoing these items are as follows:

(1) With respect to Item (A) (1) (a), this appropriates \$115,000 to supplement a prior appropriation to prepare preliminary plans and specifications for a State Archives Building. An amendment was added to the appropriation, however, to require that the plans be so prepared as to locate the building at a site other than the State Office Complex in downtown Annapolis.

The State Archives building is presently located on the campus of St. John's College, an ideal location from the point of view of convenience to the Legislature and the Executive agencies. Unfortunately, there is a need for more space; hence the appropriations referred to in and supplemented by this item. Originally, the thought was to expand the existing facility, but permission to do this was denied by the College. The next best alternative is to build a new building in close proximity to the existing one. This would serve the three purposes of (1) allowing the existing building to be used in conjunction with the new one, (2) because of the continued use of the existing building, allowing the new building to be smaller and therefore less expensive than if a complete new structure had to be built to house all of the records, and (3) keeping the archives within convenient proximity to the agencies most needing them.

The condition attached to the appropriation would require the abandonment of the existing facility (which would then revert to the College), since it would not be administratively feasible to operate the existing facility together with a building outside the State Office Complex. This new building, as noted, would have to be much larger and more expensive than is presently planned or than is necessary. Although I appreciate the concern over placing too many new buildings in the Complex, I think that this condition is both unwise and unnecessary.

(2) With respect to Item (A) (1) (e), this appropriates \$72,500 for the design and renovation of the Old Armory Building on Bladen Street in Annapolis. No plans describing the proposed renovation have been submitted for review by the Department of State Planning; no particular use for the building has been agreed upon; and the continued existence of the building is totally inconsistent with the master plan for the Statehouse area.