



Announcement Regarding Saturday Services at the Maryland State Archives

Beginning this October, the Archives' Search Room will be open the first Saturday of each month.

[View Our Hours Page](#)

Fall Saturday Schedule for the Archives

October 6, 2018 - open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

November 3, 2018 - open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

December 1, 2018 - open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

On Saturdays, the Search Room closes for the lunch hour from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Patron feedback tells us we can better serve our patron community through:

- More user friendly finding aids, research guidance and tools online,
- More computers in the Search Room,
- More and enhanced indexes accessing scanned material online, and
- Appointments with archival staff specialists for complex issues.

We are committed to providing these upgraded services. During our open hours, we encourage you to visit our Search Room to meet with our excellent reference archivists, who can assist you with your research questions with no appointment necessary. We also encourage you to reach out to us by calling 410-260-6487 or emailing us at msa.helpdesk@maryland.gov with your questions. Our staff can help determine if your question is a better fit for our walk-in reference consultations or for a one-on-one phone consultation appointment for highly specific issues.

Here are a few more items of interest that you should look for this Fall:

- **Indexes.** We have introduced a crowdsourcing function that will assist us in developing more and improved index access to our records. The website we are using for crowdsourced transcriptions is <https://fromthepage.com/> You can help! Our current project is the creation of a searchable index for marriage records. Contact liz.coelho@maryland.gov if you would like to assist in the transcription process.
- **Renovations.** The project to renovate the Archives environmental systems will continue this Fall with the installation of a new dehumidification system. (This is another reason for the reduced Saturday hours this Fall).
- **Recruitment.** We all wish our Director of Reference Mike McCormick well with his retirement on September 1. He has done much to improve our customer service and we will miss him immensely.

- **Technology Refresh.** This Fall we will install additional computers for patrons to use to access our collections. Upgraded WiFi will provide faster connections and greater security. Printing copies will be made easier.
- **Documents for the Classroom.** We unveiled our newly-redesigned [Documents for the Classroom](#) website which covers a variety of topics and eras in Maryland history, making primary sources accessible for educational curricula. New document packets to this resource will be added later this year.
- **New Online Guides.** We will soon debut more user-friendly online guides for navigating and searching our most commonly used resources, including indexes for birth, death, and marriage records. We are also pleased to announce that we have added the following online resources as part of our efforts to provide more efficient access:

[Baltimore County Marriages, Male Index, 1777-1851](#)

[Death Certificate Index, 1973-2014](#)

[Debt Book Index, 1733-1775](#)

[Militia Records Index, 1794-1824](#)

[Musters and Pay Rolls Index, 1733-1775](#)

[Naturalizations Index, 1777-1917](#)

[Naturalizations Index, Baltimore County & Baltimore City, 1796-1933](#)

[Rent Rolls Index, 1639-1776](#)

[Revolutionary War Papers Index, 1775-1789](#)

[Revolutionary War Records Index, 1776-1798](#)

[Testamentary Proceedings Index, 1657-1777](#)

Please share your thoughts and suggestions with me at tim.baker@maryland.gov

Timothy D. Baker
State Archivist