

Liber A,	0-22	1748-1753.....	624 pages
Liber D,	0-25	1765-1769.....	548 pages
Liber F,	0-27	1773-1775.....	430 pages
Liber H,	0-29	1785-1790.....	530 pages
Total number of pages of county land records...			13,962 pages
Total number of pages photostated on order.....			900 pages
Total			14,860 pages
Total fiscal year 1944.....			10,685 pages

MICROPHOTOGRAPHY

In addition to its value as a cheap method of reproducing lengthy materials for other institutions and individuals, the microfilm camera at the Hall of Records was used this year to record requests for absentee ballots. The Maryland Law providing for absentee voting required the Secretary of State to receive the application, to record it in his office and then to send it to the proper local election officials who provided the ballot. The unexpectedly large number of applications coming shortly before the election made it necessary to find some quicker means of recording in the Office of the Secretary of State than typewriting. The microfilm camera proved to be the ideal solution. This single service probably saved the State the cost of the camera.

Microphotographic copies of all the important colonial series at the Hall of Records which have been deposited for the period of the war in Western Maryland, will be returned to the Hall of Records in the near future. The Hall of Records Commission in making this decision also recommended that positive copies of these negatives be deposited in certain other research centers so that study of Maryland's early history may be made more convenient, and also so that these copies may provide insurance against the total loss of the record should some calamity destroy the originals at the Hall of Records.

Among the more extensive items microfilmed this year were the Diary of Tench Tilghman for the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina, shipping papers for the Office of Naval Records and Library of the Navy Department at Washington, and 8 volumes of the Annapolis *Evening Capital* at the Hall of Records which have deteriorated so badly that it is no longer possible to let them be used.