

HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION

The Hall of Records Commission is an ex officio body created by Chapter 18 of the Acts of 1935 to collect and preserve the historical records of Maryland and to encourage research and investigation in the history of the Province and State. Since passage of this Act, additional responsibilities and duties have been assigned to the Hall of Records Commission and thereby to the staff of the Hall of Records: to administer the Records Management Program for State and county governmental agencies; to compile and distribute the MARYLAND MANUAL; and to supervise the microfilming of current land records for its files and for the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. The Hall of Records has been made a depository for all publications of State Agencies, and its staff microfilms the Proceedings of the General Assembly at the close of each legislative day. The Hall of Records Commission acts as the historical agency of the State. It participates in the planning and conduct of historical celebrations; the restoration of monuments and houses and the search for historical data necessary for the conduct of the State's business. On January 25, 1967 the Archivist assumed the duties of the Commissioner of the Land Office as Commissioner of Land Patents. (Article 54, Chapters 1-26).

Chapter 97 of the Acts of 1970, which was approved April 15, 1970 and became effective August 1, 1970, placed the Hall of Records Commission in the secretariat of General Services and insofar as the Hall of Records Commission is concerned, provided further: "There is hereby created as part of the Department of General Services a commission to be known as the Hall of Records Commission, which shall be composed of the (Governor of Maryland), *Secretary of General Services*, The State Comptroller, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, the President of The Johns Hopkins University, the President of St. John's College, the President of the Maryland Historical Society and the President of the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Institute of Baltimore. The members of said commission shall serve without compensation." (Part 1, Section 7).

This means that the Governor will appear in this report for the last time as a member of the Hall of Records Commission. This is a great loss as in many ways the Governor was the most