

main approach - a brick walk - had to come from College Avenue at the side, instead of from the campus in front. However, greatest of all the problems presented by the site was that of size. The minimum requirements for the Hall of Records called for a building having a cubic content considerably greater than that of any other building on the campus. It became necessary therefor to arrive at some design which should be large enough to meet these minimum requirements, while still appearing small enough to take its proper place among the other less extensive buildings of the group. In its final form, the mass of the structure was largely determined by the necessity for it to appear as small as possible; it was therefor given a flat roof, in this respect following an English rather than the American precedent.

While no state, prior to the inception of the Maryland Hall of Records, had a building designed especially for archives, several had archives departments admirably administered and of long standing, housed in state buildings planned primarily for other uses. Maryland's department of archives was not organized until after the completion of the building, but the project was planned in accordance with a careful survey of the needs of the future department. The controlling factors in the design of an archives building are these three recognized principles of archives economy:-the centralization of documents in a safe place, the preparation of them for public use, and the classification and administration of them by a specially trained staff. In addition to the accommodations needed for developing a department of archives according to these principles, there were in this case two other requisites:- exhibition rooms where public interest in the archives might be stimulated by the display of especially important documents, and quarters for the state Land Office, which