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Catholic Center
320 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(301) 727-7777

Office of the Archbishop

June 17, 1977

RECEIVED
JUN 20 1977
HALL OF RECORDS

Mr. Edward C. Papenfuse
State Archivist and Commissioner
of Land Patents
P.O. Box 828
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Papenfuse:

You are quite correct in noting that my understanding is that access to records less than 100 years old is being restricted. In fact a clarification is needed here as well. The records which are being restricted are not those concerning marriages and deaths but only baptismal records. The purpose of this restriction is related to such matters as adoption and illegitimacy.

Permission is readily granted to have a member of your professional staff examine reels of film containing restricted records for a search of records dating before 1877 on an individual request basis. It is understood that these reels will not be available to the public. You may sell to the Maryland Historical Society those reels which contain restricted as well as unrestricted records only if they are able to guarantee the same understanding.

Hoping that this presents any clarification needed, I am-

Sincerely yours,

William D. Borders

Archbishop of Baltimore