

Historic Preservation Commission Awards 2025

Presented at the May 6, 2025 Commissioner's of
St. Mary's County Meeting



This Year's Winners:

Preservation Service Awards

Donald M. Barber

David G. Brown

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Bob Crickenberger

Nancy Easterling

Preservation Service Award

Presented to:

Donald M. Barber & David G. Brown

Donald M. Barber and David G. Brown are the authors of “The Barber Family: From Slavery, Through Segregation and The Civil Rights Movement,” which tells the story of four generations of an African American family in St. Mary's County. It documents how one family, against their challenges with post -Civil War economic decline and racism in St. Mary's County, successfully struggled for more self -reliant, prosperous, fulfilling, and dignified lives.



Photo Credit: @HistoricStMarysCity on X

Additional Pictures of Barber & Brown's Work



Photo Credit: @HistoricStMarysCity on X



Photo Credit: somdnews.com

Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to:
Robert Crickenberger

Bob Crickenberger has dedicated his life to preserving and teaching the American Civil War history at Point Lookout State Park. He led a group of dedicated volunteers in these restoration efforts to clear the grounds in and around Fort Number 3 and has reconstructed four buildings. Bob partially rebuilt a section of the Camp Hoffman Prison Pen entrance and continues to conduct living history programs to share the history with generations of visitors.



Photo Credit: Provided with Nomination

Additional Pictures of Crickenberger's Work



Photo Credit: Provided with Nomination



Photo Credit: Provided with Nomination

Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to:
Nancy Easterling

Nancy Easterling has led Historic Sotterley on a transformative journey to become the vibrant cornerstone of St. Mary's County, where history is being preserved for generations to come, look, and learn. She facilitated the holistic interpretation of Sotterley's history, particularly concerning the realities of slavery and its legacy, to ensure that the stories of all people who lived at Sotterley are told. In 2019, Historic Sotterley was designated as a UNESCO Site of Memory for the Route of the Enslaved Peoples Project. Nancy leads initiatives that provide educational and cultural resources to facilitate conversation about Sotterley's complex history, race relations, and the journey towards healing and reconciliation, often featuring speakers and partnerships with other organizations.



Photo Credit: Provided with Nomination

Additional Pictures of Easterling's Work



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