



Early Black Dorchester, by Dr. Kay McElvey, 1 February 2006

The South Dorchester Folk Museum (SDFM), in cooperation with the Dorchester County Historical Society, presents Dr Kay McElvey who shares insights she gained while researching her dissertation, "Early Black Dorchester." covering the century from the American Revolution through the Civil War.

Dr. McElvey is a Dorchester native who graduated from Mace's Lane High School at the top of her class. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Morgan University and her doctorate at the University of Maryland at College Park. After beginning her career in the public schools of Howard County, Dr. McElvey returned to Dorchester, where she taught in several schools and at Salisbury University and Sojourner-Douglass College. Dr. McElvey is co-founder and president of NDAAIGA, Inc. (North Dorchester African American Independent Growth Alliance). She authored *The Man With The Smile*, a biography of Morgan Dilver, and her 700-page doctoral dissertation has served as an important foundation for a variety of research projects and recent books about Dorchester County. She also wrote and directed "The Message in the Song," a much-anticipated movie about Harriett Tubman.