

George W. McDaniel

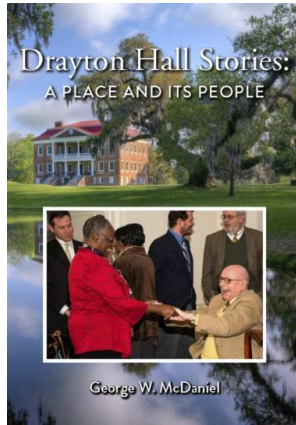
Award-Winning Historian

Change-Making Activist, Author & Speaker

Executive Director Emeritus of iconic Drayton Hall, Charleston, SC

Consultant & Facilitator for Museums and Historic Sites

PhD (History) from Duke



George W. McDaniel is the author of *Drayton Hall Stories: A Place and Its People*. The first book of its kind in the nation, it is the result of his experiences in academe and museums and his life in Europe, Africa, and Vietnam, where he saw peace and war and learned first-hand about cultural differences and commonalities.

Devoting his career to education and history museums, he has earned awards at local, state, and national levels, and been deeply involved in education, historic preservation, fundraising, tourism, and strategic planning.

A native of Atlanta, he earned a BA from Sewanee, a MAT (history) from Brown University, and PhD (history) from Duke. For over 25 years, he served as the Executive Director of Drayton Hall, a historic site in Charleston, SC, of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, recording oral interviews with descendants (both White and Black), board members, donors, staff, and professionals in history, tourism, museums, architecture, and historic preservation. The resulting book, *“Drayton Hall Stories: A Place and Its People”* presents a mosaic of stories and insights that uses history to bring diverse people together, a place-based strategy applicable nationwide.

He is the president of McDaniel Consulting, LLC, a strategy firm that helps organizations use history to build bridges to broader constituents. An engaging speaker, he combines his professional perspectives with the needs and opportunities of his audience and clients.

Guest Speaker in 2022

- Atlanta History Center
- Charleston Library Society
- Colonial Dames, Washington DC
- Drayton Hall Preservation Trust
- History Leadership Institute
- SC Archives & History Center
- SC Public Radio

Talks by George W. McDaniel 2022

- Engaging Communities through History
- Preserving the Recent History of a Place
- People, Places, and Stories: Engaging Diverse Audiences
- Connecting People, Place & Stories

Programming Ideas

- Place-Based Strategies Build Communities Nationwide
- Choosing a Future for Historic Places
- The Power of the Recent Past
- Building Relevance in Today’s World

Books by George W. McDaniel

- *Hearth and Home: Preserving a People's Culture* (National Trust for Historic Preservation Honor Award winner)
- *Drayton Hall Stories: A Place and Its People*
- *Ashley River Stories: A Place and Its People* (Pub. Date: 2023)
- *Peace & War Stories: West Africa and Vietnam* (Pub. Date: 2024)

Praise for Author George McDaniel:

"McDaniel has helped bring this amazing place to life."

— Paul Edmondson, President, National Trust for Historic Preservation

"A remarkable narrative." — Brent D. Glass, Director Emeritus, National Museum of American History, The Smithsonian Institution

"Drayton Hall Stories is in position to help change our national narrative." — Joseph McGill Jr., Founder and Executive Director, The Slave Dwelling Project

"Provides meaningful conversations about race and history. And teaches us the value of engaging people."
— Michelle McCollum, President of the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor

Rave Reviews for Speaker George McDaniel:

"A masterful job! His innovative mixture of spoken experience and participant interaction enables an audience to thoroughly invest themselves." — W. Eric Emerson, Ph.D., Director, SC Department of Archives and History

"George McDaniel continues to inspire as he delivers a compelling model for understanding America's historic sites." — Carol B. Cadou, Executive Director, The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America

"A nationally respected museum professional, McDaniel helps organizations use history, place, and culture to enhance community." — Antiques & The Arts Weekly

"For more than a quarter century, George has represented the very best in historic site leadership and his innovative approaches have influenced the way engagement and interpretation are done."
— Stephanie K. Meeks, former president and CEO of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Contributor and Essayist

- *Stewards of Memory: The Past, Present and Future of Historic Preservation at Washington's Mount Vernon*
- *The Material World of Eyre Hall: Four Centuries of Chesapeake History*

C O N T A C T

gmdaniel4444@gmail.com
843-708-5466
102 Rutherford Street
Summerville, SC 29483

<https://www.mcdanielconsulting.net/>
<https://www.mcdanielconsulting.net/drayton-hall-book/>
<https://bit.ly/GWM-Facebook>