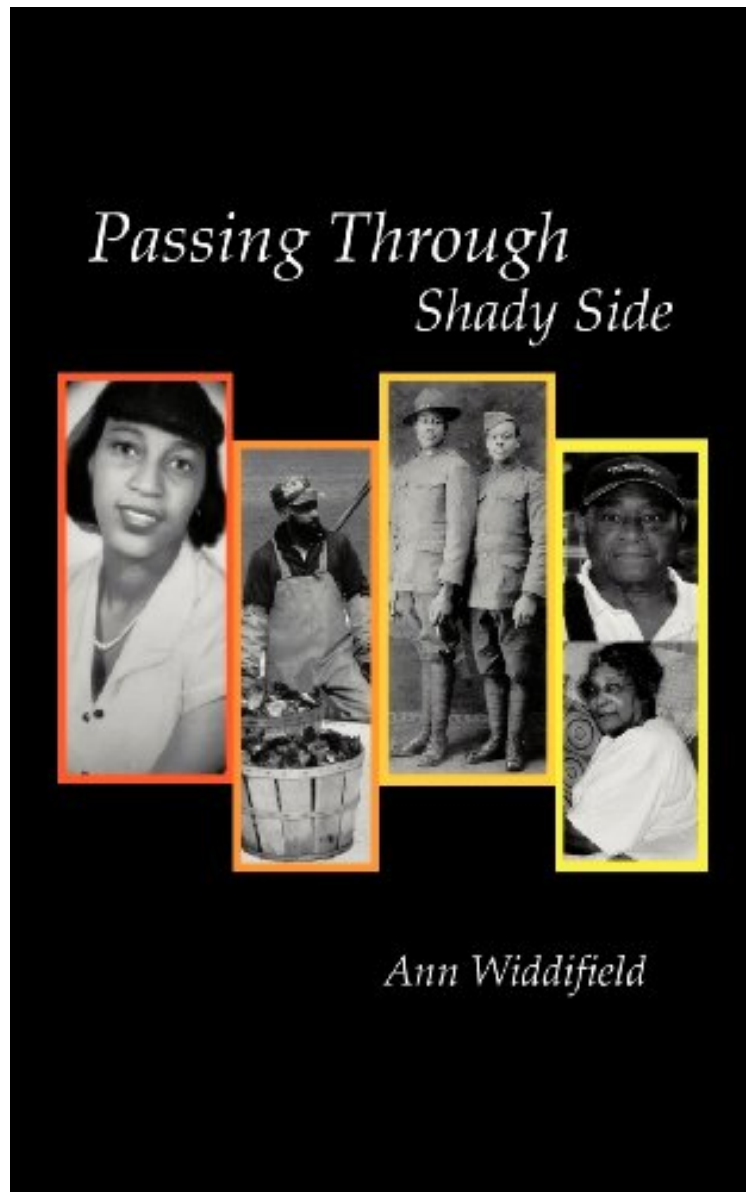


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Passing Through Shady Side

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gaps in an important segment of the population of Shady Side. The African American population there has a rich and long history. Ann dove in doing extensive research, interviewing family members, and uncovering photos and letters of residents. In doing so she developed and wrote about all aspects of life in early Shady Side and grew to know and love these families. The book gives a bird's eye view of family life in earlier times. The book gives a bird's eye view of family life in earlier times. Very interesting, entertaining and well written. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The author, Ann Widdifield, is a marvelous storyteller. By albert gomezplata The author, Ann Widdifield, is a marvelous storyteller. She uses her skill to follow the family history of four black families who go back to the beginning of the community of Shady Side in Maryland, known as the Swamp. The early settlers were freed slaves and formerly indentured servants who were able to buy property, work the land and live off the sea. This book preserves the voices of African-American families in a rural community. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must read for history buffs By Julie Wisor I love history and I could not put down "Passing Through Shady Side." This book gives the reader a look inside the everyday lives of African Americans living in Shady Side, MD. It shares African American history from the words of those living the history or from their family members. I liked the stories on oystering and schools the best. Everyone can learn something from this book.

"A fascinating, sensitive, and well-researched book that enhances our understanding of the history of Shady Side, the history of Maryland, and the history of America. It's a story that's entertaining, educational, and important." --Kenneth T. Walsh, journalist and author of "Family of Freedom: Presidents and African Americans in the White House" "A must-read, interesting book. Full of mores of yesterday and today." -- Mohan Grover, unofficial Shady Side mayor; owner of Renno's Market "When Ms. Widdifield first approached me about her book-writing project, I was skeptical. After all, what could a spit of a woman with dainty eyes and light blond hair who spends her winters in sunny Florida possibly know about the lives of African Americans? Yet she approached this project with a passion and confidence that I have not seen in many seasoned historians. The results of her efforts say it all. Widdifield has brought the lives and stories of this waterside community alive and, in the process, has filled a void in the history books of southern Maryland." -- Judith A. Cabral, Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Foundation "Passing Through Shady Side is a rich, vivid account of a largely untold story: the history of African American families that have farmed and worked the waters surrounding the Shady Side peninsula for nearly two centuries. Ann Widdifield has brought to life the generations that have given Shady Side its special character, traditions and vitality." -- Terence Smith, journalist and Shady Side resident

About the Author Ann Widdifield earned master's degrees from Ball State University in 1970 and the University of Virginia in 1984. She taught in elementary schools for 37 years until she retired for other opportunities. She and her husband, Noel, live in Shady Side, Maryland, and have five granddaughters between their daughter, Julie, and son, David.