

Cannonball Farm
South Philadelphia, Pa.

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Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Pennsylvania

HISTORICAL AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Joseph P. Sims, District Officer
2008 Architects Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

CANNONBALL FARM
Bleakley Homestead
Penrose Ferry Road
Philadelphia

Owner - City of Philadelphia

Date of Erection - *about 1750*

Architect - Unknown

Builder - Unknown

Present Condition - Exterior in fairly good condition
Interior most dilapidated.

Number of Stories - Two and one-half stories on both main
building and wing.

Material of Construction - Built of brick, plastered
on one side, - it has the pent roof at gable ends, and
the wide chimney found in some of the other Swedish work.
The brick is laid in common running bond with header
courses about every tenth course. Wood cornices and wood
frames occur throughout, - all the original sash has
been removed and the windows boarded up. On the interior
nothing remains. The house has long been unoccupied and
is in deplorable condition.

History - Built almost certainly by Swedes, this house
during the 18th century was in the possession of the
Bleakley family. The name of Cannon Ball Farm arose from
an incident in the Revolution. The house was fortified
by the British in October 1777, during their attack on
Fort Mifflin. On November 11th, 1777 a ball from Fort
Mifflin entered the rear wall at the eaves and passed
out the front wall facing the road about six feet above
the ground. This can be seen in the photograph (from the
southwest).

Bibliography - Parson's "Where Pennsylvania History Began".

August 27th, 1937

Joseph P. Sims

Joseph P. Sims, A.I.A.
District Officer

PAW 9/3/37