

emigrated from England to South Carolina about the time of the Revolution, owned Magnolia Umbra Plantation, parts of which are now Magnolia and St. Lawrence cemeteries. Cunningham built this single house, two bays wide. Capt. Anthony Toomer, a noted local builder, was the contractor. Cunningham used the front room on the first floor, which had a separate entrance on Bedon's Alley, as his counting room.

George Whitfield purchased the property in 1794, adding the three-story brick wing on the south side. He redecorated the house in the then-popular Adam style. He retained the property until 1820.

William Doran, owner of a stevedoring business, and his descendants held the property from 1857 to 1980. During the Federal bombardment of the city during the Civil War, Doran opened the house to refugees as it has thick walls. According to tradition, Doran was reaching for a match on the dining room mantel to light someone's pipe when a cannon ball took off this arm. For years afterward, he was teased, "Generous old William Doran, ask for a light and he gives you his arm."

BEE STREET

One of the original streets of Cannonborough or Cannon's Lands, Bee Street was laid out by 1789. It was presumably named for Thomas Bee, an attorney, judge, member of the Revolutionary Council of Safety and the South Carolina Legislature, Lieutenant Governor and delegate to the Continental Congress.

12 Bee Street **William Robb House**

Constructed 1858; rehabilitated 1983-84

William Robb, builder

This brick double house built by William Robb, a prosperous rice miller and partner in the East Point Mills, who purchased the site in 1858. He is listed as living at this location in the 1859 city directory. Robb sold the property in 1875.

In 1920, the property was purchased by Mercy Maternity Hospital. Mercy, the first facility of its

kind in Charleston, was a very modern medical concept at a time when most births took place at home with a mid-wife attending. In 1927, the property was given to the Church Home and Orphanage Corporation, which moved the Episcopal Church Home for Women from Ashley and Spring streets to this location in 1929.

The Italianate mansion, with its three-tiered piazza supported by Doric and Ionic columns, bracketed cornice, brick quoins and elaborate doorways, was rehabilitated in 1983-84 as apartments.

24 Bee Street

Constructed c. 1840

Richard Teasdale, a prosperous merchant and planter, built this two-and-a-half story wooden house with woodwork and plasterwork typical of the period in the interior and a piazza across the front. A two-story brick service wing is in the rear.

BLAKE STREET

Blake Street received its name from an early 18th century land grant to Joseph Blake consisting of about 200 acres in this area. Its most famous resident was blacksmith Philip Simmons.

30 ½ Blake Street **Philip Simmons' House and Workshop**

Born in 1912 on Daniel Island, Philip Simmons came to Charleston at the age of eight and was apprenticed to a master blacksmith who was a former slave. His first ironwork was creating wheels for carriages, but as the automobile became more prevalent, the need for carriage wheels decreased. Simmons made the switch to ornamental ironwork and by the 1940s was creating some of the most beautiful wrought iron gates, stair rails and window grills in the city. Simmons has been recognized nationally as a master craftsman and a cultural and artistic treasure. His workshop, a standing-seam tin Quonset hut, was also used by his mentor, who passed away in the 1950s. The workshop is in fragile condition and was listed on the 11 Most