

# General George McCall Elementary School



## 100 Years And Counting

By Jason Davis

Located in the heart of one of those most historical cities in America, General George McCall Elementary School has a lot of history in and around it's building. Including the history of the neighborhood, as well as General McCall himself.

*-McCall Elementary School  
-325 S. 7th Street  
-Philadelphia, PA  
-19106*

## McCall Elementary School



Not much has been archived about the building located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Delancy Sts other than it's accomplishments academically. For over 100 years McCall has excelled in Philadelphia Academics and Athletics. Including becoming one of Philadelphia's more high tech schools with the 2006 addition of the "Cybrary", a renovation of the school library including a number of new apple desktop and laptop computers as well as Promethean Boards and new music equipment. In 2009, McCall celebrated it's 100 year anniversary that included a Ball for all alumni in October 2009.

*In 1909, General George A McCall Elementary School was opened up in the society hill district of Philadelphia in honor of a late Civil War General. Not much is known of the building before the school. Once used as a storage facility, and also believed to have underground links and tunnels to various houses in the area. Which raises speculation of a possible underground railroad route, to transfer slaves throughout the area unnoticed.*

McDonald, Brad.  
(Photographer).  
(1934). *General George A. McCall elementary school*. [Web].  
Retrieved from  
file:///Users/jdavis/Pictures/Photo%20Booth/Photo%20on%202010-11-12%20at%2006.44.jpg

*McCall Elementary School  
Via Google Maps*



## George McCall

George McCall, a white male born into a prominent family on the eastern side of Philadelphia Pennsylvania in 1802. During the majority of his childhood, McCall lived at a home at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Pine, less than a mile away from the location of the school today. He went on to attend west point university and graduated from there in 1822, going on to immediately serve time as a soldier in Florida during struggles with Seminoles. With the reputation as one of the top officers in his class at West Point, McCall went on to serve in various parts of the country throughout his 30 years as a soldier. Including places like Oklahoma, Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, and other location throughout the United States. Many of his stories and achievements are archived in libraries at Oklahoma and Florida University



*George A. McCall,  
Union General.*

## Life During and After The Civil War

Towards the middle of the 1800's America had become almost split down the middle on the issue of slavery and economics. These conflicts eventually leading to a civil war between the North and South of the country. General McCall, who although spent most of his years as a soldier in the south, kept his values of freedom from his childhood in Philadelphia. By time the Civil War began, McCall had retired from his duties as a soldier. However in support of the union army, he dedicated many hours into training soldiers in Philadelphia. Following the civil war, McCall resided in a farm right outside of the Philadelphia area, eventually passing away there in 1868. His body was buried and plaque remains in the Christ Churchyard in Philadelphia.

*McCall was noted by many to be a keen observer, and a very dedicated soldier. In 1909 a schoolhouse was opened up in memory of him, the school remains there today as a place of learning for over 500 students between K and 8th grade in the Greater Philadelphia Area. In 1984 students at McCall Elementary school celebrated the 75 year anniversary of the school by researching the life of McCall and presenting it in their classes. In 2009 the school celebrated its 100 year anniversary, honoring McCall, and all who've taken part in it's existence.*



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