

# **The History of Buildings and Artifacts on the MPH Campus**

## **The Farmhouse**

The Farmhouse is said to be the oldest standing structure in the Town of DeWitt. Built in 1832 it has been in continuous service, first as the main residence of the Pebble Hill Farm at Orville, it is now home to the Head of School and other MPH administrative offices.

In 1927, Pebble Hill Farm was purchased by a group of parents to create The Pebble Hill Country Day School for Boys. The entire school was housed in the Farmhouse including a space for gym and a dining hall. Pebble Hill School accepted girls in 1952 and by then had added a few more buildings to its campus, but the Farmhouse remained its most important symbol.

## **The Barn**

Over the years there have been many additions and much remodeling done to the barn. Today this building is a theater, dance studio, music room and more – so much innovation for a building that was erected in 1832! Did you know that the Coville Theater was MPH's original gym?

The walls of the barn are still insulated with straw and when the building housed classrooms, hay used to fall on students' heads when people walked on the second floor!

## **The Sports Kiosk**

The sports kiosk was donated by Dorothy and John Lenore (a Manlius School 1947 graduate) as a way to honor the outstanding sports teams of The Manlius School, Pebble Hill School and Manlius Pebble Hill School. The dedication was also to recognize the athletic traditions of The Manlius School. When the school had a football team, they would often beat the freshmen college teams such as West Point, Cornell, Syracuse, Cortland, and Ithaca.

### **The Flagpole**

This flagpole was originally on the former Manlius School Campus (now Verbeck Estates on Route 92 in Manlius. It is rumored that the flagpole originally came from the USS Missouri. During The Manlius School years the flag used to be raised and lowered everyday by the students. The flagpole was moved to MPH and rededicated on June 12, 1999 on the MPH campus. The flagpole now has around the clock lighting to keep the flag lit so it does not have to be raised and lowered everyday. The lighting fixture was the class gift from the MPH class of 2002.

### **The World War I Cannon**

The cannon was erected in 1922 as a tribute to the men of St. John's (the boys' school name before The Manlius School) who served in World War I (just called The World War on the Cannon's plaque). It was moved to the MPH campus in the early 1990's which was quite a feat considering that the granite pylons weigh twelve tons (16,000 pounds) and the four point seven coast artillery gun on top is another 2 ½ tons.

In 1922, this monument cost about \$3500 to make. To replicate it today would cost almost \$50,000. MPH also has a monument to the alumni and teachers who were killed in World War II in the Mc Neil hallway. This year, the School is dedicating a monument to memory of the alumni who were killed in the Korean and Vietnam wars.

### **Knox Hall Medals (hanging in McNeil Lobby)**

These bronze medals originally hung in Knox Hall on the former Manlius campus. They are enlargements of some of the medals that students could earn each year, scholarship, athletic merit, good conduct, and military merit.

MPH's school's motto "Manners Makyth Man" originated at the Manlius School and continues to be exemplified by our students!