

BA-31
McDonogh School
8600 McDonogh Road
Pikesville

1872

John McDonogh, a former Baltimorean and New Orleans business man, left a fortune with which to establish a "farm school" for boys, and his trustees acquired the Oliver estate and built a school complex, beginning in 1872. Taggart Chapel dates to 1899. The principal's residence was built in 1915. A statue of the founder and several farm buildings also remain.

Olivet) and a German Lutheran church. It was formerly reached by the Baltimore and Randallstown Horse Railway, which was offered for sale Feb. 3, 1874, but withdrawn on a bid of thirteen thousand dollars. The road proved unprofitable, and was afterwards sold and the rails taken up. Rev. J. Shrigly opened a free church in Randallstown Sept. 12, 1853.

The McDonogh Institute and Farm-School.—John McDonogh, a native of Baltimore, but a citizen of New Orleans from the time of the cession of Louisiana to the United States, died on the 27th of October, 1850, at his residence at McDonoghville, near Algiers, opposite New Orleans. The value of his property at the time of his death was estimated at two million dollars. By his will the bulk of this estate was bequeathed to the two cities of Baltimore, Md., and New Orleans, La., in trust for the purpose of establishing at or near both places farm-schools for the education of the children of poor parents of both cities who otherwise could not obtain educational advantages.

The City Council of Baltimore passed a resolution on the 9th of January, 1851, accepting the legacy on behalf of Baltimore, and pledged the faith of the city that it would "abide by and comply with the wishes and directions of the said McDonogh, as expressed in his last will and testament."

Many of the provisions of the will it was impossible to carry out; others operated in a way very different from that designed, and entailed heavy charges on the estate. Much tedious and expensive litigation grew out of the condition of the property, and out of the various successive attempts made to set aside the will or to establish the validity of codicils to it. The last important suit of the latter kind (that of Moses Fox, involving over three hundred thousand dollars) was not finally decided until 1872. It was found necessary and expedient to divide the estate, and the city of Baltimore proceeded to sell the portion falling to her, in order that the funds might be invested in some more manageable and profitable shape. While the estate was in process of liquidation the war put a stop to all progress and materially lessened the value of the real property yet unsold. After the close of the war the agents of Baltimore continued their labors, and in 1868 the present board was constituted. Mr. McDonogh contemplated an endowment of \$5,000,000 for the organization of the school near Baltimore, but the fund realized up to the present time amounts only to \$878,170.05. In July, 1872, the trustees, finding themselves for the first time free from serious litigation, purchased the present site for the location of the school. The farm contains eight hundred and thirty-five acres, well watered and wooded, lying on the Western Maryland Railroad, twelve miles from Baltimore, in the Second District. The improvements at the time of the purchase consisted of a large brick dwelling-house and customary out-houses.

All necessary repairs and improvements were made, and an addition of sixty feet front made to the main building. The school was opened Nov. 21, 1873, with twenty-one pupils. W. Allen is the principal, and is assisted by D. C. Lyle, S. H. Lee Sellers, and H. L. Gantt. A new building is progressing rapidly under the superintendence of Messrs. S. H. & J. F. Adams, builders, and Messrs. Dixon & Carson, architects. The structure, which is of brick, dressed with granite strips, brown-stone, and terra-cotta, is composed of a centre building, ninety feet frontage, having a basement and three stories, and two wings seventy-three feet front each, with two stories and basement. The entire frontage of the building is two hundred and thirty-six feet. There is to be another wing in the rear of the centre building, which has not been commenced as yet. Connecting this wing and the centre building will be an annex, which will be surmounted by a tower. The tower building will contain the staircases and the large water-tank, which will hold ten thousand gallons. Above the tank in the tower will be the observatory. Brownstone steps and porch are in front of the centre building, and lead into a vestibule. On one side is the reception-room, and on the other the clerk's office. Adjoining this latter on the front is the principal's room, and adjoining the reception-room is the matron's room. Handsome circular bay windows of brownstone and terra-cotta will project from each of these rooms, and serving and clothes-rooms are also on this floor. A large hall runs directly through the centre building to the staircase hall in the tower building. Corridors run at right angles to this hall through the wings. Large verandas are located back of the centre building, and also around the back of the wings, and lead to the class-rooms. The fund has been largely increased by the economical management and judicious investments of the trustees. The principal of five hundred thousand dollars of the amount bequeathed cannot be used, and is set apart as a permanent fund. The terms of admission to the school are regulated by the board of trustees, who have sought to conform, in the rule established on this subject, to the wishes of the founder. Applicants for admission must be "poor boys, of good character, of respectable associations in life, residents of the city of Baltimore." Appointments are made for the current scholastic year only, all of them terminating on the 1st of June next succeeding the date of entrance, but those who improve their opportunities are eligible for reappointment at the end of that time. The pupils enter at an average age of twelve years, and may remain until they are sixteen years of age. Special merit may win an additional year of residence. The number of scholars during 1880-81 was fifty-one. The trustees are Samuel H. Tagart, president; William A. Stewart, vice-president; H. Clay Dallam, secretary and agent; David L. Bartlett, German H. Hunt, Charles H. Mercer, and Robert T. Baldwin.

SCHAEFF (1881)

Chronology of events as abstracted by Dennis McCarty, Alumni/Patrons coordinator,
McDonogh School, for BCHS-HBS (Alice Martin) 4/9/73

- 1779 John McDonogh born; 1800 goes to New Orleans; 1838 writes his will;
1850 dies
- 1858 First Board of trustees appointed
- 1860 John McDonogh's body arrives Baltimore
- 1866 John McDonogh monument dedicated at Greenmount
- 1867 The Board purchases a site for the school, the Greenwood estate
- 1868 First Board of Trustees disbanded, new Board appointed
- 1869 The Board calls "Greenwood"
- 1872 The Board purchases "Foxleigh" as the site for the school
- 1873 Allan, Lyle, Mrs. Young hired; first boys chosen; school opens
- 1874 Capacity of 50 boys attained; railroad station built
- 1875 John McDonogh's grave first decorated
- 1876 Jane Bay dies
- 1882 "New House" (the old main building) is constructed
- 1883 The Week begins
- 1884 Zerrus Barnum estate received
- 1889 Allan dies. Lyle becomes Principal
- 1893 Lyle replaced by Edwards as Principal. "Edwards" gymnasium built
- 1895 Enrollment reaches 150
- 1898 Moreland replaces Edwards as Principal
- 1899 Tagart Memorial Chapel built

- 1902 Water supply built
- 1911 Mrs. Young dies. School examined by Russell Sage Foundation
- 1914 Dr. R. R. Reeder examines school. Moreland decides to leave and is
replaced by Bowman
- 1914 "Old House" (the original mansion) burns down; first Gilman game (football)
- 1915 Lyle ceases teaching and supervises only The Week
- 1916 Jane Bay Board & McDonogh Board reach agreement
- 1916 Enrollment begins dropping due to financial problems
- 1917 "Dragon" (first yearbook) appears. Jane Bay building constructed
- 1919 First pay students. Finances really a problem
- 1921 Childs replaces Bowman as Principal
- 1924 First state aid received
- 1926 Louis E. Lamborn replaces Childs as headmaster; Lower school started (1-6)
- 1927 Day students accepted for first time; school first accredited by Middle
States Assoc. of Coll. and Sec. Sch.
- 1928 Fire destroys "New House" (the main building)
- 1929 Allan Building and Lyle Building constructed
- 1930 First Bazaar Christmas annual - fund raising (patrons clubs)
- 1933 First Orange & Black Varieties
- 1934 First Camp _____ Eagle: Day, young boys
- 1935 Lyle returns to campus to live out his last days
- 1937 Finney Building built
- 1938 Lyle dies. Stadium built (football)
- 1944 John McDonogh's body (?) and Monument moved to campus from Greenmount cem.
Scholarship eligibility extended from city to state
- 1949 Fieldhouse constructed
- 1952 Bob Lamborn replaces Don Lamborn as headmaster
- 1953 Middle School (4-4-4) system established
- 1954 Swimming Pool constructed
- 1955 Jane Bay & McDonogh Boards of Trustees merged; Cum Laude Society
Chapter installed

Events chronology continued (4/9/73)

- 1956 Dormitory "in wings" converted to rooms
- 1959 School integration approved by Board; School ceases operating the dining room for itself
- 1960 Lamborn Hall constructed; Pannill Martin bequest; Lower school boarding to cease
- 1961 McDonogh abroad begins
- 1963 Dairy & farm discontinued
- 1964 Elderkin Hall constructed
- 1966 Rollins gift
- 1967 Rollins Hall built
- 1968 Jane Bay II and South Hall built; Bird, Hunt, Gustofson houses built
- 1969 Grace house built
- 1971 Military discontinued; Administrative reorganization to Pres.
- 1972 Sale of Johnson stock

Note: a hard-bound history of McDonogh School has been written by two faculty members, Hugh Burgess, Jr. and Robert C. Smoot and will be available in early May (1973). Cost will probably be \$10. Copies may be ordered from: Dennis McCarty, Alumni/Patrons Coordinator, McDonogh School, McDonogh, Maryland 21208

(A.M.)

Dedication

The McDonogh Centennial Ball is dedicated to the 100 years of service by countless individuals who have contributed to the growth and success of McDonogh School. The presence of over 1,000 members of the McDonogh family at the Ball typifies the spirit and vitality which has been associated with McDonogh and its people throughout a century of service.

The Trustees of the School wish to thank the many men and women who worked so diligently and cheerfully towards the success of the Ball, with a special note of thanks to Mr. Richard Sharretts, Class of 1937, who is responsible for the special entertainment tonight.

Major Louis E. Lamborn said in late 1972, "I think if I could project my thinking into a world which is going to come out of this great chaos of the moment — and it will come, and it will be a brilliant, beautiful new world — I would say look to the fundamentals of honesty, decency, and thoughtfulness towards others — kindness, helpfulness, giving without the thought of getting anything in return, and making this school a center from which will radiate all good."

With Doc Lamborn's thought in mind, let us proceed to the second century of McDonogh School.

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Dr. 2

Trustees

Albert H. Dudley, Jr. — *Chairman*
Arthur M. Gompf — *Vice-Chairman*
M. Peter Moser — *Secretary*
Harvey B. Kershaw, Jr. — *Treasurer*

C. Read Carter
Judson G. Dimling
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Francis P. Lucier
J. William Middleton
C. William Pacy
H. Beale Rollins
Howard L. Staley
Harry K. Wells

TRUSTEES EMERITUS

J. Paul Bright, Jr. S. Page Nelson
Herman L. Gruehn Howard E. Rein



JOHN McDONOGH (1779-1850). His recognition of the need for outstanding educational and developmental opportunities for young boys, and the provisions of his will, are the foundation of McDonogh School.

1873-1973

73

The success and growth of McDonogh is the result of the foresight, understanding and dedication of many. From the outset McDonogh has had the benefit of outstanding leadership from its School Heads. It has had a talented and devoted faculty and staff. Its Alumni have been appreciative of its contribution to their lives, and have dedicated constant active support to the furtherance of its purposes and its growth. The unusual involvement of its Patrons in the affairs of the School has assured its progress. This unusual confluence of dedicated interest and active support from the McDonogh family has generated one hundred years of success and assures future excellence.

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ORIGINAL
McDONOGH SCHOOL
1873

Proof of McDonogh's growth and its ability to serve are evident if the history of its physical facilities is inspected and reviewed. From a modest start on its 800 acre farm tract, McDonogh has grown to a fully equipped, self-contained community with outstanding buildings designed to meet the many needs of the most well-equipped and complete educational institution.



**MCDONOGH
TODAY**



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STUDENT
CLASS OF 1884

As an objective all attention at McDonogh is focused on the individual student. From the outset the development of mind and character has been more important than all other considerations. Today, as in the past, all decisions at McDonogh must pass the final test, "Will this help us in the task of improving the McDonogh Boy?"

TODAY'S
STUDENTS



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BA-31



CLASSROOM OF 1893

Academic development has always been a key factor in preparing our students for a most successful, fruitful and enjoyable life. Exceptionally high standards have always been set. This has required the finest teachers and curriculum. As times have changed new programs and standards have been adopted and met. There has never been a compromise with academic needs.

CLASSES
TODAY

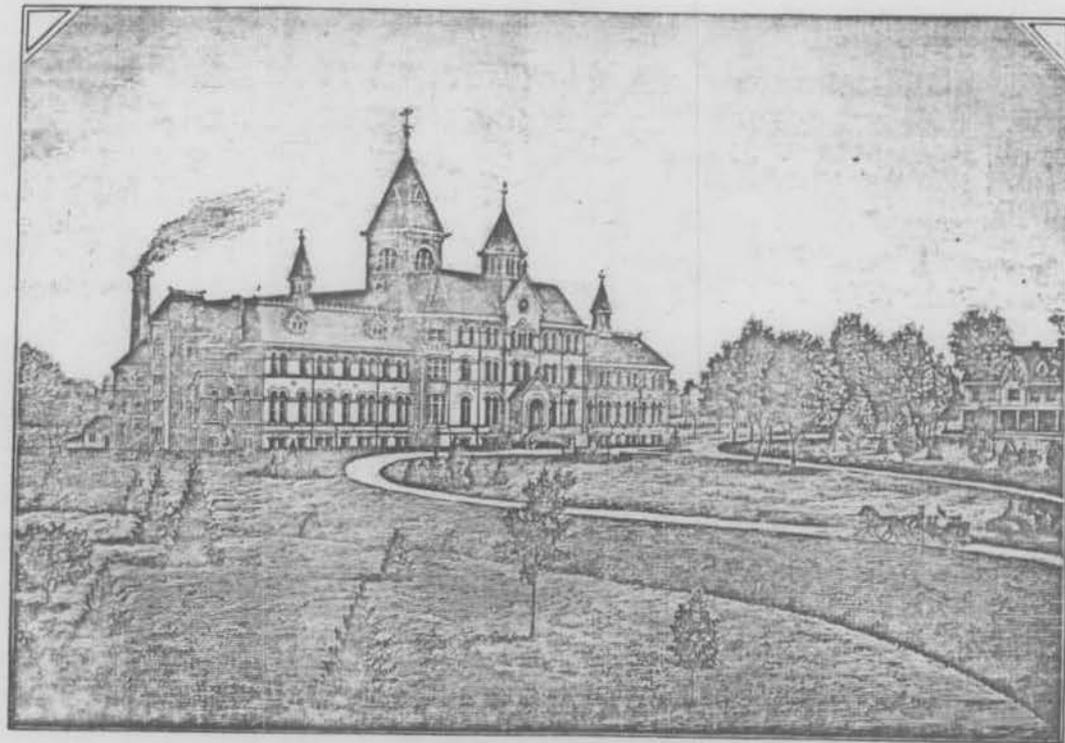


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SCHAFER (1881) pp. 831



McDONOGH INSTITUTE, (1882)
MAIN BUILDING *
BALTIMORE CO., MD.

L. H. Everts, Publisher.

McDONOGH
INSTITUTE

B4-31
McDonogh School

* almost completely destroyed by fire 1928. only original portions at back end (heat plant & apt. ^{Monday Aug 4/73})

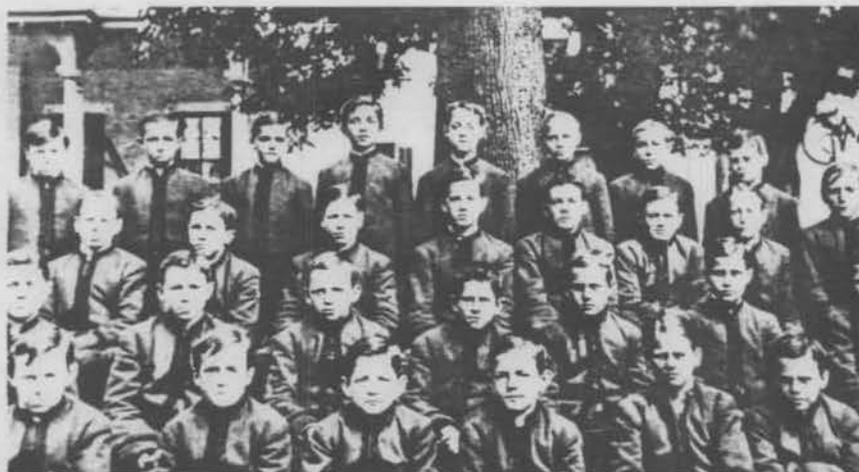
John McDonogh was born in 1779 of Scotch-Irish parents. Apprenticed to a mercantile house, he left for New Orleans when he was twenty-one to deal in sugar, land, and slaves. By 1817, having had a spiritual conversion, he renounced his dealings in slaves, freed or planned the freedom of those he owned, and became a chief member of the American Colonization Society. When he died, John McDonogh left several major benefactions: one started the public school system of New Orleans; another funded the farm school for destitute children in Baltimore, which evolved into the McDonogh School.

The McDonogh School started in 1873 and was headed by Col. William Allen, a former Confederate ordnance officer and professor of applied mathematics at Washington and Lee University.

On October 23, 1928, the old main building (shown in a Hughes Company photo) burned. People in the Green Spring Valley housed the boys; other schools offered books; businesses lent equipment; and banks offered unlimited credit for an unlimited period. When it re-opened, the school had larger and more modern facilities.

Gradually the farm orientation of the school changed; by 1963 the school had sold its dairy herd. The school discontinued the military program beginning with the 1972 school year. A 1909-1910 school year photo shows earnest (and glum?) looking children in their uniforms, identified as (front row) Thomas B. Benson, Wilson Eugene Gary, Myers Grissenger, Herbert C. Diedeman, Rausch, and Richard E. Charlton. In the second row are Howard E. Townsend, Percy Brown, Boring, Moran, E. Jones, Andrew Zeller, and George W. Dimpsey. The third row includes Walter A. Trautmann, Frederick G. Vetra, James M. Catton, William B. Ruark, Boyle (Boyle?), William C. Lewis. In the top row are Reardon, Walter H. Kincannon, H. Beale Rollins, William J. Higgins, Kones, and Harry C. Slater. Which boys are not identified in the third and fourth rows is unknown. Rollins became wealthy in operating a bus line and was a generous supporter and long-time member of the school board.

Equestrian skill is demonstrated by these exuberant boys at the school in 1957. A few years later, in the 1970s, the school became coeducational; an early woman graduate was Pam Shriver, the internationally recognized tennis champion.



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Brooks, Neal A., and Richard Parsons

156 1988 Baltimore County Panorama. Towson, Maryland: Baltimore County Public Library.

