



Gates Hall

**Be a Part of History
Invest In Preserving the Legacy**

1847 1893 1922 1945 1976 2014

What do all of these years have in common?

These are years during which the citizens of Pultneyville and the surrounding community came together to join forces . . . and resources to maintain and preserve GATES HALL as a community treasure. It has been an important part of our local history since December 27th, 1825 when a group of frontiersmen gathered together to frame a church constitution which, while not known at the time, would foster the religious and cultural growth in the area for the next 195 years. From its humble beginnings as Union Church, this landmark structure became the first non-denominational sacred place of worship in Pultneyville, and in 1867, became known as GATES HALL. From worship, to anti-slavery, temperance, spiritualism, women's rights, war time efforts and community theatre, GATES HALL has hosted many noteworthy lecturers on timely topics and causes, community meetings and theatrical performances. Unassuming, weathered and worn, yet a well-preserved landmark, GATES HALL has been lovingly cared for by the community through its many years. It resides on the National Register of Historic Places and proudly bears the well-earned designation as the oldest active continuously operating small community theatre in the nation.

GATES HALL has been home to many community theatre groups since 1867 including the Gatesinger Co, LTD., current Artists in Residence, who today continue the tradition of theatre by providing opportunities for people of all ages to enjoy the performing arts as creative performers or audience members. For nearly 200 years, our neighbors, friends and families have gathered, worshipped, loved, laughed, cried and celebrated under the roof of GATES HALL for weddings, funerals, plays, debates . . . and more.

As faithful stewards of this historic property, the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society (W-PHS) began restoration efforts in 2014 and successfully completed Phase I of revitalization plans, which supported from the ground-up remediation to stabilize the building with extensive foundation work that began in the basement. Today, the Hall is in need of structural remediation from the top down to ensure its prominent place in history. In 2020, as W-PHS embarks on Phase II of its Revitalization Project, it launches a campaign to address current needs. It is now our turn as a community, as in many years before, to invest and ensure that the GATES HALL LEGACY lives on to enrich the lives of future generations, just as it has done for the past 195 years.

Founded in 1964, the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society is an all volunteer 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization chartered by the State of New York Board of Regents and is sole steward of Historic Gates Hall.