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Postcards from the Past: Niagara University, NY

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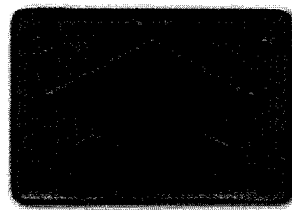
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Postcards from the Past

*Editor's Note: The **Vincentian Heritage** introduces a new regularly occurring feature, **Postcards from the Past**. This section of the journal will be used to exhibit small collections of postcards and other images from years past, grouped about a particular theme relating to the Vincentian Family. We hope it proves of historical interest to you, our readers. The Heritage welcomes contributions. Should you have a collection of images you feel might be of interest, please contact us at the address listed inside the front cover of the journal. We begin with a series of turn-of-the-century images of Niagara University. Enjoy!*



Bronze medal commemorating the 75 year Diamond Jubilee
at Niagara University, 1856-1931.

Vincentiana Collection, DePaul University Special Collections, Chicago, Illinois

- Niagara University -

Niagara University looks to its origins in the foundation of Our Lady of Angels Seminary in Buffalo on 21 November 1856. Within a year students and faculty settled at the present site atop Mounteagle Ridge, located between Niagara Falls and Lewiston, New York. While a college department existed from the beginning, university status came on 7 August 1883 with the incorporation of a medical school — only the second Catholic-sponsored institution of its kind in the United States at that time (Georgetown was the other). And, while the medical school (as well as a subsequent law school) became part of the present University of New York at Buffalo, and Our Lady of Angels Seminary moved to Albany in 1961, Niagara has nevertheless experienced steady growth and development in its dedication to a Vincentian-spirited education program and in its landscape.

The “Main Building,” formerly site of the seminary, is now known as Clet Hall and provides student housing and a home for the university’s excellent theater program. Saint Vincent’s Hall, titled the “Gymnasium,” built in 1905, is currently undergoing a complete internal renovation, as well as significant external modifications. Alumni Hall (familarly known as the “Chapel”), having experienced a fire in



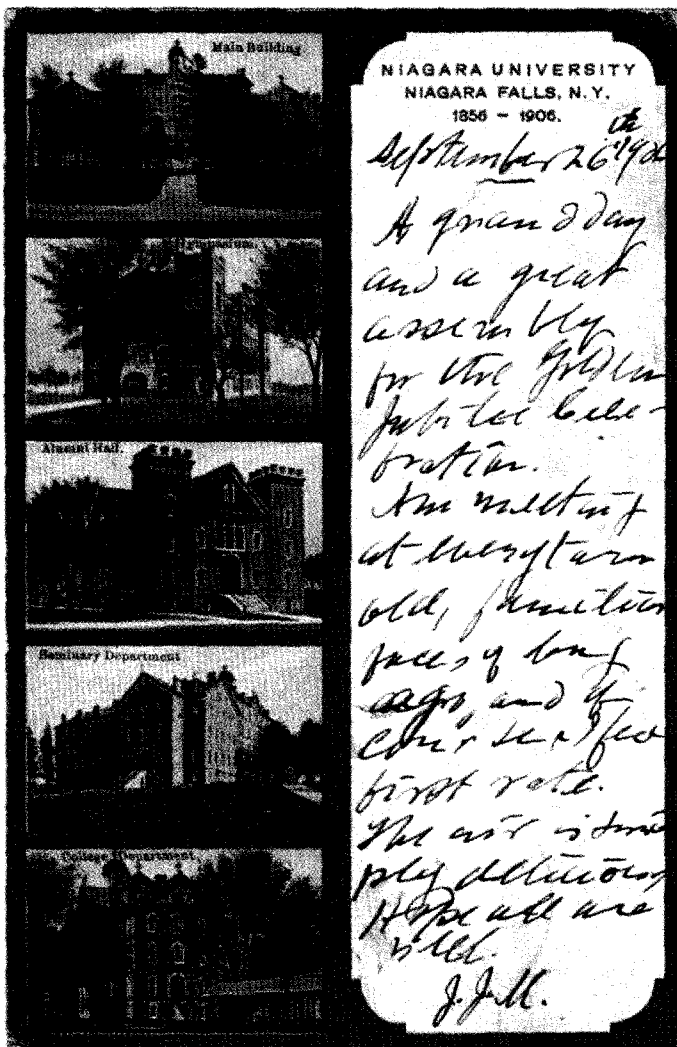
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August of 1898, some six months after it opened, and a second fire in 1913, after the time of these postcards, presents a slightly different profile today with a taller western tower. Housing both Our Lady of Angels Chapel and the University's administrative offices, it, along with Saint Vincent's Hall, serves as the heart of the campus, academically and spiritually.

Rev. Joseph G. Hubbert, C.M., Ph.D.
 Professor of Theology
 Niagara University



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50th Anniversary Postcard

Vincentiana Collection, DePaul University Special Collections, Chicago, Illinois

All that is done in prayer is so pleasing to God that He then awaits you on account of it. And not only is what is done in prayer in a harmony pleasing to Our Lord, but everything you do, when you keep your rules, pleases God.

*(Saint Vincent de Paul,
conference to the Daughters of Charity, 21 July 1658)*