

"It was summer, 1836. Andrew Jackson was President of the United States. William L. Marcy was Governor of the State of New York. Electric telegraphs, telephones, electric lights, and kindred conveniences were unknown. Railroads were few and far between. A horse that could trot a mile in three minutes was then considered a prodigy. Mr. Eliphaz Fay was chorister of the Dutch Reformed Church and Principal of the Academy. The school was but three years old, a toddler in years, but a giant, even then, in influence."

- *The Huguenot*, Vol. II, No. 3, Dec. 21, 1883, "Old Times in New Paltz. By a Student of '47," pp. 14-15.

1689 French Huguenots found first common school, Jean Cottin first schoolmaster

1773 Planning begins for a New Paltz school house

1812 New Paltz builds its first school house on North Front Street

1828 New Paltz Classical School founded

1832 New Paltz Academy founded, incorporated in 1833

1840 New Paltz Academy enlarged

1883 New Paltz Academy Trustees consider a second enlargement

1884 New Paltz Academy destroyed by fire

1884 Complaints made concerning the number of graduates that were becoming teachers. Rules were passed requiring graduates to teach as many years as they attended school.

1885 Rebuilding campaign by trustees and local citizens a success

1885 Newly raised building accepted by the state as New Paltz Normal

1886 Eugene Bouton appointed first principal of the Normal School

1889 New Paltz Normal enlarged

1889 Frank S. Capen succeeds Bouton to become the school's second principal

1899 Myron T. Scudder succeeds Capen to become the school's third principal

1900 New Paltz Normal implements an experimental "school city" program

1901 Cuban students arrive for study at New Paltz Normal

1906 New Paltz Normal destroyed by fire

1907 A new Main Building is constructed on the present hilltop campus

1908 Principal John C. Bliss heads the new Normal School on the hill

1911 New Paltz Normal celebrates its 25th anniversary

1917 Auditorium added to the Main Building (present day Studley Theatre)

1923 Normal School curriculum expanded to a three year program

1923 Dr. Lawrence H. van den Berg becomes the fifth principal of New Paltz Normal

1932 Completion of the Lawrence H. van den Berg School of Practice (Campus School)

1938 A four year curriculum is instituted