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During more than a hundred years, various buildings, each known as Woodward High School, have occupied the same location. The first school building was begun in the early spring of 1831; Mr. Woodward himself hauled away the first cart-load of earth from the cellar. The building stood at the northeast corner of the school lot and was built of brick, two stories high, with two rooms on each floor. The building was surmounted by a belfry, containing the famed Woodward bell. This was the building that was opened on the twenty-fourth day of October in the year of 1831, with three teachers and forty-two pupils in attendance. Ten years later, in the summer of 1841, a third story was added to this building; it still remained very plain and unpretentious, without any particular architectural design.

For fourteen years, this building echoed and re-echoed to the tread of young Woodward feet — then in 1855 gave way to a greater structure, as distinctive and pronounced in its architectural design and beauty, as its predecessor had been lacking in it. It was three stories in height, and was considered the noblest specimen of Gothic architecture west of the Alleghenies.

For more than half a century, the beautiful building of 1855 continued its noble mission of service and usefulness — for more than fifty years, it stood as the representative of high ideals of life, of loyalty to home and to nation, of strong minds and great names, of consecrated teaching and of high standards of scholarship.

Then came another Woodward, the building of 1910 — much larger and more spacious, rising in majestic dignity against the skies. Even at its creation it was glorified by the sacred traditions of the Woodward of the past.

For thirty-two years the present Woodward High School has continued its work for the youth of our city—for thirty-two years it has lifted its head in conscious pride over the long years of service and usefulness. May it continue to instruct and inspire the youth who enter its door!