

A Quick Glance of the Historical Timeline

1882 - First classes began with five students.

1883 - Forty-three students attended by the end of the first year.

1884 - Joseph Ward inaugurated as College president. 103 students are enrolled and taught by seven teachers. Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) were formed. Aristonian Women's Literary Society was formed.

1885 - Inscription for College bell written. Library contained 1,500 volumes. The Yankton Student began as the first student newspaper in Dakota Territory. Subscription was 45 cents per year.

1886 - Tuition was Fall (\$15), Winter (\$12) and Spring (\$10).

1887 - Students join in planting trees on campus. The first intercollegiate debate was held in Vermillion and included YC students from the Oratorical Association. The first commencement was held in June. Edward H. Pound was the first and only graduate in Theology that year. William J. McMurtry joined the faculty and becomes Dean of the College serving until his death in 1927. Tennis inaugurated as the first intercollegiate competitive sport around this time.

1888 - Ground broke and construction began for Dakin Hall, a women's dormitory.

1889 - "Free" scholarships are offered to one graduate from each high school in South Dakota. First intercollegiate football competition was held at the old depot grounds east of Yankton where YC loses 12-0 to the University of South Dakota. President and Founder of Yankton College, Joseph Ward died at age 52.

1890 - Alice Reynolds Kingsbury was the first woman to graduate, then was appointed instructor of French. "Free" tuition for children of clergymen in South Dakota or Nebraska and one year of "free" tuition to a student from each county in South Dakota or Nebraska. Thegn Men's Literary Society was formed.

1892 - Albert Tallman Free became the second President. First intercollegiate track competition held on a regular basis.

1893 - Ground-breaking ceremony held for Ward Hall.

1894 - Clarke Observatory opened. First regular football season started in the fall.

1895 - Rev. Henry Kimball Warren became third President.

1897 - A women's physical training course is added.

1898 - Baseball inaugurated as an intercollegiate sport.

1900 - First "Opening Day" exercises was held, a forerunner to Fall Convocation.

1901 - Crane Gymnasium opened. Five acres are purchased for an athletic park, later known as Crane Field. George Harrison Durand joined the faculty as professor of English.

1903 - Basketball inaugurated as intercollegiate sport.

1904 - Y-Club was organized by John L. Griffith, coach and director of physical education, who founded the Drake Relays. Adelpian Men's Literary Society was formed. Cornerstone for a new library was laid. First Founder's Day was observed on the anniversary of Joseph Ward's birthday, May 5. Lee N. Dailey was appointed Conservatory director, a position he held for 43 years. College seal was adopted.

1905 - Lay Library is dedicated.

1906 - Germane Sodales Women's Literary Society was formed.

1908 - First Commencement play, The Comedy of Errors, was performed on an outdoor stage. Sarah Wood Ward, wife of Joseph Ward, died.

1911 - The first Okihe, the student yearbook, was published.

1914 - Dakin Hall burned to the ground.

1915 - A central heating plant was added. Kingsbury Hall for Women was dedicated. Garden Terrace Theater was dedicated and A Merchant of Venice was performed. The first issue of the alumni publication, the quarterly Yanktonais was published.

1916 - "Greyhound" athletic nickname and mascot proposed. YC, Huron College and Dakota Wesleyan University form the new South Dakota Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

1917 - Women's Glee Club organized. YC chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, national honorary forensics fraternity chartered. First Pioneer Day was observed.

1918 - Pioneer Day was established. 1920 - Men's Glee Club was established.

1921 - The first Kronithonitollithron Banquet was held on Pioneer Day in October.

1923 - Gregg Evans and Harry Savage join the faculty and Carl Youngworth was named Coach.

1924 - The YC Orchestra is established as a permanent organization.

1925 - George W. Nash was inaugurated as fourth President. Chapter of Theta Alpha Phi, national honorary dramatics fraternity was chartered. Enrollment tops 300. Howling Thirteen is established.

1928 - Pi Gamma Mu, national social science honorary society is chartered. Hazing is curbed as a result of a "freshman revolt." Paddling is banned. Beanies worn only until Pioneer Day.

1930 - Forbes Hall of Science opened. Howling Thirteen became Howling Thirty to support athletic contests.

1931 - "Smokey Joe" Mendel '31 tied the world record for the 100-yard dash at 9.5 seconds in Huron. YC merges with Fargo College, a Congregational Church of North Dakota. Look Hall, a men's dormitory opened.

1932 - Redfield College merged with Yankton College, becoming the School of Theology.

1933 - Hail! Yankton College! is published.

1937 - First Parent's Day was held.

1940 - Joseph Lyle McCarrison, Jr., the fifth President arrived.

1942 - Lifetime Pass was given to the Letterwinners who were graduated.

1946 - James Clark Graham became the sixth President.

1947 - Barrack apartments were added for the married students.

1948 - Nash Gymnasium was dedicated.

1949 - The Greyhound, the student yearbook, became an annual publication.

1955 - Adrian Rondileau became the seventh President.

1962 - The School of Theology closed. Donald B. Ward, the founder's grandson, became the eighth President.

1963 - Bruno Beghe's sculptor of Rev. Joseph Ward was placed in the Hall of Congress in Washington, D.C.

1964 - Durand Hall, the co-ed dormitory, opened.

1965 - Elm Hall, a men's dormitory, opened.

1967 - Warren Campus Center opened.

1969 - Crane Field is renamed Crane-Youngworth Field.

1970 - Lloyd Library opened. Fred S. Honkala became the ninth President.

1972 - The Women's Sports Program began in basketball and volleyball.

1973 - Alfred M. Gibbens became the tenth President.

1977 - Orlan Mitchell became the eleventh President. The Greyhounds were voted the College Team of the Year by the South Dakota Sportswriters.

1984 - Edward Couch became the twelfth President. Yankton College closed its doors December 21.

1985 - Final Commencement held in June. Don C. Peterson became the thirteenth President.

1988 - The campus became a camp for the U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons.