Outgrowing the Lehman Road property, in 1857 the Sisters purchased an estate farther west in Price Hill. It was here that the Academy prospered and grew, first as a boarding academy for girls, later adding a day academy for girls and a kindergarten for boys. After 1906 the boarding academy was discontinued. The property and buildings gradually expanded to include 56 acres, a five-story brick academy building, and the “Glass Hall” or chapel building.

The Sisters of Charity were founded by St. Elizabeth Seton in 1809 in Maryland. She became the first American-born saint in 1975. It was through her inspiration and example that the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati founded Seton High School.

The Sisters of Charity came to Cincinnati in 1829 when they started St. Peter’s Orphan Asylum and School for girls.

After becoming a diocesan community in 1852, the Sisters started Mount St. Vincent Academy on Lehman Road in Price Hill the following year.

Gradually, with the building of the Price Hill Incline and the extension of the Cincinnati Street Railway lines, the city expanded to embrace the neighborhood around Mount St. Vincent. New parishes were opened.
In 1957 a beautiful new building was opened to replace the three 19th century structures on the campus. A modern chapel, 900-seat auditorium, cafeteria, music rooms, and 20 classrooms were part of the “new Seton.” Two years later Seton students helped celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of Charity and the 120th anniversary of their coming to Cincinnati by participating in the “Song of Charity” pageant.

Mount St. Vincent Academy closed in the spring 1927 and reopened in the fall as Seton High School, part of the new Archdiocesan system created to accommodate the growing number of students attending high school. A new auditorium/gymnasium and classroom building was completed in 1932.

The curriculum expanded to meet changing needs in society. Courses such as Home Economics, Orchestra, Chorus, Music, and Journalism were added. Extra-curricular activities also expanded. The annual paper drive to raise money for the foreign missions became a hallowed tradition. Yearbooks, student newspapers, Student Council, the Mother Seton League, the Girls’ Athletic Association, and student dances became integral to the activities of the student.

During the 1960s and 1970s Seton and Elder high schools began to collaborate by combining some classes and with the creation of the Series-at-Eight partnership in the performing arts. Seton students celebrated the canonization of St. Elizabeth Seton, and the Golden Jubilee of their school with a week of special events.

An updating of facilities was undertaken, first in 1980 with the renovation of the Science and Home Economics building. By 2007 the main building had undergone an extensive transformation and modernization, and a new gymnasium was completed to accommodate the growing sophistication of women's sports.

Many traditional activities continue into the 21st century, but new ones are often added to stay attuned with the changing times. Seton now offers opportunities for mission trips, and has found innovative ways to express “Sisterhood” among their own community and well beyond.

“The object of Mount St. Vincent Academy is to lay a deep and solid foundation of all the branches of a thorough English education. Grammar, History, Mathematics, Natural Science, and Literature are among the subjects taught. Music, Drawing, Painting and the Modern Languages and Latin also receive their due amount of attention.”

[The Illustrated Chronicle, 1901]