



Shoppers are out in force on South Salina Street near Jefferson Street in 1954. (Photo from CIA Research Center)



The Syracuse municipal Christmas Tree at St. Mary's Circle, now Columbus Circle. "Silent Night, Holy Night is an apt title for this splendid nocturnal study," editors wrote about this image in 1929. (M.A. Obrenski, Dec. 22, 1929)

# Christmases long, long ago

It really does sometimes feel like the most wonderful time of the year in Syracuse.

The Christmas season. Lighting the tree. Waving to Santa. Standing in snow, or rain, to watch the festivities. Joining, perhaps, a group of carolers.

But do you remember riding the monorail at E.W. Edwards department store? Or jostling along with so many other shoppers on Salina Street?

Some grand old department stores may be long gone, but our city still calls us downtown, to linger at the lights, skate around the ice and take a moment to be of good cheer.



Children go window-shopping downtown. (Jim Commentucci, Dec. 18, 1984)



Bruce Lankford, left, and Joan Graham, both 4, visit with Santa. (Onacio Pizana, Dec. 15, 1970)



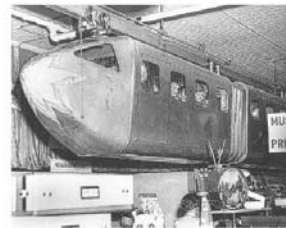
At least 300 people shrug off rain and cold to watch Mayor Lee Alexander and his wife, Beth, pull the switch to light the tree on Clinton Square. (Pat Sims, Dec. 11, 1977)



Santa Claus, Marine Cpl. Eugene Walker, stands atop a tank in Clinton Square as he and other volunteers from the Marine Eighth Tank battalion in Matnydale prepare to collect toys for the needy. (Doc. 16, 1974)



North Syracuse High School students trim a 24-foot Christmas tree at Everson Museum. (Photo by Onacio Pizana, Dec. 16, 1976)



Children ride the monorail at E.W. Edwards Department store downtown in about 1955. (Photo from CIA Research Center)



Traffic fills South Salina street two days before Christmas. (Staff photo, Dec. 23, 1953)



People walk through downtown Syracuse in 1938.



View of South Salina Street from the Chimes Building during the Christmas season. (Photo by Carl Skjole, December 1966)