By BRIAN QUEBEDEAUX  
Staff Writer

The University of Southwestern Louisiana has been a continually growing university. In order to keep up with increasing enrollment, the university itself has also had to increase. New buildings and new land have continued to enlarge the size of the USL campus.

Looking back, it may be interesting to see just how USL started out.

The original administrative offices of USL were located in Martin Hall. This is not the same Martin Hall that exists today. The Martin Hall that now exists was built to replace the original building of the same name. The present Martin Hall was built directly behind the original one. They were built so close together that the double semi-spiraled stairs of the present building barely fit around the single rear stairs of the old building.

Even though the old building was torn down in 1964, in a way, part of it is still on our campus. Many of the bricks from the old building were used to construct the USL Art Museum on the corner of St. Mary and Taft Street.

What about the student union? At one time the student union complex consisted of Guilford Hall, which was the main union building. Olivier Hall, which was a lounge; and Coronna Hall, which was a bookstore. Anyone who is the least bit familiar with the present union complex undoubtedly knows how much that area has grown.

To make it easier on my readers (and on myself), it may be easier to describe the size of USL in 1962 by giving a list of the buildings that were not on this campus.

Around the part of campus now known as the "Quadrangle," buildings such as Foster Hall, F.G. Mouton Hall, Maxim Doucet Hall and Bittle Hall were non-existent. O.K. Allen was a dining hall. Near Cypress Lake there was no Wharton Hall, and as mentioned before, the building now known as the student union was nothing more than tennis courts.

The western side of the campus ended at McKinley Street. In 1962 there were no such buildings as Angelle Hall, Hamilton, or Bancroft and Denho Dorms.

Rex Street was not even a street in '62. It was merely a long mud-hole. It's paving came later. Present buildings that were lacking along Rex Street included the Chemical Engineering Radiation Laboratory, Griffin Hall and the Conference Center.

Woodson Street was practically the northern border of the USL campus since the only buildings on the other side of it were R'y and Caffery dormitories, Parker Hall and the ROTC building. This area now contains McCullough and Stokes dormitories, E.A. Martin Dining Hall, a Day Care Center, a Washeteria, a Maintenance building, various warehouses, Married Students Apartments and Voorhies dormitory.

One of the latest buildings to be added to our campus is Fletcher Hall, which stands on the corner of Girard Park Drive and Woodson Street where a baseball diamond was once located. Other parts of our present campus include Blackham Hall, the Creamery, the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, the Print Shop, Cajun Field and the USL Athletic Complex.

It could almost be said that this campus has grown a little since the 1960s!