

Cal State Hayward

A LOOK BACK



WHEN THE NEW HAYWARD State College campus opened for the fall 1960 term, it consisted of the three buildings pictured above: the Science Center, the Fine Arts Building, and a boiler room.

The campaign for the creation of the college, originally called Alameda State, began in 1954 when the Hayward Area Chamber of Commerce pointed out that Alameda was the only metropolitan county in the state that did not have a state college.

In 1955, a bill sponsored by the late Assemblyman Carlos Bee, D-Hayward, called for the establishment of an Alameda

County college and, for the next five years, Hayward, Fremont, Alameda, Pleasanton and San Leandro promoted themselves as ideal locations for the campus.

The state public works board originally picked Pleasanton and the town began "making room for the giant that has been in its lap," according to a Tribune story.

The town even experienced an impromptu parade down its Main Street in joy at its selection before Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. asked the board to reconsider. Using Pleasanton's location from the county's largest population centers.

The college officially opened in the fall

1960 as 200 students enrolled in classes held at the new and under-occupied Sunset High School campus in Hayward.

Meanwhile, the battle over the location of a permanent site continued.

Finally, in early 1965, the 60-acre Hawthick Ranch in Hayward, above Mission Boulevard, with a panoramic view of the Bay Area, was chosen to be the college's permanent location.

By the time classes started in the new site three years later, only the first two of 12 major buildings included in the campus master plan had been completed.

Photos from The Tribune files.