

1964
I must have occupied the room in 1964. Would have been this little one, looks a bit drab, low but nice and bright in those days. It was a room but like this on the hill and someone lived in that for years and years. Tried to sell me an electronic music case that chap – had one in his flat. (GD)

226, 46
These are the columns, 226, 6' apart. We know that as we position our book stacks to fit within the columns. (RB)

22 years
Incidentally, everything you can see in the main library building that can be moved has been moved over the last 22 years. (RB)

4am
When we were students we used to come down at 4am in the summer, and throw Frisbes and all the whole course, to break our routines. When you live on here all the time for three to four years anything to break the monotony is good! (DT)

45
This is all new down here. They have all got televisions and stuff now, and there's even the bar. You live like a freer room, I can remember just having 65 days to live on and went and got my 65 out and it would get me a couple of meals a week later. (DT)

6 types of concrete
Julia Lubbock got work for certain, but there are 6 types of concrete finish in the Albert Simon library. Yes, and he's pointed out the different finishes that they had never noticed in the concrete... well, do you want a break? (RB)

64 degrees F
Yes, everything is there: fire alarms, smoke alarms and security alarms and a constant temperature of 64°F. In fact if I feel quite good standing in what we call "Special Collections Room". (GD)

walkers & talkers

Dawn Ades (DA)

Department of Art History and Theory

7:11.04

Robert Butler (RB)

Librarian

27:09.04

John Dowden (JD)

first student of the University,

Department of Mathematics

27:09.04

Kris Halliday (KH)

Department of Art History and Theory

15:12.04

Maria Jacobou (MJ)

Institute for Social and Economic Research

19:01.05

David Knock (DK)

Department of Economics

10:12.04

Serafin Martinez (SM)

Department of Government

18:11.04

Rodney Mills (RM)

Estate Section

15:12.04

Michelle Osayamon Ogebor (MO)

Department of Law

18:11.04

Gareth Oughton (GO)

Student Union President

09:01.05

Lorena Rivero De Beer (LRDB)

Department of Sociology

19:01.05

Ray Smith (RS)

Estate Section

15:12.04

Paul Thompson (PT)

Department of Sociology

09:12.04

Dan Twyman (DT)

Department of Art History and Theory

07:11.04

brail

This is another sculpture we managed to get on to campus. It was in a public square in the north of Brazil, and it was shipped to the UK and was very controversial at the time. Because the people in the town in Brazil they would have liked to keep it.

brilliant
I wanted to come to the Lecture Theatres first because one of the strongest memories I have of the place is that one of the lecturers (and I did Social Studies and Economics) was absolutely brilliant. And one of them is still here – Tony King, Anthony King. I was here 1969-72. (DC)

invented "Capability" known
He was best known as a landscape designer, but he was also an architect who designed both the house and its park on several occasions. His nickname "Capability" came from his fondness for saying a country estate had great "capability" for improvement. Brown described himself as a "place-maker".

building site
My early experiences of the University were actually clambering through a building site, which was this bit. (JD)

joachim butter
"the economic position of women is one of those subjects on which there exists a 'consensus of silence'. While most people, perhaps, imagine that nearly all women marry and are supported by their husbands, those who know better know women live, or die, have rarely anything to say on the subject. Such social problems as this are certainly painful; they may also be revolting. But in fact they must not be ignored".

rab Butler, R.A. has often been described as 'the best prime minister Britain did not have'. He was largely responsible for the revolutionary 1964 Education Act, that established compulsory secondary education in Britain.

keneth capon
That would be the architect, Kenneth Capon, and one of the only two employees of the University in 1962, "how should I know what the university should look like before even talking to the architect and finding out what he wants to do?".

californian frisbee god
In its early days the University was quite free spirited in its ideology, and there was a student here who was a Californian Frisbee god, and he was the first one in. I used to see people coming there aren't any referees, the idea is that the competitors work out differences between themselves. (DT)

christmas day
Of course a bar was built along the corridor so that the main building can be closed off, but they can still work, and it's always popular – even on Christmas day students come in. (RB)

chverster
Whenever I came out of my cigarette but was here. (KH)

clue
I had to mark my score card. Can I borrow your pen? The map will give me a clue where the next one is. (DT)

colours
"When were these colours added?" (RB)
"That was made in the 1960s... and I had to discontinue because for the chairs, the upholstery... green on Floor Five..." (RB)

fan
I'm a huge fan of the tower I lived in Bayleigh, at floor five and at the top in a penthouse flat. But its fantastic solid brick, fantastic quality, no noise problem. I was really happy living in the towers. Some people are afraid of anything to live in them. Then I lived in Wivenhoe. (DT)

favourite
Square 4. This square is my favourite square on the whole campus. I don't know why. I find it very pretty. (KH)

film society
The other thing is that the film society showed films in the Lecture Theatres every Sunday night. There's tables in front so you could sit on a bench and watch. It was great coming in here, while listening to the wind outside. (GD)

floating
Here we have the lake almost floating on the lake. (RB)

flooring
The meetings would start and Kenneth would say, "I'm afraid there's an emergency. We are going to start to evacuate, to 100 cubic metres of earth from a certain place, and we don't know where to put it." (PT)

flying
Peace Doves just flying around in the trees. (KH)

frisbee
Hello. I need to hire a Frisbee to use on the Frisbee Golf course. And you said the area is available for that. We have a big company and we socialise a lot together. (SM)

frisk
The other thing that I find funny here is the smell from the buildings... it's full of those perfumes and if you go past at a busy time it really is quite powerful. You'd recognise it from the airport and noise round there, even if you were blindfolded. (KH)

frustration
At some points I had tears in my eyes from frustration. (KH)

full stop
But that building would then put in a strange choice but it seemed to be almost denying the notion of the infinite expandability of the campus with the original squares and the towers. It almost suggests defining a full stop. (DA)

future
So I have chosen to stay here because it is good for me in terms of CV, and to improve my English. I do enjoy my course. Yes, it's not as good as before. I did enjoy it. But Spain is not a good system either. In terms of my future it is better to stay here... (LRDB)

copyright
When we started there wasn't much worry about copyright or your responsibility to the people you were interviewing... and now that's a big concern. (DT)

crowded
Someone else was there so many people here... I've never seen the place so crowded. (KH)

cultures
After a while it has been less different as I thought. I thought there will be a bigger difference between the cultures. But now if you live in a big capital, you kind of know about everything. (SM)

cycle
I would cycle in from Wivenhoe and leave my bicycle up against the wall outside. Most of the grounds you were not supposed to go into. They got building works all over them, four or five years ago. (DT)

de-pollution
But you know I think, going back to the de-pollution of the streets, with the government's eighteen years of conservative rule and Margaret Thatcher's approach to Unionism, the Student Union got hit quite hard under Thatcher. (GO)

die-in
On yeah, we're going to have the die-in at a clock. (KH)

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dreamed
I thought, gosh, what an attractive building. You know I had never dreamed of working here, just interesting when you constantly moving the boxes. So, as a consequence of new, tallings and new drainage, that used to be there and now it's gone there. (DT)

drudge
"I don't think I'm going to find it. But there's a picture of two traction engines that were used to dredge the lake. They were doing that in summer of 1964 and used to watch them dragging this scoop backwards and forwards across the lake, scooping out all this gunge from the bottom".

drugs
"What were they doing... widening and enlarging the lake?" "Oh, just clearing it out. It was clogged up with things like bombs and things from the war or shells. People dumped things in it. We had the army here during the war." (DD)

edging
Edgington was one of the first to appreciate the importance of the social and general relativity, and published a treatise on the subject. He led an expedition to observe the total solar eclipse of 1919, in which the bending of light rays predicted by general relativity was observed.

elizabeth words
"Could there be a relationship between walking and Oral History?"

ideology
I think a whole it works well for a 21st century student to remember to take them back to places where things happened. I remember the first time we did that, we were talking to an old farm worker called Bob Jaggard. He was one of the early revolutionaries because he used Elizabeth words when he was talking. I took him to see a row of Chestnut trees he had planted fifty years earlier. It was rather touching." (DT)

impressed
I felt really embarrassed because there was me speaking around on his brand new beautiful carpet in thoroughly wet shoes. I still feel embarrassed. I must have made a terrible mess. But Albert was a very nice man and he never commented on it. Yes, you believe in living in a tied cottage with a chimney and they say "No, we're not in charge of it".

information office
"Why don't you go the information office. I said "What does information mean?" So anything at all even if I'm looking for my book that I lost somewhere, I was happy to see them. Yes, we're not in charge of it".

interviews
Then through doing these interviews we met these older people and from talking to them the whole place began to take on a different kind of meaning. Then you realised where someone used to look after his sheep as a teenager, and where he and his wife used to go courting, and it gave a new dimension to the landscape... like what you want to give to the campus. (PT)

iron
The moment I actually signed my name I decided to do something active and yes, I am completely against the war against terrorism. So completely against involving fire and I'm going to do something about it. And I signed my name on a piece of paper and from that moment on, I was a free citizen. (GD)

join
I would like to join. (MOOD)

jowl
A lot of people say why am I a jowl? Well I say it's no good being miserable is it? I don't get you anythere. (RM)

killng
There should be a concrete plinth every time... It should be up there. If not, I'll make it up. Though I'm a bit worried about killing someone. (DT)

knave knight
"Never will the nations of the earth be well governed until both sexes are fairly represented, and one influence, a voice, and a hand in the enactment and administration of the laws".

landscape committee
I think the park was grazed, that's my memory of it. There was one lawyer there. They put me on the landscape committee which proved to be a very fruitless thing to be on.

language
"Because he didn't want to change things?"

language
The meetings would start and Kenneth would say, "I'm afraid there's an emergency. We are going to start to evacuate, to 100 cubic metres of earth from a certain place, and we don't know where to put it." (PT)

language
"No, this doesn't count as going to nature?"

language
"No, I don't know why..."

language
"I think so, maybe too, constructed?" (LRDB)

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"I'm not sure why they are so lonely?"

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thomas hopper
"It is an architect's business to understand all styles, and to be prepared in favour of none".

horizon
It would be good to think that perhaps visitors who perhaps don't know what these buildings are, when they see those groups of towers... the Frisbee god relations. What's that doing on the horizon? What are these buildings and where they're horrible to give them away. (RB)

horrible
And in the bars are horrible. The SU Bar is horrible. Loud. Horrible video games, horrible food. Like a pub but without the adults. (LRDB)

huh
Oh, that's my hat. It was nicer than that it is now. It had got rather overgrown all round it and the paint is not what it was. It was newly painted and cleared out... It looked very well in those days. (GD)

ice hours
I'm not quite sure where the entrance was, but this was actually the way the University was built. It was in the days when Wivenhoe House was a private house. And when they wanted ice in the summer they got it here. (GD)

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map
Have you got the map? What happens is – this is all the new building work, which is happening really quite a bit, they've recently moving the boxes. So, as a consequence of new, tallings and new drainage, that used to be there and now it's gone there. (DT)

mathematic
One of the memories I have of this student I knew who was blind, and he was amazing because he never reacted as if he was blind, and he would work very very fast. (AN)

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