

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE
**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROGRAM**



A BRIEF LOOK AT THE

**AMBASSADOR COLLEGE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM**

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WELCOME to Ambassador College, Big Sandy!

You are now touring one of three campuses of Ambassador College. Each campus has its own special character and appeal. To quote the founder of Ambassador College, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, they "mutually excel one another." Occasionally, visitors to the Texas campus ask why an Ambassador College was started here. Most readily accept campuses in or near large metropolitan areas but wonder at a college nestled in the rural area of East Texas.

Academically speaking, our campus offers virtually the same curricula as do the other two campuses. However, in addition to presenting the same basic courses, Big Sandy offers its students and staff some unique opportunities. The 3,500 acres now owned and leased by the college provide plenty of "wide open spaces" for the departments of Environmental Research and Agricultural Research. Because of easy availability of space, the Texas campus provides a logical locale for environmental research and testing. The campus is, in effect, a "capsule society." We operate our own water treatment plant, dispose of our wastes, maintain our own grounds, produce the majority of our own dairy products, raise our own beef and grow a portion of our vegetable needs. In addition, with student labor and a skeleton crew of full-time employees, the college has built campus roads, landscaped grounds, built a nine-hole golf course and a 49-acre lake, complete with marina and beach facilities, here on our Texas campus.

Students and staff alike have the opportunity to work firsthand with the problems of environment and maintaining ecological balance. We are learning how to solve such urban and rural problems as where to put roads, how to handle phosphates, what to do with raw

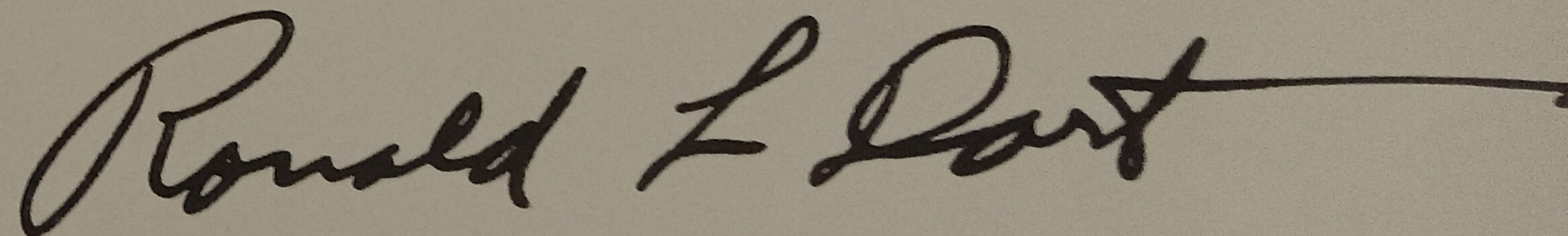
sewage without polluting our lake, how to achieve a right type of lake ecology, how to rejuvenate tired soil, what types of cattle work best for our needs, and what effects pollutants have on plant life and soil fertility.

Most recently, we have begun experimenting with a composting digester, which we hope can provide a significant breakthrough in the realm of solid-waste management.

At Ambassador College, Big Sandy, experience has shown that physical surroundings of quality and beauty definitely contribute a cultural, uplifting, character-building influence on students — not to mention the impact such a philosophy has on our environment.

It is our desire continually to contribute and upgrade our environment, wherever possible. We feel that perhaps our greatest contribution to society is the quality of character being developed in our students. Without the incentive, purpose and ability to carry through in the human element, continued improvement could not be maintained. We are sure that you will see what we mean as you visit the campus. Visitors are always welcome to tour the campus and see the environmental projects.

Additional information about the college may be obtained upon request.

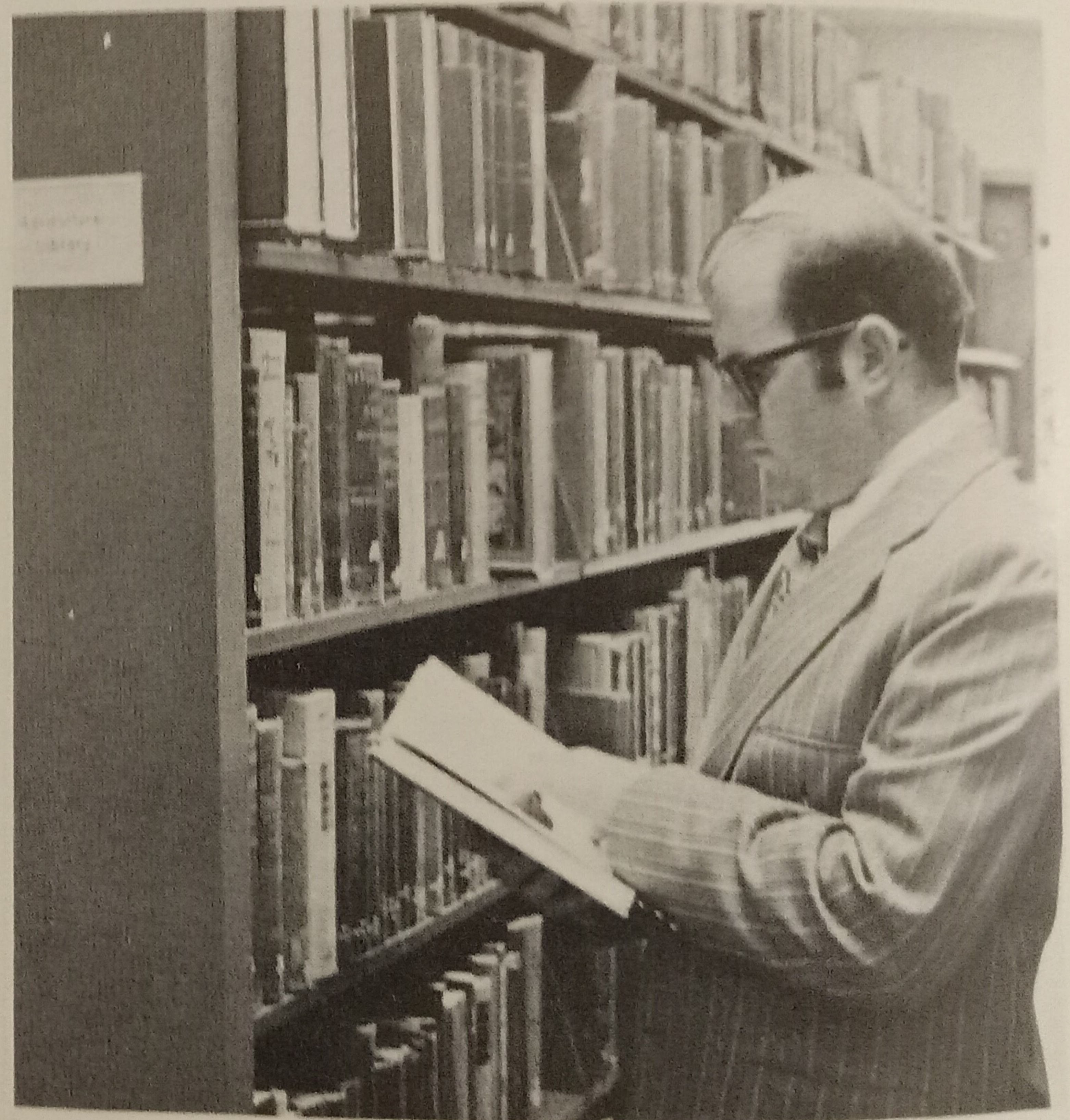
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald L. Dart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DEPUTY CHANCELLOR

AND NOW...

Your Tour of Ambassador's Program

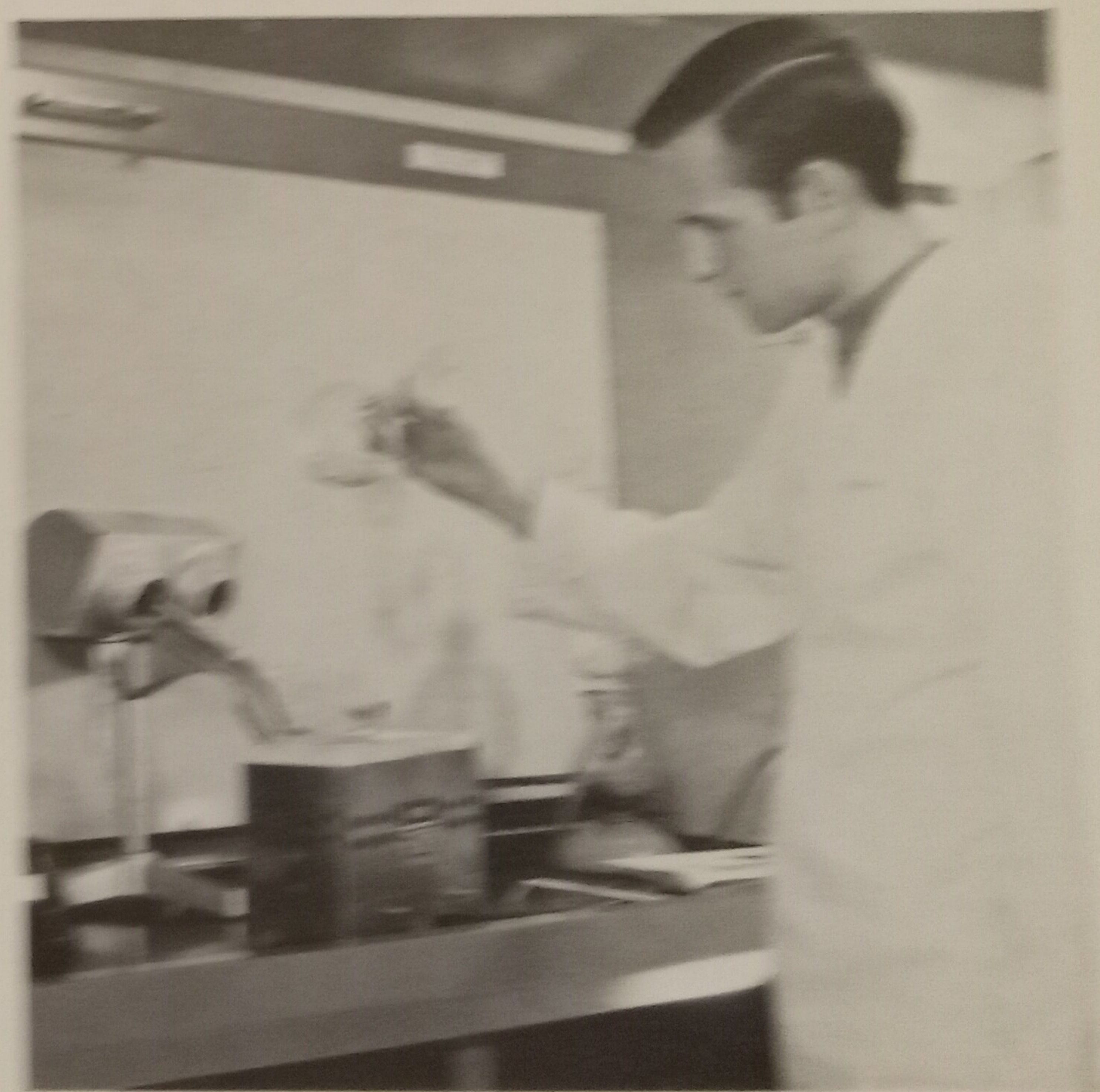
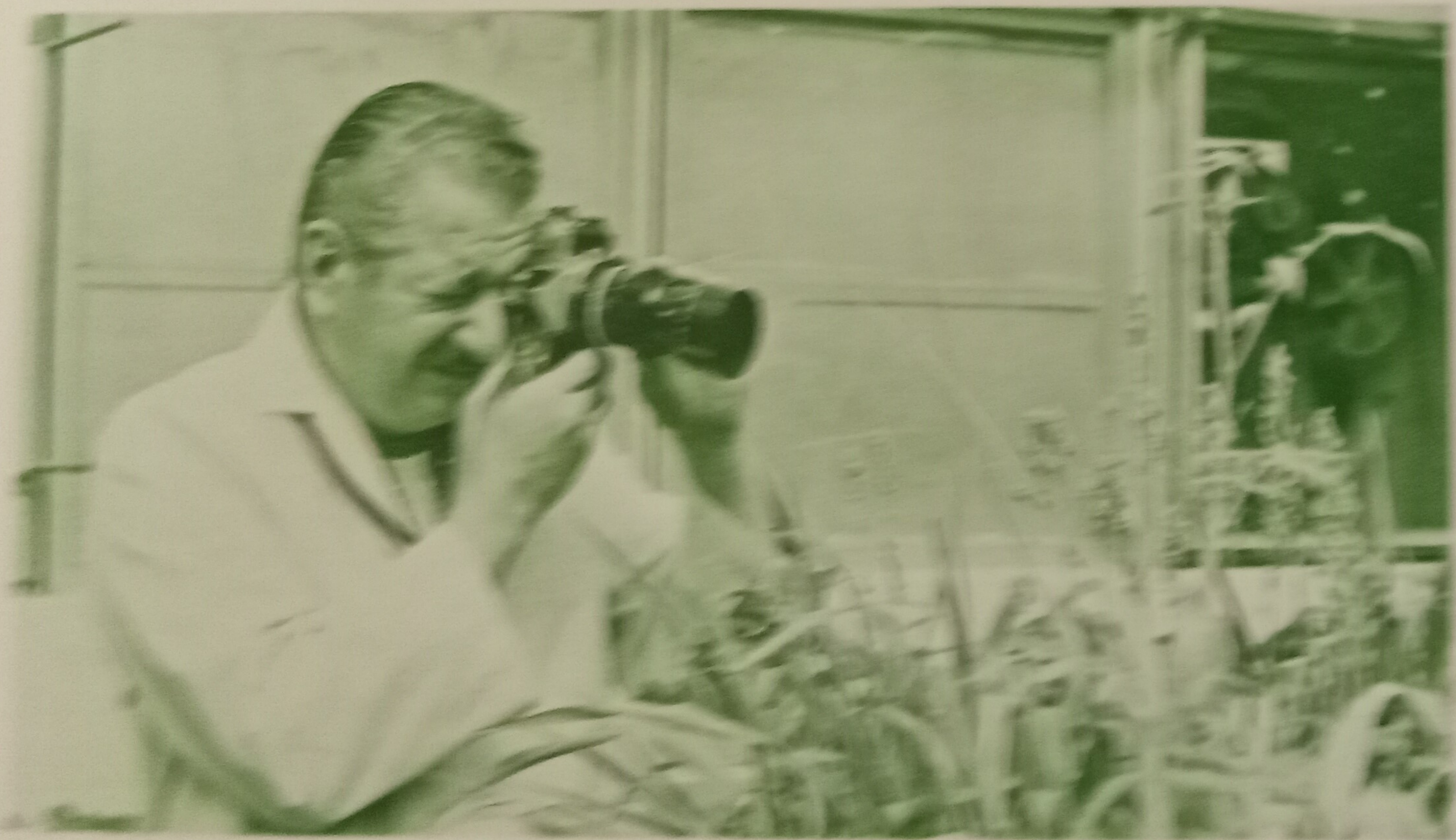
The ecological program at Ambassador College begins in the classroom, where instructors teach students to recapture true values. Individual research is encouraged.



LEFT: Instructor covers basic principles in agricultural research class. **ABOVE:** Biology instructor examines portion of our unique Woodburn book collection which emphasizes historical aspects of U.S. and British agricultural research.

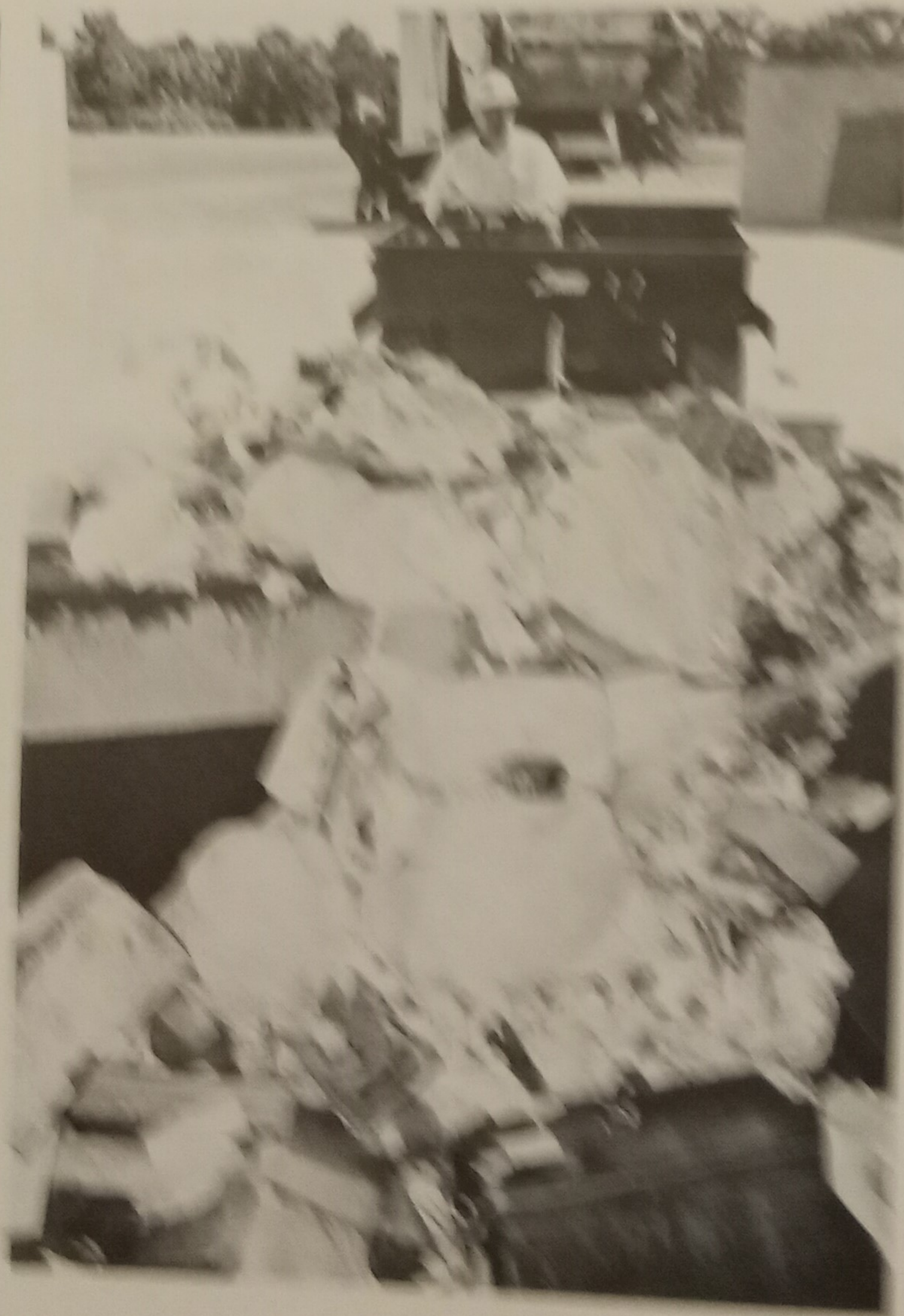
Environmental Research

RIGHT: Small controlled greenhouse test pots are carefully examined. They provide indications how production from the digester works as a soil conditioner. Note bulk loading of granulated compost from digester at far right. BELOW: Photographic records of greenhouse research results are maintained regularly. BELOW RIGHT: A small college laboratory is maintained for analysis of soils, soil conditioner and other miscellaneous research.



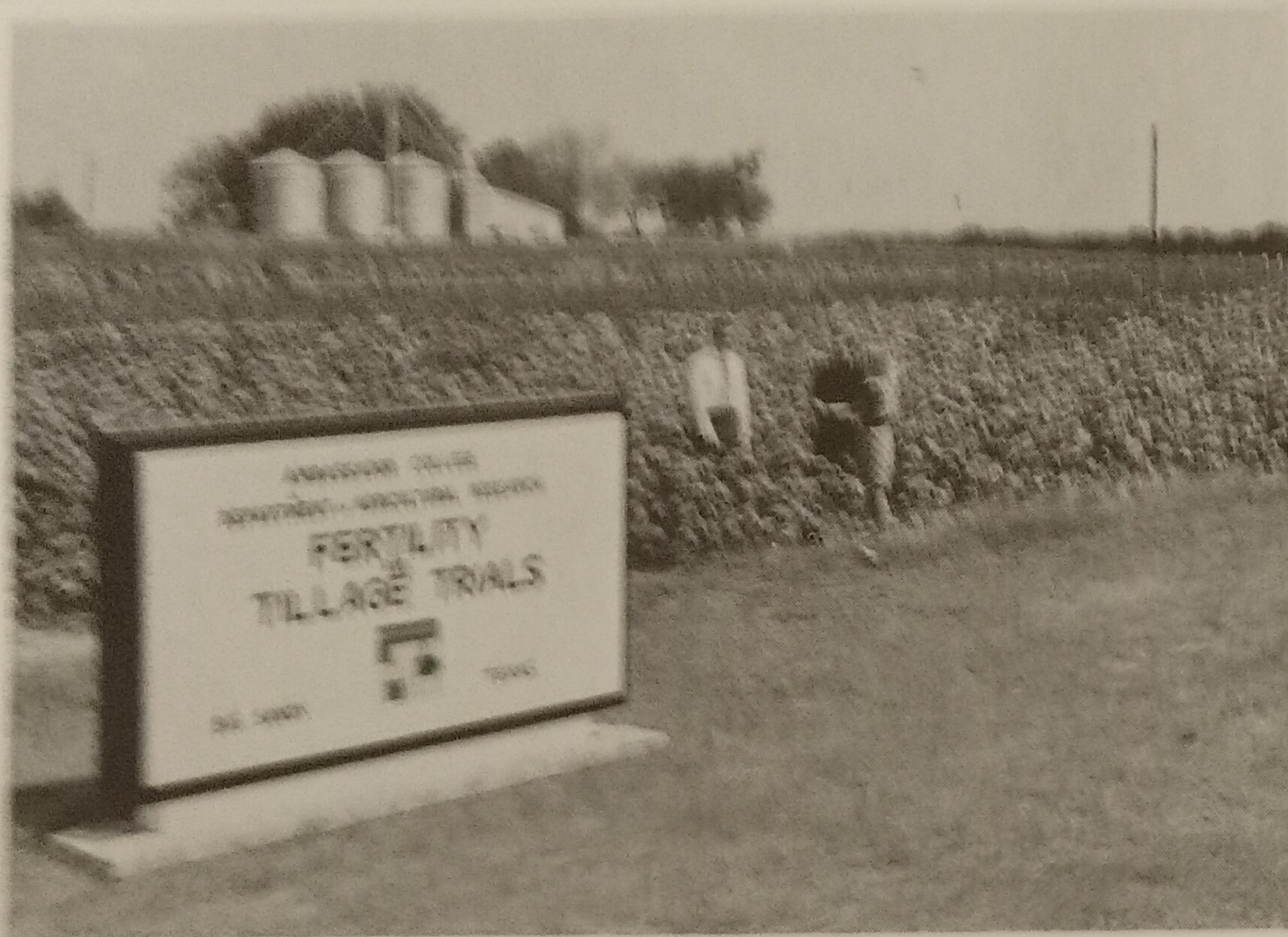
Experimental Composting Digester

Finding answers to solid-waste problems is of prime interest to Ambassador College. One of the biggest experiments presently under way is a composting digester. The "big tube" is an 11-by-120-foot rotating tube divided into three compartments. Its basic function is to break down the raw garbage it is fed and produce a usable, high-grade soil conditioner.



ABOVE: Eric Ewech, inventor, inspects a pile of the final product as it is discharged from the digester, which is pictured in the background. LEFT: Raw garbage is dumped from refuse trucks and pushed into a ramp. A plunger in the ramp forces the wastes into the "big tube." FAR LEFT: An aerial view of the digester site.

Soil Fertility and Tillage Tests



The overall goal of the Division of Agricultural Research is to recapture true values. The soil fertility test plot is part of this program of basic practical research designed to provide information and data which will be helpful in explaining our philosophy of agriculture. Restoration of the agricultural potential of our East Texas soil is a basic part of our program.

Two philosophies are being tested: one designed to maintain the land's productivity and potential, and the other designed to obtain the largest quantity of production.

No pesticides, fungicides or similar products are used. Insect effects and diseases are recorded and form part of the findings.

The main emphasis is on developing a true understanding of the soil and how it was designed to work. The fertility of a soil is a resource that is reusable. The overall purpose of the soil fertility test plot is to observe and show how to develop the soil's productive capacity and then, most important, how to maintain this productivity indefinitely.



Overview of soil experimentation area shows the layout and comparison of chemical, organic, mineral and combination test plots. Each square is one-tenth acre in size.



Pictured is a panoramic view of our latest valley beautification project. What was previously a marshy, mosquito-infested area covered with dense undergrowth has now been transformed into an inspiring garden area enjoyed by students and faculty, as well as thousands of visitors to the campus.

The purpose of the Landscaping Department at Ambassador College is to dress and keep the environment. Working with the outdoor physical surroundings might be called "exterior decorating." Soil is the foundation of the lawn. As with any structure, the end product is no better than the foundation upon which it is built.

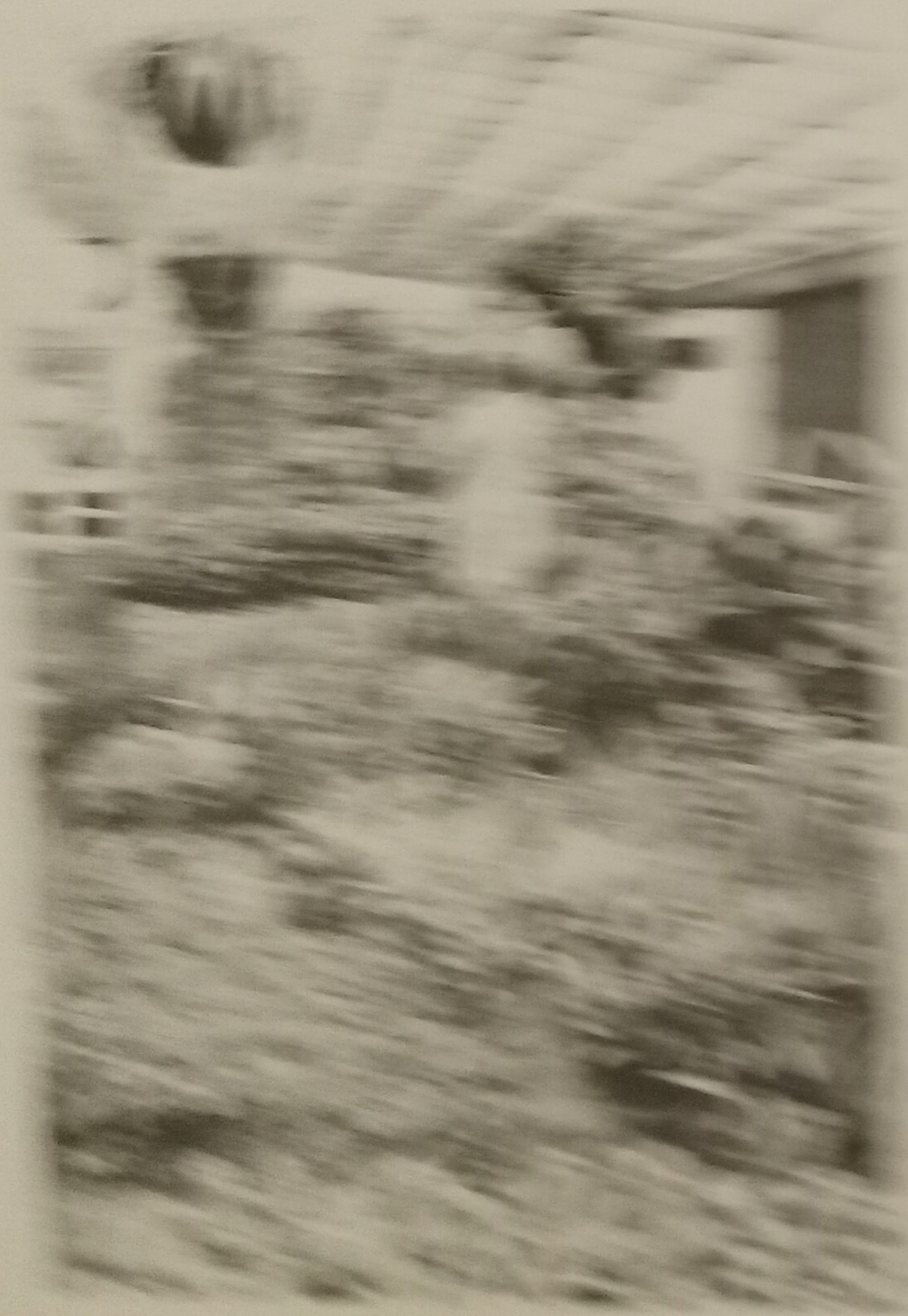


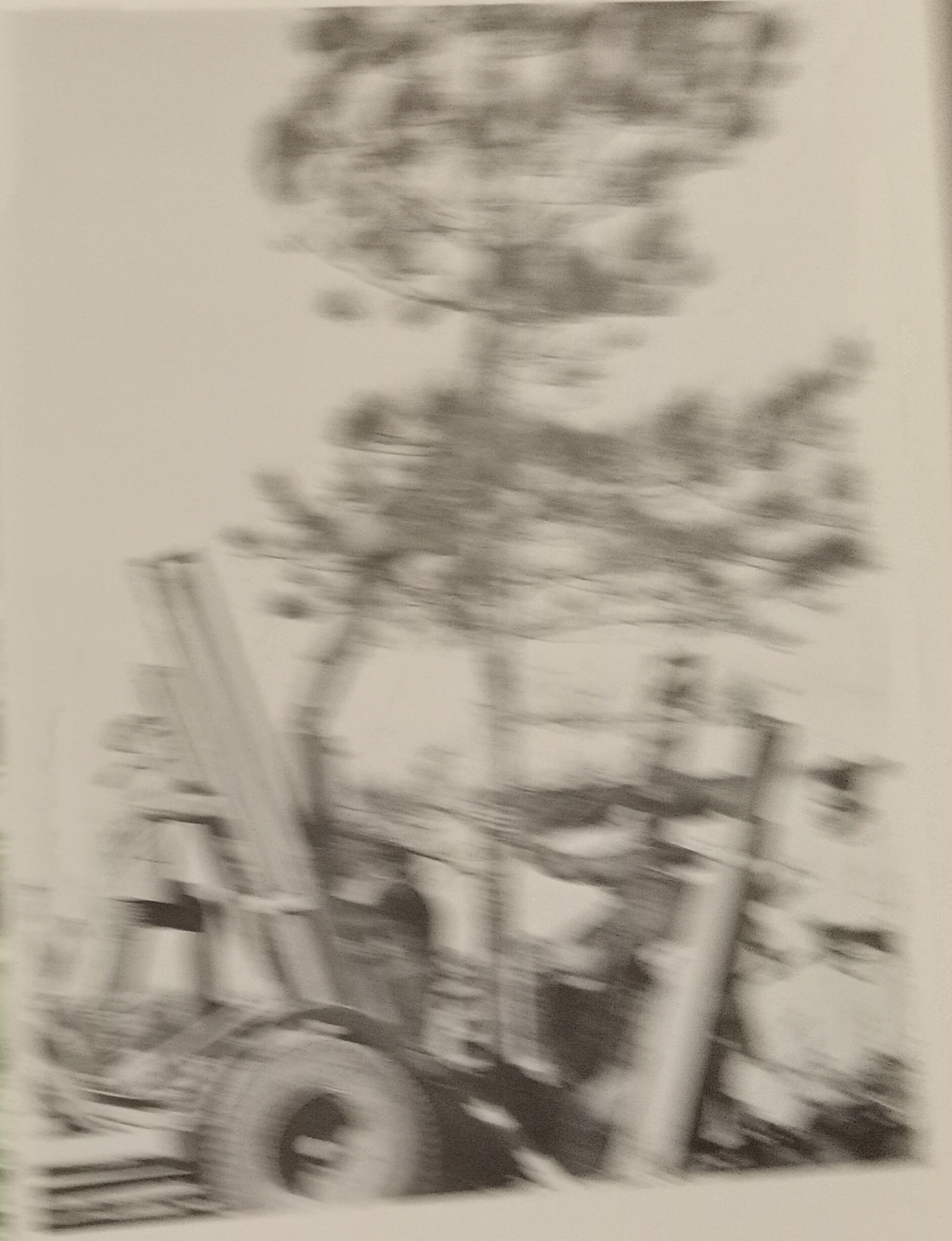
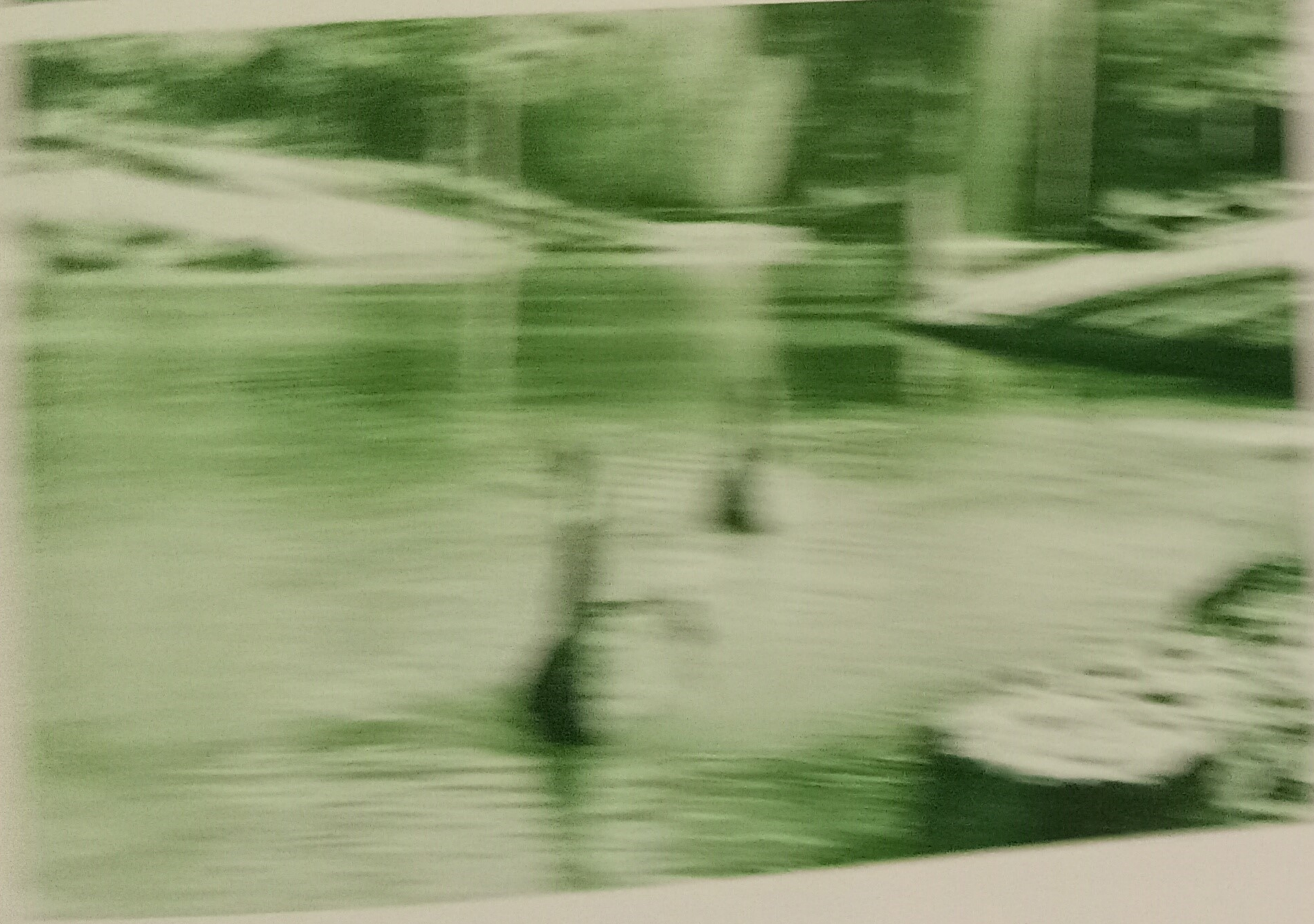
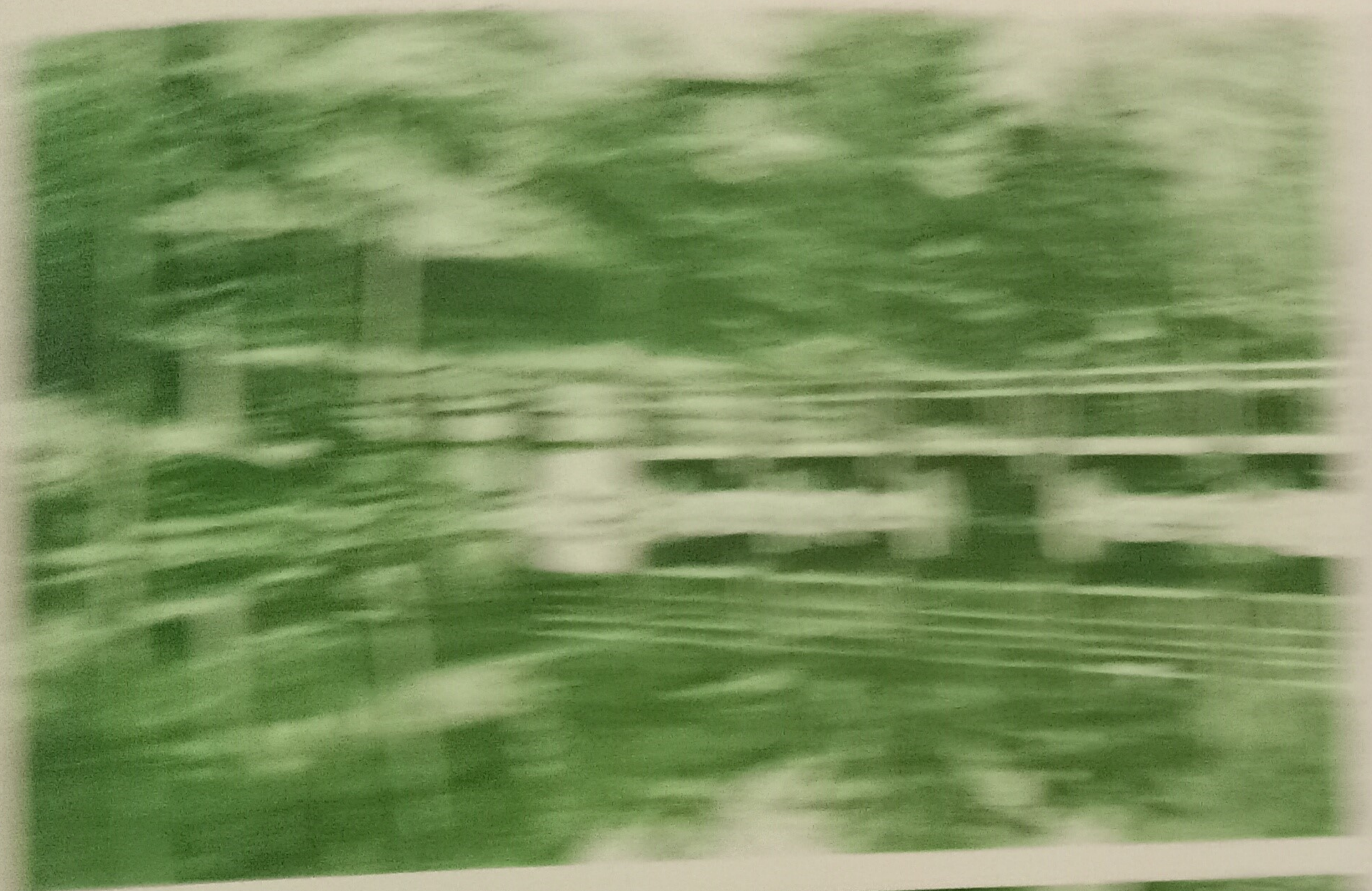
Since East Texas is in a humid and warm climate, we've found that soil is quickly depleted of its organic matter, and the physical structure easily breaks down. Without cover to protect soil, its humus is rapidly depleted. Just as water and heat break down a compost pile, so the climate in this area tends to break down unprotected soil.

There is constant education and learning on the Ambassador College grounds as practical research and basic principles of ecology are applied. Here beauty is recognized as a value to be sought and maintained from the ground up, and the environment is developed to uplift one's attitude and character.

Campus Environment

The buildings and grounds of the campus are landscaped with flowers and plants to give the grounds a fresh and lively appearance. The grounds are also landscaped with many beautiful flowers and plants. The grounds are also landscaped with many beautiful flowers and plants.





Pasture, Crop and Animal Ecology



In the Agriculture Department, the pasture, crop and livestock program is planned around the environment of the area. Emphasis is placed on restoring and maintaining soils by proper ecology of plants, animals and soils. Disease prevention and promotion of health are stressed in the livestock program. Effort is made to provide nutritional balance and proper sanitation. A careful selective breeding program encourages quality and productivity. The agricultural area, together with the college, directs its attention to sound use of the environment to help produce happy, healthy human lives.

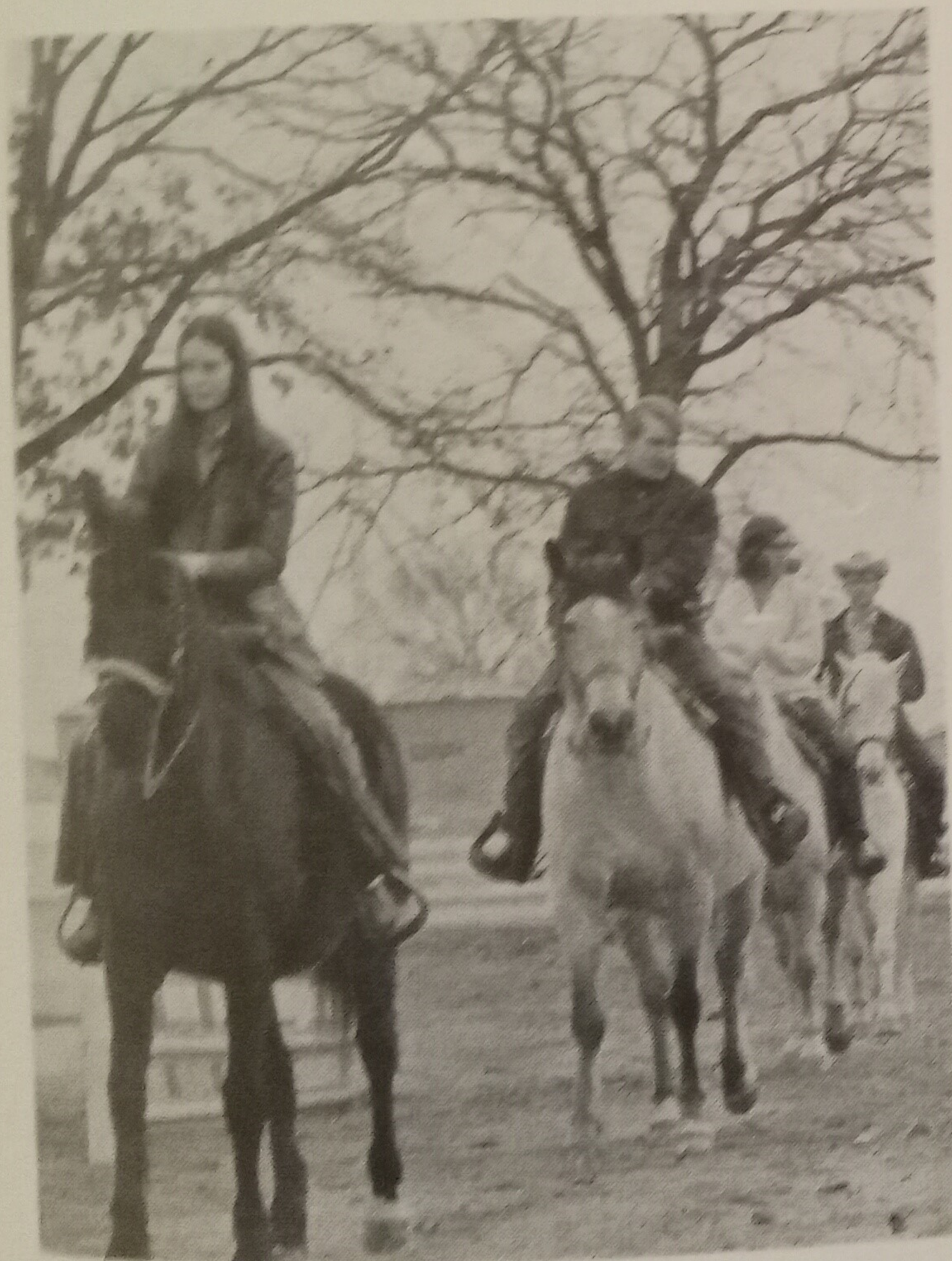
LEFT: Mixed clover and native grass pasture scene near farm entrance with ranch manager. RIGHT: Research employee checks heads of milo crop. BELOW: Agronomy student examines prolific field tomato production.





TOP LEFT: The poultry program uses a rotating pasture program to maintain a healthy flock. CENTER LEFT AND BOTTOM: Horses are used for work, pleasure and recreation. Part of the college physical education program involves scores of students in a basic horsemanship training class.

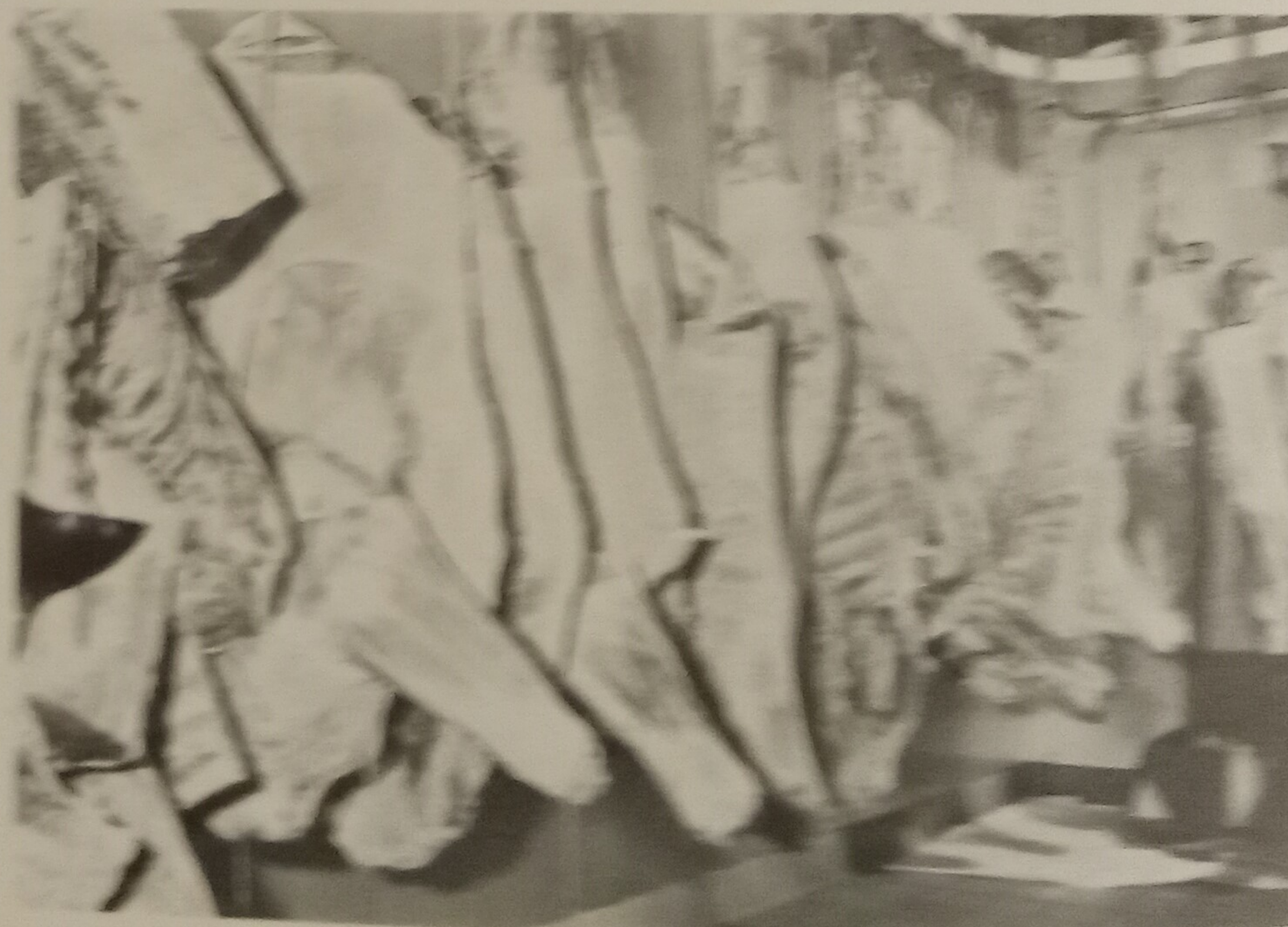
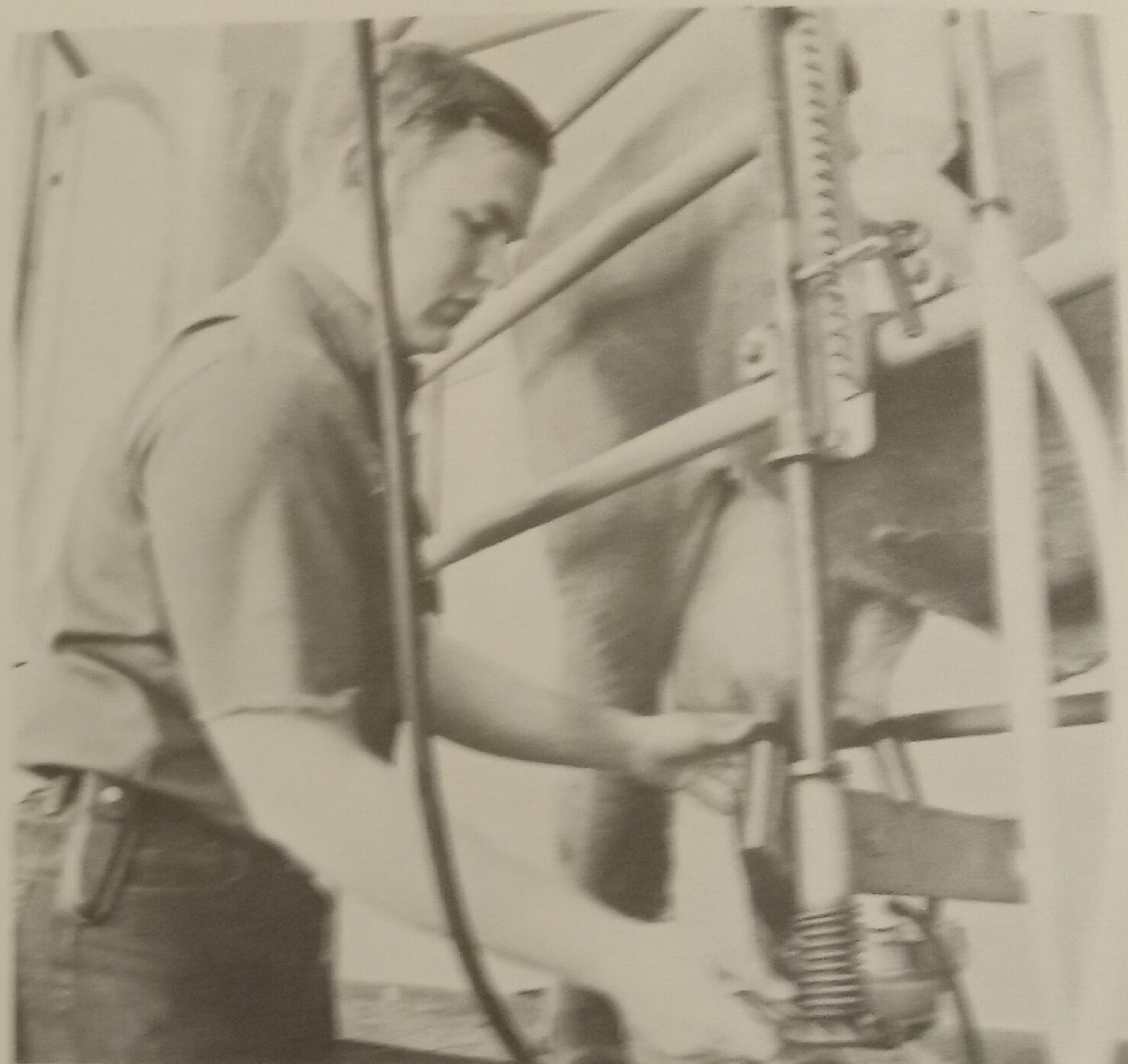
BOTTOM: Harvesting sudan and cowpeas as forage for winter livestock feed.



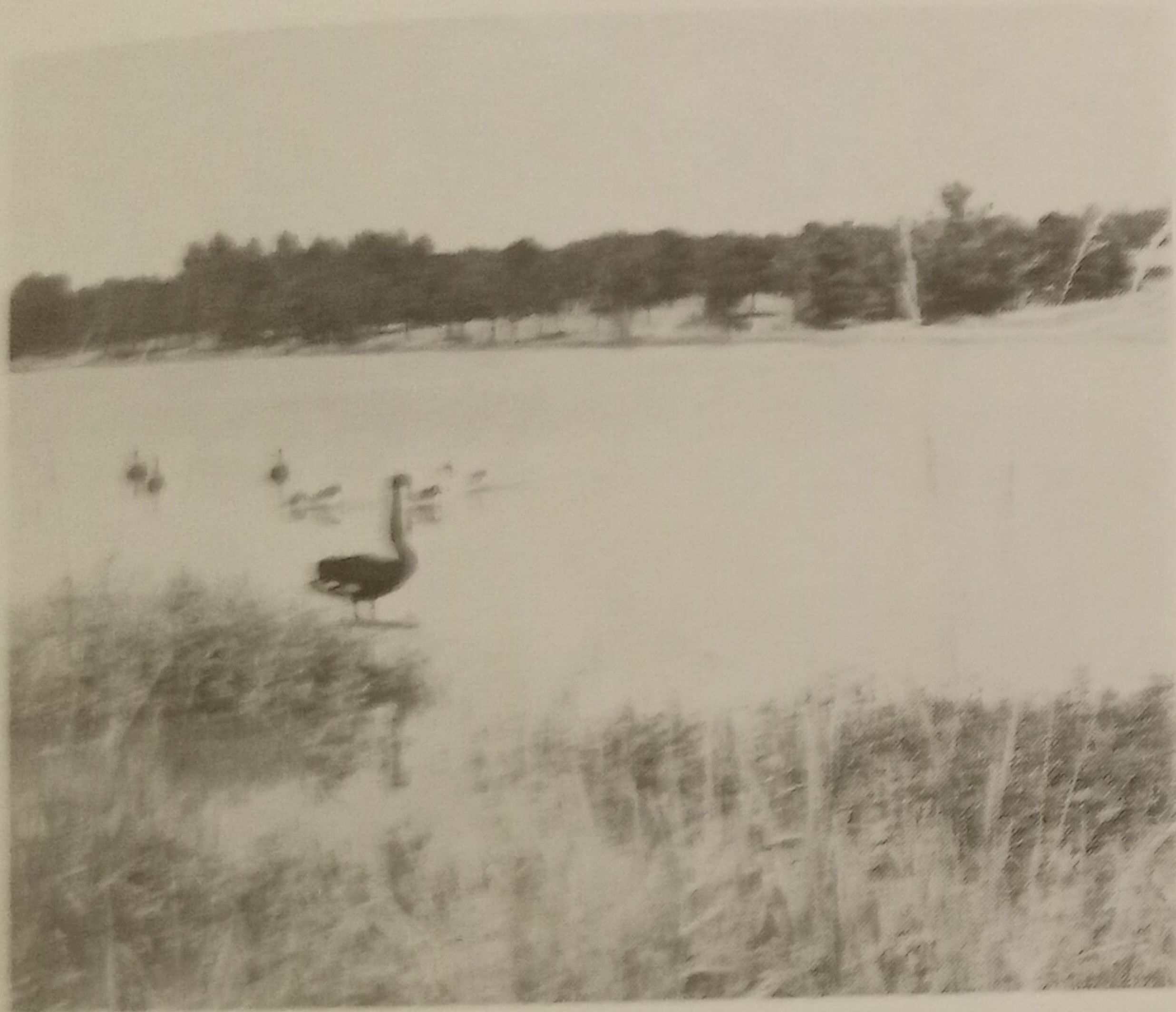
Beef and Dairy



The livestock program includes a variety of types and breeds of animals. The beef raised supplies the college with meat. Brown Swiss, a dual-purpose breed, provides both milk and meat. The bull pictured at right is part of the Scottish Highlander herd.



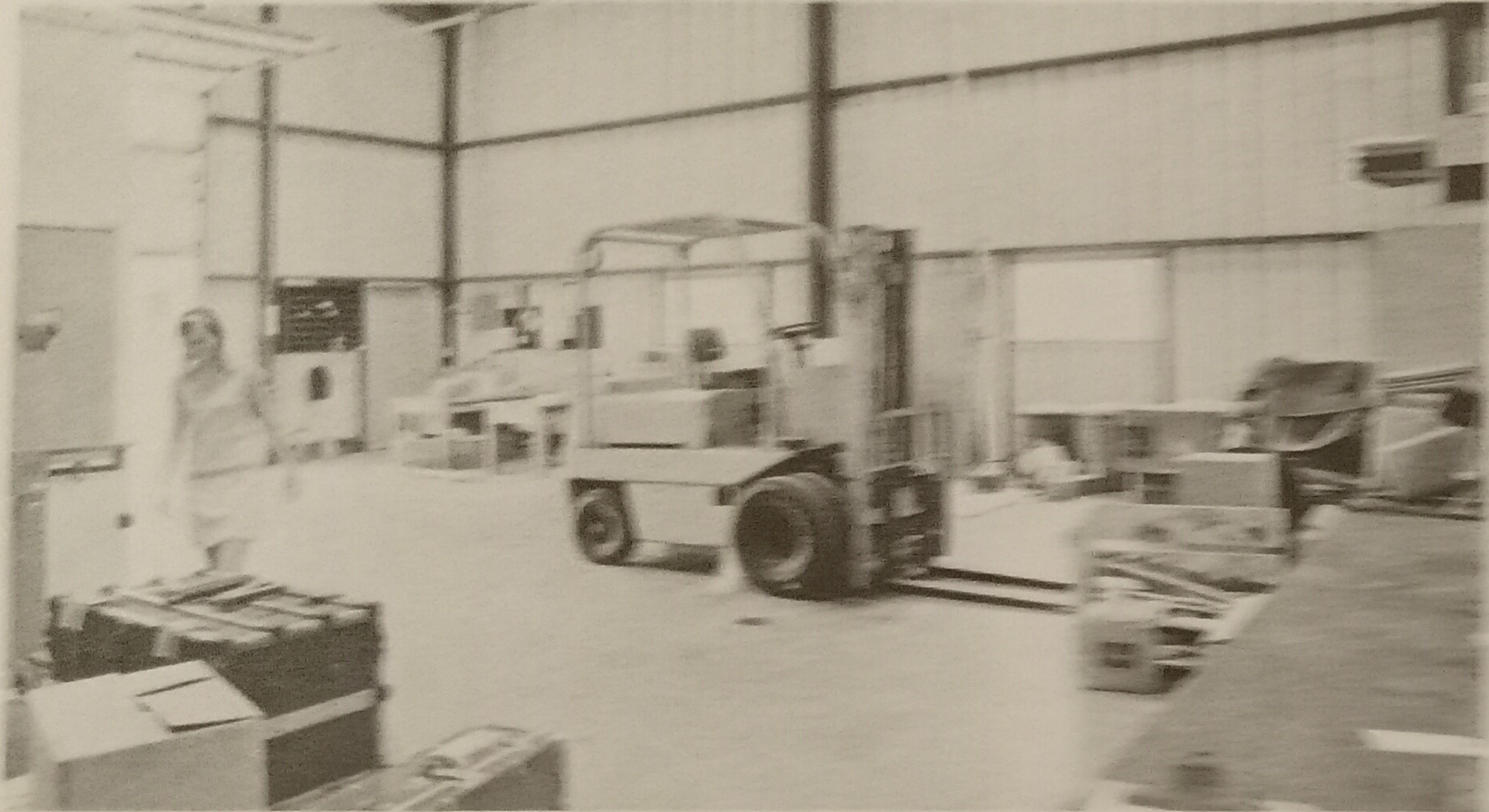
Water Ecology



LEFT: Natural wild-life and game birds at farm lake. RIGHT: Our friendly alligator lives near the oxidation pond. Water treatment plant is in background. BELOW: Left, Lake Loma boating with marina in far corner. Center and right, view of oxidation pond with Spiragester and drying bed in foreground.

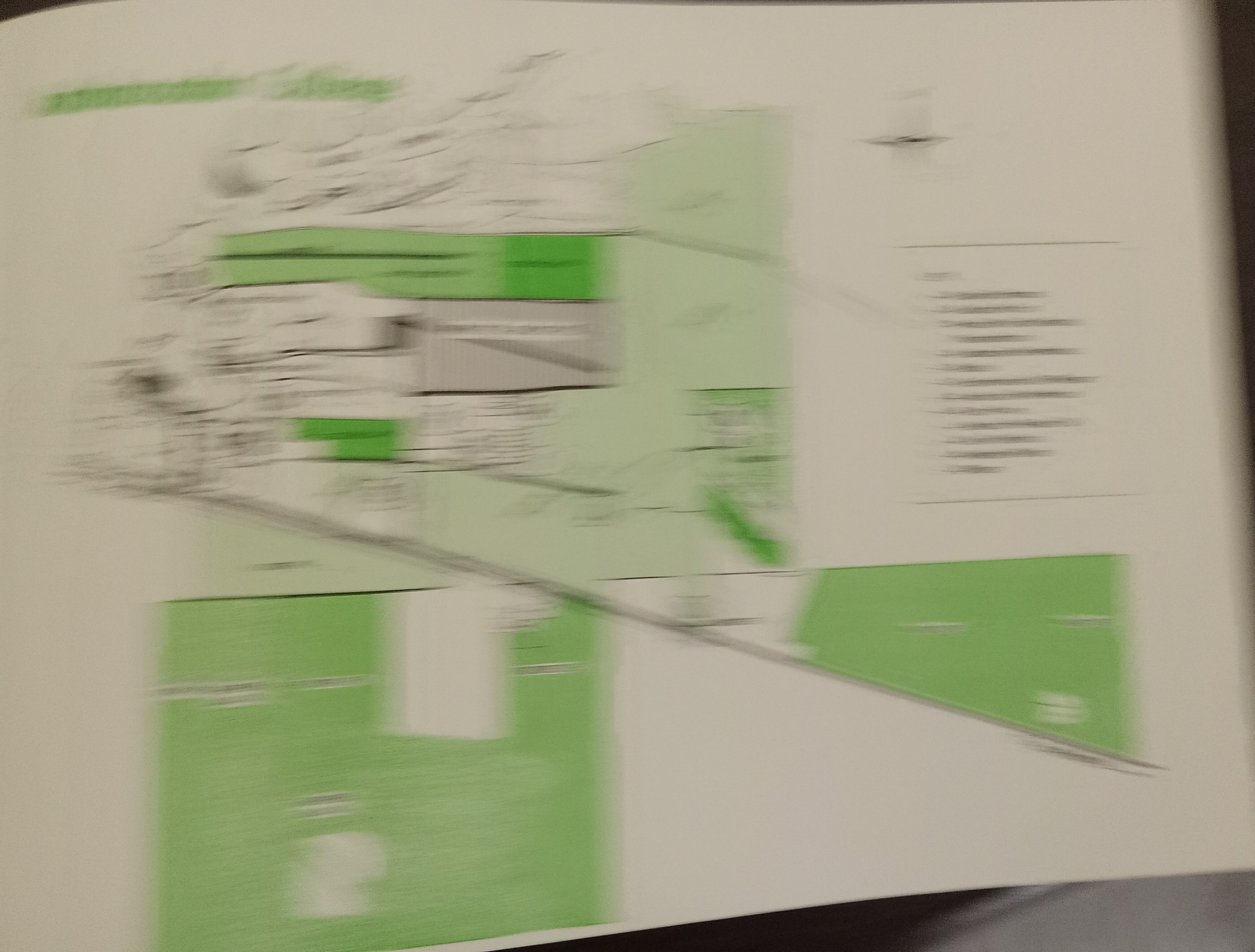


College Operations and Maintenance



LEFT: Shipping & Receiving area. RIGHT: Road maintainer. BELOW: Left, tractor being repaired. Right, the college fleet of trucks. The Transportation Department continues its pollution studies using propane gas on a number of its vehicles.





Ambassador College Press
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