

The city of Irvine's Origins

1956 (or thereabouts)

UC-Adm tells their Regents based on expected population growth the system needs three new campuses by 1960. One of which in either south L.A. County or North Orange County.

The Irvine Company Directors are coming to the conclusion that rising property taxes and the limitations of agriculture economics don't mix.

UC puts out a study identifying what they want: A 1000 acre site. By 1959 consultants for UC have identified 21 sites, six of which are on Irvine land.

TIC offers to sell a site. UC suggests a gift.

William Pereira approaches both Company and University with an idea. The idea: TIC offers to give UC a 1000 acre site at a location on the ranch at a location acceptable to both.

Pereira convinces TIC to also commit the Company to the building of a 10,000-acre new town surrounding the new campus.

In October of 1959 both UC and TIC agree to hire Pereira to determine the feasibility of that idea.

In Dec. 1957 study is complete and concluded to be feasible. Company and University agree to hire Pereira to develop a broad plan for a new town around the proposed campus

May 1960 Pereira's submits his broad based new town plan to both Company and University. Further, Company offers to donate the 1000-acre and sweetens their offer to agree to set aside 500-acre site

for affordable housing for University staff, faculty and married students.

June 1960: All Irvine shareholders meet and unanimously approve the offer.

Sept. 1960 I arrive from northern California began my career with the Irvine Company. A decision I've never regretted.