





motivated and a pleasure to teach. Women students in the early days were a scarce commodity in the classes, but their numbers have increased dramatically over the years. In fact, I was motivated to find out in later years, who the first woman to graduate in engineering was. She is a delightful lady known as Gail Wilbur who graduated in 1937, and she is still alive, living in Shreveport, known as Gail Wilbur Baker. Some things I have failed to succeed at. Probably the one that pains me the most was my inability to find a photograph of the first person to graduate in engineering; that is of Thomas H. Montgomery, who graduated in 1869 and who was also the first graduate of the University.

Finally, coming from London, I was impressed with the price and availability of farmland and managed to secure a nice hide-away in the Tunica Hills of West Feliciana. You may not be pleased to hear me say that this was a major factor in my staying at LSU, even when distant sirens summoned me elsewhere. LSU and the Tunica Hills are now part of my *raison d'être*, but London and Belfast still hold many fond memories for Aine, my wife, and our children.