

A departmental home page that has a section about the map library is at: <http://www.geog.uwo.ca>

Oregon State University

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The Map Room at Oregon State University has a new address—not that it has moved, yet. For the past five years Kerr Library has been fund raising to expand the 33-year old building. In April, 1996, it was announced that the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation had donated \$10 million dollars to the cause and the “new” library would be known as The Valley Library. Hence a new address on the letterhead and business cards.

The actual construction for the expansion began on June 17th with the sealing of the north entrance to the library and the blackening and boarding up of the first floor windows. Completion of the building project will take nearly three years as the older portion of the library will undergo considerable renovation after the newer portion is completed.

The Map Room, currently on the first floor, will eventually move to the third floor and be merged with the government documents area. Administratively, this occurred a number of years ago with the designation of the Special References Area which is now known as the Government Information and Maps Team (GIST) but physically the areas have remained distinct. Over the next twelve to eighteen months, many collection development, and cataloging decisions will need to be made in order to ensure a smooth transition to the new location. Luckily, many of the collection's maps are already in Ulrich

Planfiles which should be easy to move as they come equipped with their own wheels.

Typical of the types of pre-moving projects is the inventory being done for the USGS 15 minute scale topographic maps. These maps had multiple filing locations and are now being reorganized into two Ulrich Planfiles. The superseded 7.5-minute Oregon topographic maps will also be inventoried and filed within one of these cases so that all of the historic large scale topographic maps will be in one, easily controlled, location. Additional projects will include recataloging and encapsulation of historic local maps and assessing the cataloging backlog to identify materials which are not to be added to the collection.

The Kerr name hasn't been lost to campus however; it moved across the street to reside at the Kerr Administration Building. Mailing Services is going to have a significant amount of work delivering mail to the right place for sometime to come.

reviews

SOFTWARE REVIEW

Netscape Navigator 4.0
reviewed by Rex G. Cammack
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Netscape Communication Inc. is distributing Netscape Navigator 4.0 Preview as a component to Netscape Communicator Standard Preview via the internet. The software can be downloaded from Netscape Communication Corporation at http://www.netscape.com/comprod/mirror/client_download.html through the use of a World Wide Web browser. The preview version of Communicator Standard is free. At the time of writing this review, Communicator was only available for the

Intel platform using Windows 95 or Windows NT operating system. Netscape's Communicator Standard is a suite of software designed to integrate numerous desktop functions into one software suite. Netscape Communicator Standard is made up of five integrated parts:

- Netscape Navigator - Browser software
- Netscape Messenger - Email software
- Netscape Collabra - Newsgroups interface software
- Netscape Composer - Integrated HTML editor and text editor
- Netscape Conference - Real time audio and data collaboration software.

All five of these products are of interest for daily computing but this review will focus solely on Navigator 4.0 and will consist of five parts: (1) Condition for review, (2) What is Navigator 4.0, (3) Functions of Navigator 4.0, (4) Functions being developed for official release, and (5) Conclusions.

Condition for Review

Before reviewing Navigator 4.0, it is important to understand the hardware and software configuration used during the evaluation. Netscape Communicator Standard Preview was installed on Intel Pentium/133 platform running Windows 95 and connected to the internet using TCP/IP ethernet connect. The computer has 32 megabytes of RAM memory and a graphic color capability of millions of colors. In addition to the hardware environment the following software components came with Netscape Communicator Standard Preview: JAVA, JavaScript, Live Audio, Live 3D, Quicktime, and Netscape Defaults Plugins. Software performance is not examined in terms of data processing speed.