

tive conversion of the remaining items is underway. To further improve access, signage in the Map Room has been improved and finding aides have been placed on the World Wide Web. Finally, the collection development policy has been revised and the collection has been weeded accordingly.

The Map Room recently purchased the ArcView package for schools and libraries. The staff is currently wrestling with all of the problems other map libraries are dealing with as far as GIS: access, support, data acquisition, hardware, time investments, and so on. Only one professor on campus is formally teaching classes in GIS. These are at the graduate level, although undergraduate classes have been proposed. Within the next year, the Map Room plans to have an active GIS workstation.

The Map Room at the Arthur Lakes Library on the campus of the Colorado School of Mines is dynamic and important. It's rich collection of geology and mining maps is seen as an asset to students, businesses and the public.

**SERGE A. SAUER
MAP LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN
ONTARIO**

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The Serge A. Sauer Map Library has grown from a small collection of teaching maps in 1966 to a comprehensive collection housing 221,000 sheet maps and 2300 atlases. The map library is one of only a few collections in Canada that is funded solely by the Department of Geography and not the main university library system.

We serve the university community as well as the general public. The collection is named in honor of the first curator of the map library who retired after 25 years of service in 1991.

In addition to the typical maps you would expect to find in a map library - road maps, topographic maps, general maps of various countries - the Serge A. Sauer Map Library at the University of Western Ontario has a few collections of special note. Within this group of "treasures" are: Fire Insurance plans for over 380 different Canadian cities; U.S. Soil Surveys for about 1700 counties in various states; almost 1000 current foreign urban plans; 5400 nautical charts for numerous areas of the world; a "time series" of Canadian maps; and all BA, BSc, MA, MSc and PhD theses of the Department of Geography.

However, the largest collection of special material is the Great Lakes Cartographic Resource Centre which was developed between 1983 and 1985. This project was financed by a grant from the University of Western Ontario Academic Development Fund and has become an integral part of the Map Library. The Centre is founded on an extensive cartographic collection, consisting of maps, atlases and air photographs, relevant to the Great Lakes basin. Original charts (1815-1825) by Henry Bayfield and published by the British Admiralty were purchased, as well as facsimile reproductions and photographic copies. Additional charts published by British Admiralty (1866-1904), NOAA (1915-present), U.S. Corps of Engineers (1850-1950), and Canadian Hydrographic Service (1912-present) provide substantial coverage of the Great Lakes basin. This is particularly useful for tracing changes to physical features over time (e.g. Pelee Point and Long Point, Ontario), harbor development, and shoreline variations.

Some charted areas have eight or more editions that a researcher may consult. Other map series include: Shoreline Inventory; Great Lakes Flood and Erosion Prone Areas; Petroleum Resources; Oil and Gas Exploration Licences and Drilling Sites; Shore Property Erosion Stations; Ontario Land Inventory, and Hazard Lands. The Petroleum Resources maps 1:30,000 indicate locations and status of oil and gas wells on land and under water; producing, abandoned, pool boundaries, etc. Government reports that used maps of the Great Lakes basin are also in this collection. A limited number of air photos were purchased to cover the shoreline. The depth of coverage inland is determined by topography and other factors. It is scarcely possible to exaggerate the significance of the Great Lakes region. The purpose of the Great Lakes Cartographic Resource Centre is to pull together cartographic material from Canadian and U.S. institutions, academic and governmental, which focus on the Great Lakes. As a result, a course has been developed in the Geography Department entitled "Ontario and the Great Lakes", and there has been a substantial increase in interest from visiting researchers from outside the university community.

A recent addition to the collection is the development of the Digital Spatial Data Library which allows for digital scanning and transfer of resources and access to maps, remote sensing imagery and spatial data on CD-ROM.

We are very excited about the purchase of a rare set of maps entitled "A copy of the maps and report of the commissioners under the Treaty of Ghent, for ascertaining the northern and northwestern boundary between the United States and Great Britain 1828." There are 7 maps of the western Great Lakes area with this report. There are only 3 other known copies in North America.

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.