

Mannifest

The Albert R. Mann Library Newsletter

150 DATABASES ADDED: The Mann Gateway Grows by Leaps and Bounds

It was a dark and stormy night...

...and in Clara Dickson Hall, a junior in Natural Resources was beginning a term paper about the influence of Rachel Carson on environmental research. He balanced his laptop computer on his knees, selected *SciSearch* (the Science Citation Index database) from the Mann Library Gateway's menu, and searched for a list of articles that have cited *Silent Spring* since 1974. Outside, the clock struck midnight and the rain turned to sleet. Meanwhile...

...in his house on West Hill, a professor of Human Service Studies was preparing for the next day's lecture. He used his computer and modem to connect to the Mann Library Gateway via phone line and searched the *Psychological Abstracts* database ("PsycLit") for recent articles on violence toward the homeless. He heard wind rattling the dining room windows, and put another log on the fire...

...while further from campus, in Brooktondale, an Agricultural and Biological Engineering graduate student was considering topics for her doctoral research. She turned to her computer and, through the Mann Library Gateway, searched the *Dissertation Abstracts* database for listings about control of vehicle stability. Out in her front yard, ice began to coat the branches of her maples...

...and up in Jefferson County, an extension agent poured herself another cup of hot chocolate and wondered what work had been done on tracking insects by radar. She dialed up the CENET system and used the Mann Library Gateway to search the *Zoological Record* database for references. Elsewhere, on and off campus...

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MEDLINE, AT LAST!

As part of a trial service, the Cornell community can now search MEDLINE free of charge via the Mann Library Gateway.

MEDLINE is a primary source of nutrition- and health-related information. This database covers literature from the year 1966 to the present, indexing articles from over 3,700 international journals. Most records contain abstracts. MEDLINE is one of over 150 databases which are being provided to the Gateway by DIALOG Information Services (as described in the article at left).

To use MEDLINE, log into the Gateway as usual and select DIALOG's 150 Databases from the introductory menu. You will be shown a copyright screen and asked to agree to some copyright restrictions. Next, choose the option Medicine and Drug Information from the database selection screen. Choose Medicine (General) from the following subject breakdown, and then select MEDLINE.

Using menu-driven or command-driven software, you can search MEDLINE by subject, author, journal name, CAS Registry Number, Medical Subject Heading, or author affiliation. Once you have retrieved a set of references, it can be limited to publication year(s), research on humans, articles in English, review articles, or specific age groups.

The menu-driven software is designed for novices or infrequent system users, while frequent users may prefer the more efficient command mode. For more information about the Gateway, see the second note under "Items of Interest" on page 2.

-Linda Stewart

Nothing in life is "fun for the whole family"...

---Jerry Seinfeld



150 Databases (cont'd)

...long after the library buildings had closed, while an Alberta clipper brought winter to New York State, Cornellian nightowls were finding almost two hundred databases available on the Mann Library Gateway computer system.

This is a likely scenario for autumn 1993. For the first time, Gateway users will be able to access important titles such as *Current Contents*, *CA Search* (a version of the Chemical Abstracts database), *Food Science and Technology Abstracts*, *Enviroline*, the *Federal Register*, *CAB Abstracts*, and *Medline* via the campus network. They will even be able to read the electronic full texts of articles from several journals, including the *Harvard Business Review* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

...access *Current Contents*, *CA Search*, *Food Science and Technology Abstracts*, *Enviroline*, the *Federal Register*, *CAB Abstracts* and *Medline*...

This dramatic expansion of the Mann Library Gateway will be made possible by a trial service offered in cooperation with Dialog Information Services, Inc. Dialog, the world's largest online information retrieval service, will supply one hundred and fifty databases to be used through the Mann Gateway. Mann Library will pay a fixed fee for the service, and will provide access free of charge to the Cornell community. Information ranging from news and travel to scientific research, previously available inside library buildings, will now be found on the campus network.

...read the electronic full texts of articles from *Harvard Business Review* and the *New England Journal of Medicine*...

This trial service will help to determine the viability of delivering information from an external vendor through the Gateway. Mann and Dialog will learn which files are used, how much they are used, and at what times of the day and night. These data are essential for vendors to structure fixed fee pricing schedules for libraries, and for libraries as they select files and plan information delivery systems. Mann will conduct a survey to study user categories and reactions to this expanded database access, including likes and dislikes, training needs, and satisfaction with the files available.

To search any of these databases through the Mann Library Gateway, simply select the "Dialog's 150 Databases" option from the Gateway menu. For more information about the Gateway, see the second note under "Items of Interest" on this page.

-Ed Spragg and Susan Barnes

Items of Interest

■ **Preservation of a Heritage Collection:** the Core Historical Literature of Entomology. With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the library is in the final year of a three-year project to preserve the most significant pre-1950 literature of entomology. When completed, a total of over 6,000 volumes will have been reformatted to preservation microfilm or high quality paper facsimile in this project. Commercially available reprints or microform for an additional 701 volumes will have been purchased, and over 7,000 color and black and white plates of scientific or aesthetic importance will have been conserved (washed, deacidified, and secured). Special consideration has been given to conservation of materials with aesthetic or other artifactual value.

■ **WHAT IS THE MANN LIBRARY GATEWAY?** The Mann Library Gateway is an easy-to-use computer system available free of charge to the Cornell community. This system provides access to computerized indexes of journal articles, numeric data files, and the full texts of journals and reference works. It provides information for papers, research projects, literature reviews, current awareness, class assignments, and personal interest.

You can use the Gateway 24 hours a day, seven days a week, on campus or off—all you need is a computer that can access the campus network via either direct connection or phone line and modem.

Members of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, and the Divisions of Biological and Nutritional Sciences can request Gateway user IDs from Mann Library Reference (located on the second floor of Mann Library), or phone 255-5406, or email manx@cornellc.cit.cornell.edu. Other members of the Cornell community can obtain information about Gateway access from Mann Library Reference or from other libraries on campus.

Assistance with logging into the system and using the Gateway's collection of databases is available from Mann Library Reference, and from the Gateway computerized "User Guides and Help." In addition, Mann Library offers workshops during the semester that feature hands-on practice with the Gateway system. Individualized consultations on using the Gateway are also available. Contact Mann Library Reference for more information.



Census of Population and Housing Data on CD-ROM

The decennial U.S. census is an important source of demographic information, including data on population, work force, income, education, and housing and social characteristics. Since its inception in 1790, the census has seen several changes and improvements. One of the most exciting features of the 1990 census is its availability on CD-ROM. Requiring only a personal computer and a CD-ROM drive, this new census format greatly expands the capabilities of the census data user.

The census CD-ROMS are accessible through two software programs: GO and EXTRACT. Using GO, a user can locate tables of interest easily and also print or save them on a diskette for future use. EXTRACT software takes the searcher one step further by allowing them to customize tables and download data so that data can be analyzed using a statistical or spreadsheet software, such as Excel or SPSS.

Mann Library also offers digital boundary data from the Census Bureau. The *TIGER/Line* files contain digitized boundaries and map features for the United States. Mapping data helps to improve the understanding of geographic patterns, making teaching

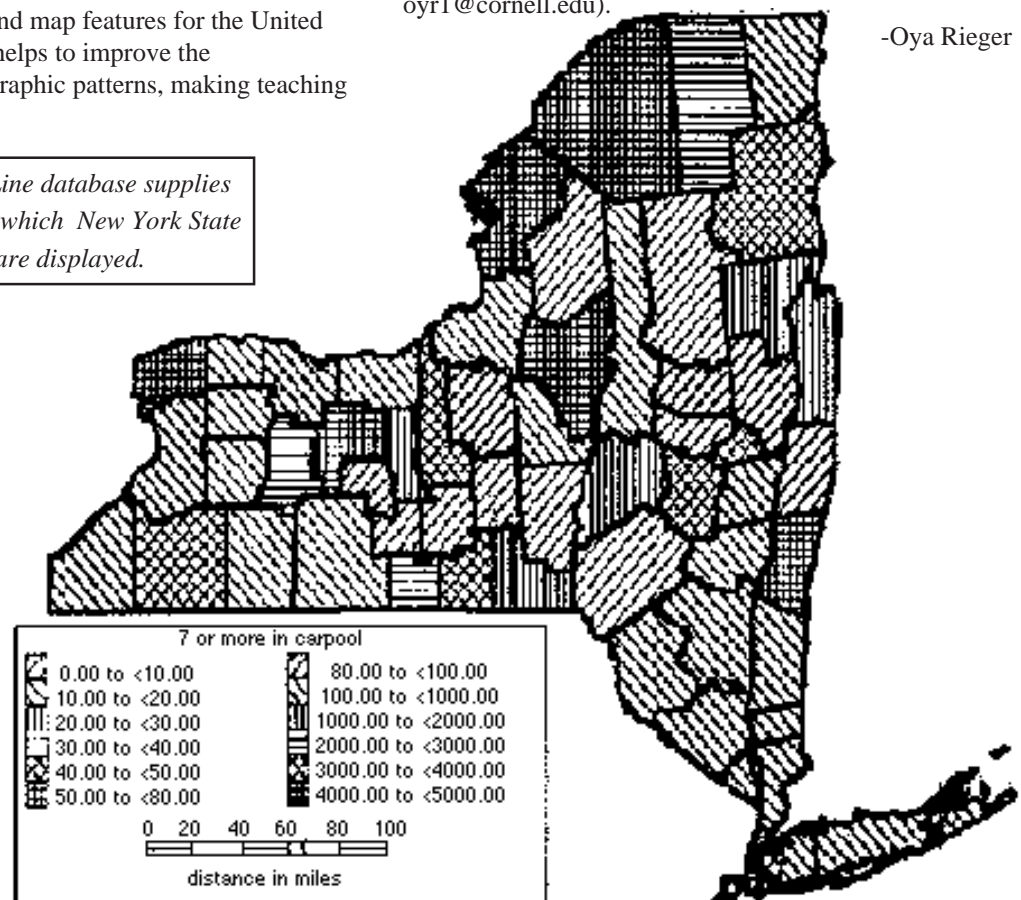
and learning a more visual experience. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software is available at the library to merge boundary data from the TIGER files and statistical data from the Census data sets to create thematic maps.

Several of the census CD-ROMs are networked and are searchable using GO software in both the first- and second-floor microcomputer centers. EXTRACT and GIS software are installed on the data sets computer, which is on the second floor of the library, across from the Reference Desk.

Our consulting service offers you a chance to set up an appointment with a librarian for one-on-one assistance. In addition, we provide several workshops to introduce you to census data on CD-ROM and creating thematic maps. The data and help are open to everyone, free of charge. For more information about the Census data sets and our GIS services, please inquire at the reference desk, or contact numeric files librarians Kathy Chiang (255-2199, ksc3@cornell.edu) or Oya Rieger (255-7960, oyr1@cornell.edu).

-Oya Rieger

In this map, the TIGER/Line database supplies the map background over which New York State carpooling data are displayed.



Source of CD-ROM data: *Census of Population & Housing STF 3C*

Mannifest, a publication of the Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, is delivered to faculty and departmental offices of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, the Division of Biological Sciences, and the Division of Nutritional Sciences. It is also sent to Cooperative Extension personnel statewide and institutional members of the United States Agricultural Information Network. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please complete this form and return it to: Lisa Dayton, Public Services Division, Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853, or send email to lld2@cornell.edu.

Please put me on the mailing list for *Mannifest*

Name: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

We welcome suggestions for future articles about information access, management, technology, and services in the fields of agriculture, biology, human ecology, and nutrition.

Editor: Susan Barnes, Head of Public Services, Mann Library, 607-255-7957, sjb5@cornell.edu

Publication Assistants:

Lisa Dayton, Public Services Secretary, 607-255-7731, lld2@cornell.edu

Leslie Delserone, Entomology Library Assistant, 607-255-3265, lmd8@cornell.edu



Albert R. Mann Library
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853

TO: