

CSIRO Computing Swings out of the Sixties

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Outline

- CSIRO Computing History: Recap of the sixties
- Themes:
 1. The start of on-line data (slide 9-)
 2. The start of the on-line network (slide 22-)
 3. The Cyber 76 (slide 46-)
 4. Printing and microfiche (slide 53-)
 5. The growth of the service (slide 56-)
 6. The policy framework (slide 58-)
 7. The lessons (slide 59-)
 8. Trends (slide 60-)
 9. The end (slide 62)

CSIRO Computing History

- CSIR Mk 1 – 1949: Trevor Pearcey, Maston Beard – world's 4th (?) stored program electronic digital computer -> CSIRAC at Uni Melb
- Early 1960s
 - Trevor Pearcey and E. A. Cornish at DMS proposed a *C.S.I.R.O. Computing Network*
 - Approval by CSIRO Executive
 - £3 million grant (about \$87M in 2018 values) from Commonwealth Government

History: CSIRO's Computing Services

- C.S.I.R.O. Computing Research Section
 - 1 January 1963 in Canberra
 - Dr Godfrey Lance appointed as OIC
 - Geoff Hill, Trevor Pearcey, Terry Holden and others joined
- New building (demolished in 2019)

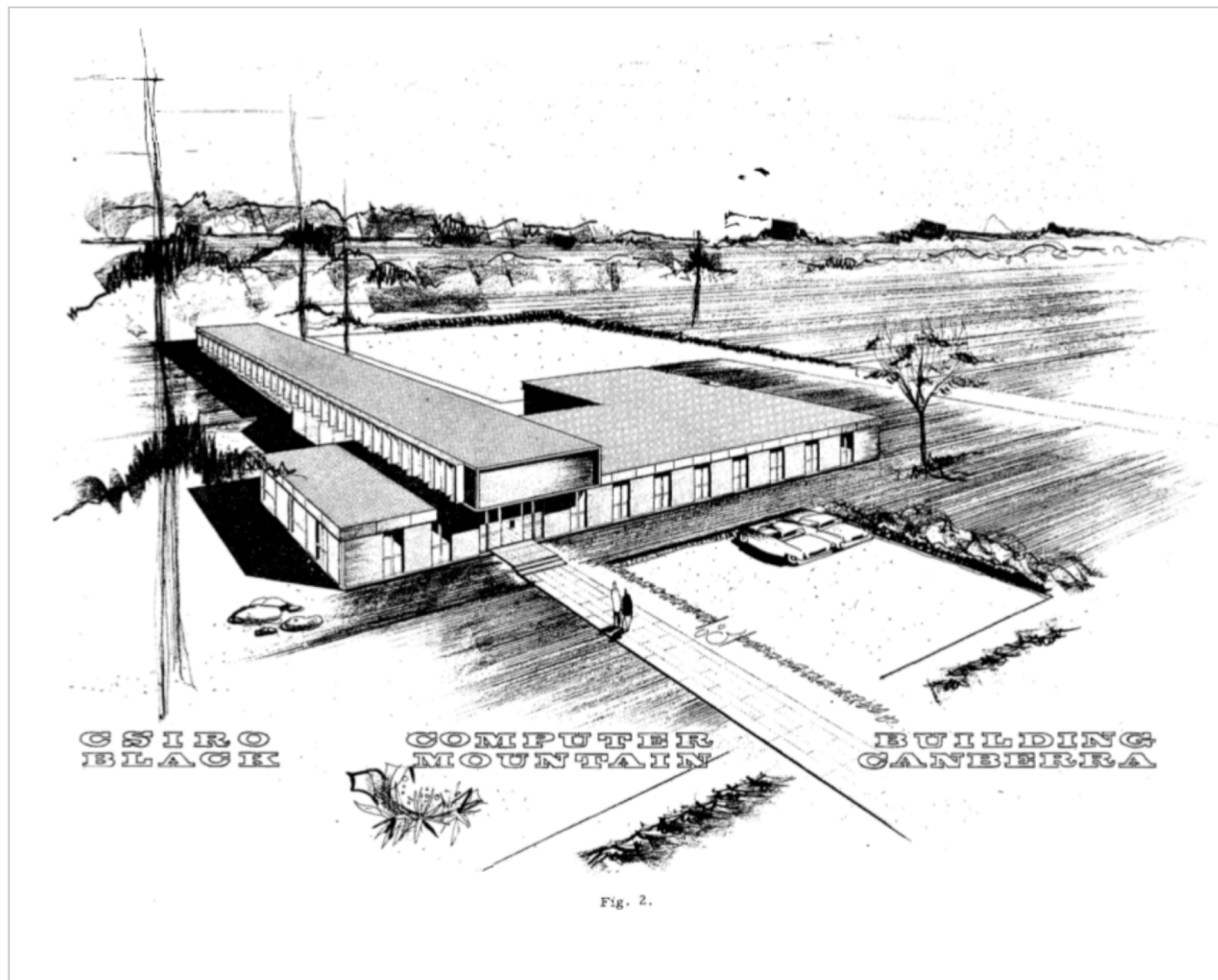


Fig. 2.



History: CSIRO's Computing Services

- Tenders for supply of equipment:
 - CDC 3600 in Canberra
 - Satellite CDC 3200 systems in 3 state capitals ('paper' machines – E. T. Robinson's account)
 - Remote batch processing – cards and printouts – couriers and air-freight of magnetic tapes - jobstack

