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**United States Patent** [19]

Alley et al.

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[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOTELY ACCESSING FILES FROM A DESKTOP COMPUTER USING A PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANT**

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[73] Assignee: **Apple Computer, Inc.**, Cupertino, Calif.

[\*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

[21] Appl. No.: **511,978**

[22] Filed: **Aug. 7, 1995**

[51] **Int. Cl.**<sup>6</sup> ..... **G06F 17/30**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **707/10**; 707/104; 395/200.62

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 395/200.03, 650, 395/200, 500, 169, 170, 400, 601, 616, 610, 615, 604, 200.01, 825, 200.62; 382/69; 364/200, 708; 345/173; 178/19; 380/25; 707/10, 104

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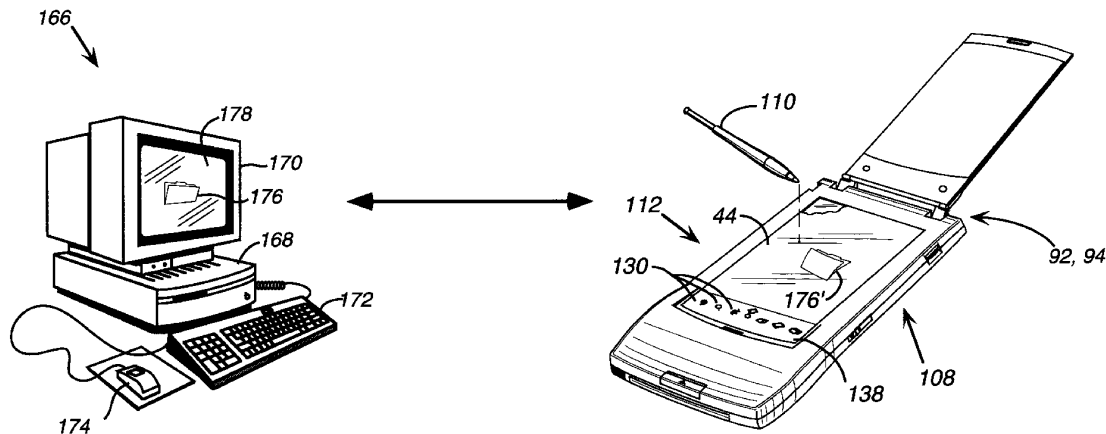
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Beyer & Weaver, LLP

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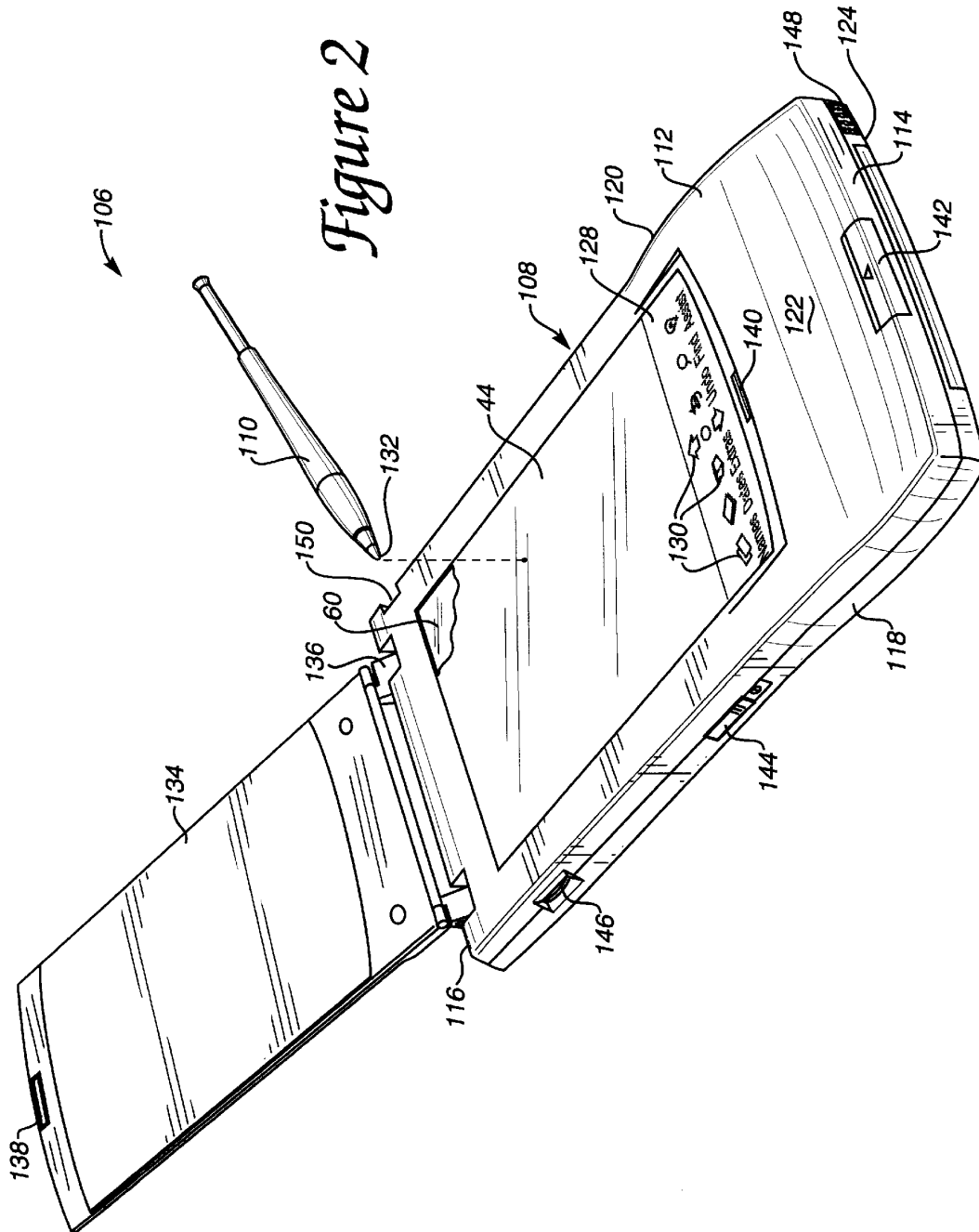
**ABSTRACT**

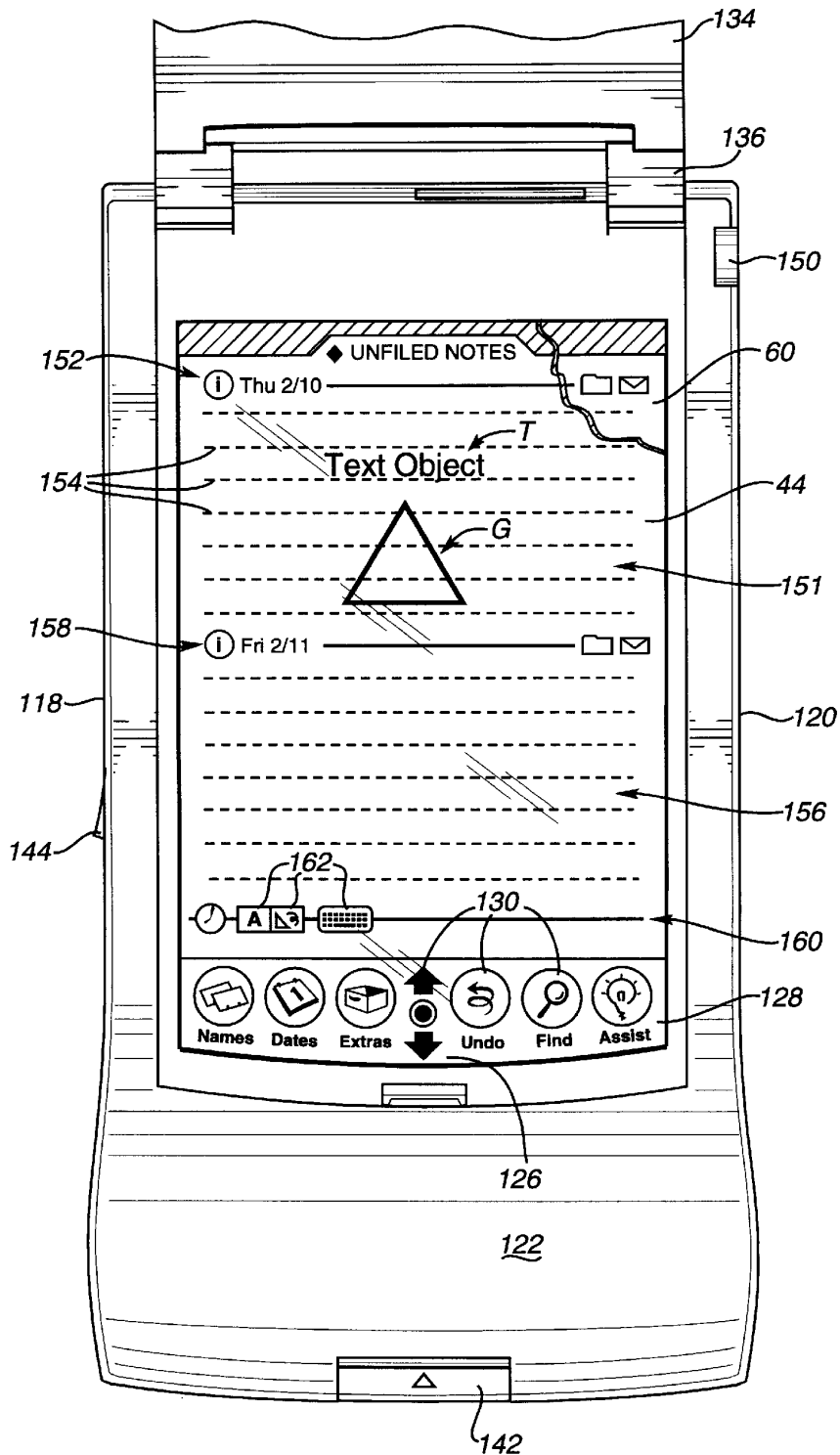
A method and apparatus for selecting and retrieving computer data files from a remote computer includes an automatic file translation mechanism. In one embodiment, the data being retrieved and the file translation mechanism are located on the same computer. The method of the invention includes establishing a data transfer link with the remote computer, displaying the files available for retrieval from the remote computer, selecting a file to be transferred, and translating the file prior to transfer. In one embodiment, the apparatus includes a pen-based computer and the remote computer is a desktop computer.

**19 Claims, 12 Drawing Sheets**







*Figure 3*

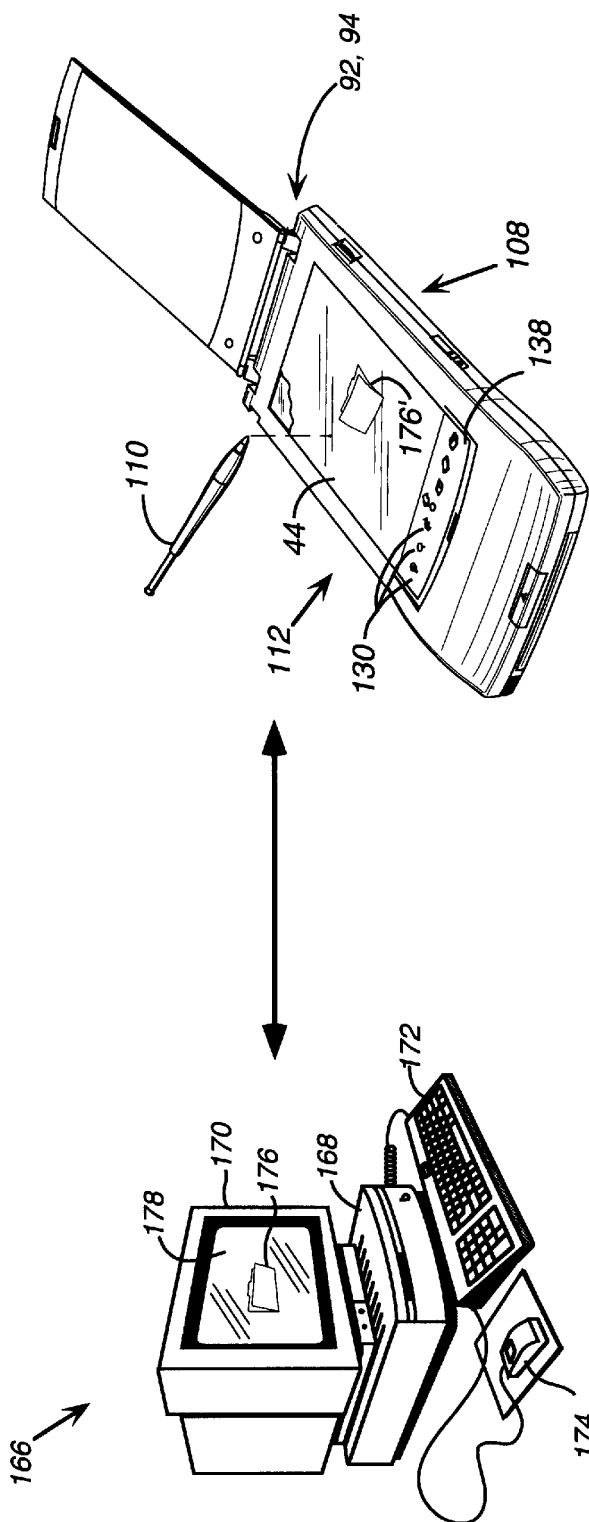


Figure 4

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