

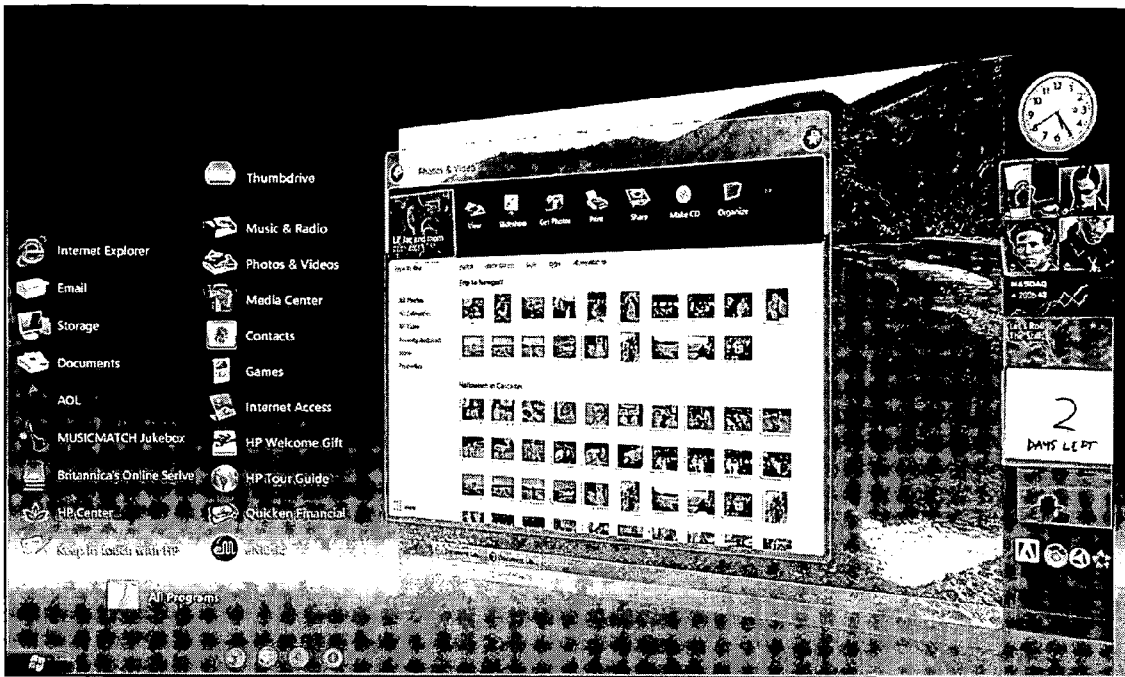


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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Matthews et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2006/0107229 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: May 18, 2006**(54) **WORK AREA TRANSFORM IN A
GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE****Publication Classification**(75) Inventors: **David A. Matthews**, Seattle, WA (US);
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(US)(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 17/00 (2006.01)
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **715/782**(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for transforming a work area and displaying an information component in a graphical user interface is provided. The graphical user interface utilizes a three-dimensional transformation to move a presently displayed work area, for example a desktop with open windows, revealing a background presentation area behind it. In the portion of the presentation area revealed, an information component, such as a Start Menu, is displayed. Use of the three-dimensional transformation effectively decouples an operating system from the applications it hosts. The transformation further prevents visual clutter by separating the information component from the previously underlying desktop.

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WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4597 (US)(73) Assignee: **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, WA(21) Appl. No.: **10/986,950**(22) Filed: **Nov. 15, 2004**

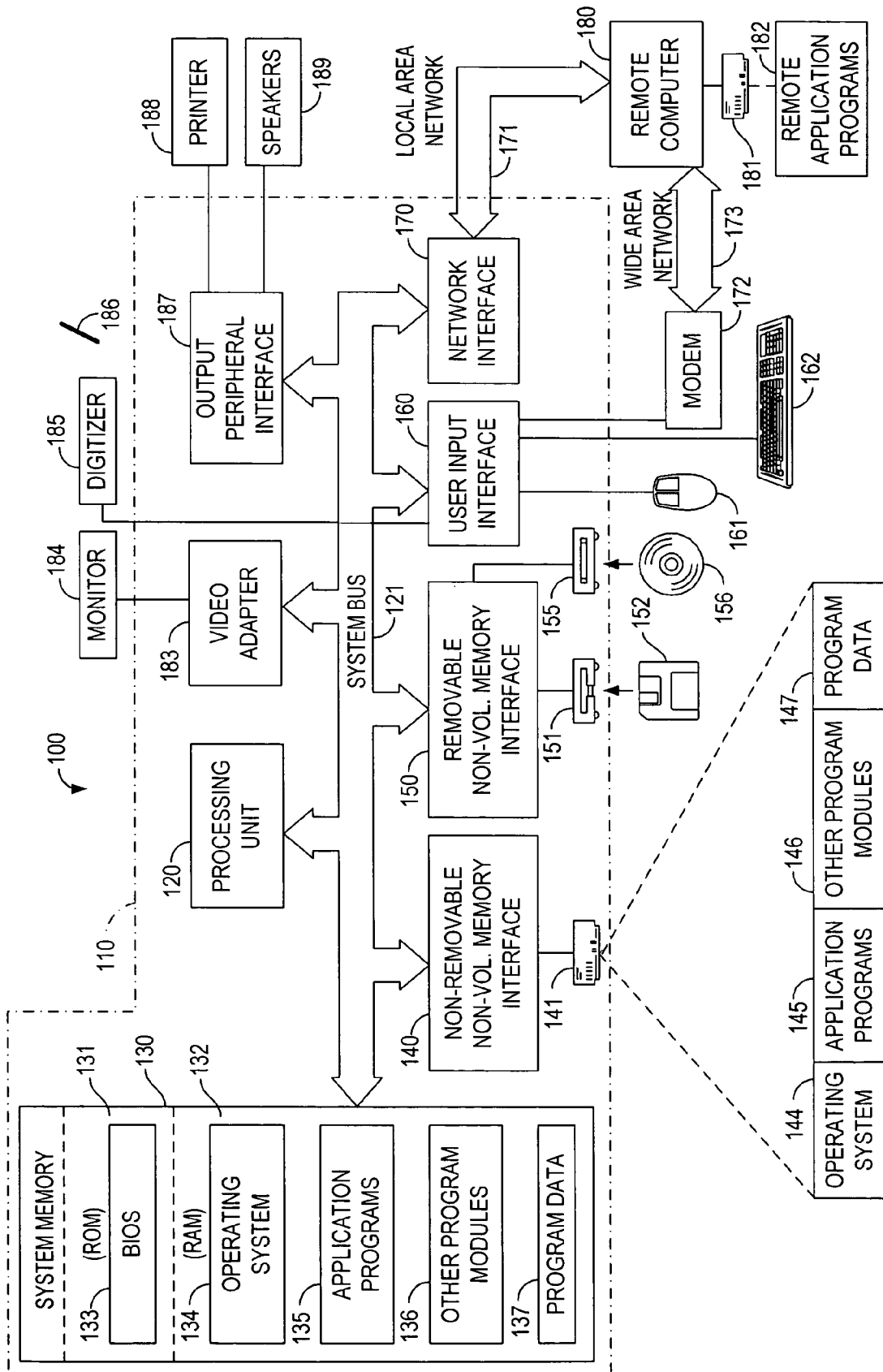


FIG. 1A

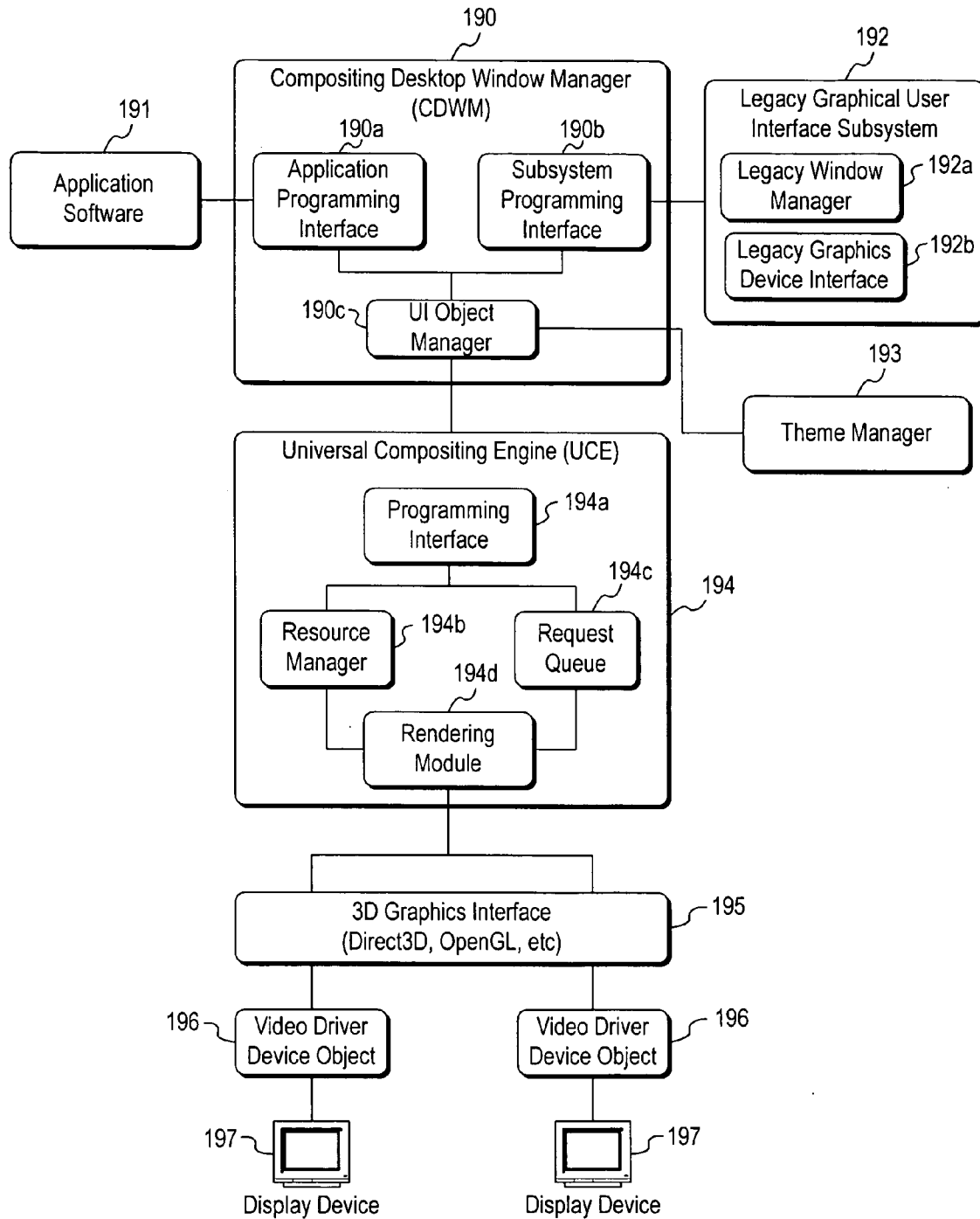


FIG. 1B

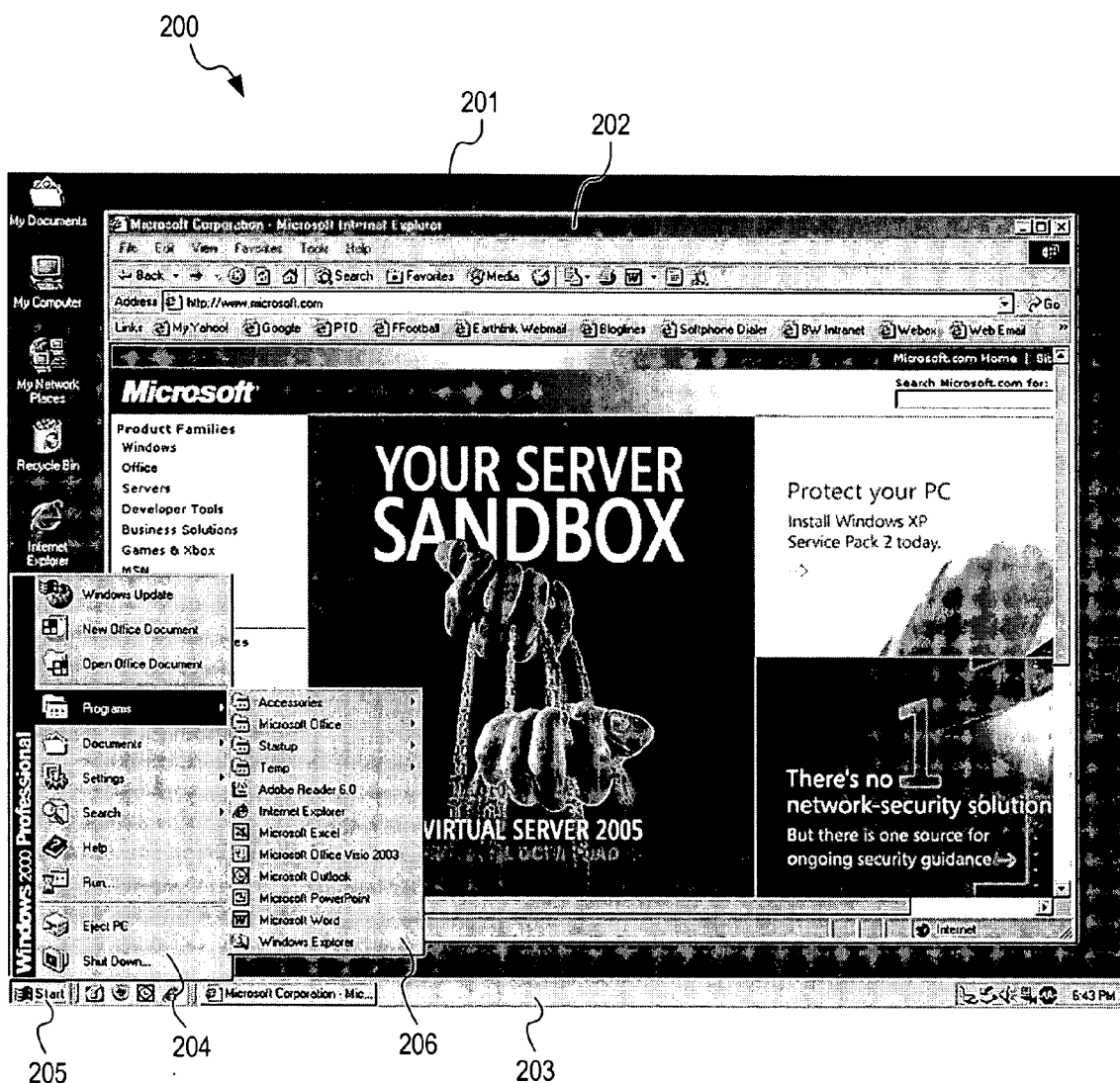


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

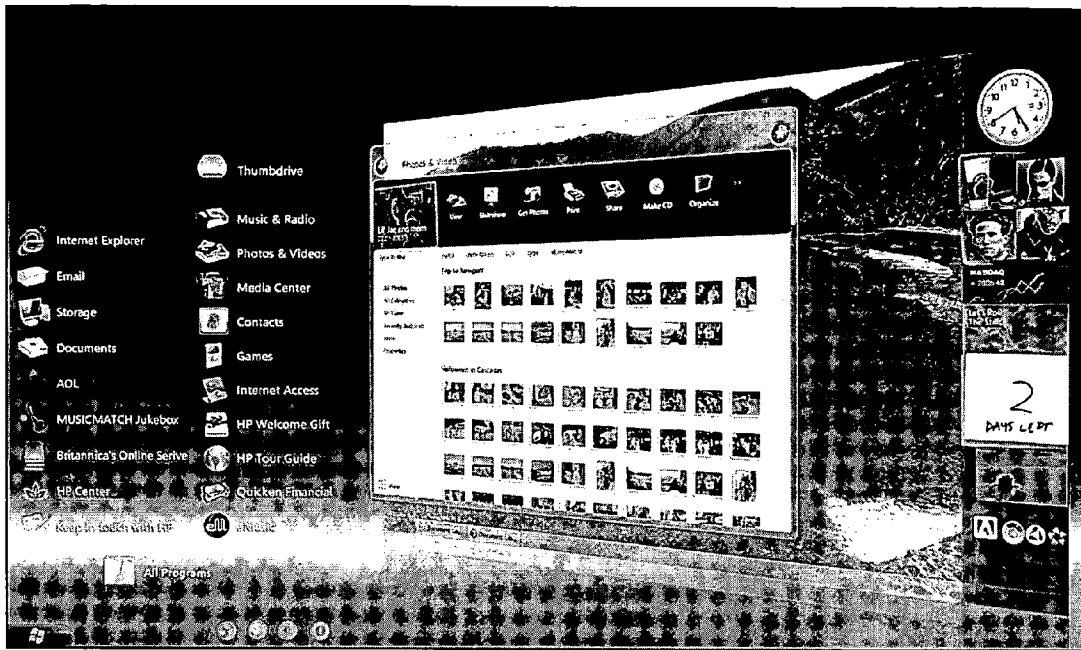


FIG. 3A

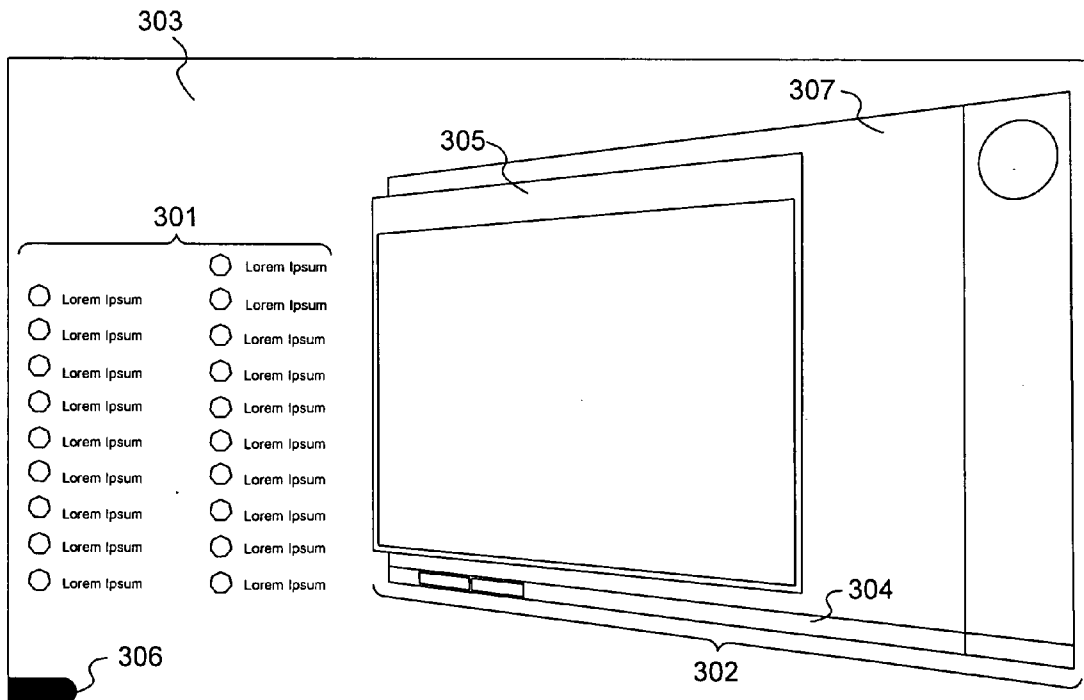


FIG. 3B

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