

11-2-1970

## Telescope arrives at UM

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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### Recommended Citation

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Telescope arrives at UM" (1970). *University of Montana News Releases*. 6365.

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TELESCOPE ARRIVES AT UM

MISSOULA--

The Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Montana has received a new 16-inch Cassegrainian telescope for use in the University's Blue Mountain Observatory.

The telescope, valued at \$34,650, will be installed in the observatory, which is under construction on Blue Mountain, 10 miles southwest of the University campus. The instrument, made by Boller & Chivens Co. of South Pasadena, Calif., was delivered Sunday to the UM Physical Plant.

Dr. Thomas E. Margrave, an assistant professor of astronomy at UM, said the telescope is an observatory-class instrument "well suited for serious astronomical research."

"The telescope will be equipped with a photoelectric photometer for studies of normal and variable stars," Dr. Margrave said. "It will also be used as an instructional tool in connection with the undergraduate astronomy program at UM."

He said the UM telescope is identical to one operated by the University of Washington at its observatory on Rattlesnake Ridge north of Richland, Wash.

The telescope will be used most heavily during the summer months when clear skies are prevalent. Periodic open house will be held to enable the general public to observe the moon, planets and other objects of interest.

The Blue Mountain Observatory, which is valued at about \$12,500, is located on land leased to the University for 25 years at no fee by the U.S. Forest Service. The observatory and telescope are being financed with state funds and a \$12,700 grant from the National Science Foundation.

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