PROLOGUE · THE 1970s AI LAB

BUILDING 26 · 36-BIT WORD · OPEN HACKER CULTURE

PDP-10 · KA10

36-BIT CONSOLE

THE ELDERS
OF BUILDING 26

(DEFUN LISP
(CAR CDR)
(CONS X Y))

ITS · 1974
NO PASSWORDS
OPEN TERMINAL
SHARED CORE
36-BIT WORD
PAPER TAPE
MAGNETIC REEL
ARCANE MACRO
TECO SCROLLS

IN THE SHADOW
OF THE LAB



LISP 1.5 · ITS

LAMBDA CORE

WIZARDS' GUILD
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1. GUARD THE
CONS CELLS
2. KEEP THE
CORE ALIVE
3. SPEAK IN
S-EXPRS

HACKERS OF
THE FIRST AGE
NO COMMERCIAL
LOCK-IN YET

SPACEWAR!
MACRO-10
MIDAS
DDT DEBUGGER
LISP MACHINE
KNIGHT TV

BEFORE THE
GREAT SCHISM
OF 1983

MCMLXXIV

THE ANCIENT WIZARDS OF THE LAB

ACT I · MIT AI LAB 1974 · PDP-10 · ITS · THE LISP ELDERS

"In the shadow of the lab, where the ancient wizards play..."

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