Bibliography

A

Janet Abbate, "Inventing the Internet", MIT Press, 2000.

How the Internet developed, from the late 1950's through to the late 1970's. Also: [Waldrop].

Atsushi Akera, "Calculating a Natural World: Scientists, Engineers, and Computers in the United States, 1937-1968", MIT Press, 2008.

The US machines created because of Cold War research [June 26]. Also: [Redmond].

John Alderman, "Core Memory: A Visual Survey of Vintage Computers", Chronicle Books, May 2007.

Beautiful pictures of some of the Computer History Museum's [Sept 24] collection, along with short descriptions. Also: [Eames; Kidwell].

Paul Allen, "Idea Man: A Memoir by the Co-founder of Microsoft", Portfolio, 2011.

The quintessential insider's view of how Microsoft [April 4] began. The second half of the book deals with Allen's life [Jan 21] after Microsoft. Also: [Edstrom; Wallace].

Nathan Altice, "I Am Error: The Nintendo Family Computer / Entertainment System Platform", MIT Press, 2015.

How the development of the NES [Oct 18] was affected by its games, such as Donkey Kong [July 9] and Zelda [Feb 21]. Also: [Harris; Sheff].

Karen Angel, "Inside Yahoo!: Reinvention and the Road Ahead", Wiley, 2002.

Yahoo! [March 2] from its birth in a Stanford trailer until 2001. Also: [Carlson].

Charles Arthur, "Digital Wars: Apple, Google, Microsoft and the Battle for the Internet", Kogan Page, 2012.

The book argues that Apple [Jan 9] won, Microsoft [April 30] lost, and Google [Nov 5] is somewhere in between. Also: [Levy; Vogelstein].

William Aspray, "John von Neumann and the Origins of Modern Computing", MIT Press, 1990.

A good account of von Neumann's [Dec 28] contributions to computing. Also: [Dyson].

William Aspray (ed.), "Computing Before Computers", Iowa State Press, 1990.

Computing devices before the electronic digital computer [Dec 26]. Also: [Ceruzzi; Grier; Small].

Stan Augarten, "Bit by Bit: An Illustrated History of Computers", Ticknor and Fields, 1984.

A history of computing up to the mid-1980s. Lots of photos. Also: [Alderman].

B

Brian Bagnall, "Commodore: A Company on the Edge", Variant Press; 2nd ed., 2010.

Covers the PET [April 16], the VIC-20 [May 00], and the Commodore 64 [Jan 7], up to when Jack Tramiel [Dec 13] was forced out. This is Part 1 of a trilogy, the others being: "Commodore: The Amiga Years" and "Commodore: The Final Years". Also: [Maher].

Michael Banks, "On the Way to the Web: The Secret History of the Internet and Its Founders", Apress, 2008.

The Internet when it was dial-up online services, bulletin boards, and email, including CompuServe [Sept 24], Prodigy [Feb 13], AOL [Oct 2], and The Source [Dec 3]. Mostly pre-1980s. Also: [Cassidy; McCullough; Swisher].

Thierry Bardini, "Bootstrapping: Douglas Engelbart, Coevolution, and the Origins of Personal Computing", Stanford Univ. Press, 2000.

A detailed history of Engelbart's [Jan 30] work. Also: [Markoff].

Charles J. Bashe, Lyle R. Johnson, John H. Palmer, Emerson W. Pugh, "IBM's Early Computers: A Technical History", MIT Press, 1986.

Covers IBM's involvement with census tabulators in the 1920's [June 16], SAGE [June 26], SABRE [Nov 5], and stops just short of the IBM-360 (see [Priestly]). Also: [Cortada; Grosch; Maney].

Leslie Berlin, "The Man Behind the Microchip: Robert Noyce and the Invention of Silicon Valley", Oxford Univ. Press, 2005.

A wonderful book about Noyce [Dec 12]. Also: [Malone; Reid].

Tim Berners-Lee, Mark Fischetti, "Weaving the Web: The Original Design and Ultimate Destiny of the World Wide Web by Its Inventor", HarperCollins, 1999.

The first few chapters provide a history of the Web by its inventor [June 8]. Also: [Gillies].

Kurt W. Beyer, "Grace Hopper and the Invention of the Information Age", MIT Press, 2012.

A good introduction to Hopper [Dec 9] in the context of the computer industry of the time. Also: [Shirley].

Federico Biancuzzi, Shane Warden, "Masterminds of Programming: Conversations with the Creators of Major Programming Languages", O'Reilly Media, 2009.

Interviews with: Alfred Aho [Aug 9], Grady Booch [Feb 27], Brad Cox, Donald D. Chamberlin [May 1], Adin D. Falkoff [Dec 19], Thomas E. Kurtz [Feb 22], Charles Geschke [Sept 11], James Gosling [May 19], Tom Love, Anders Hejlsberg [Dec 2], Luiz Henrique de Figueiredo [July 8], Paul Hudak, John Hughes, Roberto Ierusalimschy [July 8], Ivar Jacobson [Feb 27], Simon Peyton Jones [Jan 18], Brian

Kernighan [Jan 1], Bertrand Meyer [Nov 21], Robin Milner [Jan 13], Charles H. Moore, James Rumbaugh, Bjarne Stroustrup [Dec 30], Guido van Rossum [Jan 31], Philip Wadler [April 8], Larry Wall [Sept 27], John Warnock [Oct 6], Peter Weinberger [Aug 6]. Also: [Lammers; Livingston; O'Regan; Seibel; Sammet; Shasha; Slater].

Nick Bilton, "Hatching Twitter: A True Story of Money, Power, Friendship, and Betrayal", Portfolio, 2013.

The beginning of Twitter [March 21], focusing on the four co-founders: Noah Glass, Jack Dorsey, Biz Stone, Evan Williams.

Peter John Bird, "LEO: The First Business Computer", Hasler, 1994.

The J. Lyon's company's LEO I [Sept 5], II & III. Also: [Campbell-Kelly; Croarken; Lavington].

Edward K. Blum, Alfred V Aho, "Computer Science: The Hardware, Software and Heart of It", Springer, 2011.

An overview of computer science, including databases, quantum computing, fuzzy logic, and more. Also: [Dewdney; Hillis; Petzold].

Ernest Braun, Stuart MacDonald, "Revolution in Miniature: The History and Impact of Semiconductor Electronics", Cambridge Univ. Press, 1982.

(Micro-)electronics from the advent of the vacuum tube [Nov 16] to the integrated circuit [Sept 12] computers of the 1970s.

Po Bronson, "The Nudist On The Late Shift: and Other Tales of Silicon Valley", Random House, 1999.

An expansion of his Wired magazine [Jan 2] writings from before the dot-com bust. Lots of humor; might be an acquired taste. Also: [Cassidy].

Frederick P. Brooks Jr., "The Mythical Man-Month: Essays on Software Engineering, Anniversary Edition", Addison-Wesley, 1995.

These essays draw from Brooks' [April 19] experience as project manager for the IBM System/360 (see [Priestley]) and OS/360 [April 7].

Michael Keeble Buckland, "Emanuel Goldberg and His Knowledge Machine", Greenwood Publishing Group, 2006.

Examines Goldberg's [Aug 31] contributions to photography and information science.

Alice R. Burks, Arthur W. Burks [Oct 13], "The First Electronic Computer: The Atanasoff Story", Univ. of Michigan Press, 1989.

The design, construction, and subsequent controversy over the ABC [Jan 15]. Also: [Smiley].

Peter Burrows, "Backfire: Carly Fiorina's High-Stakes Battle for the Soul of Hewlett-Packard", Wiley, 2003.

Details the conflict between Walter Hewlett (son of one of the founders [May 20]) and Carly Fiorina [Sept 6] over the Compaq merger [Sept 3]. Predates her forced departure from HP in 2005.

C

Martin Campbell-Kelly, "ICL: A Business and Technical History", Oxford Univ. Press, 1990.

A history of ICL [July 9] which nicely illustrates the British computer industry. Also: [Bird; Croarken; Lavington].

Martin Campbell-Kelly, "From Airline Reservations to Sonic the Hedgehog: A History of the Software Industry", MIT Press, 2003.

Concentrates on the business aspects of software [Nov 5].

Martin Campbell-Kelly, William Aspray, Nathan Ensmenger, Jeffrey R. Yost "Computer: A History of the Information Machine", Routledge, 2018.

A general history, especially good on data processing in the 19th [Jan 8] and early 20th centuries, and the founding of IBM [June 16]. Also: [Ceruzzi; Issacson].

Paul Carroll, "Big Blues: The Unmaking of IBM", Three Rivers Press, 1994.

IBM from 1980 to late 1993, just before Gerstner became CEO. For afterwards, see [Gerstner].

Nicholas Carlson, "Marissa Mayer and the Fight to Save Yahoo!", Twelve, 2015.

Mayer's [May 30] tenure at Yahoo! [March 2], and also some chapters on her earlier career at Google. Also: [Angel].

Jim Carlton, "Apple: The Inside Story of Intrigue, Egomania, and Business Blunders", Random House, 1999.

Steve Jobs [Feb 24] vs. his successor John Scully [April 6]. Also: [Hertzfeld; Issacson; Levy; Linzmayer; Schlender Weyhrich; Wozniak].

John Cassidy, "Dot.con: The Real Story of Why the Internet Bubble Burst", Gardners Books, 2005.

The build-up, collapse, and after effects of the dot-com crash [March 10]. Also: [Banks; Bronson; McCullough; Swisher].

Paul E. Ceruzzi, "Reckoners: The Prehistory of the Digital Computer, from Relays to the Stored Program Concept, 1935-1945", Greenwood Publishing Group, 1983.

A history of computers before the ENIAC [June 14]. Also: [Aspray; Grier; Small]. Pair this with his next book. For more pictures, see [Kidwell and Ceruzzi].

Paul E. Ceruzzi, "A History of Modern Computing", MIT Press, 2003.

A history of computers starting from the ENIAC [Feb 15]. Pair this with his previous book. For more pictures, see [Kidwell and Ceruzzi]. Also: [Campbell-Kelly; Issacson].

Raymond Chen, "The Old New Thing: Practical Development Throughout the Evolution of Windows", Addison-Wesley, 2007.

Mostly focuses on the technical aspects of Windows 95 [Aug 24] and 3.1 [April 6] with a little 2000 [Feb 17] and XP [Oct 25] thrown in. This is the book form of Chen's blog "The Old New Thing" with more stories and details. Also: [Zachary].

I. Bernard Cohen, "Howard Aiken: Portrait of a Computer Pioneer", MIT Press, 1999.

A detailed biography of Aiken [March 8].

B. Jack Copeland (ed.), "Colossus: The secrets of Bletchley Park's code-breaking computers", Oxford Univ. Press, 2010.

38 essays by different authors on the Lorenz machine [June 1], the building of Colossus [Jan 18], and reminiscences about life at Bletchley Park [Aug 15]. Also: [Kahn].

B. Jack Copeland (ed.), "Alan Turing's Electronic Brain: The Struggle to Build the ACE, the World's Fastest Computer", Oxford Univ. Press, 2012.

23 essays by different authors about the development of the ACE [Feb 19], and life at the NPL [Oct 1]. Also: [Davis; Hodges; Lavington; Petzold].

James W. Cortada, "Before the Computer: IBM, NCR, Burroughs, and Remington Rand and the Industry They Created, 1865-1956", Princeton Univ. Press, 2000.

The early 20th Century American data processing industry [Feb 14]. Good descriptions of old machines, and great photographs. Also: [Bashe; Grosch; Maney].

Mary Croarken, "Early Scientific Computing in Britain", Clarendon Press, 1990.

Scientific computation in Britain during 1900-1950, covering the use of math tables, slide rules, desk calculators, differential analysers [Jan 24], and early computers. Also: [Bird; Campbell-Kelly; Lavington].

Robert X. Cringely, "Accidental Empires: How the Boys of Silicon Valley Make Their Millions, Battle Foreign Competition, and Still Can't Get a Date", Harper Business, 1996.

Character studies, history, and gossip about Silicon Valley [Jan 11] up to 1996. Lots on Microsoft, Apple, and Xerox PARC [July 1]. Also: [Fisher].

D

Martin Davis, "The Universal Computer: The Road from Leibniz to Turing", CRC Press, 2018.

An in-depth explanation of the Turing machine (see [Petzold]). It begins with Gottfried Leibniz [July 1] in the 17th century, then moves onto George Boole [Nov 2], Gottlob Frege [Nov 8], Georg Cantor, David Hilbert [Sept 3], and Kurt Godel [April 28], before turning to Alan Turing [June 23]. Also: [Copeland; Hodges; Lavington; Petzold].

Brian Dear, "The Friendly Orange Glow: The Untold Story of the PLATO System and the Dawn of Cyberculture", Pantheon, 2017.

The personalities, politics, and culture behind the PLATO system [Aug 22].

A. K. Dewdney, "The Armchair Universe: An Exploration of Computer Worlds", Freeman, 1988.

Articles from the "Computer Recreations" section of *Scientific American*. There are essays on fractals, AI, cellular automata, simulation, and core wars. There were two follow-up collections: "The Magic Machine: A Handbook of Computer Sorcery" (1990) and "The Tinkertoy Computer and Other Machinations" (1993).

A. K. Dewdney, "The New Turing Omnibus: Sixty-Six Excursions in Computer Science", Holt, 1993.

Three-to-five page essays on 66 different topics, including prime numbers, noncomputable functions, self-replicating computers, the Mandelbrot set [Nov 20], genetic algorithms, the Newton-Raphson Method, neural networks, and computer viruses. Also: [Blum; Hillis; Petzold].

The Lunch Group & Guests, Steve Ditlea (ed.) "Digital Deli: The Comprehensive, User-Lovable Menu of Computer Lore, Culture, Lifestyles and Fancy", Workman Publishing, 1984.

1980's trivia, lore, history; online at `https://www.atariarchives.org/deli/`. Also: [Morgan; Rochester; Simons].

Tristan Donovan, "Replay: The History of Video Games", Yellow Ant Media, 2010.

A worldwide history of gaming starting from the 1940s [Sept 24] up to the 1990s. Good coverage of the European market. Also: [Herman; Kent; Montfort; Ramsay].

Apostolos Doxiadis, Christos H. Papadimitriou, "Logicomix: An Epic Search for Truth", Bloomsbury, 2009.

A graphic novel explaining the development of modern logic up to Kurt Gödel [April 28]. Bertrand Russell [May 18] is central to the narrative but his life is fictionalized in several places. Also: [Gonick].

George Dyson, "Turing's Cathedral: The Origins of the Digital Universe", Pantheon, 2012.

John von Neumann [Dec 28] at the IAS during the 1930s and WWII, with diversions into the founding of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and the Native American tribe who lived on the land occupied by Princeton Univ. It's Turing's Cathedral but von Neumann was the Pope. Also: [Aspray].

E

Charles Eames, Ray Eames, "A Computer Perspective: Background to the Computer Age", Harvard Univ. Press, 1990.

A splendid pictorial history. The book's decade-by-decade format includes hundreds of illustrations. Also: [Alderman; Kidwell].

Jennifer Edstrom, Marlin Eller, "Barbarians Led by Bill Gates: Microsoft From The Inside: How The World's Richest Corporation Wields Its Power", Holt, 1999.

An insider's view of Microsoft in the late 1970s [Aug 21] up to the early 1990s. The book isn't as biased as the title suggests. Also: [Allen; Wallace].

Nathan L. Ensmenger, "The Computer Boys Take Over: Computers, Programmers, and the Politics of Technical Expertise", MIT Press, 2012.

A social history of programming from the late 1940s to the early 1970s, with an emphasis on the retreat of women from the field [May 00]. Also: [Hicks].

James Essinger, "How Lord Byron's Daughter Ada Lovelace Launched the Digital Age Ada's Algorithm", Melville House, 2014.

How Ada Lovelace [Dec 10] and Charles Babbage [Dec 26] worked together. Also: [Lindgren; Stein; Swade].

Claire L. Evans, "Broad Band: The Untold Story of the Women Who Made the Internet", Portfolio, 2018.

A few of the amazing women who made the Internet possible, including Grace Hopper [Dec 9] (also [Beyer]), Elizabeth "Jake" Feinler [March 2], and Stacy Horn. Also: [Ensmenger; Hicks].

Don Eyles, "Sunburst and Luminary: An Apollo Memoir", Fort Point Press, 2018.

The development of the onboard software for the Apollo spacecraft [Aug 25]. Also: [O'Brien].

F

Adam Fisher, "Valley of Genius: The Uncensored History of Silicon Valley (as told by the Hackers, Founders, and Freaks who made it boom)", Twelve, 2018.

Quotations grouped around various Silicon Valley ventures [July 27]. Lots of juicy gossip. Also: [Cringley].

Paul Freiberger, Michael Swaine, "Fire in the Valley: The Making of the Personal Computer", McGraw-Hill, 2nd ed., 2000.

Silicon Valley in the 1960s through the 1980s, including CP/M [June 22], MS-DOS [Aug 12], and Apple computers. There are many Mac-era anecdotes. Also: [Hertzfeld; Levy; Menuez].

G

Louis V. Gerstner Jr., "Who Says Elephants Can't Dance?: Inside IBM's Historic Turnaround", Harper Business, 2002.

How Gerstner [March 1] saved IBM in the mid-1990s. For the events leading up to this, see [Carroll].

Jon Gertner, "The Idea Factory: Bell Labs and the Great Age of American Innovation", Penguin, 2012.

Bell Labs [Jan 1] from its beginnings in the 1920s until its demise in the 1980s.

James Gillies, Robert Cailliau, "How the Web was Born: The Story of the World Wide Web", Oxford Univ. Press, 2000.

How the Web came to be, dating from the 1950's to the 1990's. Cailliau [Jan 26] was critical to the effort at CERN [Sept 29]. An essential read from a European perspective. Also: [Berners-Lee].

Robert L. Glass, "Computing Catastrophes", Computing Trends, 1983.

A litany of classic computing failures, including GE [Sept 30], RCA [Nov 20], and Xerox. Glass also wrote "Software Runaways" (1998) which looks at the failed Denver Airport Baggage Handling System [April 21] and the Internal Revenue Service Tax Modernization System.

James Gleick, "The Information: A History, a Theory, a Flood", Pantheon, 2011.

Begins with African drums and ends with Wikipedia [Jan 15]. Key individuals include: Charles Babbage [Dec 26], Alan Turing [June 23], and Claude Shannon [April 30] (see [Soni]), who's the main hero of the book.

Adele Goldberg (ed.), "A History of Personal Workstations", Addison-Wesley,1988.

Essays by pioneers, including Gordon Bell [Aug 19], Douglas T. Ross [Dec 21], J.C.R. Licklider [March 11], L. Roberts [Dec 21], Glen J. Culler [July 7], Douglas C. Engelbart [Jan 30], Alan Kay [May 17], Adele Goldberg [July 7], Charles P. Thacker [Feb 26], Butler W. Lampson [Dec 23], Wesley A. Clark [April 10].

Herman H. Goldstine [Sept 13], "The Computer from Pascal to von Neumann", Princeton Univ. Press, 1972.

Starts with Wilhelm Schickard [April 22], Blaise Pascal [June 19], and Gottfried Leibniz [July 1]. Includes some great anecdotes and stories. A interesting contrast to the John von Neumann [Dec 28] material is the book by [McCartney].

Larry Gonick, Mark Wheelis "The Cartoon Guide to Computer Science", Harper, 1991.

A bright and breezy cartoon history of computing and some computer science fundamentals; it was originally published in 1983. Also: [Doxiadis].

David Alan Grier, "When Computers Were Human", Princeton Univ. Press, 2005.

Human computing before digital computers. The

narrative begins with the return of Halley's comet in 1758 and ends with a UNIVAC [March 10] projecting the 1986 orbit. Also: [Aspray; Ceruzzi; Small].

Herbert R. J. Grosch, "Computer: Bit Slices from a Life", Underwood Books, 1991.

"I was the second scientist ever hired by IBM, and I watched the Watsons [Feb 17; Jan 14] on Olympus, and Bill Norris [July 14] and Ken Olsen [Feb 20] and Gene Amdahl [Nov 16], and a thousand great commercial and academic figures." Online at: `http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/computer.html`. Also: [Bashe; Cortada; Maney].

H

Katie Hafner, Matthew Lyon, "Where Wizards Stay Up Late: The Origins of the Internet", Simon & Schuster, 1996.

A social history of BBN [Oct 15], ARPANET [Oct 29], and the Internet, with an emphasis on J.C.R. Licklider [March 11]. Also: [Salus; Waldrop].

Katie Hafner, John Markoff, "Cyberpunk: Outlaws and Hackers on the Computer Frontier, Revised", Simon & Schuster, 1995.

Profiles of three hackers: Kevin Mitnick [Feb 15], Pengo, and Robert Morris [Nov 2]. Also: [Menn; Mitnick; Poulsen; Stoll].

Mark Hall, John Barry "Sunburst: the Ascent of Sun Microsystems", Contemporary Books, 1990.

The founding and early years of Sun Microsystems [Feb 24] written by two of its employees.

Mike Hally, "Electronic Brains: Stories from the Dawn of the Computer Age", Joseph Henry Press, 2005.

Chronicles Australian [July 31], UK, US, and Soviet [Nov 2] pioneers, based on a BBC radio series of the same name.

Blake J. Harris, "Console Wars: Sega, Nintendo, and the Battle that Defined a Generation", It Books, 2014.

The Sega [Oct 29] / Nintendo [Oct 18] console wars of the late 1980s and early 1990s, written in the style of fictitious "conversations" between the main figures. Also: [Altice; Sheff]

Leonard Herman, "Phoenix: The Fall & Rise of Home Videogames", Rolenta Press, 1997.

Details of video systems, organized by year [Feb 5]. Also: [Donovan; Kent; Montfort; Ramsay].

Andy Hertzfeld, Steve Capps, "Revolution in The Valley: The Insanely Great Story of How the Mac Was Made", "O'Reilly Media, Inc.", 2005.

The development of the Apple Mac [Jan 24] through a variety of anecdotes and photographs. Also: [Freiberger; Levy; Menuez].

Marie Hicks, "Programmed Inequality: How Britain Discarded Women Technologists and Lost Its Edge in Computing", MIT Press, 2017.

A history of women programmers in the UK [Sept 16], and how they were discarded. Also: [Ensmenger].

W. Daniel Hillis, "The Pattern On The Stone: The Simple Ideas That Make Computers Work", Basic Books, 2014.

A clear explanation of how computers work presented at a elementary school level. Also covers quantum computing, parallel computing, neural networks, and self-organizing systems. Also: [Blum; Dewdney; Petzold].

Michael A. Hiltzik, "Dealers of Lightning: Xerox PARC and the Dawn of the Computer Age", Harper Business, 1999,.

Why Xerox wasn't able to exploit the cutting-edge innovations that PARC [July 1] delivered. Also: [Smith].

Andrew Hodges, "Alan Turing: The Enigma", Simon & Schuster, 1983.

The definitive biography of Turing [June 23]. Also: [Copeland; Davis; Lavington; Petzold].

Phil Husbands, Owen Holland, Michael Wheeler (eds.) "The Mechanical Mind in History", Bradford Books, 2008.

A history of cybernetics and AI based around fourteen articles and transcripts of interviews with five influential figures. Contributors include: Hubert Dreyfus [Oct 15], Donald Michie [Nov 11], Oliver Selfridge [May 10]. Also: [Newquist; Nilsson; Roland].

I

Walter Isaacson, "Steve Jobs", Simon & Schuster, 2011.

Draws on more than 40 interviews with Jobs [Feb 24], as well as family members, friends, competitors, and colleagues. Also: [Carlton; Hertzfeld; Levy; Linzmayer; Schlender Weyhrich; Wozniak].

Walter Isaacson, "The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses, and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution", Simon & Schuster, 2014.

An epic sweep through computing history, though a little light on the science and engineering background. Also: [Campbell-Kelly; Ceruzzi].

J

K

David Kahn, "The Codebreakers: The Comprehensive History of Secret Communication from Ancient Times to the Internet", Scribner; Revised, 1996.

Essays covering codes and codebreaking in chronological order, with an emphasis on

WWI and WWII [Aug 16]. First published in 1967. For later years, see [Levy].

Steven L. Kent, "The Ultimate History of Video Games: From Pong to Pokemon -- The Story Behind the Craze That Touched Our Lives and Changed the World", Three Rivers Press, 2001.

Most emphasis is given to the "golden age" from 1979-1983, along with a thorough history of the rise and fall of Atari [June 27]. Also: [Donovan; Herman; Montfort; Ramsay].

Brian W. Kernighan [Jan 1], "UNIX: A History and a Memoir", Independently published, 2019.

How UNIX [Oct 15] conquered the world, the origins of C, and humorous illustrations of the laid-back culture at Bell Labs. Also: [Salus].

Tracy Kidder, "The Soul of A New Machine", Little Brown, 1981.

Data General's [Sept 14] development of "The Eagle" in the late 1970s [April 15]; lots of technical depth.

Peggy A. Kidwell, Paul E. Ceruzzi, "Landmarks in Digital Computing: A Smithsonian Pictorial History", Smithsonian, 1994.

A visual record of 40-plus milestones, from the abacus [Nov 12] to the Sun workstation [May 00]. For more information, see the two histories by [Ceruzzi]. Also: [Alderman; Eames].

Brad J. King, John M. Borland, "Dungeons and Dreamers: A Story of how Computer Games Created a Global Community", ETC Press, 2nd ed., 2014.

Mainly focuses on the Ultima series [Sept 24], but also looks at table top gaming and D&D [July 27], early MUDs [April 6], early online services, and id Software [Feb 1] (see [Kushner; Witwer]).

David Kirkpatrick, "The Facebook Effect: The Inside Story of the Company That is Connecting the World", Simon & Schuster, 2010.

An insider's history [Feb 4], which touches on the personal conflicts made famous by the movie, "The Social Network" [Oct 1].

David Kushner, "Masters of Doom: How Two Guys Created an Empire and Transformed Pop Culture", Random House, 2003.

The history of id Software [Feb 1] and its creators, John Carmack [Aug 20] and John Romero [Oct 28].

L

Susan M. Lammers, "Programmers at work: Interviews", Harper and Row, 1986.

Interviews with 19 programmers: Dan Bricklin [July 16], Bob Carr, Bob Frankston [June 14], Bill Gates, Michael Hawley, Andy Hertzfeld [April 6], Toru Iwatani [May 22], Gary Kildall [May 19], Scott Kim, Butler Lampson [Dec 23], Jaron Lanier [May 3], Ray Ozzie [Nov 20], John Page, Jef Raskin [March 9], C. Wayne Ratliff [Dec 10], Peter Roizen, Jonathan Sachs, Charles Simonyi [Sept 10], John Warnock [Oct 6]. Also: [Biancuzzi; Livingston; O'Regan; Seibel; Shasha; Slater].

Phillip Laplante (ed.), "Great Papers in Computer Science", IEEE Press, 1996.

The selection is aimed at first year computer science students. The contents are listed online at `https://bit.csc.lsu.edu/~chen/GreatPapers.html`. Also: [Norman].

Phil Lapsley, "Exploding the Phone: The Untold Story of the Teenagers and Outlaws who Hacked Ma Bell", Grove Press, 2013.

Phone phreaking [May 17] with amusing stories. Also: [Sterling].

Simon Lavington, "A History of Manchester Computers", NCC Pub., 1975.

Looks at machines dating from the Mark 1 [June 16] to the MUS. Online at: `https://archive.org/details/HistoryOfManchesterComputers/mode/2up`

Simon Lavington, "Moving Targets: Elliott-Automation and the Dawn of the Computer Age in Britain, 1947 – 67", Springer, 2011.

Business computing in the UK, as seen through the lens of Elliott Brothers [Oct 00]. Also: [Bird; Campbell-Kelly; Croarken].

Simon Lavington (ed.), "Alan Turing and His Contemporaries: Building the World's First Computers", BCS, 2012.

Descriptions of early (mainly British) computers, including the SSEM [June 21], EDSAC [May 6], Ferranti Mark I [Feb 12], ACE [Feb 19], DEUCE [May 10], LEO [Sept 5], up to about 1960. Also: [Copeland; Davis; Hodges; Petzold; Wilkes].

Christophe Lecuyer, David C. Brock "Makers of the Microchip: A Documentary History of Fairchild Semiconductor", MIT Press, 2010.

Fairchild [Oct 1] in the first three years, and particularly the race between Gordon Moore [Jan 3] and Jean Hoerni [Sept 26] to build the first PNP and NPN transistors. Also: [Lojek; Malone; Shurkin; Thackray].

Robert Levering, Michael Katz, Milton Moskowitz, "Computer Entrepreneurs: Who's Making It Big and How in America's Upstart Industry", Dutton, 1984.

Sketches of a young Bill Gates [Oct 28], Steve Jobs [Feb 24], their companies, and some funny quotes.

Steven Levy, "Hackers: Heroes of the Computer Revolution", Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1984.

Split into three sections:

1) *True Hackers*: 1946 - mid 1970s: MIT's Tech Model

Railroad Club [Sept 6], Lincoln Lab [June 26].

2) *Hardware Hackers*: Mid 1970s - 1980. The Homebrew Computer Club [March 5], the Altair 8800 [Dec 19], TRS-80 [Aug 3], the Apple II [June 5]. Also: [Markoff].

3) *Game Hackers*: Late 1970s - 1982. Sierra On-Line [Oct 30].

Steven Levy, "Insanely Great: The Life and Times of Macintosh, the Computer that Changed Everything", Viking Adult, 1994.

Links the Mac's GUI [Jan 24] to Xerox PARC [Dec 00], and DARPA's [Feb 7] sponsored work in the 1950's and 1960's. Also: [Freiberger; Hertzfeld; Menuez].

Steven Levy, "Crypto: How the Code Rebels Beat the Government -- Saving Privacy in the Digital Age", Viking Adult;, 2001.

Cryptography from the mid-1970's, and specifically Whitfield Diffie [June 5] and Martin Hellman's [Oct 2] work. Light on technical details. Also: [Kahn].

Steven Levy, "In The Plex: How Google Thinks, Works, and Shapes Our Lives", Simon & Schuster, 2011.

A layman's description of how Google search was developed [Aug 29]. Also: [Arthur; Vogelstein].

Andrew Lih, "The Wikipedia Revolution: How a Bunch of Nobodies Created the World's Greatest Encyclopedia", Hyperion, 2009.

The beginnings of Wikipedia [jan 15], with Ward Cunningham [May 26], Larry Sanger, and the roles of Usenet [Jan 29], Hypercard [Aug 11], Nupedia [March 9], and MeatballWiki.

Michael Lindgren, Craig G. McKay (translator), "Glory and Failure: The Difference Engines of Johann Muller, Charles Babbage and Georg and Edvard Scheutz", MIT Press, 1990.

Why did Babbage fail technically [Jan 21] and the Scheutzes [Sept 23] fail commercially? Also: [Essinger; Swade].

Owen W. Linzmayer, "Apple Confidential 2.0: The Definitive History of the World's Most Colorful Company", No Starch Press, 2004.

Apple [Dec 12] gossip, history, trivia, and lore. Also: [Carlton; Hertzfeld; Issacson; Levy; Schlender Weyhrich; Wozniak].

Jessica Livingston, "Founders at Work: Stories of Startups' Early Days", Apress, 2008.

Interviews mainly with Web startup founders from 1995-2005: Max Levchin [Feb 15], Sabeer Bhatia [July 4], Steve Wozniak [Aug 11], Joe Kraus, Dan Bricklin [July 16], Mitchell Kapor [Nov 1], Ray Ozzie [Nov 20], Evan Williams [Aug 23], Tim Brady, Mike Lazaridis [March 7], Arthur van Hoff. Also: [Biancuzzi; Lammers; O'Regan; Seibel; Shasha; Slater].

Bo Lojek, "History of Semiconductor Engineering", Springer, 2006.

A personal narrative going back to the early days of Silicon Valley, with appearances by William Shockley [Feb 13], Kurt Lehovec [June 12], Jean Hoerni [Sept 26], Frank Wanlass [May 17], and Federico Faggin [Dec 1]. Also: [Lecuyer; Malone; Thackray].

Herman Lukoff, "From Dits to Bits: A Personal History of the Electronic Computer", Robotics Press, 1979.

Personal tales of developing the EDSAC [May 6], UNIVAC I [March 31], LARC [March 00] with John Mauchly [Aug 30] and J. Presper Eckert [April 9], and the Remington Rand Univac [May 29]. Lots of technical details, and great B/W photographs.

David E. Lundstrom, "A Few Good Men from Univac", MIT Press, 1987.

Lundstrom was at Univac [Oct 00] from 1953 to 1963, and also describes the rise and fall of CDC [July 8].

M

John MacCormick, "Nine Algorithms That Changed the Future: The Ingenious Ideas That Drive Today's Computers", Princeton Univ. Press, 2012.

The algorithms covered are: search engine indexing, PageRank [Aug 29], public key cryptography [Aug 00], error-correcting codes, pattern recognition, data compression, databases, digital signatures, and "What is Computable?" [April 28].

Jimmy Maher, "The Future was Here: The Commodore Amiga", MIT Press, 2012.

Commodore, with an emphasis on the Amiga 1000 [July 23], and detailed descriptions of software. Also: [Bagnall].

Julien Mailland, Kevin Driscoll, "Minitel: Welcome to the Internet", MIT Press, 2017.

An in-depth analysis of the Minitel [May 10], the pioneering French computer network.

Michael S. Malone, "The Microprocessor: A Biography", Springer, 1995.

Looks at early Intel (4004 [Nov 15], 8080 [April 18]) and Motorola units [March 7]. Also: [Lecuyer; Lojek; Malone (below); Thackray].

Michael S. Malone, "The Intel Trinity: How Robert Noyce, Gordon Moore, and Andy Grove built the World's most Important Company", Harper Business, 2014.

Begins at Fairchild Semiconductor [Oct 1] as Noyce (also: [Berlin; Reid]) and Moore decide to leave to start Intel [July 18], and continues up to the 1990s. Also: [Lecuyer; Lojek; Malone (above); Shurkin; Thackray].

Kevin Maney, "The Maverick and His Machine: Thomas Watson, Sr. and the Making of IBM", Wiley, 2003.

Connects Watson [Feb 17] and IBM to various world events, including both world wars, and various American presidents. Also: [Bashe; Cortada; Grosch].

John Markoff, "What the Dormouse said: How the Sixties Counterculture Shaped the Personal Computer Industry", Viking Adult, 2005.

A bright evocation of Stanford in the 1960s and 1970s (up to 1977): Doug Engelbart (see [Bardini]) at SRI, John McCarthy's SAIL [Sept 4], Stewart Brand [Dec 14], Alan Kay [May 17], Ken Kesey, Cap'n Crunch [March 11], and the Homebrew Computer Club [March 5]. Also: [Levy; Turner].

Scott McCartney, "ENIAC: The Triumphs and Tragedies of the World's First Computer", Walker & Co, 1999.

The lives of J. Presper Eckert [April 9] and John Mauchly [Aug 30] told through their development of the ENIAC [Feb 15], and the UNIVAC [March 31] at EMCC [Dec 8]. A useful contrast to [Goldstine]'s book. Also: [Stern].

Brian McCullough, "How the Internet Happened: From Netscape to the iPhone", Liveright, 2018.

How the commercial Internet (e.g. Netscape [March 25], AOL [Oct 2], Ebay [Sept 3], Amazon [July 16], Yahoo! [March 2], Google [Sept 15]) grew from the early 1990s until the launch of the iPhone [Jan 9]. Also: [Banks; Cassidy; Quittner; Reid; Swisher].

Joseph Menn, "Fatal System Error: The Hunt for the New Crime Lords Who are Bringing Down the Internet", PublicAffairs, 2010.

Describes some of the cyber security milestones between 1995 and 2009, such as the Russian Business Network [June 8] and the Chinese Network Crack group. Also: [Hafner; MItnick; Poulsen; Stoll].

Doug Menuez, "Fearless Genius: the Digital Revolution in Silicon Valley 1985-2000", Atria Books, 2014.

Over 100 B/W photographs documenting Silicon Valley's rise [May 22]. The beginning of the book is about the creation and launch of the NeXT [Oct 12]. Also: [Freiberger; Hertzfeld].

Nicholas Metropolis, J. Howlett, Gian-Carlo Rota (eds.) "History of Computing in the Twentieth Century", Academic Press, 1980.

Based on papers by many pioneers presented at a 1976 Los Alamos conference. Contributors include: R.W. Hamming [Feb 11], I.J. Good [Dec 9], S.M. Ulam [April 13], J.H. Wilkinson [Sept 27], John Backus [Dec 3], Andrei P. Ershov [April 19], Donald E. Knuth [Jan 10], Julian Bigelow [March 19], Arthur W. Burks [Oct 13], J.C. Chu [July 14], Cuthbert C. Hurd [April 5], Harry D. Huskey [Jan 19], Jan Rajchman [Aug 10], George R. Stibitz [Apil 30], Maurice V. Wilkes [June 26], Friedrich L. Bauer [June 10], J. Presper Eckert [April 9], John W. Mauchly [Aug 30], Edsger W. Dijkstra [May 11], H. Zemanek [Jan 1], Konrad Zuse [June 22]. Also: [Rojas].

Kevin D. Mitnick [Feb 15], William L. Simon, "The Art of Intrusion: the Real Stories Behind the Exploits of Hackers, Intruders and Deceivers", Wiley, 2005.

High-profile hacker stories covering casinos, prisons, aircraft companies, newspaper companies, banks, and hospitals. Also: [Hafner; Menn; Poulsen; Stoll].

Nick Montfort, Ian Bogost, "Racing the Beam: The Atari Video Computer System", MIT Press, 2009.

How the Atari VCS / 2600 [Oct 14] was developed by considering the features used in six games: Combat, Adventure, Pac-Man [April 3], Yars' Revenge, Pitfall! [April 25], and Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back [May 4]. Also: [Donovan; Herman; Kent; Ramsay].

Glyn Moody, "Rebel Code: Linux and the Open Source Revolution", Basic Books, 2001.

The beginnings of free software as seen through several of its larger projects: Linux, Perl [Dec 18], Xfree86 [June 19], Apache [Dec 1], Emacs [Oct 2], Hurd [June 28]. Also: [Raymond; Torvalds; Weber; Williams].

Christopher L. Morgan, "The Computer Museum Presents the Official Computer Bowl Trivia Book", Crown Trade, 1996.

The questions asked during the first six "Computer Bowls" [Oct 7], along with hundreds of new ones. Also: [Ditlea; Rochester; Simons].

Charles J. Murray, "The Supermen: the Story of Seymour Cray and the Technical Wizards behind the Supercomputer", Wiley, 1997.

An excellent account of Cray [Sept 28], his company, and the evolution of the supercomputer.

N

Theodor H. Nelson [June 17], "Computer Lib / Dream Machines", Revised Microsoft Press, 1987.

An opinionated survey of the computing world from 1974, consisting of two books printed on mirrored pages: "Computer Lib: You Can and Must Understand Computers Now" and "Dream Machines: New Freedoms Through Computer Screens -- A Minority Report".

Harvey P. Newquist, "The BrAIn Makers: Genius, Ego, and Greed in the Quest for Machines that Think", Sams, 1994.

Entertaining anecdotes from the professional lives of AI pioneers. Also: [Husbands; Nilsson; Roland].

Nils J. Nilsson, "The Quest for AI", Cambridge Univ. Press, 2009.

A history of AI, with enough technical detail but still remaining readable. Also: [Husbands; Newquist; Roland].

Jeremy M. Norman, "From Gutenberg to the Internet: A Sourcebook on the History of Information Technology", Norman Publishing, 2005.

Sixty-three definitive papers on computing, networking, and telecommunications arranged thematically. The table of contents can be found at `http://www.historyofscience.com/G2I/#toc`. Also: [Laplante].

James M. Nyce, Paul Kahn, "From Memex to Hypertext: Vannevar Bush and the Mind's Machine", Academic Press, 1991.

Bush's [March 11] essays, and articles by other researchers on personal computing, hypertext and information retrieval. Also: [Zachary].

O

Frank O'Brien, "The Apollo Guidance Computer: Architecture and Operation", Springer Praxis, 2010.

The development of the Apollo Guidance Computer [Aug 25], discussing its hardware, software, and programming features. Also: [Eyles].

Gerard O'Regan, "Giants of Computing: A Compendium of Select, Pivotal Pioneers", Springer, 2013.

Mini-biographies of 59 giants: Howard Aiken [March 8], John Atanasoff [Oct 4], John Backus [Dec 3], Tim Berners-Lee [June 8], Dines Bjorner, Fred Brooks [April 19], Vannevar Bush [March 11], Vint Cerf [June 23], Tom DeMarco [Aug 20], Edger Dijkstra [May 11], Larry Ellison [Aug 17], Don Estridge [June 23], Michael Fagan, Tommy Flowers [Dec 22], Robert Floyd [June 8], Bill Gates [Oct 28], James Gosling [May 19], C.A.R Hoare [Jan 11], Hermann Hollerith [Feb 29], Grace Murray Hopper [Dec 9], Watts Humphrey [July 4], Kenneth Iverson [Dec 17], Ivor Jacobson [July 30], Steve Jobs [Feb 24], Gary Kildall [May 19], Donald Knuth [Jan 10], John Mauchly [Aug 30], John McCarthy [Sept 4], Marvin Minsky [Aug 9], Gordon Moore [Jan 3], Ken Olsen [Feb 20], David Parnas [Feb 10], Dennis Ritchie [Sept 9], Dana Scott [Oct 11], John Searle [July 31], Claude Shannon [April 30], William Shockley [Feb 13], Christopher Strachey [Nov 16], Bjarne Stroustrup [Dec 30], Ken Thompson [Feb 4], Alan Turing [June 23], John von Neumann [Dec 28], Thomas Watson Sr./Jr. [Feb 17; Jan 14], Joseph Weizenbaum [Jan 8], Frederick Williams [June 26], Niklaus Wirth [Feb 15], Ed Yourdan, Konrad Zuse [June 22]. Also: [Biancuzzi; Lammers; Livingston; Seibel; Shasha; Slater].

Severo M. Ornstein, "Computing in the Middle Ages: A View from the Trenches 1955-1983", AuthorHouse, 2002.

Personal stories [Oct 13] about working on the Whirlwind [April 20], LINC [May 24], and at Xerox PARC [July 1].

P

Justin Peters, "The Idealist: Aaron Swartz and the Rise of Free Culture on the Internet", Scribner, 2016.

Swartz [Nov 8] and the war between American copyright laws and free information.

Jamie Parker Pearson, "Digital at work: Snapshots from the first thirty-five years", Digital Press, 1992.

The first thirty-five years of DEC [Aug 23] told through numerous personal accounts, and a wealth of photos from Digital's archives. Also: [Rifkin; Schein].

Ivars Peterson, "Fatal Defect: Chasing Killer Computer Bugs", Crown, 1995.

A good overview of the problem of software safety. Examples include the Therac-25 bug [Feb 10], France's accident-prone Airbus A320, Russia's loss of two Mars probes [July 21], and the impending (at the time) Y2K apocalypse [Dec 31].

Charles Petzold, "Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software", Microsoft Press, 2000.

An excellent layman's explanation of computers by focusing on history and employing everyday objects and familiar systems such as Braille and Morse code [Jan 6]. Also: [Blum; Dewdney; Hillis].

Charles Petzold, "The Annotated Turing: A Guided Tour Through Alan Turing's Historic Paper on Computability and the Turing Machine", Wiley, 2008.

Turing's [June 23] paper "On Computable Numbers, with an Application to the Entscheidungsproblem" [Nov 12] with the addition of, on average, a paragraph of explanation for each line of Turing's prose. There's also an extensive introduction to important background concepts. Also: [Copeland; Davis; Hodges; Lavington].

Clifford A. Pickover, "Computers, Pattern, Chaos and Beauty: Graphics from an Unseen World", St. Martin's Press, 1990.

A well-written introduction to the use of computer graphics to describe and illustrate mathematics and natural phenomena. The book includes 200 B/W images and eight pages in color, along with pseudocode. If you like this, try the follow-up: "Computers and the Imagination: Visual Adventures Beyond the Edge" (1991).

Boisy G. Pitre, Bill Loguidice, "CoCo: The Colorful History of Tandy's Underdog Computer", Routledge, 2013.

The history of the TRS-80 Color Computer [July 31], along with stories about the early days of Tandy.

Kevin Poulsen, "Kingpin: How One Hacker Took Over the Billion-Dollar Cybercrime Underground", Crown, 2011.

The cyber crime world of the early 2000's, focuses primarily on Max Butler. Also: [Hafner; Menn; Mitnick; Stoll].

Mark Priestley, "IBM's 360 and Early 370 Systems", Emerson W. Pugh, Lyle R. Johnson, John H. Palmer, MIT Press, 1991.

The origins and development of IBM systems [April 7] between 1960 and 1975. A great mix of technical detail and information about the people involved. Also: [Bashe; Cortada; Grosch; Maney].

Mark Priestley, "A Science of Operations: Machines, Logic and the Invention of Programming", Springer, 2011.

A history of programming widened to include more general computations and other information-processing activities. Also: [Biancuzzi; Sammet].

Q

Joshua Quittner, Michelle Slatalla, "Speeding the Net: the Inside Story of Netscape and how it Changed the World", Atlantic Monthly Press, 1998.

Details about almost every person involved in the making of Netscape [March 25] and Mosaic. Also: [McCullough].

R

Anthony Ralston, Edwin D. Reilly, and David Hemmendinger "Encyclopedia of Computer Science", Wiley, 4 ed., 2003.

Over 600 short articles classified into nine main themes: hardware, software, computer systems, information and data, mathematics of computing, theory of computation, methodologies, applications, computing milieux. Also: [Reilly].

Morgan Ramsay, "Gamers at Work: Stories Behind the Games People Play", Apress, 2012.

Interviews about the business side of the gaming industry. Interviewees include: Trip Hawkins [May 27], Nolan Bushnell [Feb 5], Bill Stealey [Feb 24], Warren Spector [June 17], Doug and Gary Carlston [Feb 25], Don Daglow [Sept 12]. Also: [Donovan; Herman; Kent; Montfort].

Joy Lisi Rankin, "A People's History of Computing in the United States", Harvard Univ. Press, 2018.

This book explicitly positions itself as a corrective to what the author calls 'Silicon Valley mythology' (i.e. a focus on Apple, Stanford, and Xerox PARC). It treads a different path, looking the origins of the DTSS [May 1], the People's Computer Company [Oct 00], the Huntington Project, the Minnesota Educational Computing Consortium (MECC), and the PLATO System (see [Dear]).

Eric S. Raymond, "The Cathedral & the Bazaar: Musings on Linux and Open Source by an Accidental Revolutionary", O'Reilly Media, 1999.

The text (with some additions) of the author's [Dec 4] speech at the 1997 Linux Kongress. It contrasts the corporate form of software development (the Cathedral) with open source (the Bazaar). Also: [Moody; Torvalds; Weber; Williams].

Eric S. Raymond, Guy L. Steele [Oct 2], "The New Hacker's Dictionary", MIT Press, 1996.

A great book if you want to talk to developers transported from the 1970s-1990's. It eschews words like "click", "webpage", preferring "foobar", "warez d00dz", etc...

Kent C. Redmond, Thomas Malcolm Smith, William Aspray "From Whirlwind to MITRE: The R&D Story of The SAGE Air Defense Computer", MIT Press, 2000.

Accounts of the SAGE [July 26] and Whirlwind [April 20] projects, and the formation of the MITRE cooperation [July 21]; the politics are described in some detail. Also: [Akera].

Robert H. Reid, "Architects of the Web: 1,000 Days that Built the Future of Business", Wiley, 1997.

Looks at the development of Netscape [March 25], RealAudio [April 10], Java [May 23], VRML, Yahoo!, HotWired [Oct 27], and CNET [March 5] by focussing on Marc Andreessen [July 9], Rob Glaser, Kim Polese [Jan 00], Mark Pesce, Ariel Poler, Jerry Yang [Nov 6], Andrew Anker, Halsey Minor. Also: [McCullough].

T.R. Reid, "The Chip: How Two Americans Invented the Microchip and Launched a Revolution", Simon and Schuster, 1985.

The business and technical issues faced by Jack Kilby [Nov 8] and Robert Noyce [Dec 12] (also [Berlin]), and especially the legal battle between Texas Instruments [Oct 1] and Fairchild [Oct 1] over the IC patent.

Edwin D. Reilly, "Milestones in Computer Science and Information Technology", Greenwood Publishing, 2003.

Over 650 alphabetically arranged articles, each 250-500 words long, subdivided into the categories: hardware, software, theory, mathematics, programming, languages, memory, architecture, applications, and graphics. Also: [Ralston].

Glenn Rifkin, George Harrar, "The Ultimate Entrepreneur: the Story of Ken Olsen and Digital Equipment Corporation", Contemporary Books, 1988.

A history of DEC and Olsen [Feb 20] up to around 1987 before he was ousted by the company's Board of Directors. Also: [Pearson; Schein].

Jack B. Rochester, John Gantz, "The Naked Computer: A Layperson's Almanac of Computer Lore, Wizardry,

Personalities, Memorabilia, World Records, Mind Blowers, and Tomfoolery", William Morrow, 1983.

Trivia and history from the 1980s. Also: [Ditlea; Morgan; Simons].

Raul Rojas, Ulf Hashagen (eds.), "The First Computers: History and Architectures", MIT Press, 2002 (revised).

Papers presented at the "International Conference on the History of Computing" in 1998, including many first-hand accounts of developments in America, England, Japan, and Germany in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. Also: [Metropolis].

Alex Roland, Philip Shiman, "Strategic Computing: DARPA and the Quest for Machine Intelligence, 1983-1993", MIT Press, 2002.

DARPA's [Feb 7] 1980's funding of AI research, and specifically the Strategic Computing Initiative [Oct 28]. Also: [Husbands; Newquist; Nilsson].

Scott Rosenberg, "Dreaming in Code: Two Dozen Programmers, Three Years, 4,732 Bugs, and One Quest for Transcendent Software", Crown, 2007.

A detailed description of the Chandler project (Personal Information Manager(PIM)/Groupware software) led by Mitch Kapor [Nov 1].

S

Peter H. Salus, "A Quarter Century of UNIX", Addison-Wesley, 1994.

Technical interviews with UNIX insiders. Also: [Kernighan].

Peter H. Salus, "Casting the Net: From ARPANET to Internet and Beyond", Addison-Wesley, 1995.

A history of the ARPANET [Oct 29] focusing on design decisions and standards. Based on interviews with Vint Cerf [June 23], Bob Kahn [Dec 23], Jon Postel [Aug 6], and others. Also: [Hafner; Waldrop].

Jean E. Sammet, "Programming Languages: History and Fundamentals", Prentice Hall, 1969.

Covers about 120 languages, split into the categories: languages for numerical scientific problems, business data processing problems, string and list processing, formal algebraic manipulation, unimplemented concepts. Also: [Biancuzzi; Priestley].

Edgar Schein, Paul Kampas, Michael Sonduck, Michael Sonduck "DEC is Dead, Long Live DEC: the Lasting Legacy of Digital Equipment Corporation", Berrett-Koehler Pub., 2003.

The creation, demise, and legacy of DEC, with an emphasis on its unique organizational culture established by Ken Olsen [Feb 20]. Also: [Pearson; Rifkin].

Brent Schlender, Rick Tetzeli, "Becoming Steve Jobs: The Evolution of a Reckless Upstart into a Visionary Leader", Crown Business, 2015.

Primarily about Jobs' [Feb 24] time at NeXT [Oct 12] and Pixar [Feb 3]. Also: [Carlton; Hertzfeld; Issacson; Levy; Linzmayer; Weyhrich; Wozniak].

Peter Seibel, "Coders at Work: Reflections on the Craft of Programming", Apress, 2009.

Interviews with 15 programmers including: Fran Allen [Aug 4], Joe Armstrong [Dec 27], Joshua Bloch [Aug 28], Bernie Cosell [Aug 30], Douglas Crockford [Sept 3], L Peter Deutsch [Aug 7], Brendan Eich [July 4], Brad Fitzpatrick [April 15], Simon Peyton Jones [Jan 18], Donald Knuth [Jan 10], Dan Ingalls [Oct 12], Peter Norvig [Dec 14], Guy Steele [Oct 2], Ken Thompson [Feb 4], Jamie Zawinski [Nov 3]. Also: [Biancuzzi; Lammers; Livingston; O'Regan; Shasha; Slater].

Dennis Shasha, Cathy Lazere, "Out of their Minds: the Lives and Discoveries of 15 Great Computer Scientists", Springer, 1995.

Profiles and interviews with: John Backus [Dec 3], Frederick P. Brooks [April 19], Stephen Cook [Dec 14], Edsger W. Dijkstra [May 11], Edward A. Feigenbaum [Jan 20], W. Daniel Hillis [Sept 25], Alan C. Kay [May 17], Donald E. Knuth [Jan 10], Leslie Lamport [Feb 7], Douglas B. Lenat [Sept 13], Leonid Levin [Nov 2], John McCarthy [Sept 4], Mchael O. Rabin [Sept 1], Burton J. Smith, Robert E. Tarjan [April 30]. Also: [Biancuzzi; Lammers; Livingston; O'Regan; Seibel; Slater].

David Sheff, "Game Over: How Nintendo Conquered The World", Vintage, 1994.

A business history of Nintendo [Sept 23]. Also: [Altice; Harris].

Stephanie Shirley, Richard Askwith "Let It Go: My Extraordinary Story - From Refugee to Entrepreneur to Philanthropist", Portfolio Penguin, 2019.

An inspiring memoir by Stephanie Shirley [Sept 16]. Also: [Beyer].

Joel N. Shurkin, "Broken Genius: The Rise and Fall of William Shockley, Creator of the Electronic Age", Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.

The first 2/3's of the book is about Shockley's [Feb 13] engineering accomplishments (but without much technical detail); you should stop there since the last third is about his views of eugenics. Also: [Lecuyer; Lojek; Malone; Thackray].

Geoff L. Simons, "Computer Bits and Pieces: A Compendium of Curiosities", Penguin Books, 1984.

Trivia, lore, and history from the 1980s. Also: [Ditlea; Morgan; Rochester].

Robert Slater, "Portraits in Silicon", MIT Press, 1989.

Starts with an essay on Charles Babbage [Dec 26], and then looks at thirty 20th century pioneers, with each article about 10 to 15 pages long: Howard Aiken [March 8], Gene Amdahl [Nov 16], John V. Atanasoft [Oct 4], John Backus [Dec 3], Gordon Bell [Aug 19], Dan Bricklin [July 16], Nolan Bushnell [Feb 5], Seymour Cray [Sept 28], Jay W. Forrester [July 14], Ted Hoff [Oct 28], Bill Gates [Oct 28], Steve Jobs [Feb 24], John Kemeny [May 31] and Thomas Kurtz [Feb 22], Jack Kilby [Nov 8], Gary Kildall [May 19], Donald Knuth [Jan 10], John V. Mauchly [Aug 30] and J. Presper Eckert [April 9], William Millard [Sept 21], Grace Murray Hopper [Dec 9], William Norris [July 14], Robert Noyce [Dec 12], Adam Osborne [March 6], H. Ross Perot [June 27], Dennis Ritchie [Sept 9] and Kenneth Thompson [Feb 4], Claude Shannon [April 30], William Shockley [Feb 13], Alan Turing [June 23], John von Neumann [Dec 28], Thomas J. Watson [Feb 17], Konrad Zuse [June 22]. Also: [Biancuzzi; Lammers; Livingston; O'Regan; Seibel; Shasha].

James S. Small, "The Analogue Alternative: the Electronic Analogue Computer in Britain and the USA, 1930-1975", Routledge, 2001.

A history of analog computers [Jan 24], but without much technical information. Also: [Aspray; Ceruzzi; Grier].

Jane Smiley, "The Man who Invented the Computer: The Biography of John Atanasoff, Digital Pioneer", Doubleday, 2010.

A life of Atanasoff [Oct 4], but with little technical detail. Also: [Burke].

Douglas K. Smith, Robert C. Alexander "Fumbling the Future: How Xerox Invented, then Ignored, the First Personal Computer", William Morrow, 1988.

An analysis of Xerox's ill-considered move into personal computers [July 21]. Also: [Hiltzik].

Jimmy Soni, Rob Goodman, "A Mind at Play: How Claude Shannon Invented the Information Age", Simon and Schuster, 2017.

A superb biography of Shannon [April 30], but with only basic information on Information Theory. Also: [Gleick].

Donald D. Spencer, "The Timetable of Computers: A Chronology of the Most Important People and Events in the History of Computers", Camelot, 1999.

Three or four-line descriptions of key developments organized by date, with many photos and illustrations.

Tom Standage, "The Victorian Internet: the Remarkable Story of the Telegraph and the Nineteenth Century's On-line Pioneers", Walker, 1998.

How the telegraph [Oct 19] developed, while drawing similarities to today's Internet. Also: [Wu].

Dorothy Stein, "Ada: A Life and a Legacy", MIT Press, 1985.

Lovelace's life [Dec 10] told through excerpts from her letters and other documents; but without much information on her contributions to computing. Also: [Essinger].

Bruce Sterling, "The Hacker Crackdown, Law and Disorder on the Electronic Frontier", Bantam, 1992.

Internet criminal activity before the Web, so mostly related to phone phreaks [Oct 00] (see [Lapsley]), BBS hackers, and Bell South/AT&T.

Nancy B. Stern, "From ENIAC to UNIVAC: An Appraisal of the Eckert-Mauchy Computers", Digital Press, 1981.

The computers developed by John W. Mauchly [Aug 30] and J. Presper Eckert [April 9], concentrating on their technological aspects. Also: [Goldstein; McCartney].

Clifford Stoll, "The Cuckoo's Egg: Tracking a Spy Through the Maze of Computer Espionage", Doubleday, 1989.

The hunt [June 4] for the hacker who broke into the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab in the mid-1980s; humorous and even something of a thriller. Also: [Hafner; Menn; Mitnick; Poulsen].

Brad Stone, "The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon", Little, Brown and Company, 2013.

Amazon's history and culture, highlighting Bezos' [Jan 12] ruthless approach to business and e-commerce.

Doron Swade, "The Difference Engine: Charles Babbage and the Quest to Build the First Computer", Viking Adult, 2001.

A highly readable life and work, with the addition of a modern day story about building Babbage's Difference Engine No. 2 [Dec 26] in time for the Bicentenary of his birth. Also: [Essinger; Lindgren].

Kara Swisher, "Aol.com: How Steve Case Beat Bill Gates, Nailed the Netheads, and Made Millions in the War for the Web", Crown Business, 1998.

Steve Case's [Aug 21] transformation of AOL [Oct 2] into an online media titan. The book ends before the Time Warner merger [Jan 10], which was the subject of another book by Swisher. Also: [Banks; Cassidy; McCullough].

T

Arnold Thackray, David Brock, Rachel Jones "Moore's Law: The Life of Gordon Moore, Silicon Valley's Quiet Revolutionary", Basic Books, 2015.

Moore's [Jan 3] many contributions at Shockley [Feb 13], Fairchild [Oct 1], and Intel [July 18]. Also: [Lecuyer; Lojek; Malone].

Linus Torvalds, David Diamond, "Just for Fun: the Story of an

Accidental Revolutionary", HarperCollins, 2001.

Torvalds' life [Dec 28] up to 2001, with an emphasis on the technical and ethical issues of his work. Also: [Moody; Raymond; Weber; Williams].

Fred Turner, "From Counterculture to Cyberculture: Stewart Brand, the Whole Earth Network, and the Rise of Digital Utopianism", Univ. of Chicago Press, 2006.

Brand's [Dec 14] career, including the WELL [April 1], the Whole Earth Catalog, the Global Business Network, and Wired [Jan 2]. The book draws parallels between 1960s counterculture and modern day 'digital utopianism'. Also: [Markoff].

U

V

Stan Veit, "Stan Veit's History of the Personal Computer", Worldcomm Press, 1993.

Veit's [Dec 25] experiences while running his microcomputer store in NYC from the mid-1970s to the early 1980s.

Fred Vogelstein, "Dogfight: How Apple and Google Went to War and Started a Revolution", Sarah Crichton Books, 2013.

The product-development war between Apple and Google over the iPhone [Jan 9] and Android [Nov 5]. Also: [Arthur; Levy].

W

M. Mitchell Waldrop, "The Dream Machine: J.C.R. Licklider and the Revolution That Made Computing Personal", Viking Adult, 2001.

The story of J.C.R. Licklider [March 11], touching on DARPA [Feb 7], the ARPANET [Oct 29], Xerox PARC [July 1], DEC, and more. Also: [Hafner; Salus].

James Wallace, Jim Erickson, "Hard Drive: Bill Gates and the Making of the Microsoft Empire", Wiley, 1992.

A fine biography of Bill Gates [Oct 28] and Microsoft up to the start of the 1990s. Also: [Allen; Edstrom].

Steven Weber, "The Success of Open Source", Harvard Univ. Press, 2004.

The roots of the open source movement in the UNIX [Oct 15] community (see [Kernighan]), along with case studies of Red Hat [Aug 11] and Debian [Sept 15]. Also: [Moody; Raymond; Torvalds; Williams].

Steven Weyhrich, "Sophistication and Simplicity: the Life and Times of the Apple II Computer", Variant Press, 2013.

Anecdotes and stories about the Apple II [June 5], and everything related to it -- peripherals, magazines, online services, software, and later versions such as the IIe, IIc [April 24], and IIgs. Also: [Carlton; Hertzfeld; Issacson; Levy; Linzmayer; Schlender; Wozniak].

Karl L. Wildes, Nilo A. Lindgren, "A Century of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, 1882-1982", MIT Press, 1985.

The growth of EE and computer science at MIT, including information on Vannevar Bush's (see [Zachary]) Differential Analyzer [July 23], the Whirlwind [April 20], and the evolution of time-sharing. Lots of photos. Also: [Levy].

Sam Williams, "Free as in Freedom: Richard Stallman's Crusade for Free Software", O'Reilly Media, 2002.

A biography of Stallman [March 16]. The more recent "Free as in Freedom (2.0)" is Stallman's revision of this work. Also: [Moody; Raymond; Torvalds; Weber].

Maurice Vincent Wilkes, "Memoirs of a Computer Pioneer", MIT Press, 1985.

Wilkes [June 26] describes in nontechnical detail the EDSAC [May 6], microprogramming, and the first experiments with time-sharing systems The book also includes Wilkes' fascinating assessments and anecdotes of contemporaries such as Alan Turing [June 23], Douglas Hartree [March 27], John von Neumann [Dec 28], and Howard Aiken [March 8]. Also: [Lavington].

Mike Wilson, "Difference Between God And Larry Ellison*: Inside Oracle Corporation / *God Doesn't Think He's Larry Ellison", William Morrow, 1997.

Larry Ellison [Aug 17] comes across as a hardnosed businessman.

Michael Witwer, "Empire of Imagination: Gary Gygax and the Birth of Dungeons & Dragons", Bloomsbury, 2015.

A history of D&D by recounting episodes from Gygax's life [July 27]. Also: [King].

Steve Wozniak, Gina Smith, "iWoz: Computer Geek to Cult Icon: How I Invented the Personal Computer, Co-Founded Apple, and Had Fun Doing It", W. W. Norton, 2006.

Written in a colloquial style, but the book nicely explains Wozniak's [Aug 11] electronic design skills. Also: [Carlton; Hertzfeld; Issacson; Levy; Linzmayer; Schlender; Weyhrich].

Tim Wu, "The Master Switch: the Rise and Fall of Information Empires", Knopf, 2010.

A history of radio [Dec 11], the telephone [March 7], and TV [July 29] that draws many parallels with the development of the Internet. Also: [Standage].

X

Y

Z

G. Pascal Zachary, "Show stopper!: the Breakneck Race to Create Windows NT and the Next Generation at Microsoft", Free Press, 1994.

A bit light on the technical aspects of Windows NT [July 27], preferring to concentrate on the dynamics and personalities in the development team. Also: [Chen].

G. Pascal Zachary, "Endless Frontier: Vannevar Bush, Engineer of the American Century", Free Press, 1997.

Bush's [March 11] pre-war engineering work gets a mention, but most of the narrative is about his career as an administrator of the Manhattan Project, and as the architect of the National Science Foundation and wider US science policy after WWII. Also: [Nyce].

Kim Zetter, "Countdown to Zero Day: Stuxnet and the Launch of the World's First Digital Weapon", Crown, 2014.

The story behind the governmental development of malware (e.g. Stuxnet [July 15], Duqu, Flame, etc.), and the moral and legal consequences.