



Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

This document is a copy in pdf format of the website maintained by the Software Industry Special Interest Group (SISIG) at the Computer History Museum to record the materials collected by the SISIG and its predecessor The Software History Center from 1985 through June 2020.

The materials include:

- Oral histories of significant participants in the software industry

- Transcripts of meetings of groups of industry pioneers

- Special issues and other articles published by *The Annals of the History of Computing*

- Anecdotes, timelines, and documents from 53 companies collected online via the Corporate Histories Project

- A list of materials donated to the archives at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View CA and The Charles Babbage Institute in Minneapolis MN

- First person essays from industry participants

All links in the website have been preserved in this document and provide access to those materials which are available online.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Welcome

The Software Industry Special Interest Group at the Computer History Museum is dedicated to preserving the history of the software industry, one of the largest and most influential industries in the world today. The industry originated with the entrepreneurial computer software and services companies of the 1950s and 1960s, grew dramatically through the 1970s and 1980s to become a market force rivaling that of the computer hardware companies, and by the 1990s had become the supplier of technical know-how that transformed the way people worked, played and communicated every day of their lives. The SI SIG is working to preserve for future generations information about the companies, people, products, and events that shaped the evolution of this vital industry.

We accomplish this objective through:

- [Conducting oral histories of industry pioneers](#)
- [Organizing meetings bringing together industry pioneers to share their memories of significant events](#)
- [Producing special issues of *The Annals of the History of Computing* on software and services industry topics](#)
- [Collecting historical records of industry companies in the online IT Corporate Histories Collection](#)
- [Encouraging and assisting with donations of personal and corporate records to archival institutions](#)
- [Soliciting first person essays from industry pioneers](#)

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

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Oral Histories

The Software Industry Special Interest Group has conducted 136 oral histories of computer software and services pioneers in order to preserve their recollections of events that shaped the industry. Here is a list of the people who have been interviewed to date. Click on the name to see the edited transcript of each oral history.

[Allen, Brad](#)

Founder of Inference

[Altenbern, Doug](#)

Founder of NLT Information Services and ENDATA

[Atkinson, Bill and Andy Hertzfeld](#)

Developers of MacPaint

[Bannister, Dan R.](#)

CEO of DynCorp

[Bauer, Walter \[1986\]](#)

Co-founder of Informatics

[Bauer, Walter \[1995\]](#)

Co-founder of Informatics

[Bayles, Richard \(Dick\), et al.](#)

NCSS employees re RAMIS and NOMAD

[Bayles, Richard \(Dick\)](#)

VP of NCSS

[Belvin, Frank](#)

Founder of Interactive Data Corporation

[Bigelow, Charles](#)

Font designer

[Boykin, Judd, et al.](#)

NCSS employees re RAMIS and NOMAD

[Brackett, John and Douglas T. Ross](#)

President and Founder of SofTech

[Brainerd, Paul](#)

Founder of Aldus

[Bricklin, Dan and Robert Frankston](#)

Developers of Visicalc

[Browne, Marty](#)

VP of ASK Computer Systems

[Canning, Richard \(Dick\)](#)

Publisher of *EDP Analyzer*

[Carlston, Douglas](#)

Founder of Brøderbund

[Case, Richard P. \(Dick\)](#)

Corporate Director of Technical Strategy Development, IBM

[Cohen, Gerald \(Gerry\)](#)

Founder of Information Builders

[Coleman, Bruce T. \[2002\]](#)

CEO of Boole & Babbage; COO of Informatics

[Coleman, Bruce T. \[2013\]](#)

Software Company Turnaround Specialist

[Crandall, Richard L.](#)

Co-founder of Comshare

[Crews, Liz](#)

Ran corporate marketing for Adobe

[Cullinane, John J.](#)

Founder of Cullinet

[Cunningham, Peter](#)

President of INPUT

[Date, C. J. \(Chris\)](#)

Database management system specialist and writer

[Dixon, Wilfred J. \(Wil\)](#)

Founder of BDMP

[Dodge, Frank](#)

Co-founder of McCormack & Dodge

[Dreyer, Jerome L. \(Jerry\)](#)

President of ADAPSO

[Duffield, David A.](#)

Founder of Integral Systems and Peoplesoft

[Durbin, Gary \[2000\]](#)

Founder of Tesseract

[Durbin, Gary \[2002\]](#)

Founder of Tesseract

[Dyer, Ben](#)

Founder of Peachtree Software

[Esber, Edward M., Jr.](#)

President of Ashton-Tate

[Feinleib, Harold, et al.](#)

NCSS employees re RAMIS and NOMAD

[Frank, Werner](#)

Co-founder of Informatics

[Frankston, Robert and Dan Bricklin](#)

Developers of Visicalc

[Friedland, Peter](#)

Founder of Intellicorp

[Fylstra, Dan \(transcript not accessible\)](#)

Founder of Personal Software Inc. and VisiCorp

[Gentry, Grace](#)

Co-founder of Gentry, Inc.

[Gentry, Richard](#)

Co-founder of Gentry, Inc.

[Goetz, Martin A. \[1985\]](#)

Co-founder of Applied Data Research

[Goetz, Martin A. \[1996\]](#)

Co-founder of Applied Data Research

[Goetz, Martin A. \[2002\]](#)

Co-founder of Applied Data Research

[Goldberg, Jay](#)

Founder of SDA

[Goldsmith, Bernard \(Barry\)](#)

Founder of CGA

[Goldstein, Bernard \(Bernie\) \[2000\]](#)

Founder of United Data Centers; Partner in Broadview Associates

[Goldstein, Bernard \(Bernie\) \[2002\]](#)

Founder of United Data Centers; Partner in Broadview Associates

[Grad, Burton \(Burt\) \[2010\]](#)

GE

[Grad, Burton \(Burt\) \[2007\]](#)

IBM

[Grad, Burton \(Burt\) \[2007\]](#)

ADAPSO, Heights Information, Customer Care, Inc.

[Grad, Burton \(Burt\) \[2008\]](#)

Burton Grad Associates, Inc.

[Grad, Burton and Hugh Williams \[1985\]](#)

Members of the IBM unbundling strategic planning team

[Harpst, Gary](#)

Founder of TLB Software

[Harris, Peter](#)

Founder of ADPAC

[Hart, Peter](#)

Founder of Syntelligence

[Hart, Peter](#) (Part 2)

Founder of Syntelligence

[Hendrix, Gary G.](#)

Founder of Symantec

[Hertzfeld, Andy and Bill Atkinson](#)

Developers of MacPaint

[Hoffman, Mark](#)

CEO of Sybase

[Hopper, Grace](#)

Developer of the first compiler

[Houtz, Jim](#)

Founder of CyCare Systems, Inc. and CyData

[Imlay, John](#)

CEO of MSA

[Jacobs, Ken](#)

VP at Oracle

[Johnson, Franklin Pitcher \(Pitch\)](#)

Silicon Valley venture capitalist

[Johnson, Luanne](#)

Founder of Argonaut Information Systems

[Kapor, Mitch](#)

Founder of Lotus Development Corp.

[Keane, John F.](#)

Founder of Keane, Inc.

[Keet, Ernest E. \(Lee\) \[1986\]](#)

Founder of turnkey systems, inc.

[Keet, Ernest E. \(Lee\) \[2002\]](#)

Founder of turnkey systems, inc.

[Kolence, Kenneth \(Ken\)](#)

Co-founder of Boole & Babbage

[Landry, John B. \[2000\]](#)

CTO of McCormack & Dodge, Lotus

[Landry, John B. \[2004\]](#)

CTO of McCormack & Dodge, Lotus

[Lautenberg, Frank R.](#)

Chairman and CEO of ADP

[Learn, Dale H.](#)

Co-founder of Information Science, Inc.

[London, J. P. \(Jack\)](#)

CEO of CACI

[Lorenzen, Lee](#)

Developer of the GEM operating system

[MacDonald, Bob](#)

VP of Marketing for Informix

[Maguire, John Norris \[1986\]](#)

Founder of Software AG North America

[Maguire, John Norris \[2002\]](#)

Founder of Software AG North America

[Mann, James L. \(Jim\) \[2002\]](#)

CEO of SunGard Systems

[Mann, James L. \(Jim\) \[2010\]](#)

CEO of SunGard Systems

[Maples, Mike](#)

Executive Vice President at Microsoft

[Marcus, Mike](#)

Manager of Software and Services Contracts

[Markowitz, Harry M.](#)

Co-founder of CACI

[McCormack, James \(Jim\)](#)

Co-founder of McCormack & Dodge

[McGill, Arch](#)

IBM VP, Industry Marketing

[McKinney, Webb](#)

HP executive

[McCune, Brian](#)

Founder of Advanced Decision Systems

[Mintz, Gil](#)

Partner in Broadview Associates

[Morgenthaler, Gary J.](#)

CEO of Ingres

[Newcomer, Bill](#)

Founder of Dylakor

[Nie, Norman](#)

Founder of SPSS

[O'Rourke, Tom](#)

Co-founder of Tymshare

[Patrick, Robert L.](#)

Computer systems and applications consultant

[Phillips, John](#)

Founder of Medics Corporation

[Pisarro, Nick, et al.](#)

NCSS employees re RAMIS and NOMAD

[Piscopo, Joseph A. \(Joe\) \[1986\]](#)

Founder of Pansophic Systems

[Piscopo, Joseph A. \(Joe\) \[2002\]](#)

Founder of Pansophic Systems

[Postley, John](#)

Developer of MARK IV

[Rappaport, Alain](#)

Founder of Neuron Data

[Rawlings, Nick, et al.](#)

NCSS employees re RAMIS and NOMAD

[Ray, Bruce](#)

Founder of Wild Hare Computer Systems

[Raymond, George](#)

Founder of Automatic Business Centers

[Rego, Alfredo](#)

Founder of Adager Corporation

[Rievman, Alan](#)

CFO of National CSS

[Roberts, Mark](#)

CEO of NACCB

[Rollins, John](#)

Founder of AZTECH Software Company

[Ross, Douglas T. and John Brackett](#)

Founder and President of SofTech

[Ross, Kenneth \[1997\]](#)

Founder of Ross Systems

[Ross, Kenneth \[2004\]](#)

Founder of Ross Systems

[Rowe, Lawrence \(Larry\)](#)

Developer of Ingres at UC Berkeley
[Rubinstein, Seymour](#)
Founder of MicroPro International
[Sachs, Jonathan](#)
Developer of Lotus 1-2-3
[Sanden, Lynn](#)
Manager of Personnel at Tymshare
[Scull, John](#)
Developed desktop publishing marketing for the Mac and the LaserWriter
[Scull, John, Part 2](#)
Developed desktop publishing marketing for the Mac and the LaserWriter
[Schachter, Oscar](#)
President of ACT
[Schmidt, Dave](#)
Co-founder of Tymshare
[Schoenberg, Lawrence J. \(Larry\) \[1985\]](#)
Co-founder of AGS Computer Systems
[Schoenberg, Lawrence J. \(Larry\) \[2002\]](#)
Co-founder of AGS Computer Systems
[Schorr, Herb](#)
IBM Research/ISI
[Seybold, Jonathan](#)
Evangelist for the nascent desktop publishing industry
[Shulman, Fred](#)
Founder of COMSYS
[Shulman, Harvey](#)
General counsel for NACCB
[Sinback, Warner](#)
First manager of GE's Information Services
[Sipl, Roger](#)
Founder of Informix
[Stein, Jeffery](#)
Founder of On Line Business Systems
[Stonebraker, Michael](#)
Developer of Ingres and Postgres at UC Berkeley
[Tavitian, Assadour O. \(Aso\)](#)
Co-founder of Syncsort
[Thatcher, Richard W. \(Dick\), Jr.](#)
Co-founder of Atlantic Software
[Thorpe, Harper](#)
HP executive
[Toups, John M.](#)
CEO of PRC
[Tymes, LaRoy](#)
Developer of Tymnet
[Wagner, Francis C. \(Frank\)](#)
Co-founder of Informatics
[Weissman, Robert E.](#)

CEO of Dun & Bradstreet

[Welke, Lawrence A. \(Larry\) \[1986\]](#)

Founder of ICP

[Welke, Lawrence A. \(Larry\) \[1995-1996\]](#)

Founder of ICP

[Welke, Lawrence A. \(Larry\) \[2002\]](#)

Founder of ICP

[Whitlow, Duane](#)

Co-founder of Syncsort

[Williams, Hugh and Burton Grad](#)

Members of the IBM unbundling strategic planning team

[Wyly, Sam](#)

Founder of UCC, Sterling Software and Sterling Commerce

[Zloof, Moshe](#)

Developer of Query by Example at IBM Research

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Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Pioneer Meetings

The Software Industry Special Interest Group has organized fourteen meetings which brought together pioneers from different sectors of the computer software and services industry to share their memories of events which shaped the industry. These meetings were recorded and the transcripts of the sessions at each meeting have been transcribed to be posted on the Computer History Museum website. In addition, oral histories have been conducted of selected attendees at each meeting (see our Oral Histories page).

The meetings which have been held are the following. Click on the name of the meeting for a list of the attendees and of the sessions held at that meeting.

[“One for the History Books” workshop. September 24, 2000, Palo Alto, CA](#)

[ADAPSO Reunion. May 3-4, 2002, Washington, DC](#)

[PC Software I. May 6, 2004, Needham, MA](#)

[PC Software II. November 19, 2004, Mountain View, CA](#)

[Professional Services. February 15, 2006, Mountain View, CA](#)

[NACCB \(National Association of Computer Consultant Businesses\). March 29-30, 2007, Mountain View, CA](#)

[Relational Database Management Systems. June 12, 2007, Mountain View, CA](#)

[DEC and DG Software. June 3, 2008, Mountain View, CA](#)

[HP Software. June 5, 2008, Mountain View, CA](#)

[Government Professional Services. March 31, 2009, Falls Church, VA](#)

[Time-sharing and Remote Processing Services. June 2-3, 2009, Mountain View, CA](#)

[Service Bureaus. May 19, 2010, New York, NY](#)

[Desktop Publishing, May 22-23, 2017, Mountain View CA](#)

[Artificial Intelligence/Expert Systems, May 14-15, 2018, Mountain View, CA](#)

Subpages (14): [ADAPSO Reunion](#) [Artificial Intelligence](#) [DEC & DG Software](#) [Desktop Publishing](#) [Govt Professional Services](#) [HP Software](#) [NACCB](#) [One For The History Books](#) [PC Software I](#) [PC Software II](#) [Professional Services](#) [RDBMS](#) [Service Bureaus](#) [Time-Sharing](#)

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"One For The History Books" Workshop September 24, 2000, Palo Alto, CA

On September 22 and 23, 2000, The Charles Babbage Institute sponsored a conference in Palo Alto, CA, on the impact of IBM's decision in 1969 to unbundle the price of software from the price of hardware on the emergence of companies selling software as a product. Many of the attendees at the conference were people who had founded software companies in the 1960s and early 1970s, so The Software History Center (the predecessor to the Software Industry Special Interest Group) decided to take advantage of the congregation of so many people who had participated in the early software industry to organize a workshop for the following day. The purpose of the workshop was to ask people to recollect their experiences in founding their companies and especially to discuss factors other than unbundling which affected the early growth of their companies. Conference reporters were on hand to transcribe the conversations that took place. A link to the transcript follows the list of attendees.

Attendees:

Brizdle, Barbara	Johnson, Luanne
Campbell-Kelly, Martin	Kolence, Ken
Cunningham, Peter	LaHay, Ed
Frana, Phil	Phillips, Jan
Glaser, George	Piscopo, Joe
Goetz, Martin	Roditti, Esther
Goetz, Norma	Schoenberg, Larry
Grad, Burt	Welke, Larry
Harris, Peter	Welke, Nissey
Harris, Niki	Whitlow, Duane
Hines, Karol	Yost, Jeff
Jerger, Doug	

Workshop:

["One For The History Books"](#)

Companies Represented:

ADPAC, ADR, AGS, Argonaut Information Systems, Boole & Babbage, Fortex, ICP, INPUT, Pansophic Systems, Ross Systems, Syncsort, Tymshare

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ADAPSO Reunion

May 3-4, 2002, Washington, DC

On May 3 - 4, 2002, the Software History Center (the predecessor to the Software Industry Special Interest Group) assembled a group of people who had been active in ADAPSO in its early decades to discuss their involvement in ADAPSO and analyze the benefits they and their companies had received as a result of ADAPSO's services to the industry. The meeting opened with a cocktail reception and dinner on Friday, May 3, highlighted by the personal recollections of Senator Frank Lautenberg, a founder of Automatic Data Processing and ADAPSO President in 1967-68.

The full day meeting on Saturday May 4 began with presentations by representatives from the Software History Center and the four co-sponsoring organizations for the meeting: the Charles Babbage Institute, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, the *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*, and the Information Technology Association of America. The luncheon speaker was Dr. Martin Campbell-Kelly of the University of Warwick, author of *From Airline Reservations to Sonic the Hedge-Hog: A History of the Software Industry*.

The rest of the Saturday program consisted of a series of ten workshops, each of which explored one of the many and varied programs that ADAPSO pursued on behalf of its membership. Each workshop was co-moderated by an industry leader who had been active in ADAPSO during the time period being covered and by a professional historian. Transcripts of the workshops have been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Albert, Sam	Johnston, Julia
Allison, David K.	Jones, Kim
Ances, Carol Anne	Keane, John
Aspray, William	Keet, Lee
Bergin, Tim	Keet, Nancy
Blankenship, Betty	Krammer, Joan

Blankenship, Buck	Lautenberg, Sen. Frank
Blumberg, Joe	Maguire, John N.
Bride, Edward J.	Maples, Mike
Brizdle, Barbara	Markoski, Joseph
Campbell, David	Miller, Harris N.
Campbell-Kelly, Martin	Nugent, Mike
Carlson, Bart	Palenski, Ronald J.
Carpenter, Richard	Piscopo, Joe
Ceruzzi, Paul	Rollins, John W.
Coleman, Bruce	Saunders, Mary Jane
Crandall, Rick	Schachter, Amy
Dent, T. Lowell	Schachter, Oscar
Dreyer, Jerry	Schnell, Linda
Durbin, Gary	Schoenberg, Larry
Ensmenger, Nathan	Sherman, David
Esch, Arthur	Sinback, Werner
Frana, Philip L.	Sturtevant, David
Goetz, Martin	Tasker, Joe
Goetz, Norma	Thatcher, Dick
Goldberg, Jay	Treleavan, James
Goldstein, Bernard	Virgo, Elizabeth M.
Gracza, John	Weissman, Robert
Grad, Burt	Welke, Larry
Grier, David A.	Wessel, Joan
Haigh, Thomas	Wormser, David
Jerger, Doug	Yeaton, Jack
Johnson, Luanne	Yost, Jeffrey

Workshops:

[Banking Litigation and Issues of the 1960s](#)

[ADAPSO Conferences](#)

[Accounting Issues](#)

[Telecommunications Issues](#)

[Intellectual Property](#)

[IBM Relations](#)

[Big Eight Accounting Firms](#)

[Industry Image](#)

[Contracts Reference Directory](#)

Industry Roundtables

Companies Represented:

ACT, ADAPSO, ADP, ADR, AGS , Atlantic Software, AZTECH, Boole & Babbage, Broadview Associates, Computech, *Computerworld*, Computing and Statistical Service Corp., Computer Power, Computer Task Group, Comshare, Control Data, Data Processing of the South, Decision Strategy, Dun & Bradstreet, Forecross, Fortex, General Electric Information Services, Genesys, Group 1 Software, IBM, ICP, Index Technology, Informatics, Interactive Data Corporation, Merit Systems, National CSS, National Systems Laboratories, Service Bureau Corporation, Software AG, Software Design Associates, *Software Magazine*, *Software News*, Specifics, Tesseract, Turnkey Systems, Univac

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PC Software Conference I May 6, 2004, Needham, MA

On May 6, 2004, the Software History Center (the predecessor to the Software Industry Special Industry Group) convened a meeting of PC Software pioneers in Needham, MA to share their knowledge of the early days of the PC software industry and record their recollections of the events and people that shaped the industry. Eleven workshops were conducted on various aspects of the PC software industry. These workshops were recorded and the transcripts have been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Abbate, Janet	Kinlan, Jim
Aspray, Bill	Kolowich, Michael
Bergin, Tim	Landry, John
Brackett, John	Mahoney, Mike
Bricklin, Dan	Maples, Mike
Bride, Ed	Morgan, Chris
Brizdle, Barbara	Rabins, Richard
Campbell-Kelly, Martin	Ross, Doug
Ceruzzi, Paul	Rubinstein, Seymour
Dyer, Ben	Sachs, Jonathon
Ensmenger, Nathan	Schachter, Oscar
Frankston, Bob	Schoenberg, Larry
Fylstra, Dan	Tarter, Jeff
Galley, Connie	Toole, John
Grad, Burt	Tucker, Scott
Grier, David	Virgo, Elizabeth
Haight, Thomas	Wasch, Ken
Imlay, John P., Jr.	Welke, Larry
Jerger, Doug	Yost, Jeff
Johnson, Luanne	

Workshops:

[Accounting Software](#)

[Legal Issues - Contracts](#)

[Legal Issues - Piracy](#)

[Lotus 1-2-3](#)

[Marketing and Sales](#)

[Marketing - Pricing and Packaging](#)

[Systems Software](#)

[Technical - Customer Support](#)

[Technical - Development](#)

[Visicalc](#)

[Word Processing](#)

Companies Represented:

ACT, ADAPSO, AGS, *Computer Collector Newsletter*, DigiNovations, Digital Light and Color, Duns Plus, Fortex, IBM, ICP, InfoCom, Intelligent Systems, KMT Software. Lotus, Mercator, MicroPro, Microsoft, MSA, Peachtree Software, Personal Software, *PC Computing Magazine*, Slate, *Softletter*, Softech, Software Arts, Software Garden, *Software Magazine*, Solomon Software, SPA, Timeslips, tsi, Visicorp

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PC Software Conference II November 2004, Mountain View, CA

On November 19, 2004, the Software History Center (the predecessor to the Software Industry Special Industry Group) convened a second meeting of PC Software pioneers to share their knowledge of the early days of the PC software industry and record their recollections of the events and people that shaped the industry. This meeting was held at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA and included three workshops on various aspects of the PC software industry. The workshops were recorded and the transcripts have been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Aspray, Bill	Hines, Karol
Bergin, Tim	Hoxie, Gib
Bergstrom, Mark	Jerger, Doug
Bride, Ed	Johnson, Luanne
Bugos, Glenn	Kapor, Mitch
Byers, Tom	Keet, Lee
Carlston, Doug	LaHay, Ed
Carr, Robert	Mahoney, Mike
Ceruzzi, Paul	Peuto, Bernard
Coleman, Denis	Phillips, Jan
Cortada, Jim	Roizen, Heidi
Edmondson, Chris	Roizen, Peter
Ensmenger, Nathan	Ross, Ken
Esber, Ed	Schachter, Oscar
Farros, Royal	Shustek, Len
Glaser, George	Spicer, Dag
Grad, Burt	Toole, John
Grier, David	Walter, Brett
Haigh, Thomas	Williams, Mike
Harris, Peter	Wilson, Camilo
Hendrix, Gary	Yost, Jeff

Workshops:

[Database and Utilities](#)

[Financial & Management Software](#)

[Personal Productivity Software](#)

Companies Represented:

ACT, Ashton-Tate, Broderbund Software, C&E Software, Contact Management Systems, DEC, Digital Research, Dun & Bradstreet, Fortex, Lifetree Software, Lotus, National CSS, Personal Software, Ross Systems, *Software News*, SRI, Symantec, T/Maker, tsi

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Professional Services Meeting February 15, 2006, Mountain View, CA

In February 2006, the Software Industry Special Industry Group conducted a workshop for founders of a number of professional services companies in the 1950s through the 1970s. The workshop was recorded and the transcript has been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. A link to the transcript is provided below.

Attendees:

Frank, Werner L.	Keet, Lee
Goldberg, Jay	Patrick, Robert
Goldsmith, Bernard "Barry"	Schachter, Oscar
Grad, Burt	Schoenberg, Larry
Johnson, Luanne	Trimble, George
Jerger, Doug	

Workshop:

[Professional Services History Meeting](#)

Companies Represented:

ACT, ADAPSO, AGS, Argonaut Information Systems, CGA, Computer Sciences Corporation, Computer Usage Company, DEC, ECsoft, Fortex, IBM, Informatics, Software Design Associates, Sterling Software, tsi, Updata, Vanguard Atlantic

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NACCB Meeting

March 29-30, 2007, Mountain View, CA

On March 29 & 30, 2007, the Software Industry Special Industry Group conducted a meeting at the Computer History Museum for the pioneers who founded the NACCB (National Association of Computer Consultant Businesses). These firms generally used independent contractors to carry out programming services for their clients. The meeting included three plenary sessions and four workshops on topics related to the founding of NACCB and other business issues affecting this industry sector. These workshops were recorded and the transcripts have been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Bugos, Glenn	LaHay, Ed
Cassell, Dave	Murphy, Phyliss
Chamberlain, John	Nordemo, Bjorn Einar
Cronister-Ross, Jane	Roberts, Mark
Evans, Randal	Ross, James
Gentry, Grace	Shulman, Fred
Grad, Burt	Shulman, Harvey
Greenburg, Dan	Smith, Peggy
Hahn, Jon	Toole, John
Hicks, David	Williams, Dan
Johnson, Luanne	Yost, Jeff
Kenda, Steve	

Plenary Sessions and Workshops:

[Plenary: Broker Services Before Section 1706](#)

[Plenary: Impact of Section 1706](#)

[Plenary: Activities after Section 1706](#)

[Workshop: Customer Relations](#)

[Workshop: Independent Contractor Relations](#)

[Workshop: Financing and Starting the Business](#)

[Workshop: Business Specialization and Diversification](#)

Companies Represented:

AETEA, Chamberlain Associates, Comsys, Data Arts & Sciences, Data Masters, Gentry Associates, Heights Information Technology Services, Hicks Consulting, JM Ross & Associates, Kenda Systems, NACCB, P. Murphy & Associates, Pro-Access, The ProVisio Group, TSR Consulting

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Relational Database Management Systems Meeting

June 12, 2007, Mountain View, CA

On June 12, 2007, the Software Industry Special Industry Group convened a meeting of relational database management systems (RDBMS) pioneers at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA. The attendees included people who had worked on the RDBMS technology and on the products and companies which specialized in this area (IBM, Informix, Ingres, Oracle, and Sybase). The meeting included two plenary sessions and eight workshops on topics related to the development of RDBMS technology and the founding of the early companies which marketed RDBMS software. These workshops were recorded and the transcripts have been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Batti, Greg	Jacobs, Ken
Baxter, Nick	Jerger, Doug
Blasgen, Michael	Johnson, Luanne
Bohl, Marilyn	Lindsay, Bruce
Bugos, Glenn	MacDonald, Robert
Butterworth, Paul	Phillips, Jan
Capek, Peter	Mahoney, Michael
Chamberlin, Don	Rowe, Larry
Codd, Sharon	Schuster, Stu
Date, Chris	Shustek, Len
Grad, Burt	Sipl, Roger
Haderle, Don	Strickland, Jim
Haigh, Thomas	Swade, Doron
Harrington, Roy	Toole, John
Held, Jerry	Weiss, Steve
Hoffman, Mark	Zloof, Moshe

Humphries, Mike

Plenary Sessions and Workshops:

[Plenary: RDBMS History - Early Years](#)

[Plenary: RDBMS History - Later Years](#)

[Workshop: Technology through 1983](#)

[Workshop: Techology in the 1980's and 1990's](#)

[Workshop: Financing](#)

[Workshop: Growing and Selling](#)

[Workshop: IBM](#)

[Workshop: Informix](#)

[Workshop: Ingres and Sybase](#)

[Workshop: Oracle History](#)

Companies Represented:

IBM, Ingres, Informix, Oracle, Sybase, Tandem

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

DEC & DG Software Meeting June 3, 2008, Mountain View, CA

On June 3, 2008, the Software Industry Special Industry Group convened a meeting at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA of pioneers who had provided software to support DEC and DG minicomputers during the 1960s through 1990s. Four workshops were held on topics related to the origins and growth of the DEC & DG software industry. The workshops were recorded and the transcripts were edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Alberts, Gerard	Mahoney, Michael
Grad, Burton	Phillips, Jan
Gustafson, Paul	Phillips, John
Haigh, Thomas	Ray, Bruce
Hensley, Joe	Ross, Ken
Hines, Karol	Schachter, Oscar
Jerger, Doug	Stein, Jeffery
Johnson, Luanne	Walsh, Ian
LaHay, Ed	

Workshops:

[Origins of Third Party Software Companies \(ISVs and VARs\)](#)

[Minicomputer Workshop: DEC-DG Business Growth](#)

[Minicomputer Workshop: DEC/DG Technology](#)

[Relations with Manufacturers and Continuing Use of Products and Services](#)

Companies Represented:

ACT, Argonaut Information Systems, Creative Socio Medics, DEC, Oracle, Ross Systems,
Wild Hare

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

HP Software Meeting June 5, 2008, Mountain View, CA

On June 5, 2008, the Software Industry Special Industry Group convened a meeting at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA of pioneers who had provided software to support HP minicomputers during the 1960s through 1990s. Four workshops were held on topics related to the origins and growth of the HP software industry. The workshops were recorded and the transcripts were edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Adamson, Michael	House, Chuck
Alberts, Gerard	Jerger, Doug
Bergquist, Rick	Klein, Mark
Browne, Marty	Mahoney, Michael
Bugos, Glenn	Mancini, Anna
Cooper, Steve	Mecham, Doug
Damm, Jack	Rego, Alfredo
Dennis, Steve	Sakakihara, Phil
Dunbar, Dave	Seybold, Ron
Elder, Nick	Sieler, Stan
Gentry, Grace	Thorpe, Harper
Gorfinkel, Martin	White, Fred
Grad, Burton	Woc, Rene

Workshops:

[Origins of HP Third Party Software Companies \(ISVs and VARs\)](#)

[Starting HP Software Businesses](#)

[ISV and VAR Technologies up to the mid-1980s](#)

[Business Growth of HP Third Party Software Companies](#)

Companies Represented:

ACT, Argonaut Information Systems, Creative Socio Medics, DEC, Oracle, Ross Systems, Wild Hare,

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Government Professional Services Meeting March 31, 2009, Falls Church, VA

On March 31, 2009, the Software Industry Special Industry Group convened a meeting of pioneers from companies that provide professional services to government agencies. The meeting was held at the offices of Computer Sciences Corporation in Falls Church, VA and included six workshop sessions on focused on various aspects of founding and growing these businesses. These workshops were recorded and the transcripts have been edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's Oral History website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Bannister, Dan	Jerger, Doug
Bergin, Tim	Johnson, Luanne
Bersoff, Ed	Kendall, Cliff
Ceruzzi, Paul	London, Jack
Culver, Walt	Plouffe, Bob
Grad, Burt	Shelton, Wayne
Grier, David	Toups, John
Gutkowski, Stan	Yost, Jeffrey
Huntzinger, Judy	Young, Dan

Workshops:

[Early History - Organizing the Companies](#)

[Selling Professional Services to the Government](#)

[Delivering Professional Services](#)

[Making GPS Companies Profitable](#)

[Later History -- Growth and Adaptation](#)

[Consolidation and Current Roles](#)

Companies Represented:

Andersen Consulting/Accenture, BDM, BTG, CACI, CDSI, CSC, DynCorp, FDC, PRC

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Time-sharing/Remote Processing Services Meeting, June 2-3, 2009, Mountain View, CA

On June 2-3, 2009, the Software Industry Special Industry Group conducted a two-day meeting for pioneers from companies that provided time-sharing and remote processing services. The meeting was held at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, CA and included eleven workshop sessions on focused on various aspects of founding and growing these businesses. The workshops were recorded and the transcripts were edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Bayles, Richard	LaHay, Ed
Belvin, Frank	McDonald, Chris
Brook, Chris	McJones, Paul
Crandall, Rick	Myers, Gary
Grad, Burton	Orenstein, Dick
Haigh, Thomas	Rawlings, Nick
Hardy, Ann	Ross, Ken
Hardy, Norm	Schmidt, Dave
Humphries, Mike	Stein, Jeffery
Jerger, Doug	Wyman, Mike
Johnson, Luanne	

Workshops:

[Technology: Early Development](#)

[Formation of TS/RPS Companies](#)

[Marketing and Sales: Initial Market Opportunities](#)

[Business Models: Making Money](#)

[Growth in Applications](#)

[Technology: Later Development](#)

[Operations: Communications and Platforms](#)

[Marketing and Sales: Adapting to Changing Markets](#)

[Customer Services and Support](#)

[Mergers and Acquisitions](#)

[The Demise and Legacy of TS/RPS](#)

Companies Represented:

Comshare, General Electric Information Services, Interactive Data Corp., National CSS, On-Line Business Systems, Ross Systems, Tymshare

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Service Bureaus Meeting May 10, 2010, New York, NY

On May 19, 2010, the Software Industry Special Industry Group convened a meeting of pioneers from companies that provided processing services including early service bureau companies. The meeting was held at the offices of Jeffries & Co. in New York City and included five workshop sessions on focused on various aspects of founding and growing these businesses. The workshops were recorded and the transcripts were edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Casey, Frank	Mann, Jim
Grad, Burton	Miller, Stu
Haight, Thomas	Rollins, John
Houtz, Jim	Schachter, Oscar
Jerger, Doug	Tessler, Bob
Johnson, Luanne	

Workshops:

[Early History of Service Bureaus](#)

[Financial Management and Growth](#)

[Applications and Operations](#)

[Marketing/Sales and Trade Association Membership](#)

[Later History - Adapting to Change, Consolidation and Sale](#)

Companies Represented:

Accountants Computer Services, ADP, AZTECH, Custom Data Services, CyCare, Data Processing and Accounting Services, United Data Centers,

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Desktop Publishing Meeting May 22-23, 2017, Mountain View, CA

On May 22-23, 2017, the Software Industry Special Industry Group convened a meeting of pioneers from companies that provided desktop publishing software. The meeting was held at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View CA and included nine workshop sessions on focused on the technology and business strategies of these companies. The workshops were recorded and the transcripts were edited and posted on the Computer History Museum's website. The workshops are listed below with links to the transcripts.

Attendees:

Bigelow , Charles	Lampson , Butler
Blumberg , Bruce	Lorenzen , Lee
Brainerd , Paul	Markoff, John
Brock , David	McJones , Paul
Crews , Liz	Ruckert, Martin
Crocker , Suzanne	Scull , John
Geschke , Chuck	Seybold , Jonathan
Grad , Burton	Shoch, John
Hardy , Ann	Simonyi , Charles
Hsu , Hansen	Spicer , Dag
Humphries , Mike	Sproull , Bob
Jerger , Doug	Tesler , Larry
Kirsch , Steve	Walden, Dave
Knuth , Donald	Warnock , John
Kossow, Al	Weber , Marc
LaHay , Ed	Ying , Richard

Workshops:

[Purpose and structure of sessions and introductions](#)

[Technology in the 1960s](#)

[Technology in the 1970s](#)

[Technology in the 1980s](#)

[Seybold Newsletter and Seybold Seminars](#)

[Adobe](#)

[Ventura, Aldus and Apple](#)

[Atex and TeX](#)

[Impact and Future of Desktop Publishing](#)

Companies/Technologies Represented:

Adobe, Aldus, Apple, Atex, FrameMaker, Munich University, Rocappi, Seybold Pubs/Conferences, TeX, Typography, Ventura, Xerox Office Systems, Xerox PARC.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Artificial Intelligence/Expert Systems Meeting May 14-15, 2018, Mountain View, CA

The Artificial Intelligence/Expert Systems pioneer meeting covered in fairly broad strokes the history of the technology underlying AI in the 1900s and the businesses that were founded during the 1970s and 1980s using expert systems technology. While the initial work was pursued in various universities, the companies were almost all developed as a result of work done at Stanford University by Dr. Edward Feigenbaum and the large number of graduate students and post-docs who migrated to Stanford to be a part of this exciting area. There were a substantial number of companies that were formed and we have the stories of each in terms of how they were founded, both from a technology and a financial standpoint, and how they operated in terms of clients and marketing. We also explored why most of the companies did not grow significantly and the essential end of expert systems as a business opportunity, although the technology is still widely used by companies throughout the world. Lastly, we talked about the future of Artificial Intelligence and how it has become such a vital growth area as a key technology in virtually every major business in the 2000s and the backbone of some of the largest companies in the world. The workshops are listed below and the transcripts have been edited and posted to the Computer History Museum's website.

Attendees:

Allen, Brad	Hendrix, Gary
Barr, Avron	Hsu, Hansen
Brock, David	Kunze, Fritz
Brown, Denny	LaHay, Ed
Dick, Stephanie	Lenat, Doug
Feigenbaum, Ed	Lewin, Dan'l
Fox, Mark	McCune, Brian
Friedland, Peter	McJones, Paul
Garvey, Colin	Norvig, Peter
Grad, Burt	Rappaport, Alain
Grier, David	Schorr, Herb
Haight, Thomas	Shustek, Len
Harmon, Paul	Smith, Reid
Hart, Peter	Zweben, Monte
Hemmendinger, David	

Workshops:

[Purpose/Structure & Introductions](#)

[AI Science & Technology 1955 to 1965](#)

[Expert Systems Science & Technology 1965 to 1980](#)

[Business Reviews for Initial Companies](#)

[Business Reviews for Later Companies](#)

[Expert Systems Applications](#)

[Why did the Expert Systems Industry Decline?](#)

[Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in the 1990s](#)

Companies Represented:

Advanced Decision Systems, AI Corporation, Aion/Trinzic, Blue Martini, Carnegie Group, Cycorp, Franze Inc, IBM, Inference, Intelligenetics/Intellicorp, Machine Intelligence, MCC, Neuron Data, Red Pepper, Symantec, Syntelligence, Teknowledge

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Historians' Meeting, March 17, 2017

On March 17, 2017, the Software Industry SIG, the Computer History Museum, the Charles Babbage Institute and the IEEE Annals of the History of Computing invited a number of eminent computer historians to a meeting at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View CA to discuss the directions and priorities for the study of software history going forward. The topics proposed for discussion were:

1. **“Definition” of the Software Industry**-- Given the dramatic changes in the methods of delivery of systems and applications software (SaaS, Cloud computing, etc.), and given the fact that companies like Google, Facebook, Amazon, Uber, Airbnb, and many others make their money from advertising or selling non-software products and services rather than selling the use of software, what should be the definition of and scope for software history collection for the 1990-2015 time period?
2. **Breadth of Coverage**--Where do specialty software niches fit into the historical context: games, embedded software in devices, homes and cars; etc.? Have these been under-collected? What aspects of software history have been missed to date? Should there be particular focus on: personal use of software, business use, scientific/technical use, academic use, government use, or should all be treated “equally”? Should there be more focus on non-US software development?
3. **Definition of resource materials**-- Since almost all business and technical communication is now by email and electronic documents, what will historians consider as primary sources in the future? How do you suggest that these “documents” be collected and preserved? Is there any way to establish whether these are really “original” documents?
4. **Modes of Collection, Preservation and Communication**--How should we now collect, preserve and communicate the historical information for use by historians in the future? What modes of collection would you see as

most effective: oral histories; panel discussions; pioneer meetings and workshops; online meetings; other mechanisms? What modes of communication should be used for the future?

5. **Company preservation of information**--Given the complex legal environment and the propensity of companies to sue for patent or copyright infringement, what suggestions do you have on how to persuade and encourage companies to preserve their communications and make them available for historians to study? Would setting some time frame limits on availability be of significant help?
6. **Collecting Software History**--On a broader basis, what are the major lines of inquiry and organizing themes for the history of software? What audiences should be the primary targets? What resources are available and how can they be expanded and improved? Is there a need for better coordinating and communicating among software historians and interfacing with the companies and institutions who are producing and using the software products and services?

Attendees:

Historians

Abbate, Janet	Virginia Tech
Alberts, Gerard	University of Amsterdam
Aspray, Bill	University of Boulder
Campbell-Kelly, Martin	Warwick University
Cortada, Jim	Charles Babbage Inst.
Ensmenger, Nathan	Indiana University
Fidler, Bradley	USC Information Sciences Institute
Grier, David	George Washington Univ.
Haigh, Tom	University of Wisconsin
Hicks, Marie	Illinois Institute of Technology
Rankin, Joy	Michigan State University
Russell, Andrew	SUNY Polytechnic Institute
Tracy, Kim	Illinois Wesleyan University
Williams, Mike	University of Calgary
Yost, Jeff	Charles Babbage Inst.

Software Industry SIG

Grad, Burt	ex-Chair SI SIG
Hardy, Ann	co-Chair SI SIG
Humphries, Mike	co-Chair SI SIG
Johnson, Luanne	ex-Chair SI SIG
LaHay, Ed	SI SIG member

Computer History Museum

Brock, David

Gong-Hancock, Marguerite

Hollar, John

Hsu, Hansen

Jablonek, Paula

Kossow, Al

Shustek, Len

Spicer, Dag

Tashev, Kirsten

Weber, Marc

Director: Center for Software History

Director: Exponential Center

CEO: Computer History Museum

Curator: Center for Software History

Director: Digital Collections

Curator: Software Preservation Committee

Chairman: Computer History Museum

Senior Curator

Vice-President: Collections and Exhibitions

Director: Internet History Program

Other Guests

House, Charles

Levin, Roy

McJones, Paul

Stein, Jeffery

Chair-ACM History Committee

Member-ACM History Committee

Archive Collector--Computer History Museum

Chairman-IT History Society

Historians' Biographies

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Historians' Meeting, March 17, 2017

Biographies of Computer Historians

Janet Abbate: Janet Abbate is Associate Professor of Science and Technology in Society at Virginia Tech and serves as Co-director of the STS graduate program in Northern Virginia. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Abbate's research has focused on the history, culture, and policy of computing and the Internet. Her 1999 book *Inventing the Internet* was the first scholarly history of the Internet and has become a standard reference. Her 2012 book *Recoding Gender: Women's Changing Participation in Computing* explores how gender has shaped computing and suggests how the experiences of female software pioneers can inform current efforts to broaden participation in science and technology. She also co-edited (with Brian Kahin) *Standards Policy for Information Infrastructure* (MIT Press, 1995). Her current research investigates the emergence of computer science as an intellectual discipline and the history of movements to teach children to write software.

Gerard Alberts: Gerard Alberts is an associate professor in History of Digital Cultures and Social Aspects of Science at the University of Amsterdam. He graduated in Mathematics and holds a PhD Cum Laude in History. He teaches history and heritage of software at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Stuttgart, study course *preservation and conservation of new media*. *Software for Europe* was the European Science Foundation's Eurocores project, which Gerard served as project leader 2007-2010, studying the history of software in the context of European Cold War history. *DDS revives*, a project in webarchaeology of the 1994 Amsterdam Digital City, with his students in cooperation with Amsterdam Museum, Waag Society, Beeld en Geluid, NCDD, received the **Digital Preservation Award** 2016 in the category Safeguarding the Digital Legacy. Gerard is editor in chief of the *Springer Series History of Computing*, and a member of the editorial board for *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*, and for *Internet Histories: Digital Technology, Culture & Society*.

William Aspray: William Aspray has written on the history and policy of software. This research includes approximately ten oral histories with software pioneers, an article with Nathan Ensmenger on the labor history of software, an article with James Cortada on the business history of Symantec, and a major report for the ACM with Moshe Vardi and Frank Mayadas on the globalization and offshoring of software and IT services. He also carried out historical research on behalf of Symantec for its 25th anniversary.

David Brock: David C. Brock is an historian of technology, and Director of the Center for

Software History at the Computer History Museum. He focuses on histories of computing, electronics and instrumentation, as well as on oral history. Brock's work in the history of semiconductor electronics includes Thackray, Brock and Jones, [Moore's Law: The Life of Gordon Moore. Silicon Valley's Quiet Revolutionary \(Basic Books, 2015\)](#); [Lécuyer and Brock, Makers of the Microchip: A Documentary History of Fairchild Semiconductor \(MIT Press, 2010\)](#); and Brock (ed.) [Understanding Moore's Law \(CHF, 2005\)](#). He has served as a writer and executive-producer for several recent documentary shorts and hour-long television documentaries including: ["Moore's Law at 50"](#); ["Scientists You Must Know"](#); ["Gordon Moore"](#); and ["Arnold O. Beckman"](#).

Martin Campbell-Kelly: Martin Campbell-Kelly is emeritus professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Warwick. His books include "From Mainframes to Smartphones: A History of the International Computer Industry" (with Daniel Garcia-Swartz), "Computer: A History of the Information Machine," 3rd edition (co-authored with William Aspray, Nathan Ensmenger, and Jeff Yost), and "From Airline Reservations to Sonic the Hedgehog: A History of the Software Industry," He is currently co-authoring a history of mobile telephony. He is a trustee of the National Museum of Computing and a member of the ACM History Committee. He is a member of the editorial boards of the IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, the International Journal for the History of Engineering and Technology, and the Springer Series in the History of Computing.

James Cortada: Jim Cortada has long been interested in how businesses used computers, essentially a story of applications and software. He is the author of the three-volume history of how 18 American industries used computing since World War II, *The Digital Hand* (Oxford University Press, 2004-08). He also studies the use of information, largely digital, in American society. He is currently exploring the interconnections among information ecosystems, infrastructures, and technology as a historiographical challenge that includes the role of computing and software. Cortada is the author of over two dozen books on the history of computing and its use. His most recent book is *All the Facts: A History of Information in the United States since 1870* (Oxford University Press, 2016).

Nathan Ensmenger: Nathan Ensmenger is an associate professor in the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University and the current editor-in-chief of the Annals of the History of Computing. His 2010 book, *The Computer Boys Take Over*, explores the social, labor, and gender history of software workers. He is also one of the co-authors of the most recent edition of the popular *Computer: A History of the Information Machine*. His current research project explores the global environmental history of the digital economy.

Bradley Fidler: Bradley Fidler is a visiting research scholar with the USC Information Sciences Institute, and a researcher with the UCLA Computer Science Department. He studies the history and politics of computer network and cybersecurity infrastructure, architecture, governance, and innovation. He is active in the history of computing, history of technology, and Science and Technology Studies. Dr. Fidler is writing a book on epistemic practices in computer networking, and another on the political economy of information routing architecture. He is online at brfidler.com.

David Alan Grier: David Grier is interested in a couple of things related to software history: the activities that are called cyber physics systems, the connections between software and manufacturing engineering, and the field that was once known as "the Future of Work" during the Obama Administration. He claims to be the oldest second

generation computer brat, though technically he's third generation. David has a PhD in Mathematics, served as editor of the IEEE Annals, and President of the IEEE Computer Society. Among other books, he wrote "When Computers were Human." He studied industrial history with Bill Catton and prose fiction with Barry Hannah. He currently runs the podcast <http://HowWeManageStuff.com>.

Thomas Haigh: Thomas Haigh is an Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Comenius Visiting Professor of the History of Computing at Siegen University. He has published on many aspects of the history of computing including the evolution of data base management systems, word processing, the software package, corporate computer departments, Internet software, computing in science fiction, the "software crisis" of the 1960s, IBM in Europe, and the Colossus codebreaking machines. As well as *ENIAC in Action* (MIT, 2016) he is the editor of *Histories of Computing* (Harvard, 2011), a collection of the work of Michael Mahoney, and the lead editor of a 2015 special issue of *Information and Culture* on the theme "Histories of the Internet." From 2005 to 2014 he was chair of SIGCIS, the group for historians of information technology. Learn more at www.tomandmaria.com/tom.

David Hemmendinger: David Hemmendinger has had a long-standing interest in the history of mathematics and science and has taught courses on the history and philosophy of science.

For the past two decades, he has worked on the history of computing, an interest that he developed when he co-edited the fourth edition of the Encyclopedia of Computer Science with Tony Ralston and Ed Reilly. He has taught courses on programming languages, computer architecture, parallel processing, as well as on the history of computing. He's interested in the history of programming languages and of operating systems, and also in the history of embedded system software, though he feels that the last is a difficult one to study.

Marie Hicks: Marie Hicks is an assistant professor of history of technology at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, Illinois. She received her BA from Harvard University and her MA and Ph.D. from Duke University. Hicks researches how gender and sexuality help us better understand the hidden dynamics of technological systems. Her new book, *Programmed Inequality: How Britain Discarded Women Technologists and Lost Its Edge in Computing* (MIT Press) investigates how women's experiences change core assumptions in the history of computing and alter what we think we know about technological progress. Hicks teaches courses on the history of computing, disasters, and gender and sexuality studies. Before entering academia, she worked as a UNIX systems administrator. For more about her work, see her website, www.mariehicks.net or her book website, www.programmedinequality.com.

Hansen Hsu: Hansen Hsu is a historian and sociologist of technology, and Curator of the Center for Software History at the Computer History Museum. He works at the intersection of the histories of personal computing, graphical user interfaces, object-oriented programming, and software engineering. Hsu received his Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies from Cornell University in 2015, with a dissertation titled "[The Appsmiths: Community, Identity, Affect and Ideology Among Cocoa Developers from NeXT to iPhone.](#)" Previously, he worked at Apple, Inc. from 1999-2005, where he contributed to releases of Mac OS X from the public beta through 10.4 as a Quality Assurance Engineer for the Cocoa framework group. Hsu received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the University of California, Berkeley in 1999 and his M.A. in History from the State University of New York, Stony Brook, in 2007.

Joy Rankin: Joy Rankin studies people who historically have not been considered scientists or technologists but who have, nonetheless, produced and applied knowledge about the natural world. She is especially interested in histories of gender, computation, mathematics, and community. Rankin is an Assistant Professor at Michigan State University, holding appointments at Lyman Briggs College in the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science group and at James Madison College in the Social Relations and Policy group. Her current book *A People's History of Computing* is under contract with Harvard University Press. Her next book will likely be a history of the (ridiculous) idea that girls can't do math. Joy currently and enthusiastically serves as a Contributing Editor for the magazine [Lady Science](#), focused on women in science, technology, and medicine. Her research has received recognition and support from, among others, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Charles Babbage Institute for the History of Information Technology, and the IEEE. Learn more at www.joyrankin.com.

Andrew Russell: Andrew L. Russell is Professor of History and Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Utica and Albany, New York. He is the author of *Open Standards and the Digital Age: History, Ideology, and Networks* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) and co-editor of *Ada's Legacy: Cultures of Computing from the Victorian to the Digital Age* (Morgan & Claypool, 2015). His publications include articles on Internet history, modular design, standardization in the United States and Europe, and the monopoly Bell System, as well as articles for popular venues such as *Aeon*, *IEEE Spectrum* and *Slate*. His work has been supported by fellowships from IEEE, the Association for Computing Machinery, the Charles Babbage Institute, and Duke University, and he is a member of editorial boards for the academic journals *Technology & Culture*, *Information & Culture*, *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*, and *Internet Histories*. He is Chair of SIGCIS, a group of several hundred scholars and professionals who are passionate about the history and social consequences of information & computer technologies. His current projects include histories of network design (with John Day) and networking markets (with Jim Pelkey).

Dag Spicer: Dag Spicer is CHM's "Chief Content Officer," and is responsible for creating the intellectual frameworks and interpretive schema of the Museum's various programs and exhibitions. He also leads the Museum's strategic direction relating to its collection of computer artifacts, films, documents, software and ephemera—the largest collection of computers and related materials in the world. Dag also undertakes research for legal and commercial intellectual property specialists and writes on computer history for various media and scholarly organizations. Since he began in 1996, he has given hundreds of interviews with major news organizations around the world. Dag holds undergraduate degrees in history and electrical engineering from the University of Toronto and UBC, and a Master's degree in the history of technology from Stanford University. He is also on the editorial board of the *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*.

Kim Tracy: Kim Tracy has a long background in the software industry including 20 years at Bell Labs and 10 years as a university chief information officer. He currently teaches computer science full time at Illinois Wesleyan University. His primary interest in software history is in relaying relevant software history to students of technology. Having taught computer history several times, it became clear that most texts have little information on software history and there was now a need for more comprehensive coverage of the area. He is currently completing a textbook in software history for ACM Books and also serves on the ACM History Committee.

Michael Williams: Dr. Michael Williams is noted as an historian of computing, covering all aspects from ancient Egyptian methods of arithmetic to the development of the modern electronic computer. His extensive list of publications includes an

annotated 3 volume catalogue of rare books, many journal publications, invited talks and media productions. Besides working at the Smithsonian and being Head Curator at the Computer History Museum, he has been very involved with the IEEE. His volunteer positions include being the Editor-in-Chief of the *Annals of the History of Computing*, 2007 President of the IEEE Computer Society, and being a member of the IEEE governing boards and committees.

Jeffrey Yost: Jeffrey R. Yost, MA, MBA, Ph.D., is Associate Director of the Charles Babbage Institute and a faculty member in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine at the University of Minnesota. His research focuses on the business, social, and cultural and intellectual history of computing, software, and networking. He is a past editor-in-chief of *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*. His four most recent books are *Making IT Work: A History of the Computer Services Industry* (MIT Press, 2017) [in production, ships in August], *FastLane: Managing Science in the Internet World* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2016) [with Thomas J. Misa], *Computer: A History of the Information Machine, 3rd Edition* (Westview, 2014) [with Martin Campbell-Kelly, William Aspray, and Nathan Ensmenger], and *The IBM Century* (IEEE Computer Society, 2011). He has been a principal investigator on more than \$1.6 million of sponsored research for the National Science Foundation. This has included major research projects on the history of software, the history of computer security, the history of computer networking and e-government, and the history of scientific computing. He is currently completing a book under contract for MIT Press on the history of IT security tentatively titled, "From Time-Sharing to the Cloud: A History of Computer Security." He has published many peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, including historical studies of semiconductor strategy of mainframe firms, e-commerce, the international computer industry, access control software, intrusion detection expert systems., the culture of computers and the internet, and IT historiography. An expert in oral history, he has conducted more than 300 oral history interviews. He sits on multiple editorial boards and is the chair of the IEEE Computer Society History Committee.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

The Annals of the History of Computing

The Software Industry Special Interest Group has collaborated with *The Annals of the History of Computing* to produce several special issues devoted to software and services industry topics. The special issues:

[**The Start of the Software Products Industry, Vol. 24, No. 1, January-March 2002**](#)

[**PC Software: Word Processing for Everyone, Vol 28, No. 4, October-December 2006**](#)

[**PC Software: Spreadsheets for Everyone, Vol. 29, No. 3, July-September 2007**](#)

[**Mainframe Software: Database Management Systems, Vol. 31, No. 4, October-December 2009**](#)

[**Relational Database Management Systems: The Formative Years, Vol. 34, No. 4, October-December 2012**](#)

[**Relational Database Management Systems: The Business Explosion, Vol. 35, No. 2, April-June 2013**](#)

[**History of Desktop Publishing: Laying the Foundation, Vol. 40, No. 3, July-September 2018**](#)

[**History of Desktop Publishing: Building the Industry, Vol. 41, No. 3, July-September 2019**](#)

[**History of Desktop Publishing: Font Technology and Marketing, Vol. 42, No. 1, January-March 2020**](#)

In addition, a number of other the articles and anecdotes have been published in *The Annals* as a result of the solicitation and support of the SI SIG/SHC.

[**Additional Articles and Anecdotes**](#)

Subpages (10): [Annals Articles and Anecdotes](#) [Data Base Management Systems](#)
[DTP: Building the Industry](#) [DTP: Font Technology](#) [DTP: Laying the Foundation](#)
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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

The Start of the Software Products Industry

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 24 Number 1, January-March, 2002

This special issue of *The Annals* was produced by The Software History Center (the predecessor to the Software Industry Special Interest Group). It focused on the software industry in the 1960s, the people who founded the earliest software products companies, and the impact of IBM unbundling on the emerging software products industry. The guest editors were Burton Grad and Luanne Johnson.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

Burton Grad and Luanne Johnson, Guest Editors Introduction: The Start of the Software Products Industry.

Thomas Haigh, Software in the 1960s as Concept, Service and Product.

Luanne Johnson, Creating the Software Industry: Recollections of Software Company Founders of the 1960s.

Martin Goetz, Memoirs of a Software Pioneer, Part 1.

Emerson W. Pugh, Origins of Software Bundling.

Watts S. Humphrey, Software Unbundling: A Personal Perspective.

Burton Grad, A Personal Recollection: IBM's Unbundling of Software and Services.

James W. Cortada, Researching the History of Software from the 1960s.

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PC Software: Word Processing for Everyone

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 28 Number 4, October-December 2006

This issue is focused on the products, companies, and people who produced the early word processing software products. It includes articles by industry pioneers recording the how these products were developed and marketed as well as articles by computer historians Thomas J. (Tim) Bergin and Thomas Haigh which provide historical context and interpretation of the events described by the industry pioneers. Guest editors were Burton Grad and Paul E. Ceruzzi.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

Paul E. Ceruzzi and Burton Grad, Guest Editors Intro: PC Software-Word Processing for Everyone.

Thomas Haigh, Remembering the Office of the Future: The Origins of Word Processing and Office Automation.

Thomas J. (Tim) Bergin, The Origins of Word Processing Software for Personal Computers: 1976-1978.

Thomas J. (Tim) Bergin, The Proliferation and Consolation of Word Processing Software: 1985-1995.

Seymour Rubinstein, The Rise and Fall of WordStar.

Ed Bride, The Media are the Message: 'The Influencers'.

Seymour Merrin, PC Software: A Once-Irresistible Opportunity.

Amy Wohl, How We Process Words: The Marketing of WP Software.



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PC Software: Spreadsheets for Everyone

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 29 Number 3, July-September 2007

This issue is the second of special issues of *The Annals* produced by the Software Industry Special Interest Group on the topic of PC Software. This issue focused on the development of Visicalc and Lotus 1-2-3. It includes articles by industry and an article providing an historical perspective by computer historian Martin Campell-Kelly. Guest editors were Burton Grad and Paul E. Ceruzzi.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

Paul Ceruzzi and Burton Grad, Guest Editors' Introduction: PC Software-Spreadsheets for Everyone.

Martin Campell-Kelly, Number Crunching Without Programming: The Evolution of Spreadsheet Usability.

Burton Grad, The Creation and Demise of Visicalc.

Mitch Kapor, Recollections on Lotus 1-2-3: Benchmark for Spreadsheet Software

Jonathan Sachs, Recollections: Developing Lotus 1-2-3

Mario Aloisio, Computing at the Malta Statistics Office, 1947-1980.

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Mainframe Software: Database Management Systems

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 31 Number 4, October-December 2009

This issue is focused on the products, companies, and people who designed, programmed, and sold mainframe DBMS software products beginning in the 1960s and 1970s. It includes eight articles by industry pioneers recording the history of significant database management software products as well as two articles by prominent computer historians (Tim Bergin and Thomas Haigh) which provide historical context and interpretation of the events described by the industry pioneers. Guest editors were Burton Grad and Thomas J. Bergin.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

Burton Grad and Thomas J. Bergin, Guest Editors' Introduction: History of Database Management Systems

Thomas Haigh, How Data Got its Base: Information Storage Software in the 1950s and 1960s.

Thomas J. Bergin and Thomas Haigh, The Commercialization of Database Management Systems, 1969-1983

Charles W. Bachman, The Origin of the Integrated Data Store (IDS): The First Direct-Access DBMS

Thomas M. (Tom) Nies, Cincom Systems' Total

Robert L. Patrick, IMS @ Conception

William C. McGee, The Information Management System (IMS) Program Product

Robert L. Brueck, System 2000: The MRI Systems Corporation

Orrin Stevens, Jr., The History of Datacom/DB

John Norris Maguire, Adabas: Software AG of North America

Judith M. Kruntorad, History of The CA IDMS Database Management System

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Relational Database Management Systems: The Formative Years

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 34 Number 4, October-December 2012

This *Annals* special issue tells the story of how the transformation to RDBMSs began and describes how three companies pioneered the development of relational database management products to meet the relational challenge and build the foundation for the growth of a multibillion dollar industry. It includes six articles by industry pioneers recording this early development of RDBMSs. It also includes two articles by prominent computer historians (David Alan Grier and Martin Campbell-Kelly) which provide historical context and interpretation of the events described by the industry pioneers. Burton Grad was the guest editor.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

[Burton Grad](#), Guest Editors' Introduction: Relational Database Management Systems: The Formative Years

[David Alan Grier](#), The Relational Database and the Concept of the Information System

[Martin Campbell-Kelly](#), The RDBMS Industry: A Northern California Perspective

[Hugh Darwen](#), The Relational Model: Beginning of an Era

[Bradford W. Wade and Donald D. Chamberlin](#), IBM Relational Database Systems: The Early Years

[Bradford W. Wade](#), Compiling SQL Into System/370 Machine Language

[Robert Preger](#), The Oracle Story, Part 1: 1977-1986

[Lawrence A. Rowe](#), History of the Ingres Corporation

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Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Relational Database Management Systems: The Business Explosion

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 35 Number 2, April-June 2013

This special issue (part 2 of a series which began with the special issue in October–December 2012) tells the history of how IBM and several new, independent software companies built companies that supplanted the database management system companies and their DBMS models in both query-oriented usage and in many transaction-processing applications. The story of this transformation describes how each of these pioneering relational database management companies developed and marketed their products to meet the relational challenge and how well they succeeded. The result was explosive business growth and creation of five companies with more than \$1 billion in sales. This special issue focuses on the growth of four of the leading RDBMS companies, with recollections by the pioneers about the history of the companies that they worked for: IBM, Oracle, Informix, and Sybase. Burton Grad was the guest editor.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

[Burton Grad](#), Guest Editors' Introduction: Relational Database Management Systems: The Business Explosion

[Andrew Mendelsohn](#), The Oracle Story

[Rick Bennett](#), Oracle Marketing: Killer Ads

[Bob Epstein](#), History of Sybase

[Roger Sippl](#), Informix: Information Management on UNIX

[Donald J. Haderle and Cynthia M. Saracco](#), The History and Growth of IBM's DB2

[Marilyn Bohl](#), Product Managing DB2's Early Development

[Hershel Harris and Bert Nicol](#), SQL/DS: IBM's First RDBMS

[Donald R. Deutsch](#), The SQL Standard: How It Happened

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History of Desktop Publishing: Laying the Foundation

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 40 Number 3, July-September 2018

This issue focuses on what took place during the 1960s and 1970s in automating and computerizing the printing and volume publishing industry (newspapers, magazines and books) and the parallel development of the technologies needed (primarily at Xerox PARC) essential to making desktop publishing feasible and economically practical,

The first piece, an extended sidebar to the introduction, is a short summary by Jonathan Seybold of the key developments in typesetting that began the automation of printing and made possible the use of computers to automate the process further. This is followed by Jonathan Seybold's description of the founding and growth of Rocappi, which designed and implemented some of the first printing computerization systems. This first set of articles on printing computerization is completed by two Anecdotes about Atex, which built the content entry systems (terminals and software) that were used by almost all magazines and newspapers to automate the entry of text and related material into the new automated printing systems.

The second portion of this issue focuses on the outstanding technological developments at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center in California that provided the key underpinnings for the desktop publishing industry. While Xerox PARC was targeted by Xerox to develop all of the elements needed for the "Office of the Future," many of the projects concentrated on how to create and produce high quality printed documents, which was of course the principal Xerox business at the time. Bob Sproull talks about the development of Press, a page description language for the Alto computer that could combine text and graphics. Larry Tesler describes the development of technologies that were vital to improved layout and printing, particularly *modeless editing*, which is now ubiquitous in word processing and desktop publishing systems, though Gypsy, the program that he helped to develop, is nearly unknown today. John Warnock then describes how he and his partner, Chuck Geschke (and others), developed what later became PostScript, the initial product for Adobe and that many feel was the key software that made desktop publishing practical.

The issue concludes with two pieces closely related to the view that with the increasing

capability, power and availability of computers that could be placed on people's desks and laser printers, high quality printing could become a part of every business and not just the publishing industry. Barbara Beeton, Karl Berry, and Dave Walden write about Donald Knuth's development of TeX at Stanford University, which enabled scientists, mathematicians and engineers to use computer systems to prepare papers with the complex formulas and notations needed in the different disciplines, and to do it with typography of excellent quality. Finally, the Interviews Department has portions of an interview that Dave Walden did with Chuck Bigelow at the DTP meeting, talking about the development of computer-prepared fonts that matched or exceeded the graphic quality of the historic metal or photographic fonts.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

[Burton Grad and David Hemmendinger](#), Guest Editors' Introduction: Desktop Publishing: Laying the Foundation

[Jonathan W. Seybold](#), Rocappi: Computerizing the Publishing Industry

[Douglas Drane](#), How Atex Helped an Industry Change the World

[Jonathan Seybold](#), More about Atex

[Robert F. Sproull](#), The Xerox Alto Publishing Platform

[Lawrence G. Tester](#), How Modeless Editing Came To Be

[John E. Warwick](#), The Origins of PostScript

[Barbara Beeton, Karl Berry, David Walden](#), TEX: A Branch in Desktop Publishing Evolution, Part 1

[David Walden](#), Interview with Charles Bigelow

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History of Desktop Publishing: Building the Industry

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 41 Number 3, July-September 2019

This second desktop publishing issue continues the story by describing how the technologies developed in the 1970s, both for the printing industry and at Xerox PARC, became the foundation for the growth of a number of desktop publishing software companies, including Adobe, Aldus, Quark, Frame Technology and Ventura, as well as Apple's seminal entry in the industry with the Macintosh, LaserWriter, PostScript (from Adobe) and Page Maker (from Aldus).

The issue begins with the history of the Seybold Newsletters, Conferences and Trade Shows that Jonathan Seybold ran. These became the face of the desktop publishing industry and promoted its integration and growth. In editing the first special issue, we were struck with the roles that both John Seybold and Jonathan Seybold played in advising and encouraging early participants in the industry, and in introducing them to one another. Several of the authors of articles in this issue also write about those roles or about how a review in a Seybold Report helped their sales, and that the Seybold Seminars and Conferences were the important tradeshow for the developing industry.

The balance of this issue has the story of the primary companies which formed the desktop publishing industry in the 1980s into the 1990s. We start with Adobe, which became central to the industry as the pioneer software company which made desktop publishing practical. John Warnock and Chuck Geschke have written an article that focuses on how they started the company and built PostScript, making possible the successful business model, beginning with Apple. The company then grew internally and through judicious acquisitions to achieve its current paramount position in this industry.

This article is followed by the history of Aldus. Suzanne Crocker, who conducted an oral history interview with Paul Brainerd, describes the company origin and the fact that he identified the primary market opportunity: newsletters, not volume publishers. The article describes making the connection with Adobe and Apple, providing the vital page layout capability. Next, there is a story by John Scull and historian Hansen Hsu about how Apple was able to effectively market the Apple Macintosh computer together with the new LaserWriter printer as a package with PostScript and PageMaker to produce newsletters and other high-quality printed materials at an attractive price.

The issue continues with articles about the group of companies that entered the industry, competing with Adobe and Aldus with software that either added new functions, improved performance or simplified the user experience. David Murray, one of the founders of Frame Technology, writes the history of that company and how it was able to create a new model for viewing a page and putting together the various elements of text, photos and tables and other graphics in a faster, more efficient fashion. Lee Lorenzen writes about the history of Ventura, whose product speed and ease of use rapidly established it as a significant competitor in the industry.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

[Burton Grad and David Hemmendinger](#), Guest Editors' Introduction, Desktop Publishing, Part 2

[Jonathan Seybold](#), Seybold Publications and Seminars

[John E. Warnock and Charles Geschke](#), Founding and Growing Adobe Systems, Inc.

[Suzanne Crocker](#), Paul Brainerd, Aldus Corporation, and the Desktop Publishing Revolution

[John Scull and Hansen Hsu](#), The Killer App That Saved the Macintosh

[David J. Murray](#), Frame Technology and FrameMaker

[Lee Lorenzen](#), The Ventura Story

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Preserving the History of the Software Industry

History of Desktop Publishing: Font Technology and Marketing

IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, Vol. 42 Number 1, January-March 2020

This third issue contains a two-part historical account by Charles Bigelow of the development and use of digital font technology by companies struggling for market dominance ("Font Wars") in the evolving desktop publishing world. He provides a tour de force analysis of the elements involved in creating fonts and why this was such a vital element in getting desktop publishing to a be able to produce high quality publications. It also has an interview by Paul McJones with Liz Bond Crews, who was part of the initial Adobe effort to market PostScript. She presents a broad view of the critical importance of the use of standard fonts and describes how vital the availability of high-quality fonts was for the selection of hardware platforms and software. The Interleaf company was not represented at the meeting, but we have an interview of Larry Bohn, vice president for marketing at Interleaf and an Anecdote by David Walden about Interleaf's pioneering work in high-end desktop publishing.

The articles and the authors of each are listed below. Click on the name of the author(s) to see an abstract of the article on the IEEE website.

[Burton Grad and David Hemmendinger](#), Guest Editors' Introduction, Desktop Publishing, Part 3

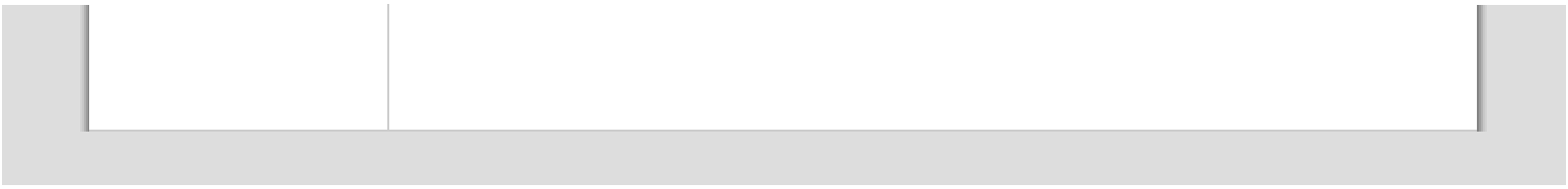
[Charles Bigelow](#), The Font Wars, Part 1

[Charles Bigelow](#), The Font Wars, Part 2

[Paul McJones](#), The Advent of Digital Typography

[David Walden](#), Interview with Larry Bohn

[Mark Dionne, David Walden](#), Interleaf, Inc. –1981 to 2000



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Additional Annals Articles and Anecdotes

These articles which were not included in special issues of *The Annals* were published as a result of the solicitation and support of the SI SIG/SHC.

Vol. 23, No. 3, 2001

Trimble, George R. *A Brief History of Computing – Memoirs of Living on the Edge*. Pp. 44-58.

Vol. 24, No. 1, 2002

Goetz, Martin. *Memoirs of a Software Pioneer: Part 1*. Pp. 43-56.

Vol. 24, No. 4, 2002

Goetz, Martin. *Memoirs of a Software Pioneer: Part 2*. Pp. 14-31.

Head, Robert V. *Getting Sabre off the Ground*. Pp. 32-39.

Crandall, Richard L. *Recollections of the beginning of the time-sharing industry*. Pp. 40-42.

Weissman, Robert. *CCITT meeting recommendations*. Pp. 42-43.

Vol. 25, No. 1, 2003

Grad, Burton. *Preserving the Software Industry's Past*. Pp. 88, 3.

Head, Robert B. *Working in the House that FACT Built*. Pp. 60-64.

Vol. 25, No. 3, 2003

Moore, Joe F. *Creating Profit with Computers: My Life as CEO of Conner & Moore Associates*. Pp. 30-47.

Vol. 26, No. 1, 2004

Haigh, Thomas. *ADAPSO and the Service Bureau Industry, 1961-1968*. Pp. 78-85.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

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Information Technology Corporate Histories Collection

The Information Technology Corporate Histories Collection was created under a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The SI SIG's predecessor, the Software History Center, partnered with the Computer History Museum and the Charles Babbage Foundation to administer the grant to develop the website and establish the collection.

Materials from 53 software and services, data storage and semi-conductor companies are included in the collection. These include personal anecdotes, company documents, and company timelines. The collection includes an overview description of each company, 1,955 timeline events, 2,021 documents, 307 personal stories of people active in these companies, and 165 references to related materials available from other sources.

To view the collection for each company click on the company's name.

[Adobe Systems, Inc.](#)
[ADPAC](#)
[Advanced Computer Techniques \(ACT\)](#)
[AGS Computers, Inc.](#)
[Aldus](#)
[Apple Computer](#)
[Applied Data Research, Inc. \(ADR\)](#)
[Ashton-Tate](#)
[Atlantic Software](#)
[Boole & Babbage](#)
[Borland](#)
[CACI](#)
[CGA](#)
[Cincom Systems, Inc.](#)
[Computer Sciences Corporation](#)
[Computer Task Group](#)
[Computer Usage Company](#)
[Comshare](#)
[Cullinane](#)
[Digital Research Inc.](#)

[Dylakor Software](#)
[Fairchild Semiconductor](#)
[General Electric Information Services \(GEIS\)](#)
[Informatics, Inc.](#)
[Information Builders, Inc. \(IBI\)](#)
[Information Science, Inc. \(InSci\)](#)
[Informix](#)
[Ingres](#)
[Integral Systems, Inc.](#)
[International Computer Programs, Inc. \(ICP\)](#)
[Keane, Inc.](#)
[Management Science America, Inc. \(MSA\)](#)
[Masstor Systems Corporation](#)
[Maxtor](#)
[McCormack and Dodge](#)
[Memorex](#)
[National CSS](#)
[Pansophic Systems, Inc.](#)
[Peter Norton Computing](#)
[Quantum](#)
[Ross Systems](#)
[Seagate](#)
[Software AG North America](#)
[Software Design Associates](#)
[Software Publishing](#)
[Software Resources, Inc.](#)
[SPSS](#)
[Syncsort](#)
[Tesseract Corporation](#)
[turnkey systems, inc. \(TSI\)](#)
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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Materials Collection

Our mission to preserve the history of the software industry includes encouraging organizations and individuals who have historical materials in their files to donate those materials to an archival organization where they can be preserved for the future and also be catalogued and indexed to make them accessible to researchers.

Individuals and organizations who have made donations of substantial collections of historical materials as a result of our efforts are the following.

Donated to the Charles Babbage Institute, Minneapolis, MN (www.cbi.umn.edu):

ITAA (now known as TechAmerica): ADAPSO documents

Lawrence A. Welke: ICP publications and documents

Joan Wessel: Milton Wessel's ADAPSO documents

Donated to the Computer History Museum, Mountain View, CA (www.computerhistory.org):

Carl Baltrunas: Tymshare/Tymnet documents and objects

Roger Dyer: GEIS documents

Werner Frank: Professional papers and Informatics documents

Burton Grad: Professional papers and GE, IBM and Burton Grad Associates documents

Karol Hines: Ross Systems documents

John P. Imlay, Jr.: Professional papers and MSA documents

Rich Lynn: Tymshare documents

Robert MacDonald: Informix documents

Gary Morgenthaler: Ingres and Tymshare documents

Tim O'Rourke: Tymshare documents

Robert Patrick: Professional papers

Lawrence J. Schoenberg: Professional papers and AGS documents

Materials for the Computer History Museum archives have also been donated by attendees at our [Pioneer Meetings](#) and contributors to the [IT Corporate Histories Collection](#). These collections consist of a number of donations each too small to be listed individually but combined with other donations, they comprise a significant collection for each of the

companies or organizations listed below.

AGS Computers

Aldus

Borland

CGA

Cincom Systems

Computer Usage Company

Datamation

Digital Research, Inc.

DynCorp

GEIS

Informix

Ingres

NACCB (National Association of Computer Consultant Businesses)

PRC

Ross Systems

Software AG

Software Design Associates

Software Publishing

Tymshare/Tymnet

Update Capital, Inc.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

First Person Essays

In addition to collecting oral histories of software pioneers, The Software Industry Special Interest invited a number of pioneers to write their own First Person Essays describing their experiences in the history of software.

The following are the First Person Essays which are included in our collection:

[*The Birth of IMS/360*](#)

by Uri Berman

Uri Berman worked with Pete Nordyke at Rockwell's Space Division on a massive parts list application for the Apollo space capsule. They had the idea of separating the disk access and recovery functions from the applications programs which accessed the data. Uri created Data Language/I (DL/I) which was also used with the program when it was converted to run as Information Management System (IMS) for the IBM S/360. IMS became a major program product for IBM with many thousands of installations and Uri was given an Outstanding Contribution Award with a large check attached.

[*The First Commercial Computer Application at General Electric*](#)

by Burton Grad

Burt describes his experience designing and programming a manufacturing control system in 1954 for the Dishwasher and Disposer Department of GE in Louisville, KY to run on the first Univac I computer sold for commercial use (as against government use).

[*The Title Plant Operating System: A Data Base System of Index Files for Recorded Documents*](#)

by Jerry Koory

Jerry describes his experience in the mid-1960s while working for PRC in developing a comprehensive system for a Title Insurance company to manage the records for both real property transfers and related court actions. This system was an early application on the IBM S/360. Jerry notes that the system was still in operation in 2006.

[*Operating System Roots*](#)

by Bob Patrick

Bob traces the evolution of operating systems from his early work on CPCs and the first IBM scientific computers through the GMR-NAA system and the development of SOS, IBSYS and the Direct Couple to the IBM OS/360.

[*Evolutionary Events in Core Business Information Systems*](#)

by Bruce Peterson

Bruce describes his experiences at Hughes Aircraft as a programmer on the Hughes Labor System and the problems from some of the short-cut assumptions built in from the use of punched cards. He also describes techniques that he introduced ("Pitchfork Processing") to improve the throughput on large, sequential jobs. Finally he talks about how he set up the management process for year end closing.

[*A Brief Account of Spell Checking as Developed by Houghton Mifflin*](#)

by Howard Webber

Howard describes his work over the years in developing a system to a comprehensive spell checker to be used in producing a world class dictionary which could be used to drive spell checking. He also talks about how this was expanded to cover other languages besides English and for grammatical analysis as well.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Mission and Goals

Mission

The Software Industry Special Interest Group (SI SIG) is dedicated to preserving for future generations information about the companies, people, products, and events that shaped the computer software and services industry.

Goals

- Identify where materials documenting the industry's early years still exist and encourage their preservation.
- Identify people who have personal knowledge of events that shaped the industry and support the collection and preservation of their recollections.
- Disseminate information about the industry's history to historians, researchers, students, industry and government people, and the general public through print and electronic media.
- Encourage and support research on the history of the software industry.

Scope

Our scope covers all sectors of what was traditionally called the computer software and services industry, including batch and remote processing, software products and software professional services companies, and systems integrators and VARs. The history of these different types of companies is intertwined since many of the most influential companies in the industry spanned multiple types of offerings. What all these companies have in common is that their businesses were based on *know-how* that is manifested in software.

Focus

The focus of the Software Industry SIG is on the history of both the business and the technology because we believe that the vision and creativity required to identify, develop

The Computer History Museum has combined the follow on work from both of these sources into the Software Industry SIG and will continue the collection and preservation efforts of these previous organizations.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

Preserving the History of the Software Industry

Background

The Software Industry Special Interest Group (SI SIG) is a part of the Computer History Museum and is dedicated to preserving the history of the software industry. This effort began in 1997 as a web site created by Luanne Johnson and Burton Grad, two software industry veterans who were concerned that the history of this vital industry would be lost unless an effort was made to preserve the records of early software companies and the personal recollections of the people who were involved in the initial development of the industry. The web site was created to provide a source of information about people who made important contributions to software history and to solicit input from anyone who might know of the existence of records documenting the industry's formative years.

In the November 1999 issue of *Fortune* magazine, the author of an article on the most important businessmen of the 20th Century wrote that prior to Microsoft, pure software companies didn't exist. This clearly erroneous statement inspired Johnson and Grad to increase their efforts to correct this common misperception and they decided to create a more formal structure to pursue the goal of preserving the history of the software industry.

The Software History Center was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation under the laws of California in February, 2000, with the support of seed money from a number of software industry pioneers. Our founding donors were Computer Associates International, David A. Duffield, Burton Grad, The Imlay Foundation, Joseph A. Piscopo, Lawrence J. Schoenberg and Sam Wyly.

In January 2005, the Software History Center merged with the Computer History Museum and formed the Software Business History Committee to continue these preservation efforts.

On May 1, 2004, the Charles Babbage Foundation in cooperation with the Computer History Museum and the Software History Center obtained a major grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to explore and pursue the use of the Internet as a primary means of collecting and communicating valuable historic information about selected companies in the information technology field. Luanne Johnson was selected as the Principal Investigator and led the project through its conclusion in December 2006.

and serve markets for technology is just as crucial as the ability to develop the technology itself. So, while other groups are focusing on the collection of the software (which is also important), the SI SIG is approaching software history from the perspective of how companies identified market opportunities and requirements, developed the technologies needed and then created business models that could succeed in those markets.

Our current emphasis is on companies that were founded before 1990 and wrote software for or provided services using mainframes, minicomputers, small business systems and personal computers. We believe that the history of these companies is the most vulnerable to loss since so many of them have disappeared as a result of mergers, acquisitions, or failed business models. Therefore, our immediate attention is on preserving what remains of the history of these companies and their founders and leaders before it is too late.

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Software Industry Special Interest Group

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Leadership

The Founding Co-Chairs of the Software Industry SIG were::

Burton Grad

Burt Grad has been working on computer software since 1954 when he wrote the first production and inventory control programs for the General Electric Company's installation of a Univac I computer at Louisville, Kentucky. He worked for IBM on scientific and application programs during the 1960s, was part of IBM's Unbundling Task Force in 1969 and then was development director for various industries, including initial responsibility for CICS. Since forming his own consulting company in 1978, he has been performing strategic planning and valuation studies for computer software and services companies. Burt was heavily involved in ADAPSO/ITAA from the early 1970s and co-founded the Software History Center with Luanne Johnson in 2000. He is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and lives in Westport, CT. He can be reached at burtgrad@aol.com

Luanne Johnson

Luanne Johnson has over thirty years experience in the information technology industry. In 1971, she founded a software company, Argonaut Information Systems, Inc., and ran it successfully for fifteen years. From 1986 until 1994, she worked for the Information Technology Association of America (formerly ADAPSO), a national trade association representing companies in the IT industry, serving as Executive Director of the ADAPSO Foundation and then as ITAA President. In 2000, she and Burt Grad co-founded The Software History Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the history of the software industry. She was then President of the Charles Babbage Foundation and subsequently became the Principal Investigator for the IT Corporate Histories Project. She can be reached at luanne.i.johnson@gmail.com