

## Preliminary Call for Authors

### *Routledge Companion to the History of Computing*

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The editors have been invited to submit a proposal for a *Routledge Companion to the History of Computing*, a collection of original essays that survey the current state of the art and future directions of our field. We are seeking authors at all stages of their careers, and with wide geographic representation, who are interested in contributing a short (max. 5000 word) chapter.

The overall aim of a Companion is to provide a comprehensive, must-have survey of a core sub-discipline or theme, which addresses landmarks in the field, but also maps out the emerging critical terrain. Companions should introduce fundamental topics and ideas, delineate the diversity and complexity of the subject, and stimulate dialogue among scholars and students approaching the topic from divergent backgrounds. In brief, a companion should define the current state of theory and research in the field, and also create a foundation for future scholarship and study.

Possible themes include:

- What is a computer?
- Identities, diversity, power
- Users, communities, labor
- Materiality, environment, infrastructure, lifecycles from raw materials to waste
- Software, practice, mediation between hardware and users
- Epistemology, computing in the production of knowledge, machine intelligence
- Policy, democracy, security, economy, globalization, postcolonial

#### ***What we are looking for:***

Each chapter is a 4000-5000 word essay on a topic in the history of computing. We encourage you to think about topics thematically and not simply in terms of technologies. Each contribution should survey the topic, explain why the material covered is important, and critically discuss the existing scholarship (including your own, if applicable) in this area. You may also include emerging trends or areas in need of more research.

#### ***What to do if you are interested:***

Initially we are gathering names of interested authors and the topic(s) they would like to write on, for inclusion in the proposal. **If you would like to contribute, please contact us by November 10 with a brief paragraph describing the topic you want to write on and the themes you would like to address.** Being listed in the proposal does not commit you to contributing, but it allows us to show Routledge the types of scholars and topics we plan to include. If the proposal is accepted, we will contact you with instructions and deadlines for submitting your chapter. All submissions will be peer reviewed.