

# IET Library Reading List: Engineering History



These ebooks and ejournals, available via the [IET Virtual Library](#), focus on the topic of engineering history, covering notable scientists, transport and the history of computing.

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## Ebooks (provided by EBSCO)

**Physics and Psychics: The Occult and the Sciences in Modern Britain, Richard Noakes. (2019).** This is the first systematic exploration of the intriguing connections between Victorian physical sciences and the study of the controversial phenomena broadly classified as psychic, occult and paranormal.

**London Transport : A Hybrid in History 1905-48, James Fowler. (2019).** An illuminating read for scholars and students researching within the areas of business management history, transport and public sector governance and administration.

**Future Histories : What Ada Lovelace, Tom Paine, and the Paris Commune Can Teach Us About Digital Technology, Lizzie O'Shea. (2019).** Argues that we need to stop looking forward and start looking backwards. Weaving together histories of computing and progressive social movements with modern theories of the mind, society, and self.

**Magnificent Women and Their Revolutionary Machines, Henrietta Heald. (2019).** Magnificent Women and their Revolutionary Machines tells the stories of the women at the heart of the Women's Engineering Society, from their success in fanning the flames of a social revolution to their significant achievements in engineering and technology.

**Ada Lovelace: the Countess Who Dreamed in Numbers, Shane Edwards. (2019).** A carefully researched novel that tells the astonishing story of the real-life young woman who saw the coming of the computer age nearly a century before it occurred.

**Engineering Rules : Global Standard Setting Since 1880, JoAnne Yates and Craig N. Murphy. (2019).** Engineering Rules covers the history of standards and this nearly invisible infrastructure of today's economy.

**The Life and Legend of James Watt: Collaboration, Natural Philosophy, and the Improvement of the Steam Engine, David Philip Miller. (2019).** Stripping away layers of legend built over generations, David Philip Miller finds behind the heroic engineer a conflicted man often diffident about his achievements but also ruthless in protecting his inventions and ideas.

**Outsourcing War to Machines: The Military Robotics Revolution, Paul J. Springer. (2018).** Covers the history of military robotics, analyzes their current employment, and examines the ramifications of their future utilization.

**A Lab of One's Own: Science and Suffrage in the First World War, Patricia Fara. (2018).** 2018 marked a double centenary: peace was declared in war-wracked Europe, and women won the vote after decades of struggle. A Lab of One's Own commemorates both anniversaries by revealing the untold lives of female scientists, doctors, and engineers.

**Traffic and Transport: An Economic History of Pickfords, Gerald L. Turnbull. (2017).** This book, first published in 1979, traces the growth of Britain's inland transportation systems from the early seventeenth century to the eve of nationalisation in 1947.

**James Clerk Maxwell: Perspectives on His Life and Work, Raymond Flood, Mark McCartney and Andrew Whitaker. (2014).** James Clerk Maxwell had a relatively brief, but remarkable life, but he was one of the most important mathematical physicists of all time, coming only after Newton and Einstein.

**The Experimental Self: Humphry Davy and the Making of a Man of Science, Jan Golinski. (2016).** Follows Davy from his youthful enthusiasm for physiological experiment through his self-fashioning as a man of science in a period when the path to a scientific career was not as well-trodden as it is today.

**The Forgotten Genius of Oliver Heaviside : A Maverick of Electrical Science, Basil Mahon. (2017).** Oliver Heaviside may not be a household name but he was one of the great pioneers of electrical science: his work led to huge advances in communications and became the bedrock of the subject of electrical engineering as it is taught and practiced today.

**Sir Francis Ronalds: Father Of The Electric Telegraph, Beverley Frances Ronalds. (2016).** Telecommunication has undergone unprecedented change in recent times. Sir Francis Ronalds foresaw its development. His subsequent creations, the most important of which include an early version of the telegraph, have had significant impact on modern living.

**Turing's Vision : The Birth of Computer Science, Chris Bernhardt. (2016).** This book explains Turing's fascinating and remarkable theory, which now forms the basis of computer science.

**Air Transport, Peter J. Lyth. (2016).** This book looks at the history of air travel from conception to development and operation.

## Ejournals (provided by EBSCO)

**History and Technology.** (Research in the history of technology from antiquity to the present.)

**British Journal of Industrial Relations.** (Covers a broad range of topics related to engineering and industrial relations and their historical context.)

### Further resources from the IET

- [IET Archives](#)
- [IET Library and Archives Twitter](#)
- [IET History of Technology Network](#)
- [IET Digital Library](#)
- [Technical Webinars](#)

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IET members can access the Virtual Library via the single sign-on (SSO) service. If you are experiencing difficulties logging in via the SSO please contact the membership services team at [membership@theiet.org](mailto:membership@theiet.org).

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