This book presents a comprehensive history of the field of online education as told by many of the pioneers who created it. In doing so, it fills in the background and provides a foundation for more recent efforts. Each of the contributors discusses their work in online education and presents a personal perspective of the field. Collectively, the chapters portray the major themes and issues that have characterized the past development of online education and will likely dictate its future. The 440 page volume consists of the following chapters:

THE CONTENTS
1. Terry Anderson, *Online Education Innovation: Going Boldly Where Others Fear to Thread*
2. Zane L. Berge, *Taking the Distance Out of Distance Education*
3. Alfred Bork, *Distance Learning Today and Tomorrow*
5. Norman Coombs, *Transcending Distance and Differences with Online Learning*
6. Chris Dede, *An Intellectual Journey from Distance Education to Distributed Learning*
7. Peter Fairweather & Mark K. Singley, *Hammers in Search of Nails: The Interplay of Instructional Theories, Tools, and Costs*
8. Diane Gayeski, *From Stir-fried Circuit Boards to Streaming Video: Perspectives from an Interactive Media Pioneer*
9. Chére Campbell Gibson, *Online Learning: From High Tech to High Touch*
10. Peter Goodyear, *The Emergence of a Networked Learning Community: Lessons Learned from Research and Practice*
11. Judi Harris, *Curriculum-Based Telecomputing: What Was Old Could Be New Again*
13. Beverly Hunter, *Learning, Teaching, and Building Knowledge: A Forty-Year Quest for Online Learning Communities*
14. Annette Lamb, *From Potential to Prosperity: Twenty Years of Online Learning Environments*
15. Robin Mason, *The Evolution of Online Education at the Open University*
16. T. Craig Montgomerie, *Flight of an Academic Magpie: From Face2Face to Virtual Presence*
17. James L. Morrison, *Experiencing the Online Revolution*
18. Frank Odasz, *Big Skies and Lone Eagles: Lending Wings to Others, Online – A Rural Perspective (with Appendix by David Hughes)*
19. Jason Ohler, *Who’s Afraid of Distance Ed?*
20. Thomas C. Reeves, *No Significant Differences Revisited: A Historical Perspective on the Research Informing Contemporary Online Learning*
21. Margaret Riel, *Building Communities of Learning Online*
22. Alexander J. Romiszowski, *Online Learning: Are We on the Right Track(s)?*
23. Marlene Scardamalia, *Online Learning and Knowledge Building Environments*
25. Lorraine Sherry, *Diffusing E-Learning: Myths, Questions, and Experiences*