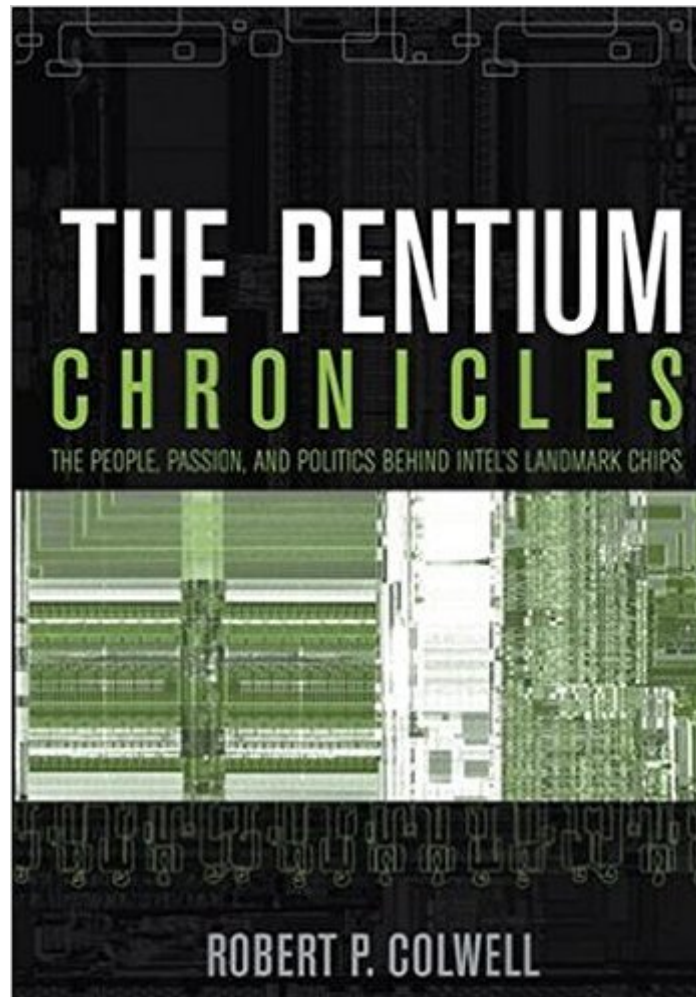


The book was found

# The Pentium Chronicles: The People, Passion, And Politics Behind Intel's Landmark Chips



## Synopsis

The Pentium Chronicles describes the architecture and key decisions that shaped the P6, Intel's most successful chip to date. As author Robert Colwell recognizes, success is about learning from others, and Chronicles is filled with stories of ordinary, exceptional people as well as frank assessments of "oops" moments, leaving you with a better understanding of what it takes to create and grow a winning product.

## Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Wiley-IEEE Computer Society Pr; 1 edition (December 23, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0471736171

ISBN-13: 978-0471736172

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.4 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #862,124 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #102 in Books > Computers & Technology > Hardware & DIY > Microprocessors & System Design > Microprocessor Design #242 in Books > Computers & Technology > Hardware & DIY > Personal Computers > PCs #4827 in Books > Computers & Technology > Computer Science

## Customer Reviews

I rated this book as three stars because the title promised more than it delivered. Nevertheless, it is a very good book, especially for people who have to manage huge projects in complex technical areas. Colwell clearly is skilled in technology, and has tremendous insight and experience to convey. My expectations were different. Tracy Kidder's *Soul of a New Machine* created excitement and tension into the development of computers, at least as of the early 1980s. The machine was successful for Data General to some extent, but faded as a blip in history that few remember. Intel's P6, Colwell's baby, is totally the opposite, selling hundreds of millions of copies in multiple forms since its inception. Kidder spins magic about the development process. Colwell tells how to make it happen--no magic, just cleverness and grunt work. What I found most valuable were Colwell's methods for taking on this huge project. Quantify your goals, quantify the merit of each idea, and quantify your progress toward the goal. Without these measurements, you have no idea when you will finish and whether you will succeed when you get there. In a field where technology moves very quickly, the

difference between success and failure is not so much if you complete the job, but when you complete the job. Colwell pulls some punches because of corporate and personal sensitivities. He does not tell us very much about the P6 processor, but what is revealed is done skillfully in layman terms so that the nontechnical reader can follow the development.

If you are involved in the world of integrated circuits, or considering becoming involved, then you'd be crazy to pass up this book. It's no less than a first-hand account of how the golden age of Intel came to be, as well as how it came to a close. In the early 90's, the common wisdom in the CPU industry was that a buzzword-complete (out-of-order, superscalar, superpipelined, speculative execution) x86 was simply impossible to successfully execute, hence the smorgasboard of then-new competing RISC architectures. The book's author led the architecture development of the project that proved otherwise. What's truly astonishing about a project of this scale is the vast array of things that have to go right in order to prevent a catastrophe (or, as a colleague says, it's not the rocket science, it's the rock science). Even more amazing is how many things the P6 team fundamentally got right (at least according to my own 15 years of IC experience). I was also delighted to find simple and yet brilliant ideas that were new to me, such as assigning cubicles by overlaying the building floorplan with the chip floorplan. The parts of the book that I found most entertaining (from the outside looking in, that is) were descriptions of the naive attempts to replicate and exceed the success of the P6 project, largely by deprecating the very mechanisms that led to that success. A word of warning: If you don't already have a lot of experience with large projects, you'll probably have to resist the urge to disbelieve many of the anecdotes. Obstructing Pentium 4 engineers from knowing their own plan seems ridiculous, but I can assure you that in my years in the IC business, I've seen worse.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Pentium Chronicles: The People, Passion, and Politics Behind Intel's Landmark Chips INTEL Microprocessors 8086/8088, 80186/80188, 80286, 80386, 80486, Pentium, Pentium Pro Processor, Pentium II, III, 4 (7th Edition) The Supreme Court and Tribal Gaming: California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) One Man Out: Curt Flood versus Baseball (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) Landmark Essays on Archival Research (Landmark Essays Series) How To Analyze People: Mastering Analyzing and Reading People: (How To Read People, Analyze People, Psychology, People Skills, Body Language, Social Skills) People's History of Sports in the United States: 250 Years of Politics, Protest, People, and Play (New Press People's

History) UNEXPLAINED DISAPPEARANCES & MISSING PEOPLE.: MISSING PEOPLE CASE FILES; UNEXPLAINED DISAPPEARANCES; MISSING PEOPLE. (UNEXPLAINED DISAPPEARANCES : MISSING PEOPLE Book 2) The Passion: Photography from the Movie "The Passion of the Christ" Bodola Loves Chips & Pop: Understanding the mind of parents and children who exist with Autism, ADHD, Downs Syndrome and other (Obsessive Compulsive) Neurological disorders The Race for a New Game Machine: Creating the Chips Inside the XBox 360 and the Playstation 3 Make: More Electronics: Journey Deep Into the World of Logic Chips, Amplifiers, Sensors, and Randomicity Design of Softcore DSP Processors on FPGA Chips Fish & Chips (Cut & Run Series Book 3) Intel Microprocessors: Hardware, Software, and Applications, Lab Manual Getting Started with Intel Edison: Sensors, Actuators, Bluetooth, and Wi-Fi on the Tiny Atom-Powered Linux Module (Make : Technology on Your Time) Getting Started with Intel Galileo Introduction to the Intel Family of Microprocessors: A Hands-On Approach Utilizing the 80x86 Microprocessor Family (3rd Edition) Assembly Language for Intel-Based Computers (5th Edition) Behind Closed Doors: Tales of murder, passion, suspense and horror!

[Dmca](#)