	t of figures mowledgements	xi xiii
	Introduction: A storm from paradise – technological	
	innovation, diffusion and suppression	1
	The Information Revolution as hyperbole 1	
	Modelling change 3	
	'Invention' 9	
PA	RT I	
Pr	opagating sound at considerable distances	
1	The telegraph	19
	Scientific competence to ideation: static electrical telegraphs 19	
	Prototypes, necessity and 'invention': dynamic electrical telegraphs 22	
	Suppression and diffusion: owning the telegraph 26	
2	Before the speaking telephone	30
	Scientific competence: the telephone 30	
	Ideation: speech transmitted by electricity 36	
	Prototypes: electrical speaking telephones before 1877 43	
3	The capture of sound	51
	Supervening necessity: the telephone and the office 51	

	Invention: creating the telephone to order 5.	
	Suppression and diffusion: the telephone after 1900 57	
	'Inventing' a spin-off: the record 60	
	RT II	
Th	e vital spark and fugitive pictures	
4	Wireless and radio	67
	Scientific competence to ideation: from spark to wireless 67	
	Necessity, diffusion and suppression: ironclads and telegrams 70	
	'Invention': from wireless telegraphy to radio 74	
	Ideation and necessity: the idea of broadcasting 75	
	Suppression and diffusion: valves/tubes, FM and cartels 78	
	Living with radio 84	
5	Mechanically scanned television	88
	Scientific competence: light and electricity 88	
	Ideation: faxes and 'fugitive pictures' 91	
	Prototypes: mechanical scanning 94	
6	Electronically scanned television	100
	Invention I: electronic scanning 100	
	Invention II: alternative electronic scanning 107	
	Necessity and suppression: entertainment 111	
	Suppressing television: 1935–48 114	
	Suppressing television: 1948 to the mid-1950s 119	
7	Television spin-offs and redundancies	126
	Spin-offs and redundancies: VCRs, CDs et al. 126	
	Redundancy: 1125-line analogue television 140	
P	PART III	
_	nventions for casting up sums very pretty	
8	and the A. Dallam	147
	Scientific competence I: 'thinking machines' 147	

	Scientific competence II: Babbage 155	
	Scientific competence III: calculators — mechanical to electrical 158	
	Prototypes: electro-mechanical calculators 162	
9	The first computers	166
	Electronic prototypes I: ENIAC and 'the firing table crisis' 166	
	Electronic prototypes II: Colossus vs. Enigma 170	
	Ideation: 'the store' 174	
	Supervening social necessity: the H-Bomb 178	
	'Invention': incunabula 181	
10	Suppressing the main frames	189
	No buyers 189	
	No languages 199	
	No babies 203	
11	The integrated circuit	206
	Suppression (cont.): ignoring solid state electronics 206	
	Scientific competence: cat's whiskers to transistor 207	
	Transistors vs. valves 216	
	Ideation and prototype: the integrated circuit 220	
	'Invention': the microprocessor 224	
12	The coming of the microcomputer	227
	Suppression revisited: the computer industry 227	
	Diffusion and spin-offs: PC production 232	
PA	RT IV	
	ne intricate web of trails, this grand system	
13	The beginnings of networks	243
	The first wired network 243	
	The telephone network 248	
14	Networks and recording technologies	261
	Broadcasting networks 261	

Digression: broadcasting networks and recording technologies 264

	Pre-satellite international radio links 2/1	
	International wired links 273	
15	Communications satellites	276
	Scientific competence and ideation: the communications satellites 276	
	Prototypes: low and medium orbits 280	
	Social necessity and invention: the geostationary satellite 282	
	Suppression: the international network 288	
16	The satellite era	295
	Domestic satellites 295	
	Direct broadcast satellites 298	
17	Cable television	305
	The return of the wire: cable television 305	
	The impact of domestic satellites 311	
	The impact on broadcast television 315	
18	The Internet	321
	Prototypes and ideation: computer networks 321	
	From necessity to diffusion: ARPANET to Internet 328	
	Conclusion: The pile of debris - from the Boulevard	
	des Capucins to the Leningradsky Prospect	33′
	Notes	34
	References	35
	Index	36

FIGURES

del: the social sphere	3
	4
	6
	7
	10
	12
	14
	20
	37
mby/radio	68
, Pariy / Tudao	106
	204
708	208
	342
	del: the social sphere del: ideation del: prototypes del: supervening social necessity del: 'invention' del: suppression of radical potential del: diffusion aphy/radio