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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Elio Passaglia wrote this book as the story of an institution that steadfastly holds to its principles of integrity in all of its endeavors. He introduces each chapter with an overview of what was happening in the United States—and the world—to set the stage for the policies and programs of the National Bureau of Standards and for the changes that would be made. In the last year of his life, he finished the manuscript and turned it over to others to bring to publication. Working with Elio, I learned more about the Bureau than I thought possible and I feel privileged to have been a participant in this process. It is my hope that I did not inadvertently introduce errors into the text.

As with the previous history, *Measures for Progress*, not all the programs and projects could be covered, for the multitude of records generated during this nineteen-year period was staggering. Elio selected those he considered representative of the work of NBS. The annual reports provided a rich source of material as did the many conversations with the present and past scientists and managers that Elio consulted. Footnotes abound throughout the text to provide the necessary documentation, and to serve as guides to sources providing fuller explanations of the projects and programs covered, or even to opposing viewpoints.

It should be noted that, for this history, Elio relied heavily on the language and terminology of the written materials that he was able to research in order to prepare this volume. In particular, the cited results are reported in the units current at the time when the research was conducted and reported, predating the *Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)* by Barry N. Taylor, which states that “the SI shall be used in all NIST publications.” Accordingly, units, uncertainties, and symbols do not always accord with modern practice and current NIST requirements.

The writing of this history was aided and encouraged by many. Patricia W. Berger, David E. Edgerly, and Mary-Deirdre Coraggio guided the project from its inception to publication. The NIST community provided the necessary records and other available information, spent time explaining the finer points on what was given, and then critiqued the drafts. Past and present NBS/NIST staff who were particularly helpful include Karl E. Bell, John A. Bennett, Stanley Block, Lewis M. Branscomb, B. Stephen Carpenter, Russell C. Casella, Randall S. Caswell, E. Carroll Creitz, Mary E. DeWeese, Kenneth M. Evenson, James E. Faller, Everett G. Fuller, Thomas A. Gary, Jon Geist, Walter J. Hamer, Raymond W. Hayward, Joseph Hilsenrath, Robert D. Huntoon, James L. Jespersen, Freddy A. Khoury, H. William Koch, Chris E. Kuyatt, Stephen R. Leone (JILA/University of Colorado), Alvin C. Lewis, David R. Lide, John W. Lyons, Robert P. Madden, William C. Martin, Arthur O. McCoubrey, Harry I. McHenry, John D. McKinley, Raymond D. Mountain, Gasper J. Piermarini, Robert C. Raybold, Joan R. Rosenblatt, J. Michael Rowe, Alvin H. Sher, Jack E. Snell, Wilbert F. Snyder, Joan M. Stanley, Bruce W. Steiner, Robert D. Stiehler, Robert L. Stern, Donald B. Sullivan, Lauriston S. Taylor, Robb M. Thomson, Robert S. Walleigh, Sheldon M. Wiederhorn, Richard N. Wright, and Simone L. Yaniv. They answered a host of questions, read many pages of text, and offered suggestions often with only a moment's notice. Suzanne C. Evans, Frederick J. Gera, Janet B. Miller, and

Gregory C. Tassely checked budget numbers, tables, and graphs, and for their assistance I am truly grateful. Walter Leight, nitpicker extraordinaire, read the entire manuscript and offered his comments. To the many others that Elio consulted and whose names were not found in the project files, you may be unknown but your contributions to this project were just as important as the others.

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The Office of Information Services provided the glue to hold the editorial process together. Paul Vassallo gave his managerial support at critical junctures to keep the project moving. Diane Cunningham, Susan Makar, and Marietta Nelson ferreted out names, titles, dates, and elusive tidbits of information needed to complete citations and reveal previously undetected errors. Gail Hixenbaugh, Donald Harris, and Julian Ives edited the manuscript at its various stages. Very special thanks go to Lisa Greenhouse and Ilse Putman. Lisa selected the photographs, edited early drafts of chapters four and five, and searched for information to resolve a great many unanswered questions that always seemed to pop out of nowhere. Ilse produced the typeset copy, always with patience for the inevitable changes made in the manuscript. The pursuit of excellence as reflected by all those who participated from the initial conception of the idea to the published text is shown in the final product.

The cover was given as a labor of love by Elio's daughter, Adele Passaglia Robey. She immediately accepted the invitation to design the cover around the NIST Newton apple tree. Adele was involved with "the book" from its inception. She followed her father's writing, read parts of it, and as an "educated layman" offered her thoughts. The tree on the cover is a symbol of what NBS/NIST is all about: the living traditions and frontiers of science. This history is a reflection of that tradition and those frontiers.

KARMA A. BEAL

*Gaithersburg, MD*  
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