Big Mac: Macro Assembler

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Redesigned and expanded in 2018.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the original authors for these programming tools that were so crucial for development with the Apple II:

Glen E. Bredon:  Big Mac: Macro Assembler, Big Mac.LC
Dale Waddell:   Symbol Cross-Reference
Mike Johnson:    Symbol Symon

PRODUCTION

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About the Author

Glen Bredon

Glen E. Bredon was a mathematics professor and computer programmer. He earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1958 and starting teaching at the University of California, Berkeley in 1960. Starting in 1969, he taught at Rutgers University in New Jersey, and eventually retired in 1993.

Glen bought his first Apple II computer in 1979 and began exploring its internal operations because, "I wanted to know more than my students." He programmed and released several best-selling programs for the Apple II computer including: DOS Master, Block Warden, and ProSel, as well as the Big Mac and Merlin macro assemblers.

The development of Big Mac started when Glen found the public domain assembler TED/ASM and was dissatisfied in how it worked. He disassembled it, found ways to improve the editor, and added the ability to create macros and shortcuts for coding. He offered his program to A.P.P.L.E. and the user group sold it as Big Mac because of its macro capabilities. Val Golding of A.P.P.L.E. later connected Glen with Roger Wagner of Southwestern Data Systems, and that company later sold the assembler as Merlin.

A native Californian and concerned environmentalist, Glen spent his summers away from mathematics and computing, preferring the solitude of the Sierra Nevada mountains where he helped establish wilderness reserves. Photography was also one of his passions that he pursued for over 50 years.

Glen passed away May 8, 2000 and left many noteworthy and positive marks on the world with his endeavors.
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