



Boston Firsts: 40 Feats of Innovation and Invention that Happened First in Boston and Helped Make America Great

Lynda Morgenroth

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Boston Firsts is about everything (well, almost!) that happened first in Boston and changed life elsewhere: from the first lighthouse and public library to the first madam and ready-made suit. Boston-based journalist and essayist Lynda Morgenroth has written forty original essays on the city's long history of innovation, from the colonial era to the recent past. These lively takes on Boston's innovative history range from the first use of ether in publicly performed painless surgery to the first school desegregation court case to the one-and-only-automatic bargain basement.

Consider this: Ice cut from Boston ponds and shipped to hot climates became a worldwide industry. A controversial kidney transplant between twin brothers marked the start of organ transplantation. Attempts to breed a belligerent fighting dog created the sweet-natured Boston terrier, the first dog breed developed in the U.S. The glorious Massachusetts 54th Regiment, led by a Boston Brahmin, was the first black army regiment in U.S history. First newspaper, novel, subway, telephone, gay marriage- the beat goes on.

Ranging from advances in science and engineering-like the smallpox inoculation and the Boston Harbor cleanup-to innovations in culture and society- Fannie Farmer's cookbook, the YMCA, and Boston cream pie- the collection investigates, celebrates, and integrates America's workshop of ideas.

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From reader reviews:

Ruby Sprankle:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book may be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the reserve untitled Boston Firsts: 40 Feats of Innovation and Invention that Happened First in Boston and Helped Make America Great can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

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Laura Ide:

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