
THE RETRIEVAL OF A LEGACY

Nineteenth-Century
American Women Inventors

Denise E. Pilato

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The Retrieval of a Legacy Denise Pilato, 2000-06-30 Throughout the 19th century women inventors developed significant technologies yet because of complex cultural barriers and the pervasive image of the inventor as male their technological contributions have until now been ignored and undervalued This study the first to focus exclusively on 19th century women explores the fascinating relationship between women and technology According to a government census there were nearly 5 000 patents awarded to women between 1790 and 1888 further many women invented significant technologies but never received a patent The individual and collective experiences of these women reveal both why gendered assumptions about women and technology persist and why they are assumptions not reality Women invented such things as the first ice cream freezer a pyrotechnic signal flare used extensively by the U S Navy a reservoir and dam system adopted by the state of California and more Still names such as Nancy Johnson Martha Coston and Harriet Strong are not recognized as part of the history of American technology It was not the lack of technological ability or creativity that prevented women inventors from full participation in technological advancement Rather educational access legal enfranchisement property rights gendered standards of professionalization and sexual division of labor constructed discriminatory barriers limiting women s relationship with technology

The Retrieval of a Legacy Denise E. Pilato, 1998 *The Retrieval of a Legacy* Denise Pilato, 2000-06-30 Throughout the 19th century women inventors developed significant technologies yet because of complex cultural barriers and the pervasive image of the inventor as male their technological contributions have until now been ignored and undervalued This study the first to focus exclusively on 19th century women explores the fascinating relationship between women and technology According to a government census there were nearly 5 000 patents awarded to women between 1790 and 1888 further many women invented significant technologies but never received a patent The individual and collective experiences of these women reveal both why gendered assumptions about women and technology persist and why they are assumptions not reality Women invented such things as the first ice cream freezer a pyrotechnic signal flare used extensively by the U S Navy a reservoir and dam system adopted by the state of California and more Still names such as Nancy Johnson Martha Coston and Harriet Strong are not recognized as part of the history of American technology It was not the lack of technological ability or creativity that prevented women inventors from full participation in technological advancement Rather educational access legal enfranchisement property rights gendered standards of professionalization and sexual division of labor constructed discriminatory barriers limiting women s relationship with technology

American Independent Inventors in an Era of Corporate R&D Eric S. Hintz, 2021-08-17 How America s individual inventors persisted alongside corporate R D labs as an important source of inventions During the nineteenth century heroic individual inventors such as Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell created entirely new industries while achieving widespread fame However by 1927 a New York Times editorial suggested that teams of corporate scientists at

General Electric AT T and DuPont had replaced the solitary garret inventor as the wellspring of invention But these inventors never disappeared In this book Eric Hintz argues that lesser known inventors such as Chester Carlson Xerox photocopier Samuel Ruben Duracell batteries and Earl Tupper Tupperware continued to develop important technologies throughout the twentieth century Moreover Hintz explains how independent inventors gradually fell from public view as corporate brands increasingly became associated with high tech innovation Focusing on the years from 1890 to 1950 Hintz documents how American independent inventors competed and sometimes partnered with their corporate rivals adopted a variety of flexible commercialization strategies established a series of short lived professional groups lobbied for fairer patent laws and mobilized for two world wars After 1950 the experiences of independent inventors generally mirrored the patterns of their predecessors and they continued to be overshadowed during corporate R D s postwar golden age The independents enjoyed a resurgence however at the turn of the twenty first century as Apple s Steve Jobs and Shark Tank s Lori Greiner heralded a new generation of heroic inventor entrepreneurs By recovering the stories of a group once considered extinct Hintz shows that independent inventors have long been and remain an important source of new technologies

A History of Intellectual Property in 50 Objects Claudy Op den Kamp, Dan Hunter, 2019-06-20 This volume brings together a group of contributors from varied backgrounds to tell a history of intellectual property in 50 objects

The Cambridge Handbook of Intellectual Property and Social Justice Steven D. Jamar, Lateef Mtima, 2024-01-18 Protection for intellectual property has never been absolute it has always been limited in the public interest The benefits of intellectual property protection are meant to flow to everyone not just a limited population of creators and the corporations that represent them Given this social utility function intellectual property regimes must address issues of access inclusion and empowerment for marginalized and excluded groups This handbook defines an approach to considering social justice in intellectual property law and regulation Top scholars in the field offer surveys of social justice implementation in patents copyright trademarks trade secrets rights of publicity and other major IP areas Chapters define Intellectual Property Social Justice theory and include recommendations for reforming aspects of IP law and administration to further social justice by providing better access more inclusion and greater empowerment to marginalized groups

Gendering the Fair Tracey Jean Boisseau, Abigail M. Markwyn, 2010 This field defining work opens the study of world s fairs to women s and gender history exploring the intersections of masculinity femininity exoticism display and performance at these influential events As the first global gatherings of mass numbers of attendees world s fairs and expositions introduced cross class multi racial and mixed sex audiences to each other as well as to cultural concepts and breakthroughs in science and technology Gendering the Fair focuses on the manipulation of gender ideology as a crucial factor in the world s fairs incredible power to shape public opinions of nations government and culture Established and rising scholars working in a variety of disciplines and locales discuss how gender played a role in various countries exhibits and how these nations capitalized on opportunities to revise national and international understandings of

womanhood Spanning several centuries and extending across the globe from Portugal to London and from Chicago to Paris the essays cover topics including women s work at the fairs the suffrage movement the intersection of faith gender and patriotism and the ability of fair organizers to manipulate fairgoers experience of the fairgrounds as gendered space The volume includes a foreword by preeminent world s fair historian Robert W Rydell Contributors are TJ Boisseau Anne Clendinning Lisa K Langlois Abigail M Markwyn Sarah J Moore Isabel Morais Mary Pepchinski Elisabeth Israels Perry Andrea G Radke Moss Alison Rowley and Anne Wohlcke

The Democratization of Invention B. Zorina Khan,2005-09-12 This book first published in 2005 examines the evolution and impact of American intellectual property rights during the long nineteenth century

Sails, Skippers and Sextants George Drower,2011-09-30 The inventions the innovations the stories the surprises A combination of history reference and entertainment something for every seafarer and many others too Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence People have been sailing for thousands of years but we ve come some distance from longboats and clippers How did we arrive here In fifty tales of inventors and innovations Sails Skippers and Sextants looks at the history of one of our most enjoyable pastimes from the monarch who pioneered English yachting to the engineer who invented sailboards The stories are sometimes inspiring usually amusing and often intriguing so grab your lifejacket it s going to be quite an adventure

Raising More Hell and Fewer Dahlias Autumn Stanley,2009 This book is the first biography of nineteenth century magazine editor and reformer Charlotte Smith Based on years of research and previously untapped sources it shows both why she should be remembered and why she was forgotten Her story is quintessentially American this daughter of Irish immigrants despite having only a grade school education and supporting two children alone became a force to be reckoned with first in journalism and then in reform Her first periodical the Inland Monthly was doubly rare edited by a woman but not a women s magazine and a profitable venture bringing a large sum when sold

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