

Early Electric Irons

The first known use in the U.S. market of an electric iron occurred in Minneapolis in 1890. The 1890s saw just a handful of entrepreneurs enter into business in such places as Detroit, Richmond and Boston. Not long after 1900, many more producers sprung up in many more markets.

Until circa 1915, technical issues were of equal concern to marketing the irons. During this time the character of an iron was expressed through its answers to the technical problems.

In this section, 30 early electric irons are presented, all but one made in the United States. Most are true survivors: one-third of them are the sole example known, another third are one of only two or three.

