



Lewis H. Latimer's skill as a draftsman was instrumental in the ultimate design of Alexander Graham Bell's telephone.



Lewis H. Latimer
1848-1928

One man drew the lines of communication that connect generations across the world.

Lewis H. Latimer began an illustrious career in drafting and engineering by doing odd jobs at Crosby & Gould, a Boston patent law firm. When his ability to sketch patent drawings earned him notice, Latimer was promoted to head draftsman. It was during his tenure with Crosby & Gould that Latimer drafted and submitted the patent application and drawings for Alexander Graham Bell's telephone, narrowly beating a rival to win the patent rights. The original draftsman for Thomas Edison, and the first African American member of the *Edison Pioneers*, Latimer's research and inventions in the area of electrical lighting also continue to impact us today. Latimer later invented an incandescent carbon filament for light bulbs, and co-authored *Incandescent Electric Lighting; A Practical Description of the Edison System*. A skilled draftsman, engineer, author and inventor, Lewis Howard Latimer is considered a pioneer of his time. Sprint proudly salutes this great innovator of communications.



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