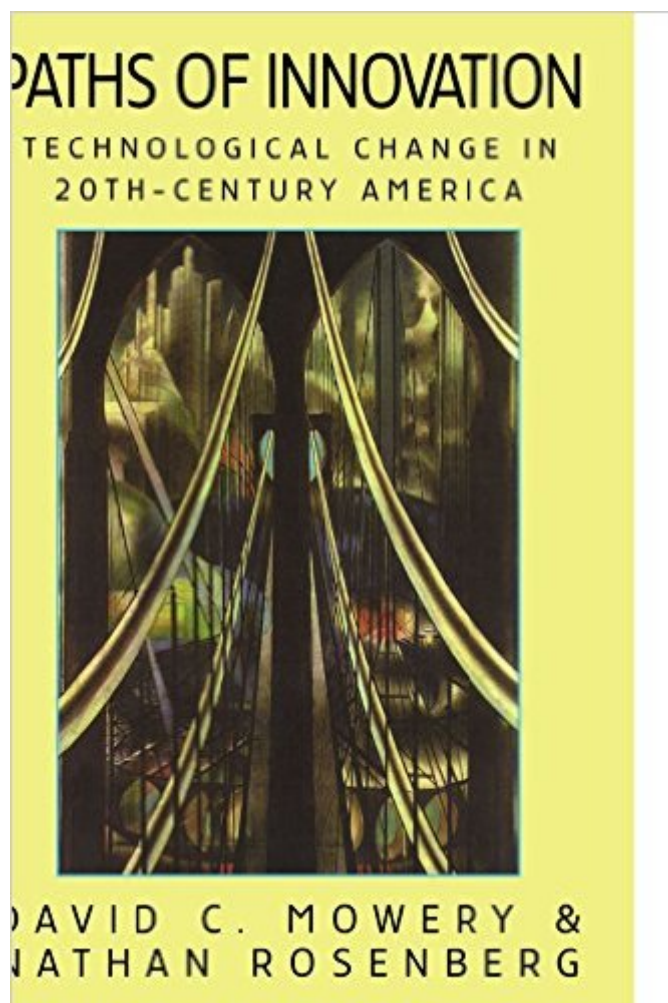


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# Paths Of Innovation: Technological Change In 20th-Century America



## Synopsis

The first digital electronic computer, the ENIAC, was over 100 feet long, with 18,000 simultaneously functioning vacuum tubes. Now virtually every business and home in America has its own compact PC. In 1903 the Wright brothers' airplane, held together with baling wire and glue, traveled a couple hundred yards. Today fleets of streamlined jets transport millions of people per day to cities worldwide. Between discovery and application, between invention and widespread use, there is a world of innovation, of tinkering and improvements and adaptations. This is the world David Mowery and Nathan Rosenberg map out in *Paths of Innovation*, a tour of the intersecting routes of the technological.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I found stale recounting of very well-known facts about 20th century technologies and their economics, with no insights. Since it covers the gamut from plastics to jet engines to microprocessors, and it's only 200 pages in a fairly large typeface, I wasn't expecting historical depth. But I was expecting at least one fresh idea. I bought it on the strength of a much earlier book by Nathan Rosenberg (about technology in the economy of the 19th century). I was disappointed. I get the feeling the book is intended as a brief survey for people who just came down in the last shower -- college freshmen born in the 1980s. I'll bet they find it kinda stodgy.

In book titled "Paths of Innovation: Technological Change in 20th-Century America" written by David

C. Mowery and Nathan Rosenberg, author narrate journeys of innovation in the 20th century America. They also discuss in lengths and breadths on the institutionalization of innovation during 1900 to 1990 in North America. Then they describe technological breakthroughs during the same period in areas such as the internal combustion engine, chemicals, electric power, and electronics. The some of the technological inventions had the linkages with World War I and II which helped the American government in reaching zenith of the global power.

Thankfully, this book is more accessible than the blurb would lead one to believe. A useful summary.

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