Record Nr. UNINA9910958842903321 Autore Marvin Carolyn Titolo When old technologies were new: thinking about electric communication in the late nineteenth century / / Carolyn Marvin New York,: Oxford University Press, 1988 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-19-987876-5 0-19-756018-0 1-280-52479-0 9786610524792 0-19-802138-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (269p.): [14]p of plates, ill., facsims., port Collana Oxford scholarship online 621.38 Disciplina Soggetti Telecommunication - History - 19th century Electrical engineering - History - 19th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Previously issued in print: 1988. Includes bibliography: p. 237-265 and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Intro -- Contents -- Introduction -- 1. Inventing the Expert Technological Literacy as Social Currency -- 2. Community and Class Order Progress Close to Home -- 3. Locating the Body in Electrical Space and Time Competing Authorities -- 4. Dazzling the Multitude Original Media Spectacles -- 5. Annihilating Space, Time, and Difference Experiments in Cultural Homogenization -- Epilogue --Notes -- Index -- A -- B -- C -- E -- F -- H -- I -- L -- M -- N -- O -- P -- S -- T -- U -- W -- Illustrations. In the history of electronic communication, the last quarter of the 19th Sommario/riassunto century holds a special place, for it was during this period that the telephone, phonograph, electric light, wireless, & cinema were all invented. In 'When old Technologies Were New', Carolyn Marvin explores how two of these new inventions - the telephone & the electric light - were publicly envisioned at the end of the 19th century, as seen in specialized engineering journals & popular media. Marvin pays particular attention to the telephone, describing how it disrupted

established social relations, unsettling customary ways of dividing the private person & family from the more public setting of the community.