Colonists used large open fireplaces to heat their homes and cook their food. Fireplaces

The 1744

were not only dangerous; much of the heat drifted uselessly out the chimney. Franklin

designed a more efficient iron stove. The stove pulled in cold air, heated it, then instead

of floating upward, the heat moved around chambers in the stove radiating heat back into

the walk out the drivers.

the room. The stove could also be placed out in the room instead of against one wall like

a fireplace. The stove's door could be opened to enjoy the fire.

Franklin did not apply for a patent on his invention. He believed the benefits of any opposition any invention dreamed up in the human imagination did not belong to only one person.

Franklin's stove did not work quite as well as he'd hoped and eventually fell out of favor.

Today's version of a "Franklin Stove" is related to Ben in name only, not in design.

professional night watchmen. In 1752 Philadelphia finally adopted Franklin's night watch the plan. Franklin drew up plans and raised money for establishing a school that eventually became the University of Pennsylvania. He helped raise money from private donors and the legislature to open Pennsylvania Hospital that treated the city's poor for free Franklin convinced other shopkeepers that Philadelphia's filthy streets—piled with garbage, manure and dirt-- hurt business. He submitted a plan where everyone paid a little to hire workers to clean the streets. He next proposed that city streets, muddy swamps when it rained and choking with dust when dry, be paved Everyone seemed pleased with the

The Age of Enlightenment...

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results and "more willing to submit to a Tax for that purpose," Franklin noted.

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