

Boston is an old city, an old city with centuries of history. With that much history a city is bound to develop some traditions, it's only natural. As such, Boston does have a tradition. For its entire history Boston has always been a place where the norm was challenged. Boston has housed every radically progressive thinker and infamous activist one can think of. Boston's tradition is one of protest, a city where commonalities meet their end, where traditions are broken. Look at these two images here. Both of which are statues, both of which commemorate those that broke the traditions that overstayed their welcome. The image on the bottom left is of the statue of George Washington, the first president of the United States, but in this context, a revolutionary. Washington was a revolutionary who fought to change the traditions of his home, fought to rid the American people of the traditions the British imposed upon them. The second image is not so different, yet it breaks the traditions of the previous photo. The second image is of the Boston's Women's Memorial, in the Boston Commons, and it features Abigail Adams, Lucy Stone, and Phillis Wheatly, all of which were also revolutionaries.



<https://www.boston.gov/departments/womens-advancement/boston-womens-memorial>



Boston's Tradition of Breaking Traditions

Aiden Schimpff

These women fought against the long standing tradition of misogyny in this country, each in their own unique and powerful way. One can see the tradition the women's memorial is trying to break, simply by comparing it to the statue of Washington. The Women's monument features all women, which is not traditional; the subjects are not standing on pedestals but are on the ground, using the pedestals instead; it also features a woman of color, which is not traditional. Boston is filled with statues like the ones above, it's a city that honors and takes pride in people who have broken traditions. From the Boston tea party to the BLM protests, Boston upholds it's most historic tradition, the one where it shatters traditions.