

The first printed reference to Christmas trees appeared in Germany in 1531.

Between 1887-1933 a fishing schooner called the "Christmas Ship" would tie up at the Clark Street bridge and sell spruce trees from Michigan to Chicagoans.

Every year since 1947, the people of Oslo, Norway have given a Christmas tree to the city of Westminster, England. The gift is an expression of good will and gratitude for Britain's help during World War II.

1825

1850

1875

1900

1925

1950

1975

1841 Prince Albert (Queen Victoria's German husband) had a Christmas Tree set up in Windsor Castle. (The Christmas Tree Mania was born.)

Christmas tree lights were first mass produced in 1890.

President Coolidge started the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on the White House lawn in 1923.

In 1963, the National Christmas Tree was not lit until December 22nd because of a national 30-day period of mourning following the assassination of President Kennedy.

The first use of the term 'Christmas tree' in English was in 1835.

In 1856 Franklin Pierce, the 14th President of the United States, was the first President to place a Christmas tree in the White House.

The official Christmas tree tradition at Rockefeller Center began in 1933.

In 1984, the National Christmas Tree was lit on December 13th with temperatures in the 70's, making it one of the warmest tree lightings in history.

The first Christmas tree retail lot in the United States was started in 1851 in New York by Mark Carr.

Manufactured Christmas tree ornaments were first sold by Woolworths in 1880.

Since 1971, the Province of Nova Scotia has presented the Boston Christmas Tree to the people of Boston in gratitude for the relief supplies received from the citizens of Boston after a ship exploded in 1917 following a collision in the Halifax, Nova Scotia Harbor. Part of the city was leveled killing and injuring thousands.