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All gifts are deductible for federal and state tax purposes.

Mr. William Breniman, Founder  
 Society of Wireless Pioneers, Inc.  
 P. O. Box 530  
 Santa Rosa, CA 95402

December 10, 1985

Dear Mr. Breniman:

It was a pleasure talking to you on the phone this morning. I am so pleased that a friend of mine sent me the very fine article about your organization, which appeared in the Press on November 26.

I would appreciate your help in supplying me with any information that you might have about the "Marconi" wireless longwave receiving station, which is located in Marshall on Tomales Bay.

The property has recently been acquired by the California State Parks Foundation. It is the wish of the Foundation to have the property placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The emphasis of the application will be in the field of communication. Of special interest would be if it is known whether this was the first trans-Pacific receiving station on the West Coast. Is it known whether Guglielmo Marconi ever visited the property? I have heard conflicting reports.

Please find enclosed a rough draft of information I have gathered thus far. Please feel free to comment on it or correct it. Any additional information will be extremely appreciated. Please let me know of any costs involved.

The California State Parks Foundation is in the process of restoring the buildings and is planning to use them as a conference center. Thereby the communication concept will be continued, albeit at a different level.

I thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

*Hans Angress*  
 Hans Angress,  
 Project Coordinator.

*mailed  
 sent copy 5/7/86  
 12-14-85 3.*



December 14 1985

Mr. Hans Angress, Project Coordinator  
Marconi Inn Project  
P.O. Box 789  
Marshall, CA 94940

Dear Mr. Angress:

Responding to your request of the 10 Dec 1985, I am forwarding two copies of our Sparks Journal which I edit and publish with our compliments. These carry some reference to Marshall and Bolinas and may be of some value.

Regretfully, publishing deadlines do not permit me to research all the available information which you might like to have. I am happy to hear of the states plan is placed on the National Register of Historic Places as I feel it merits this distinction.

Both the Marshall (receiving) and the Bolinas (sending) stations were commissioned on Sept. 24 1914 inaugurating the service to Kahuku/KokopHead in Hawaii. This event around interest throughout the world at the time and men prominent in the affairs of nation and empire sent Marconigrams appropriate to the occasion. This marked the opening of two of three largest wireless stations on the globe.

Mr. A. H. Gimman, General Supt. of Pacific Coast Division, Marconi Wireless Company of America was in charge of a program which included the Mayor James Rolph Jr of San Francisco, Capt. Robert Dollar, President Dollar S.S. Lines, M.H. DeYoung and perhaps fifty to sixty notables. Mr. Marconi himself was unable to attend. Should you like copies of the messages these gentlemen filed for transmission that day, I could probably furnish them but it is a matter of time available.

I might correct your copy to say that Marshall and Bolinas were not 'sister' stations except in the context that it takes both types (sending and receiving) to complete the system and make it work. Otherwise most of the details check with my records.

I might add parenthetically that I have visited Marshall a number of times in the early 1920's and stopped at the "Hotel de Gink" - the name us wireless men used in those days for the Marconi Hotel. I never worked at Marshall or Bolinas myself but many of my friends did. Also some ten or 12 years ago, I was Chairman of the Committee and M/C at the dedication of relocating Marconi's Memorial to the Coil tower site. I hope the Journals and this will help in your effort.

Sincerely:

William A. Breniman - Sec. (Editor)

November 7 1986

Mr. Karl Kortum,  
Chief Curator, National Park Service  
Department of Interior  
Golden Gate National Rec. Area.  
Fort Mason,  
San Francisco, CA 94123.

Dear Mr. Kortum:

I had a call yesterday from the Manager of Station KPH - The RCA Global Communication Station which is located up north of Point Reyes at Bolinas, Calif.

He informed me that the RCA had a huge quantity of early day wireless equipment that they wished to dispose of. Most of this was used in the early days of the wireless for communications across the Pacific from their transmitting and sending stations.

I think that the National Park Service has taken over the early receiving station site near Bolinas as I recall researching and furnishing some pictures several months back on this location.

It would appear that perhaps your service might be quite interested in the preservation of much of this early day wireless equipment which certainly made history in one period of the Nation's history.

I would suggest that you contact the Manager of the RCA Global Communications, Inc., Their address is Point Reyes Station, CA 94956. Telephone: Call 415/669-1159 weekdays between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

I recall back in December 1985 the California State Park Foundation approached us requesting information about Marshall and Bolinas. They might be interested in this surplus early day equipment if your organization should not be.

We have no vested interest except that of trying to retain historical places and equipment for posterity. Any help you can give will be appreciated.  
Thank you.

Respectfully

William A. Brenlman  
Exec. Secretary.

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# CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

## MARCONI PROJECT

P. O. Box 789, Marshall, CA 94940. tel:(415)663-9020

Mr. William A. Breniman, Executive Secretary  
Society of Wireless Pioneers  
P. O. Box 530  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

December 9, 1986

Dear Mr. Breniman:

Once more I like to solicit your assistance.

As I told you earlier, the California State Parks Foundation, present owner of the Marconi property in Marshall, on Tomales Bay, is in the process of nominating the property to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

It has been very hard to find specific information on the property and its history. The two issues of "Sparks Journal", dated March 1985 and the Titanic Edition of 1982, which you sent me, have been most helpful.

Any suggestion you may have as to where I might find additional information on the property would be most welcome. I am looking especially for original sources of information, but any information will be appreciated.

I thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely,

Herbert Hans Angress,  
Project Coordinator

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WILDFLOWER PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

California State Parks Association  
Marconi Project  
P.O. Box 789  
Marshall, CA 94940

Dec. 17 1986

Dear Mr. Herbert Hans Angress:

This will acknowledge your letter of Dec. 9 1986 in which you are seeking further information on the history of the former Marconi station property in the Tomales Bay Area.

Regretfully, we have been short-handed and with some special mailings little time is left for handling correspondence until the end of December at least.

Two leads I can give you. One is that there was a series of magazines published starting about 1914 until 1918 or perhaps later. It was called "Wireless Age" and was initially published by the American Marconi Wireless Company which later became the RCA. Checking one of my bound volumes, I find that in the January 1917 issue there is quite a lengthy article entitled "Intangible Bond Between the Occident and the Orient Strengthened by Wireless Linking United States to Japan. It has several photographs. One is of the Marconi Hotel for men (P259) and the second "A rear view of the mast line of Bolinas" etc. I am quite certain there is considerable material of interest to you in these publications. I would like to suggest you contact the Editor of "RCA RELAY" 50 Broad Street, New York, NY 10004. He should be able to tell you about the RCA Library and secure data from both the library and the RCA files on the early days of this facility. Should you be unable to obtain the data some arrangement may be made with us to check our bound volumes, however we will not release them from our custody as we consider them too valuable an asset on Wireless History of the early days.

Hope you have success. Respectfully

William A. Breniman, Sec.