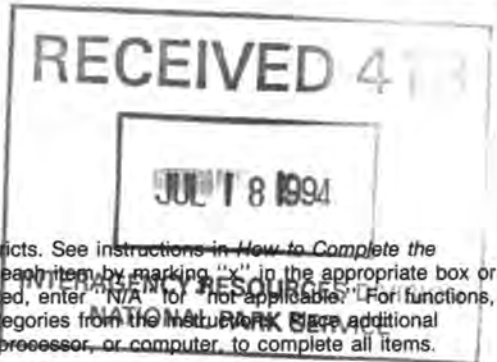


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the Instructions. For additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Old Comers Road and Orleans Road N/A not for publication

city or town Chatham N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Barnstable code 001 zip code 02633

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough Date _____ Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Ardus Date of Action 8/30/94

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
10	1	buildings
		sites
3	1	structures
		objects
13	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: institutional housing

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION:

communications facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT: not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman;

No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

WOOD/Shingle

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNICATION

Period of Significance

1914-1944

Significant Dates

1914, 1919, 1921

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

White, James Gilbert

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Chatham Historical Commission

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11.33 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 19 418300 4617160
Zone Easting Northing
2 19 418480 4617220

3 19 418640 4617200
Zone Easting Northing
4 19 418650 4617040

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Chatham Historical Commission with Virginia Adams, Sr. Arch. Hist., PAL & name/title Amy McFeeters-Krone, Arch. Hist., PAL and Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July 1994

street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02116

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name MCI International, Inc.

street & number 201 Centennial Avenue telephone (908) 885-2340

city or town Piscataway state NJ zip code 08854

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts



Section number 7 Page 1

7. DESCRIPTION

The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station (also known as RCA Wireless Station) consists of 15 buildings and structures erected in the early-to-mid 20th century on the southern edge of Ryder's Cove in the Chathamport section of Chatham. The 11.33 acre property, on four parcels, spreads westward from the junction of Old Comers Road and Orleans Road (Route 28), with its eastern edge defined by Ryder's Cove Road. The gently inclined hill on which the station sits slopes northward down to Ryder's Cove, a protected tidal cove off Pleasant Bay. The property's landscape setting is open and planted with mature trees, including copper beeches and pines, underlain by sandy soil. The buildings, mostly low and constructed of red brick with little ornamentation, are arranged in a broad "V" pattern, oriented to Old Comers and Orleans Roads. The residential area which surrounds the station complex is characterized by closely set, shingled, Cape Cod style, private residences built in the twentieth century, which contrast with the open land area and brick buildings of the station. The Ryder's Cove Boatyard is located at the foot of Ryder's Cove Road along the eastern edge of the station property. The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station is composed of 13 contributing buildings and structures: ten buildings (the Main Operations Building, the Powerhouse, the Garage, the Bachelors' Quarters/Hotel and six Single-Family Houses), all built in 1914; and three structures (three antenna towers), built in 1921. The small, concrete block Engine House/Shed building adjacent to the Operations Building and the Sewage Filter Beds structures, all constructed in the 1950s, are noncontributing elements to the complex. The Main Operations Building is the only building currently in use. The three steel antenna towers are also currently in use.

The buildings at the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station are simple in style with few architectural embellishments. With the exception of the two-story Bachelors' Quarters/Hotel, the buildings are one-story in height. The Main Operations Building, the Powerhouse and the Garage are all functional, gable roofed, brick buildings with minimal decoration. The brick Bachelors' Quarters/Hotel with brick patterning along the porch rail and cast details, exhibits the most detailing of any of the buildings at the station, yet is still very plain. The six Single-Family Houses are similar low, spreading bungalows. The two residences most prominently sited overlooking Orleans Road are constructed of brick, and are identical. The remaining four residences, sited along both sides of Old Comers Road, are identical, shingled, wood-frame buildings with brick foundations. The residences all exhibit characteristics of the Craftsman Bungalow style, which was very popular in the first quarter of the twentieth century. The style, used mostly for residential architecture, is characterized by a broad gabled roof, one story, and a low profile. The houses located at the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station exhibit these and other Craftsman qualities, such as integral porches and shed dormers. The three steel receiving Antenna Towers and wood poles carry rhombic antennae (wires arranged in a rhombic formation) and connect them to the station. The steel towers (erected 1921) replaced the six original mast antenna towers. Five of the original towers were dismantled in 1921 and moved to Tuckertown and New Brunswick, New Jersey, where they were used at the WII and WSC stations. The last of the mast antenna towers was dismantled in 1956.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
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All of the buildings and structures are in very good condition and retain historic integrity and appearance both individually and as a group. The entire station was built in a single campaign in 1914, and since that time no new buildings of any note or size have been added. The current owner, MCI Telecommunications Corporation, renovated the buildings in 1988; the work appears to consist primarily of new wood sheathing and dormer windows on the frame houses, as well as new roofs on some buildings. The upgrading of systems and some interior refurbishment may also have occurred. At present they are unoccupied, although the Main Operations Building is overseen by a skeleton maintenance staff.

The land area of the station is somewhat smaller than it was originally, due to donations of land to the Chatham Conservation Foundation, Inc., after the large antennae were dismantled (see Sections 8 and 10). One ancillary building and several structures have been removed: a six-car garage building (located on the northeast side of Orleans Road); the six original antenna towers; a dance pavilion (location not known); the tennis courts (located on the northeast side of Orleans Road north of the Powerhouse); and a swimming float on Ryder's Cove. Despite these minor alterations, the station is virtually as it was when it was constructed.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

The Main Operations Building, 847 Orleans Road, is a simple, seven-by-three bay, one-story, brick building set back from Orleans Road. Its longer elevations face northeast and southwest, with its main facade facing northeast. The building rises from a concrete basement to a gabled asphalt roof which replaced earlier tile or slate sheathing. The cornice is of wood with aluminum gutters. The windows are six-over-six, double-hung wood sash with cast concrete sills and no lintels. The windows are surmounted by three-light transoms, most of which have been blocked. Both gable ends have two six-light windows in the attic story. The main entrance is in second bay from the north end of the east side. It has concrete steps and a small projecting vestibule that appear to have been added in the 1940s or 1950s. A small, shed-roofed, wood-frame, shingled addition was built on the north end of the building during World War II and contained an apartment for the officer of the day. A narrow lawn with small foundation plantings runs along the east side, and a small, noncontributing concrete block shed dating to the 1950s stands the west of the building. The interior of the building contains a large central operations room with smaller rooms at each end used as manager's office, shop, control room, supply room, and laboratory. The arrangement of equipment and of the interior spaces has occurred over time as technology has changed. The Main Operations Building served as the center of wireless receiving operations for the station until its automation. Today, although the operators are located on the west coast, signals are still received and transmitted through a computer hookup connected to equipment located in this building. The Main Operations Building is in good condition and retains much of its original integrity. Throughout its history, the Main Operations Building has undergone numerous alterations to accommodate equipment and operational needs due to changes in communications technology.

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**United States Department of the Interior
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Chatham (Barnstable County)
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The Powerhouse, 784 Orleans Road, is a simple, one-story, brick building, four-by-eight bays in dimension, with a gabled roof. The gable ends face northwest and southeast. The building stands close to Orleans Road at the intersection with Ryder's Cove Road. Resting on a concrete pad foundation, the red brick building has a low pitched, asphalt shingle roof, which at one time was slate. The soffits are stuccoed and have copper gutters and flashing. The southwestern elevation has two loading doors, one pedestrian door and four six-over-six, double-hung wood sash windows arranged asymmetrically. The windows have concrete sills and stretcher lintels. The wood, double-leaf loading doors have six lights each, as does the pedestrian door. The northwest and southeast gable end walls each have four six-over-six double-hung sash, surmounted by a rectangular, raised brick panel. The panel on the northwest elevation supports glass insulators which formerly held wires. The northeast elevation, from southeast to northwest, has one window, one loading door, two windows, one pedestrian door, and two windows. A concrete platform extends from the southeast corner of the northeast elevation in front of the loading door. One tall brick chimney rises from the eastern corner of the roof. An exterior, semi-underground, concrete walled coal cellar sits near the south corner of the building. It connects to a 5,000 gallon water tank under the southeast end of the building. The interior is divided into four unequal sections by brick walls, which support steel purlins and a single central truss. The function of the interior spaces (southeast to northwest) was: machine shop; transmitter room and furnace; engine room; and battery room. The Powerhouse originally contained a central steam heating plant for the entire station, but this was dismantled before World War II. No equipment remains in the building; it has been used for storage in recent years. Vines cover much of the exterior surface of the building, and a narrow lawn surrounds it. The Powerhouse is in good condition and retains its original integrity.

The Garage, located north of the Powerhouse on Orleans Road, is a one-story brick building with an end gable roof facing northwest and southeast. The four-by-one bay building has bi-fold wood doors, each with eight lights over two vertical panels of diagonal boards. The garage opening, in the southeast gable end, has a header lintel, surmounted by a brick header panel with an old gooseneck light fixture. The four bays on the east and west elevations are infilled with stucco, with two windows on either elevation boarded over. The asphalt shingled roof has exposed rafter ends under the eaves.

There are three identical steel lattice Antenna Towers on the property. All stand 100 feet tall and are composed of bolted, narrow steel angle girders, tapering as they rise. The towers, along with a series of wood poles, carried the rhombic wire antennae used for receiving radio signals. One is located behind the Garage and Powerhouse at 784 Orleans Road; one is located near the Operations Building at 847 Orleans Road, and one is located near the water at the end of Ryder's Cove Road.

The Bachelors' Quarters/Hotel, 831 Orleans Road, is an "L" plan brick building, with a ridged, hipped roof on the five-by-three bay front section and a three-by-three bay rear ell under a gable roof. The building faces northeast towards Orleans Road and is located in an open area with a flag pole to the front and several large trees nearby. It is the largest building at the wireless station, and is the only

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
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Chatham (Barnstable County)
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building that is two stories in height. It sits on a concrete foundation, with the bricks starting at ground level. A one-story integral porch stretches across the entire northeastern, five-bay facade of the building. The brick piers of the porch and the openwork brick rails have concrete caps. Concrete steps in the center bay access the porch and the entrance, which has a single, wood paneled door with six-lights. The porch ceiling is stuccoed and the floor is concrete. The porch openings have continuous brick lintels topped with a course of headers. The windows are six-over-one, double-hung, wood sash with concrete sills and no lintels, some with two-over-two wood storms. The basement level windows are 3/1 sash. On the second floor, a string course of stretcher bricks with cast blocks extends around the window heads. The roof has wide, overhanging eaves and asphalt shingles which replaced earlier slate shingles. The cornice is sheathed in metal, and the original copper downspouts with trefoil brackets still exist. There are two large brick chimneys rise from the exterior wall: one from the southwest corner of the building where the rear ell attaches and one from the north side of the rear ell. A shed dormer rises from the roof from behind the chimney and has two six-over-one windows. The west facing gable end of the ell has a central entrance with a door with six lights over three horizontal panels. The interior of the building contains an open plan on the first floor of the main block with a living room, dining room, billiard room, and stair. The rear ell housed the kitchen, pantry, laundry, and cook's room. The second floor consists of a central L-shaped hallway lined on both sides with bedrooms and baths. Originally constructed to house unmarried men employed by at the wireless station, the building has most recently been used for storage. It retains a high degree of integrity and is in very good condition.

589 Old Comers Road is a simple, one-story brick bungalow with a concrete foundation. It is identical to 595 Old Comers Road, and nearly identical in plan to the shingled houses at 563, 568, 576 and 579 Old Comers Road. This single family dwelling is six-by-three bays in dimension with a rectangular footprint. It has a hipped roof and wide overhanging eaves with smooth soffits. An integral two-by-one bay porch cuts into the eastern corner of the house and wraps around the southeast side. The roof over the porch is supported by plain brick piers with flush concrete caps. The entrance is located within this porch, and has a vertical paneled door with 4 lights in the upper half. Brick and concrete steps provide access to the porch. The windows are 6/1, double-hung, wood sash with plain surrounds, header sills and no lintels. The low pitched roof supports one dormer on each of the four roof slopes, two hipped and two shed, each with a single light replacement window. A single brick chimney with a concrete cap rises off center from the asphalt shingle roof, which replaced an earlier slate roof. The interior has a stuccoed ceiling and a cement floor. The house is located in an open area with several large trees and a front lawn sloping eastward down to Orleans Road. It is in excellent condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

595 Old Comers Road is a simple, one-story brick bungalow with a concrete foundation. It is identical to 589 Old Comers Road, and nearly identical in plan to the shingled houses at 563, 568, 576 and 579 Old Comers Road. This single family dwelling, located on the north side of Old Comers Road, is six-by-three bays in dimension with a rectangular footprint. It has a hipped roof and wide

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Chatham (Barnstable County)
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overhanging eaves with smooth soffits. An integral two-by-one bay porch cuts into the eastern corner of the house and wraps around the southeast side. The roof over the porch is supported by plain brick piers with flush concrete caps. The entrance is located within this porch, and has a vertical paneled door with 4 lights in the upper half. Brick and concrete steps provide access to the porch. The windows are 6/1, double-hung, wood sash with plain surrounds, header sills and no lintels. The low pitched roof supports one dormer on each of the four roof slopes, two hipped and two shed, each with a single light replacement window. A single brick chimney with a concrete cap rises off center from the asphalt shingle roof, which replaced an earlier slate roof. The interior has a stuccoed ceiling and a cement floor. It is located in an open area with several large trees and a front lawn sloping eastward down to Orleans Road. It is in excellent condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

563 Old Comers Road is a one-story, wood-frame bungalow identical to its neighbors on Old Comers Road, numbers 576, 579 and 568, and similar in form to the brick houses at 589 and 595 Old Comers Road. This simple, single family dwelling, located on the north side of Old Comers Road, is six-by-three bays in dimension with a rectangular footprint. It rests on a red brick foundation and has a pyramidal hipped roof and wide overhanging eaves with smooth soffits. The walls are sheathed in new unpainted wood shingles. An integral two-by-one bay porch cuts into the southeast corner of the house, and has plain posts and new wood rails. The entrance is located within this porch, and has a paneled door with 6 lights in the upper half. The windows are 6/1, double-hung, wood sash with plain surrounds and aluminum storm windows. The low pitched roof supports one dormer on each of the four roof slopes, two hipped and two shed, each with a single light replacement window. A single brick chimney with a concrete cap rises off center from the asphalt shingle roof, which replaced an earlier slate roof. A rail fence separates the property from the road, and an asphalt driveway leads to the house. The building is in excellent condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

568 Old Comers Road is a one-story, wood-frame bungalow identical to its neighbors on Old Comers Road, numbers 576, 579 and 563, and similar in form to the brick houses at 589 and 595 Old Comers Road. This simple single family dwelling, located on the south side of Old Comers Road, is six-by-three bays in dimension with a rectangular footprint. It rests on a red brick foundation and has a pyramidal hipped roof and wide overhanging eaves with smooth soffits. The walls are sheathed in new unpainted wood shingles. An integral two-by-one bay porch cuts into the northeast corner of the house, and has plain posts and new wood rails. The entrance is located within this porch, and has a paneled door with 6 lights in the upper half. The windows are 6/1, double-hung, wood sash with plain surrounds and aluminum storm windows. The low pitched roof supports one dormer on each of the four roof slopes, two hipped and two shed, each with a single light replacement window. A single brick chimney with a concrete cap rises off center from the asphalt shingle roof, which replaced an earlier slate roof. A dirt drive leads to the house, which is set in an open area with some large trees and brush nearby. The building is in very good condition and retains much of its integrity.

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Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
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576 Old Comers Road is a one-story, wood-frame bungalow identical to its neighbors on Old Comers Road, numbers 568, 579 and 563, and similar in form to the brick houses at 589 and 595 Old Comers Road. This simple, single family dwelling, located on the south side of Old Comers Road, is six-by-three bays in dimension with a rectangular footprint. It rests on a red brick foundation and has a pyramidal hipped roof and wide overhanging eaves with smooth soffits. The walls are sheathed in new unpainted wood shingles. An integral two-by-one bay porch cuts into the northwest corner of the house, and has plain posts and new wood rails. The entrance is located within this porch, and has a paneled door with 6 lights in the upper half. The windows are 6/1, double-hung, wood sash with plain surrounds and aluminum storm windows. The low pitched roof supports one dormer on each of the four roof slopes, two hipped and two shed, each with a single light replacement window. A single brick chimney with a concrete cap rises off center from the asphalt shingle roof, which replaced an earlier slate roof. A dirt drive leads to the building, set amid large trees. The building is in very good condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

579 Old Comers Road is a one-story, wood-frame bungalow identical to its neighbors on Old Comers Road, numbers 576, 568 and 563, and similar in form to the brick houses at 589 and 595 Old Comers Road. This simple, single family dwelling, located on the north side of Old Comers Road, is six-by-three bays in dimension with a rectangular footprint. It rests on a red brick foundation and has a pyramidal hipped roof and wide overhanging eaves with smooth soffits. The walls are sheathed in new unpainted wood shingles. An integral two-by-one bay porch cuts into the southeast corner of the house, and has plain posts and new wood rails. The entrance is located within this porch, and has a paneled door with 6 lights in the upper half. The windows are 6/1, double-hung, wood sash with plain surrounds and aluminum storm windows. The low pitched roof supports one dormer on each of the four roof slopes, two hipped and two shed, each with a single light replacement window. A single brick chimney with a concrete cap rises off center from the asphalt shingle roof, which replaced an earlier slate roof. A dirt drive leads to the building, set among evergreen trees. The house is in very good condition and retains much of its integrity.

Archaeological Description

A high potential exists for the recovery of significant prehistoric resources within the boundaries of the Marconi - RCA Wireless Receiving Station. Twenty-one prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile), although only one documented site, the Ryders Cove Site (19-BN-590), is located within the nominated property. Little information other than locational data is available for the Ryders Cove Road Site.

The physical characteristics of the property, including well-drained level to moderately sloping terraces in close proximity to fresh water wetlands and marine-related ecosystem, also indicate favorable locational criteria for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. Given the above information, combined with the presence of documented archaeological resources, the potential for

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**Section number 7, 8 Page 7, 1

additional prehistoric survivals on the property is high.

A low to moderate potential exists for significant historical archaeological remains on the property. The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station is located within the boundaries of the "First Purchase," begun in 1655 and concluded in 1672, by English settler William Nickerson, a weaver, whose descendants used the land for various purposes until at least 1702. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing on the property may produce presently unknown evidence of this early land use or other historic land use which predates the Marconi-RCA operations. Numerous archaeological survivals relating to the nomination's period of significance may survive relating to the original six antenna towers, a garage, dance pavilion, and tennis courts, all of which no longer survive above ground.

(end)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station complex retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and has significance in the categories of communications and architecture at the local, state, and national levels. The station complex consists of thirteen contributing buildings and structures that are clustered together at the southern edge of Ryder's Cove and are the elements from which the station complex derives its significance. The station complex meets National Register Criterion A for its long, continuous and distinguished role in the history of wireless communication, particularly in ship-to-shore communications. The station was the the busiest commercial station on the east coast; it served as a model for the stations that proliferated in the 1920s. Furthermore, as a distinctive complex of early 20th century, mixed industrial and residential buildings in the Craftsman Bungalow style, which retain a very high degree of integrity, the station also meets National Register Criterion C. The period of significance extends from the date of the station's construction in 1914 through 1944, the cut-off date for the fifty year limit under National Register of Historic Places guidelines.

Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1937), the "Wizard of Wireless," was an international pioneer of wireless communication. As a youth growing up in Italy, Marconi was inspired by the scientists Heinrich Hertz, William Thompson (Lord Kelvin), Thomas Edison, Nikola Tesla, Sir Oliver Lodge and Edouard Branley (Whatley 1987:6), all of whom experimented with radio waves but were unable to make long range transmissions with their inventions. In 1895, at the age of twenty-one, Marconi discovered "grounding," the key element which made the difference between short range transmission and long range transmission. Using this new technology, he developed the wireless telegraph, for which he earned a Nobel Prize in 1909.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 2

In 1901, Marconi built one of the earliest wireless stations in the United States in South Wellfleet, Massachusetts, for the purpose of establishing the first trans-Atlantic wireless link. This seminal, two-way wireless communication between the United States and Europe occurred on January 18th, 1903, when Morse-encoded communique from President Theodore Roosevelt and King Edward VII were exchanged between Wellfleet and Poldhu, England. Wireless communication quickly supplanted cable communication, as it was easier and cheaper to maintain. Cable operations were never abandoned, however, and continued on Cape Cod at the French American Cable Station in Orleans, until the station was closed in 1956. It is now a museum (Darling 1988). The South Wellfleet Wireless Station was closed in 1917 for information security during World War I, and was never reopened due to its obsolete equipment as technology rapidly expanded and to extensive sea cliff erosion on the site (Kaye 1986). Shortly after its closure the station was dismantled in the 1920s. Approximately 50 percent of the site has eroded and little physical evidence remains. The site is now a part of the Cape Cod National Seashore and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station in Chathamport was the direct successor to the South Wellfleet station, carrying on and greatly expanding the global communication promise established at the older site. Because all the other early installations no longer survive, the Chathamport station is a rare example of its resource type and period. It was built in 1914 by the J. G. White Construction Company for the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of America, a British-owned company, for point-to-point transmission between the United States and Europe. The site was selected as a more topographically stable site than South Wellfleet, but one possessed of similar advantageous attributes for wireless receiving. The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station is located on the tip of the "elbow" of Cape Cod, a site which provided unobstructed access to the Atlantic Ocean and Europe. Cape Cod was considered a good location for trans-Atlantic and maritime radio stations because it is 30 miles from the mainland, surrounded by water and was free from industrial interference, all ideal features for radio propagation and reception (Hall 1986). The cost of construction, excluding land acquisition, was \$300,000.

The Marconi company operated the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station facility until the onset of World War I. During World War I, the Marconi holdings came under the control of the U.S. Navy for security reasons, and the South Wellfleet station was closed down in 1917. After the war, the U.S. government, reluctant to have control of its communications in foreign hands, sought domestic ownership of the Marconi company. As a result, General Electric, Westinghouse Electric, American Telephone and Telegraph, and the United Fruit Companies organized the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in 1919 and assumed control of the Marconi assets (Robinson, *WCC/WIM* 1966). Radio Corporation of America formed a subsidiary, the Radiomarine Corporation of America, On December 31, 1927, to handle the expanding marine telegram business (Robinson 1986). About 1929, two primary factors changed the role of the Chatham station from its initial function of point-to-point transmission: the 1917 closure of the Marconi station located in South Wellfleet, which handled ship-to-shore transmissions; and the transfer of all point-to-point activity to the new Radio

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 3

Central on Long Island in New York in 1922 (RCA Globcom's Cape Cod... 1981). In the early 1920s, the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station in Chatham abandoned point-to-point communication and became the first RCA radio station to handle only marine traffic, providing radio communication between ships at sea and their agents, owners or customers on shore. In 1921, RCA installed the first commercial marine vacuum tube transmitting apparatus at the Chathamport transmitting station, which greatly extended the range of marine coverage. The range of the Chathamport station included the Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, North Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. The station continued the use of the Wellfleet call letters WCC. "W" is the international radio convention signifying the east coast of North America, and "CC" is for Cape Cod. The station initially used only International Morse Code to communicate with ships, adding telex after 1950. Nevertheless, Morse Code remained the principal method used at Chathamport even in the age of satellite communication technology, due to its reliability. During World War II, the Marconi-RCA station was again taken over by the U.S. Navy, which operated it from 1942-1945.

The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station participated in many notable events. Operators there maintained communications with the Richard E. Byrd expeditions to the South Pole in 1928-1930 and 1933-1935. They also communicated with the "Graf Zeppelin," which made the first trip around the world by an airship (1929). The station provided weather information to Anne and Charles Lindbergh on their famous round-the-world flight (1933), and monitored the flights of Amelia Earhart, Wiley Post and Howard Hughes (1938) (RCA Globcom's Cape Cod... 1981). The zeppelin "Hindenburg" made one of its last transmissions to the station in 1937, just before crashing in Lakehurst, New Jersey. The Chathamport facility was also the receiving station used during the hijacking of the Portuguese luxury ship Santa Maria in the 1961 ("Morse Code Kept World in Touch...," 1961).

At its height of operations in the 1930s through the 1950s, the station employed over 30 employees, including radio operators, teletype operators, maintenance staff (riggers, machinists, grounds keepers, etc), and administrative staff. The station, which operated 24 hours a day, handled as many as 1,000 messages per day. Most were for commercial shippers, but ocean liners comprised a great percentage of the traffic, especially during the tourist seasons.

When the Marconi-RCA Wireless Transmitting Station was constructed, transmitting and receiving stations were built at least 25 miles apart to reduce interference caused by the spark gap transmitting apparatus used. All transmitting and receiving personnel were located at the receiving station. When a transmission was received by Morse Code from a ship, the operator conveyed the message to the addressee and obtain a response, which was then keyed over leased phone circuits or wireless radio through the transmitting station to the ship at sea (Chatham Historical Commission 1993).

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
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Chathamport's original sister station, housing two tube transmitters, was located in Marion, Massachusetts. The two stations were connected by a system of overland wires until 1937, when a newly developed microwave beam system replaced the wires. Together, the transmitting station in South Chatham and receiving station in Chatham conveyed ship information to owners and customers, conveyed weather conditions sent from ships to the U.S. Weather Bureau in Washington D.C., and had a free medical service and a distress channel, although the Coast Guard handled most emergency calls (Little 1980). The Chathamport station was also connected by wire to the main traffic office of RCA, located in New York City.

In 1948, the Marion transmitting station was replaced by a new transmitting station built in South Chatham, a mere three miles away from the receiving station. The Marion facility, was subsequently demolished. The new RCA Transmitting Station, South Chatham, located off Bay View Road in coastal marshes consists of the Colonial Revival style, red brick Operations Building, a wood-frame generating shed, a wood-frame operator's residence, and several antenna towers. This RCA Transmitting Station at South Chatham is not included in this nomination, but may also be eligible for listing in the National Register when it reaches 50 years of age.

The J. G. White Company, which constructed the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station, as well as its sister transmitting station in Marion, Massachusetts (demolished), and the Brant Rock Wireless Station in Marshfield (demolished), was founded in 1890 by James Gilbert White, an engineer, contractor and investment banker with a PhD. in electrical engineering and physics from Cornell University (National Cyclopaedia of American Biography 1916:157). White started his career in 1885 teaching physics at Nebraska University, leaving in 1887 to help found the Western Engineering Company, of which he was president (Civil Engineering, July 1942). He sold this company to the Edison-United Manufacturing Company, and went to New York where he founded the first company to bear his name in 1890. The contracting company grew and White expanded his business internationally with firms carrying his name in Canada and Great Britain. In 1913 he organized the J.G. White Engineering Corporation in New York. White's first major achievement was the construction of the Buffalo-Niagara Falls Electric Railway, the first high-speed inter-urban line in the United States. Although primarily concerned with engineering, White did form a building construction company in London, which built the Ritz Hotel, Royal Automobile Club, Waldorf Hotel and Selfridge's Stores. A search of the National Register and historical documents suggests that the only buildings White constructed in the United States are associated with his engineering projects. These include a number of powerhouses, both steam- and water-driven (National Cyclopaedia of American Biography 1916:158). No other radio transmitting or receiving stations attributed to J.G. White have been located. In New England, J.G. White Company was associated with Charles T. Main, another engineering company, in the construction of the extensive hydroelectric facilities on the Deerfield River in Vermont and Massachusetts. White also founded the J.G. White Management Corporation, which managed a number of public service properties throughout the United States, including that of

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 5

several gas and electric utility companies, railway companies, water works and ice manufacturing plants (National Cyclopaedia of American Biography 1916:158).

The industrial-use buildings at the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station, although technological in function, are in a domestic scale and fit well into their surroundings. The houses built for station operators are good examples of modest, early twentieth century residential architecture in the Craftsman Bungalow style. The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station, the first station to communicate exclusively with ships at sea, is one of the only remaining wireless stations on the east coast, and despite the encroachment of residential subdivisions, remains unusually intact.

In the early days of wireless communication, stations required very large parcels of land for their antennae. This station once spread west beyond Lover's Lake to Schoolhouse Pond, to accommodate the six original huge mast antennae, over 350 feet in height, set on huge concrete foundations. They were set in a line running nearly eight miles across the site from northeast to southwest, and were composed of steel cylinders cut in quarter and half sections bolted together. Connected in short lengths by guy wires, the porcelain insulated masts were grounded to the concrete foundations by steel cables. The masts supported the directional antennae which received the radio signals. Five of these original masts were removed in 1919. The last was removed from the site in 1954, after serving as a landmark visible from land and sea for 40 years. When the large antennae became obsolete and were removed, the land west of the lake was donated to the Chatham Conservation Foundation, Inc. The original antennae were replaced by smaller, more modern antennae on the remaining land. Over the years the station has also been the site of several experimental antennae.

From 1927 to 1956, coastal radio stations were under the control of Radiomarine Corporation. After August 31, 1956, the stations were shifted to RCA Communications Incorporated, another subsidiary of RCA (Hall 1986). RCA Communications changed its name to RCA Global Communications in 1968. General Electric bought RCA in 1985 (*Timeline Chart*, n.d.). RCA Global Communications was acquired by the communications giant MCI Telecommunications Corporation on May 16, 1988, from General Electric (RCA Globcom's Cape Cod... 1981). MCI operated the Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station, with twenty-three employees, until early 1993, when the company automated the station to relay its Morse Code and telex signals to its other wireless station located in Point Reyes, California. The Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station is still owned by MCI, but is manned only by a skeleton staff at the Operations Building. The other buildings are no longer in use and stand vacant. The town of Chatham and MCI are jointly seeking reuse proposals for the station which would preserve and maintain the existing buildings.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts

Section number 8, 9 Page 6, 1

Archaeological Significance

Although numerous prehistoric sites have been recorded in the Chatham area, most lack descriptive information beyond locational factors and few have been systematically studied limiting their interpretative value making most surviving sites in the area potentially significant. The documented presence of a Native American archaeological site dating from the Late Woodland and Contact Periods within the wireless station property demonstrates the potential of the property to provide information important to our understanding of this aspect of Cape Cod's history. The results of previous work at the Mattaquason Purchase Site (M48N6), outside the nominated property's boundaries, indicates an archaeological record of what appears to have been a small seasonal campsite exists that can contribute to a growing body of data on the lifeways and subsistence and settlement patterns of Native Americans, as well as on aspects of acculturation during the period of initial contact between the Native Americans and European settlers.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential to provide information on Chatham's initial period of Colonial settlement including potential Native and European interaction. Since no examples exist from this period, any surviving resources would be highly significant. Any surviving resources from the 18th and 19th centuries would also be significant by providing examples of presently unknown land use patterns from these periods. Archaeological survivals relating to Marconi-RCA use of the property are presently of limited research value; however, the locations of these resources should be documented for future research reference.

(end)

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(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

**Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 9 Page 2

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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**Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 9 Page 3

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(end)

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County)
Massachusetts**

Section number 10 Page 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References: (cont.)

- 5) 19 418600 4616960
- 6) 19 418400 4616940

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of the nominated property conform to portions of the legally recorded boundaries of the present Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station property, in four contiguous parcels, encompassing 11.33 acres, as recorded on Town of Chatham assessor's maps, pages 10-I, 10-J, 11-I, and 11-J (copies accompany the nomination) and recorded in the Barnstable County Records, Book 150, page 98, and in Land Certificate 20158. The boundaries follow property lines along the smaller parcels on the north side of Orleans Road/Rte. 28 and the south side of Old Comers Road. On the two larger parcels north and south of Old Comers Road associated in recent decades with the land-holdings of MCI, the boundaries have been drawn following, to the west/southwest, a service road and a maintenance path, respectively. At the northwestern edge, the boundary leaves the service road at a point 120 feet from the southeast corner of the Main Operations Building to follow a line of convenience 100 feet parallel to the rear of that building northwest to meet the northwestern property line. See attached topo and site maps.

Boundary Justification:

The property boundaries were selected to encompass all of the historic buildings of the wireless station complex and are the boundaries for the contiguous portion of the station property which contain all buildings of historical significance. The nomination does not include portions of the property that do not contain buildings or structures that are at least fifty years of age, nor portions of the original property which are not contiguous with the nominated property. See attached maps. The noncontiguous parcels once contained antenna towers and are now in separate ownership.

(end)

**Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham (Barnstable County), Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

<u>MAP/PARCEL MHC#</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
(1976 Assessor's)						
11J/ 150/98	Main Operations Building	847 Orleans Road	1914	C	Utilitarian	B
11J/ 150/98	Powerhouse	784 Orleans Road	1914	C	Utilitarian	B
11J/ 150/98	Garage	north of Powerhouse	1914	C	Utilitarian	B
11J/ 150/98	Antenna Tower	behind garage	1921	C	Utilitarian	St
11J/ 150/98	Antenna Tower	near Operations Building	1921	C	Utilitarian	St
11J/ 150/98	Antenna Tower	end of Ryder's Cove Road	1921	C	Utilitarian	St
11J/ 150/98	Batchelor's Quarters/Hotel	831 Orleans Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Single Family Residence	589 Old Comers Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Single Family Residence	595 Old Comers Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Single Family Residence	563 Old Comers Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Single Family Residence	568 Old Comers Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Single Family Residence	576 Old Comers Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Single Family Residence	579 Old Comers Road	1914	C	Craftsman	B
11J/ 150/98	Shed/Engine House	west of Operations Building	1950s	NC	Utilitarian	B
11J/ 150/98	Sewage Filter Beds	west of Operations Building	1950s	NC	Utilitarian	St
TOTAL RESOURCES:	13 Contributing,	2 Noncontributing				
	10 Contributing Buildings	1 Noncontributing Building				
	3 Contributing Structures	1 Noncontributing Structure				



**Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham, Massachusetts**

National Register District Boundary

[1990 Base Map Prepared for Town of Chatham by East Coast Mapping, Concord, N.H.]



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Marconi--RCA Wireless Receiving Station

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Barnstable

DATE RECEIVED: 7/18/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/02/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/18/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/01/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000996

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: Y

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8/30/94 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Historically and architecturally significant district
associated with the early history of wireless transmissions.
This facility played an important role in the history of ship-to-shore
communications.*

RECOM. / CRITERIA Accept A&C
REVIEWER Patricia Andrus
DISCIPLINE Historic
DATE 8/30/94

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect -
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Marcconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham, Massachusetts
Photo # 1: Main Operations Building

MARCONI-RCA WIRELESS RECEIVING STATION
OLD COMERS RD ; ORLEANS RD.
CHATHAM (BARNSTABLE CTY.)
MASS.

PHOTO: NORMAN PACUN

DATE: NOV. 93

LOC. OF NEG.: CHATHAM HIST. COMM.

VIEW: MAIN OPERATIONS BUILDING
FACING WEST

PHOTO # 1 OF 5



NO
PARKING
ON
PAVEMENT

MARCONI-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham, Massachusetts

Photo # 2: Powerhouse

MARCONI-RCA WIRELESS RECEIVING STATION
OLD COMERS RD ; ORLEANS RD
CHATHAM (BARNSTABLE CTY)
MASS.

PHOTO: NORMAN PALUN

DATE: NOV 93

LOC. OF NEG.: CHATHAM HIST. COMM.

VIEW: POWERHOUSE
FACING EAST

PHOTO # 2 OF 5



Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham, Massachusetts

Photo # 3 Bachelors' Quarters/Hotel

MARCONI-RCA WIRELESS RECEIVING STATION
OLD COMERS RD ; ORUEANS RD
CHATHAM (BARNSTABLE CTY)
MASS.

PHOTO: NORMAN PALUN
DATE: NOV. 93

LOC. OF NEG.: CHATHAM HIST. COMM.

VIEW: BACHELORS QUARTERS / HOTEL
FACING EAST

PHOTO # 3 OF 5



Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station

Chatham, Massachusetts

Photo #4: 589 Orleans Road

MARCONI · RCA WIRELESS RECEIVING STATION
OLD COMERS RD ; ORLEANS RD
CHATHAM (BARNSTABLE CTY)
MASS.

PHOTO: NORMAN FOXLON

DATE: NOV. 93

LOC. OF NEG.: CHATHAM HIST. COMM.

VIEW: 589 ORLEANS RD
FACING SOUTHEAST

PHOTO # 4 OF 5



Marconi-REA Wireless Receiving Station
Chatham, Massachusetts
Photo # 5: 595 Orleans Road

MARCONI. REA WIRELESS RECEIVING STATION
OLD LOMERS RD & ORLEANS RD
CHATHAM (BARNSTABLE TWP)
MASS.

PHOTO: NORMAN PALUN

DATE: NOV. 93

LOC. OF NEG.: CHATHAM HIST. COMM.

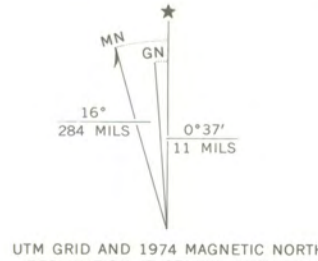
VIEW: 595 ORLEANS RD
FACING SOUTH

PHOTO # 5 OF 5

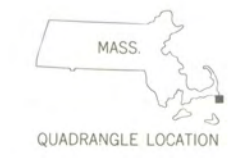
MARCONI-RCA WIRELESS
RECEIVING STATION
CHATHAM (BARNSTABLE CNT)
MASSACHUSETTS
UTM REF. POINTS 1-6



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1940. Revised
from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1974
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS 257 (1972) and
270 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 6.7 FEET IN
ATLANTIC OCEAN AND 3.9 FEET IN NANTUCKET SOUND



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

CHATHAM, MASS.
N4137.5—W6952.5/7.5
1974

AMS 7067 III NW—SERIES W814



July 5, 1994

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127



Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Marconi-RCA Wireless Receiving Station, Old Comers Road and Orleans Road, Chatham (Barnstable County), Massachusetts, 02633.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Norman Pacun, Chairman, Chatham Historical Commission
Jeffery Fryar, Chairman, Chatham Board of Selectmen
Virginia Adams & Amy McFetters-Krone, The Public Archaeology Lab.
Barbara Siemer, MCI International, Inc.
Kenneth Lassing, MCI International, Inc.
William G. Constable, Attorney at Law
Paul McGinley, McGinley Hart & Associates
Margaret Swanson, Planner, Town of Chatham
Sarah Korjeff, Planner, Cape Cod Commission