RCA Projection TV

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In the late 1940s, television was an exciting new thing. This bulky projection television set used electronics purchased from RCA. A local company made and sold these custom-made sets in small quantities. The tall enclosure would have been out of place for home use. A model like this one would have been purchased by a bar or restaurant to attract customers. Experience showed that a bar with a television set would have standing room only crowds for sporting events like a world series game or a major boxing match.

The picture quality in these projection sets left much to be desired. The images tended to be dim. With the picture blown up to this large size, the lack of high definition became quite noticeable. After watching one of these vintage black and white TV's, a circa 1950 viewer would be in total awe of our modern high-definition flat screen color TVs.