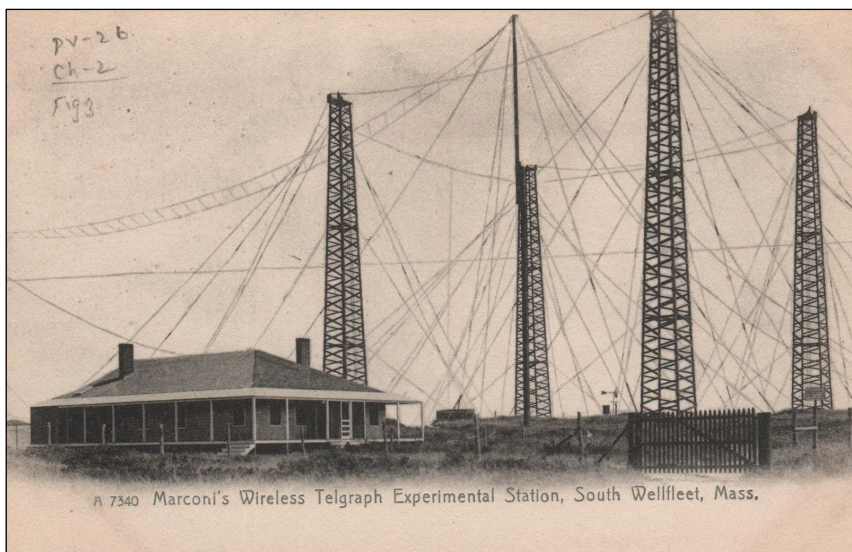




Artifact Showcase

Marconi's South Wellfleet Station

Marconi's wireless station at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, which opened in 1902, was the first successful trans-Atlantic wireless communication link. Shown here is his second North American station, at South Wellfleet, MA, on the eastern shore of Cape Cod. It opened in January 1902 and was the first to offer regular communication between the U.S. and England.



Both North American stations communicated with Marconi's station at Poldhu in Cornwall, U. K.

As can be seen in this early 20th century postcard in the museum's collection, four 210-foot wooden towers supported the huge antenna.

The station was abandoned in 1920. By then RCA had taken over American Marconi and the spark transmitters at South Wellfleet had been made obsolete by the high power alternators that RCA was installing on Long Island. In recent years the cliff on which the station was located has eroded such that most remains of the station have fallen into the sea.

The site was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. Today it houses an interpretive display pavilion.

We appreciate your support of the museum so that historical artifacts like this one, and the stories that go with them, can be preserved for future generations. THANKS!