Friday, June 12th, 2020

Major Update and Significant Records for Bell System Memorial Site

PHOENIX - The Porticus Centre (BTITPC), has scanned, documented, and uploaded a significant amount of historical annual reports from the inception of The American Bell Telephone Company, which was the precursor to The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. 1881 is the first annual report that began an endeavor that lasted until the divestiture of The Bell System in 1983.

- 1881 through 1887 The American Bell Telephone Company Annual Reports
- 1889 through 1899 The American Telephone & Telegraph Co Annual Reports
- 1970 through 1987 The American Telephone & Telegraph Co Annual Reports

We have endeavored to make sure that our reports are searchable to the best of our ability, and with high quality scanning techniques.

Our goal is to catch up on a significant backlog of historical materials in our archives that we need to get scanned and uploaded to our archival servers. We will be doing the scanning and documentation in phases to fill in gaps in the online database.

The support that we have received at The Porticus Centre has been tremendous, and a special thank you to those that have taken the time and effort to send us materials of historical importance from AT&T, Beatrice Foods Co., and Borden Company. It is greatly appreciated, and your efforts go further to help us preserve a piece of history that would otherwise be tossed aside in our digital world.

Our timeline is as follows to compile and archive digitally various materials:
1) AT&T Annual Reports – 1988 through 1995 (1985, 1993, and 1994 annual reports are missing from our archives)

2) AT&T Annual Reports – 1939 through 1949; 1954 through 1969

3) Miscellaneous phone company employee magazines; Pacific Telephone Magazine; Mountain States Monitor; Illinois Bell Magazine. Various years will be made available, dating back to around 1913.

4) We also make available immediately, advertisements from magazines for both Borden, Beatrice, and AT&T (Bell), as those are quick and easy to upload, and will be added to the appropriate sections for advertisements on the associated sites within Porticus.

As always, check for the “What’s New” section on our historical sites for detailed information on what changes have been made.

About The Porticus Centre

The Porticus Centre, a business unit of Beatrice Technologies, Inc. (www.porticus.org), is an on-line historical business archival system that enables businesses, universities, libraries, and museums, to store, retrieve, and feature, through secure or open network connections, their historical documentation. Our main archives consist of AT&T (Bell System), GTE (General Telephone System), Beatrice Foods Co., and Borden Company. The Porticus Centre relies on donations of materials, but on occasion, we will acquire materials to fill gaps in our archives.