

# Long Lines site: Holts Summit, Missouri

- **Common Language Identifier:** HLSMMO
- **Coordinates:** 38°39'37.61" N, 92°7'21.57" W (38.660447 N, 92.122658 W)
- **County:** Callaway
- **Callsign:** KAI79 (inactive)
- **Antenna Structure Registration (ASR):** [1005497](#)
- **Height (overall):** 85.3 meters (280 feet)
- **Current owner:** Subcarrier Communications Inc.
- **Currently in use?** unknown
- **Horn antennas?** Yes (four KS-15676 antennas, one “cornucopia” Gabriel horn, one shrouded parabolic)
- **Original hops:** [Prairie Home](#), [Hermann](#)
- **Later hops:** [Jefferson City \(CO; TV only\)](#), Kingdom City

AT&T constructed a remote unmanned microwave relay facility in Holts Summit for its Kansas City-St. Louis microwave route [in 1953](#) for relaying telephone circuits and television broadcasts. The site consists of a 280-foot self-supported tower that would have originally held four delay-lens antennas mounted on the top platform that were replaced with the common KS-15676 antennas sometime in the early 1960s. These antennas were used for telephone/television route hops northwest to Prairie Home, and east to Hermann. Sometime later, another KS-15676 horn-reflector antenna was added lower on the tower, aimed southwest to the [Jefferson City central office](#), for a television-only spur route. (Oddly, Jefferson City’s only television station — KRCG-TV — has its studio and transmitter north-northeast of the site in nearby New Bloomfield.)

Later in the 1970s, an additional microwave relay hop was added — this time to the north, at the Kingdom City site along the Kansas City-St. Louis cable route. The site has long been redeveloped, with a “new” cell tower located south of where the AT&T base station once sat. According to Google Street View imagery, Kingdom City’s base station — which was nearly identical to the [Aullville](#) station except its windows were still installed — was demolished between 2008 and 2013, when it was replaced by an empty lot next to the cell tower.

Today, three of the five KS-15676 antennas remain on the tower. One of the KS-15676 horns pointed toward Prairie Home was replaced with a newer “cornucopia” Gabriel horn. Another “cornucopia” horn was added sometime later below the top platform aimed at Prairie Home, likely for spatial diversity. Likewise, a shrouded parabolic antenna was added on the Hermann hop likely for the same reason. The lower KS-15676 horn for the Jefferson City spur hop has been removed, along with the Kingdom City antennas.

According to multiple accounts shared on the AT&T Long Lines Facebook Group, one of the KS-15676 horns (possibly the one for the Prairie Home hop replaced with a newer Gabriel model)

## HORNS ACROSS MISSOURI: Holts Summit

was repurposed as playground equipment for the Central Speedway racetrack formerly located across the street from the site. Evan Glen Brendel shared this story along with [photos listed below](#):

“Some photos I stole from the capital speedway group from holts summit Missouri. It’s all bulldozed over and is a subdivision now. But the tower is still there. If you look at the lower white section horn it changed in a few pics and then it’s gone. I’d bet the bottom ks15676 was replaced and it made its way over to the race track as playground equipment. We used to play on one over there as kids when our parents watched the races.”

—Evan Glen Brendel

At the base of the tower are three separate buildings. As with all sites along the Kansas City-St. Louis route, the base station is a concrete block building painted white with four glass block windows at the top. (One of the windows had been used to run ductwork inside the building from a package unit mounted on the roof.) The base station had been extended at some point on its southern side. At the northwestern corner of the base station is a smaller white block building (equipment shed) whose roof has collapsed, and next to it is the site outhouse.

A thick treeline along the site’s eastern property boundary, along Greenway Drive, previously hid most of the site from view on the street. However, sometime around 2022-23 the trees and vegetation had been removed — making the site and its buildings completely visible from the street. (The site was still heavily surrounded by vegetation when I stopped by the site in August 2021. However, Google Street View imagery showed the site being cleared in June 2024.)

During an Oct. 2, 2024, visit to the site, the smaller white block equipment shed was full of old Western Electric equipment — including a “J68345A” transmitter-receiver test set right in the doorway. Unfortunately, the equipment has been exposed to the elements for years, and critters such as spiders, wasps and who-knows-what-else have called the equipment enclosures and the shed itself home. The purpose of the shed is unknown, although it does have a RF warning label on the door.

Subcarrier Communications, of Old Bridge, New Jersey, owns the Holts Summit site and leases space on the tower to wireless communication providers.

### **Online site page:**

<https://personal.garrettfuller.org/blog/att-long-lines/missouri-long-lines-sites/long-lines-site-holts-summit-mo/>

**Photos: October 2, 2024**



*Site as viewed from Greenway Drive.*



HORNS ACROSS MISSOURI: Holts Summit



*The antennas facing the camera from this angle are aimed toward Prairie Home. The opposing side is aimed toward Hermann.*

## Historic photos

*Courtesy to Evan Glen Brendel for sharing these photos.*



*The Capital Speedway race track seen with the Holts Summit site (top right corner). The race track has since been replaced with a residential neighborhood. Horn-reflector antennas aimed at Jefferson City and Kingdom City are seen on the tower, along with the Prairie Home and Hermann antennas.*

## HORNS ACROSS MISSOURI: Holts Summit



*The tower appears in the background of an earlier photo of the entrance gate to Capital Speedway. The Kingdom City antennas have not yet been installed, but an antenna aimed at Jefferson City is clearly visible on the lower right section of the tower. The antennas at top left are aimed at Prairie Home, top right are aimed at Hermann. Also note the lack of shrouded parabolic antennas for spacial diversity.*