

Long Lines site: Aullville, Missouri

- **Common Language Identifier:** AUVLMO
- **Coordinates:** 38°59'29.70" N, 93°41'00.10" W (38.99158 N, 93.68336 W)
- **County:** Lafayette
- **AT&T call sign:** KAR87
- **Antenna Structure Registration number:** [1005480](#)
- **Height (overall):** 74.1 meters (243.1 feet)
- **Current owner:** State of Missouri (Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network)
- **Current use:** [MOSWIN repeater](#)
- **Horn antennas?** No
- **Original hops:** 1960 — [Dover](#) (telephone only), [Holden](#) (telephone only)
- **Later hops:** 1979 — Knob Noster CO

If you've ever driven from St. Louis to Kansas City along Interstate 70, you've passed by this site.

Between the Higginsville and Concordia exits on I-70 is an ornate brick building that was once used as a repeater for AT&T's cable and microwave long distance networks. Built sometime in the early 20th century along the Kansas City-St. Louis cable route that followed the I-70 corridor, its history prior to joining the Long Lines microwave relay network is unfortunately unknown outside of it being a cable repeater site.

However, it is known a 240-foot tower was built in August 1958 to support two pairs of KS-15676 horn-reflector antennas. Unlike the Kansas City-St. Louis cable route that Aullville supported, the telephone-only microwave relay route initially ran from the [La Cygne, Kansas](#), site to Dover. In the early 1960s, this route was later extended to Helena.

In the 1970s, a third telephone-only hop was added — this time to the telephone central office in Knob Noster.

Tim Souder, a former AT&T technician, said many in the Bell System were fond of the building. One was Wendell Olson, who lived in nearby Concordia and was featured in the 1999 AT&T Retirees story "[Tower Power](#)" of AT&T's divestiture of the Long Lines towers to American Tower.

The State of Missouri currently owns the site for its [Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network](#) (MOSWIN), a Project 25 trunked radio system used by public safety agencies throughout the state. No MOSWIN equipment is located inside the former AT&T building. Instead, MOSWIN repeater equipment is installed in a new base station located at the tower base.

McCullough Comsites

The tower was previously owned by the McCullough Comsites Corporation, who purchased many former Long Lines sites and rented out tower space. [McCullough had this listed on their \[archived\] website \(circa 2001.\)](#) They also had [photos of the site](#) listed from 2001.

HORNS ACROSS MISSOURI: Aullville

LOCATION

Aullville, Missouri. Twenty-Five miles east of Kansas City, MO on I-70 just west of the intersection of I-70 and Hwy T, in Lafayette County, MO.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Real estate consists of a 213' x 350' lot containing 1.71 acres, m/l, bordered on the north by the outer road (old Hwy 40) and on the west by Tower Road (probably named after the property). East and south side are fenced, north and west sides are open to the roads. A private asphalted driveway enters the property. Property contains one building and one large self-supported tower with a chain-link fence enclosing the tower area.

BUILDING & TOWER

Building is approximately 70' x 80' with red brick exterior. There is one front entry (double steel doors), one rear entry, and one exterior stairwell leading to a set of double doors entering the basement. Building has a full basement. Main level has a large equipment room which once housed extensive microwave transceivers, restrooms, various storage and janitorial rooms, and mechanical equipment spaces. Ceiling is approximately 16' high. The foyer has a stairwell leading to the basement where additional mechanical equipment is located (Diesel generator, heating & AC, pumps, filters, power switching, etc.). Also, there is a large empty equipment area in the basement. Ceiling height in the basement is approximately 13'. Building exterior once contained windows which have been covered by brick. Grounds were well landscaped and nicely maintained during the time AT&T owned the property. The tower is a massive 4-legged self support (no guy wires) structure with a strobe beacon on top. All the microwave dishes have been removed.

Online site page:

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

HORNS ACROSS MISSOURI: Aullville

Photos: September 17, 2021



Site seen from the northwest on Old U.S. 40 and Tower Road. Tower Road was likely named after the tower was erected in 1958.

HORNS ACROSS MISSOURI: Aullville



A closeup of the front, with its stunning and somewhat unusual — for a telephone relay office — architectural features.