Coulsdon Art Trail Gains Another Finial



The latest finial to join the Coulsdon Art Trail commemorates Logie Baird's Transatlantic TV transmission from his chief engineer Benjamin Clapp's house in Warwick Road Coulsdon to Hartsdale a village near New York in the USA. The finial is situated on the corner of Chipstead Valley Road and Woodcote Grove Road.

It is the eighth finial in a series of twelve. Commemorating history of Coulsdon. The other will added be as soon as we can raise the funds.



In February 1928 Logie Baird and Benjamin Clapp developed the idea of using wireless transmission for TV transmission. To prove this, they decided to transmit a broadcast from London to New York. In their London laboratory studio, a man and a woman sat before an electric eye. The pictures were transmitted by telephone to Benjamin Clapp's house in Warwick Road Coulsdon, where he had a 200ft Radio mast running round the garden on a number of large polls from there by wireless using short wave radio to New York (*amazingly this only required 2KW of power*). On their journey back to the UK on board the Cunard liner Berengaria they set up their equipment and successfully made the first ship to shore TV transmission via the ship radio.



Benjamin Clapp's Warwick Road back garden *(source Pathe News)*

The Following Youtube video of Pathe News "Seeing by Wireless" www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_vZEiz1ibk has a picture of the machinery and the Arial set up Benjamin Clapp's back garden (*if he had planning permission is unknown).*

If you would like to know more the following web site has all the technical information about Logie Baird's TV system. https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=8726186

If you would like to make a donation to the future finials please contact East Coulsdon RA on info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk

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