

WGBH-TV



Remington Rand Inc.

BRANCHES EVERYWHERE

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REMOVABLE LABEL GUIDE

Cat. No. 4550L

Patent No. 1390199

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

First Program: 3-24-55 (Started 5-2-55)
per atty.

NON-COMM ED TV B/C

Date first licensed 7-6-56 (Official #2)

Call letters WGBH-TV
(Station Loc: Boston, Mass.)

Name of licensee WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Transmitter location 350 Cedar St., Needham, Mass. (B7ET-237 11-17-65)
X Top of Great Blue Hill, near Milton, Massachusetts

125 Western Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts (BMLET-9 10-10-63)
 Temp. Studio: 25 Granby Street, Boston, Mass (LTR. 1-10-62 re fire on 10-14-61)
 X 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. (B7PET-35, 5-13-54) (Lic. 7-6-56)
 X To be determined (B7PET-26 4-1-54)
 Main studio location X Symphony Hall, Huntington Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From To
BPET-40	7-15-53	Ch. 2 54 - 60 Mcs.	V-55kw A-27.5kw	U	9-15-53 3-15-54
Construction permit for a new non-commercial educational television b/c station.					
BNPET-26	4-1-54	Same	Vis-56.2 Aur-33.9	Same	9-15-53 9-15-54
Mod CP(BPET-40) to chg ERP, SL, slight chg in Ant site & co-ordinates, (but not description) & other equipment chgs.					
BNPET-28	3-15-54	Same	Same	Same	9-15-53 9-15-54
Mod. of CP(BPET-40) to extend comp. date.					
BNPET-35	5-18-54	same	same	same	9-15-53 11-18-54
Mod CP(BPET-40 as mod) to chg. SL, & request waiver of Sec. 3.613 of the Comm. Rules					
BNPET-54	11-4-54	Same	Same	Same	9-15-53 5-18-55
Mod. CP(BPET-40 as mod) to extend completion date					
WIRE	1-26-55	STATION providing service acc. BPET-54, pending filing lic. appl. Wire Comm. when reg. operation begins (Period ending 5-18-55)			
BLET-2	7-6-56	Ch. 2 54-60mcs.	V.56.2kw A-33.9kw (660')	U	7-6-56 4-1-57
License to cover CP(BPET-40, as mod.).					
BRET-2	7-11-57	same	same	same	7-11-57 4-1-60
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BPET-74	8-6-58	CH # 2 54-60	V-100 kw A- 50 kw	U	10-6-58 4-6-59
CP to make chgs. ERP, Trans., Install pow amp, etc.					
WIRE	11-5-58	LIC. APPL. BLET-35, AUTH. GR. OPR. WGBH-TV ON PROGRAM TEST ACCORD. SECTION 3.629 RULES & CP BPET-74 ADVISE.			
-/BEGAN 11-9-58					
BLET-35	1-17-59	CH #2 54-60	V-100 kw A-50 kw	U	1-17-59 4-1-60
License to cover CP (BPET-74).					
BRET-2	3-30-60	same	same	same	4-1-60 4-1-63
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					
BRET-2	3-11-63	Same	Same	Same	4-1-63 4-1-66
RENEWAL OF LICENSE					

Form BC 126
June 1954

Non-Comm. ED TV

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters WGBH-TV

Station location BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Name of licensee WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Transmitter location SEE CARD # 1

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From To
BMLET-9	10-10-63	same	same	same	10-10-63
Mod. of License to chg. studio location	4-1-66				
WIRE	10-28-65	REURLET 27.	AUTH. GRANTED	WGBH-TV TO	
CONDUCT EXPERIMENTAL BROADCAST IN COOPERATION WITH THE FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY CERTAIN GROUND RADAR PRESENTATION FOR RECEPTION BY AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT AS DESCRIBED IN YOUR REQUEST. SUCH BROADCAST SHALL BE LIMITED TO NON-SCHEDULED PROGRAM HOURS AND BE ACCOMPANIED BY PERIODIC AURAL ANNOUNCEMENTS TO INFORM INCIDENTAL VIEWER THAT TRANSMIS- SIONS ARE FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSES ONLY. THIS AUTH. EXPIRES 11-30-65.					
WIRE	5-25-66	PENDING COMPLETION	CONSTRUCTION ACCORD.		
BPET-237	FILING LIC APPL. EXT. AUTH. GR. OPERATE WGBH-TV TEMP. PER. END. 7-17-66 WITH AURAL POWER 16% LICENSED VIS. POWER. NOTE THAT EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS AUTH. CORRESPONDS TO EXPIRATION DATE OF CP.				
BPET-237	11-17-65	CH.#2	V-50 Kw	U	1-17-66
AH: 104.0		54-60	A-5 kw	MSL: 1349	7-17-66
CP to chg. ERP, TL, SL, type of antenna, AH					
WIRE	6-3-66	PENDING COMPLETION	CONSTRUCTION ACCORD.		
BPET-237	AUTH. GR. OPER. WGBH-TV AT PRESENT SITE ACCORD. ABOVE-REFERENCED LETTERS. UPON COMPLETION CONSTRUCTION AND PENDING FILING LIC. APPL. AUTH. GR. OPERATE WGBH-TV TEMP. PER. END. 7-17-66 IN EXACT ACCORD. WITH BPET-237 NOTE THAT EXP. DATE OF THIS AUTH. CORRESPONDS TO EXP. DATE OF CP. ADVISE WHEN OPER. COMMENCES UNDER EACH STEP OF THIS AUTH.				
BPET-424	7-27-66	same	same	same	1-16-66
Mod. of CP (BPET-237) to extend completion date					1-27-67
WIRE	1-20-67	RE TENDERED LIC. APPLI.	AUTH. GR.		
OPER. WGBH-TV ON PROG. TEST ACCORD. SEC. 73.629 RULES AND CP BPET-424.					
BLT-164	11-7-67	Ch. 2	V. 50	U	11-7-67
		54-60	A. 5		4-1-69
Lic. to CP VER CP (BPET-237 as mod)					

Form BC 126

June 1954

#3

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters W.G.B.H.

Station location Boston, Mass.

Name of licensee W.G.B.H. EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

SEE CARD #1

Transmitter location

Main studio location

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To
LETTER BY COM. 9-23-68 GR. WAIVER OF SEC. 73.651(C) FOR PERIOD END. 4-1-69 RE IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING.					
BRET-2	3-26-69	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			4-1-72
BPET-349	10-29-70	Ch. 2 V. 50 kw		U	12-29-70
H: 1040' MSL: 1349'	54-60	A. 5 kw			4-29-72
CP install precise carrier freq. control system					
WIRE	11-10-71	PENDING FIL. OF AND COMM. ACTION ON			
LIC. APPLI. AUTH. GR. OPER. TEMP. PER. END. 12-11-71					COORD
CP BPET-349					
WIRE	12-10-71	RE TENDERED LIC. APPLI. AUTH. GR.			
OPER. ON PTA ACCORD CP BPET-349.					
BLET-296	1-18-72	Ch. 2 V. 50.1		U	1-18-72
AH: 1040' MSL: 1349'	54-60	A. 5.01			4-1-72
LIC. (BPCT-349) chg.					
Ltr.	4-2-72	Re in-school programming			4-1-75
EBSA	5-15-72				
BRET-2	5-25-72	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (S)			4-1-75
Wire	5-22-72	Auth. gtd. simultly. b/cst. ID of WGBH-TV			
& WGBX-TV per. 6-2-72 thru 6-11-72.					
BSET-2	8-29-72	to correct ostruction markings (L)			
Wire	4-26-73	Waiver of Sect. 73.1201(c) rules gtd.			
	4-25-73	to permit simul. b/c i.d. of stations			
	6-10-73	for per. during annual auction 6-1-73 thru.			
BRCETV-59	2-28-74	Remote control authority			
(1)					
BPET-481	9-13-74	Ch. 2 V. 87.1 kW			11-13-74
AH: 1040' MSL: 1349'	54-60	A. 17.4 kW			3-13-76
CP to chg. ERP & trans.					
Wire	5-16-75	Auth. grtd. simultaneously b/cst			
station id. of WGBH-TV & WGBX-TV per. 5-30-75 thru 6-8-75					
accord. your req. of 3-13-75.					
BPET-864	3-23-76	To extend completion date			
(1)		to:			9-23-76

Form BC 126
June 1954

4

NON-COMM ED TV

BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed

Call letters WGBH-TV

Station location Boston, Mass.

Name of licensee WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Transmitter location SEE CARD NO. 1

Main studio location SEE CARD NO. 1

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From To
BMPET-873 (2)	10-14-76	MP(BPET-481 as mod)	to		4-14-77
extend completion date					
WIRE	9-15-77	Re tendered lic. appl., auth. grtd. oper. WGBH main trans. and ant. on program test accord. Section. 73.629 rules and BPET-481 as modified.			
BRBT-2	12-16-77	Renewal of License (S)			4-1-78
BRET-2	7-20-78	Renewal of License (S)			4-1-81
BLET-422	9-18-78	Ch-2	V-87.1kW	Unl.	9-18-78
AH:1040' MSL:1349'		54-60	A-8.71kW	RC	4-1-81
Lic. to cover (BPET-481 as mod.) for chgs.					

Jansky & Bailey, Engr.
Washington, D. C.

Card # 2

FORM A-170

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Non-Commercial TV b/c

Educational

Call

Letters WGBH-TV

Name WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Boston, Mass.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BNPET-26 Rec'd & filed	2-9-54 2-15-54	Modification of CP (BNPET-40 which auth. a new Non-Commercial Educational TV b/c station) to change ERP from Vis. 55 KW Aur. 27.5 KW to Vis. 56.75 KW, Aur. 34.04 KW. studio location from Symphony Hall, Boston, Mass. to "To be determined, Boston, Mass. Make slight change in antenna site & Coordinates (but not description) and other equipment changes. Also request for extension of completion date from 3-15-54 to 11-15-54. Filed by Ernest W. Jennes, Atty.	GRANTED	4-1-54
BNPET-28 Rec'd Filed	3-10-54 3-11-54 3-11-54	Mod. of CP (BNPET-40) which authorized a new Non-Commercial Educational TV b/c Station for extension of completion date from 3-15-54 to 11-15-54. Filed by E. W. Jennes, Atty.	GRANTED	3-15-54

Card # 3

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Non-Comm Educational TV B/C

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call
Letters WGBH-TVName WGBH Educational Foundation
Boston, Mass.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMPET-35 Recd & filed	5-3-54 5-11-54	Modification of construction permit (BPET-40 as modified which authorized a new Non-commercial Educational TV broadcast station) to change Studio location from "To be determined", Boston, Mass. to 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. and request waiver of Sec. 3.613 of the Commission's Rules. Filed by Ernest W. Jennes, Atty.	GRANTED	5-18-54
BMPET-54 Recd & filed	10-20-54 10-21-54	Mod. of CP (BPET-40 as mod. which auth. a new Non-Comm. Educa. TV b/c station) to extend completion date from 11-18-54 to 5-18-55 Filed by Ernest W. Jennes, Atty.	GRANTED	11-4-54

FORM A-170

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

FORMERLY FCC FORM 94

Call
Letters **WGBH-TV**Name **WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**
Boston, Massachusetts

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLST-2 Recd. & Filed	4-29-55 5-3-55	License to cover CP (BPET-40, as mod.) which authorized a new Non-Comm. ED TV B/C Station. Filed by Ernest W. Jenness, Atty.	GRANTED	7-6-56
BRET-2 Recd & filed	12-26-56 12-28-56	Renewal of license Filed by Ernest W. Jenness, Atty.	GRANTED	7-11-57
BPET-74 Recd & Filed	6-16-58 6-24-58	Construction permit to make changes in existing Non-Comm Ed. TV B/C station - change ERP from Vis. 56.2 kw, Aur. 33.9 kw to Vis. 100 kw, Aur. 50 kw - change in transmitters, install power amplifier - and make other equipment changes. (Vis. and Aur. RCA TT-10AL Trans. - RCA TT-25-BL Amplifier) Filed by John V. L. Elliott, Attorney.	GRANTED	8-6-58

card # 5

Form BC-121

Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Non-commercial

Educational TV

Call
Letters WGBH-TVName W G B H EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Boston, Massachusetts

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BLET-35 Recd. & filed	11-3-58 11-4-58	License to cover CP (BPET-74) which authorized changes in existing non commercial educational TV station Covington and Burling-attys.	GRANTED	1-17-59
BRET-2 Recd. & filed	12-31-59 1-4-60	RENEWAL OF LICENSE John V. L. Ellicott, Atty.	GRANTED	3-30-60
BRET-2 Recd. & filed	1-30-63 2-1-63	RENEWAL OF LICENSE James Van R. Springer (Covington & Burling) Atty	GRANTED	3-11-63
BLET-9 Recd. & Filed	9-24-63 10-2-63	Mod. of license to change studio location from 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. TO 125 Western Avenue, Boston, Mass.. James Van R Springer, Atty.	GRANTED	10-10-63

AUG. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

NON-COMM. ED. TV

Call
Letters WGBH-TV

NAME W G B H EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

CH. 2

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPET-237 Recd.&Filed	9-28-65 10-1-65	Construction Permit to change ERP from Vis. 100 kw, Aur. 50 kw To Vis. 50 kw, Aur. 5.0 kw; change transmitter location from Great Blue Hill, Milton, Mass. TO 350 Cedar St., Needham, Mass; change studio location from 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, Mass. TO 125 Western Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts; change type of antenna to RCA CUSTOM-BUILT; change antenna height above average terrain to 1044.5 feet and make other equipment changes. Covington & Burling, Atty.	GRANTED	11-17-65

F. C. C. - WASHINGTON, D. C.

FORM BC-121
Aug. 1955

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

VON-CONG. ED. TV S/C

Call
Letters WEEH-TV

Name W. G. B. H. EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
CH. 2 Boston, Massachusetts

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRET-2 Recd. & Filed	12-16-65 1-3-66	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Covington & Burling, Atty.	GRANTED	3-24-66
BPET-424 Rec. & filed	6-29-66 7-1-66	Mod. of CP (BPCT-237, which authorized changes in existing station) to extend completion date from 7-17-66 to September, 1966. Covington & Burling, Atty.	GRANTED	7-27-66
BLET-164 R & F	1-12-67 1-1-67	License to cover CP (BPET-237, as mod.) which authorized changes in an existing station. Covington & Burling, Atty. (Jonathan D. Blake) Thomas B. Keller, Jr. Engr.	GRANTED	11-7-67
BRET-2 R & F PRESS PN Recd.	12-30-68 1-2-69	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Wm. Malone, Atty. (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	3-26-69

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

NON-COMM. ED. TV

Call
Letters WGBH-TV

Name WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
CH 2 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BPET-349 R & F PRESS	4-14-69	Construction Permit to install a precise carrier frequency control system at the Main Transmitter. William Malone, Atty. (Covington & Burling) HEW application filed 4-16-69 - Sady 4-22-69 HEW application filed 11-2--70	GRANTED	10-29-70
	4-16-69			
	APR 23 1969			
Ltr	10-5--71 OCT 8 1971	Req. waiver of Sec. 73.651(c) of Commission's Rules.		
BLST-296 R & F PRESS	12-7-71	Lic. to cover (BPET-349) for chgs. Atty.: Nicholas W. Fels (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	1-18-72
	12-9-71 DEC 20 1971			
BRE-2 R & F PRESS	12-28-71	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Nicholas Fels (Covington & Burling) Amended 1-31-72 to req. waiver of Sec. 73.651 (c)	GRANTED	5-25-72
	1-3-72			
	1-12-72			

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

NON COMM. ED. TV.

Call
Letters WGBH-TV

Name WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
CH-2 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRCETV-59 R&F PRESS:	12-13-73 1-9-74	Request auth. to oper. trans. by remote control from 125 Western Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. Atty: Nicholas Fels (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	2-28-74
BPET-481 R&F PRESS:	12-14-73 1-9-74	CP to chg. ERP. Vis. 87.2kW; Aur. 17.4kW; chg. type trans. GATES BTD-50L Atty: Nicholas Fels (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	9-13-74

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters

WGBH-TV

Name **WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

CH-2 Boston, Massachusetts

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRET-2 R & F PN Rec'd: PRESS:	11-27-74 12-2-74 12-2-74 JAN 16 1975	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty: Nicholas W. Fels (Covington & Burling) Ltr. 12-20-74 from Nicholas W. Fels clarifying 12-2-74 publication notice - to Barbara Horan 1-20-75.	GRANTED	12-16-77
BMPET-864 R & F no fee required PRESS:	2-17-76 2-19-76 20 MAR 1976	MP (BPET-481) to extend completion date, to 9-1-76. Atty: Robert A. Cantor (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	3-23-76

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER adopted 7-20-78, released 7-31-78 FCC 78-522 95689: In view of the foregoing analysis of petitioner's arguments, it is clear that petitioner has failed to raise any substantial and material question of fact as to whether a grant of WGBH-TV's license renewal application would be prima facie inconsistent with the public interest. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, That the petition to deny the license renewal application of WGBH-TV, filed February 28, 1978, by Morality in Media of Massachusetts, Inc., IS DENIED. Inasmuch as there remains no further impediment to grant, IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, That the license renewal application of Station WGBH-TV, filed December 1, 1978, by WGBH Educational Foundation, IS GRANTED.

Form BC-121
September 1969

#11

NON-COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL TV

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WOBH-TV

Name WOBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Ch. 2 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BMPET-873 R & F Press:	9-7-76 9-9-76 8 8 SEP 1976	MP(BPET-481 as mod) to extend completion date to March 25, 1977 Atty.: Robert A. Cantor (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	10-14-76
BMPET-890 R & F Press:	4-11-77 4-12-77 MAY 1 1977	MP(BPET-481 as mod) to extend completion date to June 1, 1977 Atty: Nicholas W. Fels (Covington & Burling)		
BLET-422 R & F PRESS:	8-16-77 8-22-77 OCT 20 1977	License to cover (BPET-481, as mod.) for changes. Atty: Corrine A. Goldstein (Covington & Burling)	GRANTED	9-18-78

Form BC-121

May 1976

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call
Letters WGBH-TVName WGBH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Ch-2 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRET-2	12-1-77	SUPPLEMENTAL RENEWAL OF LICENSE	GRANTED	7-20-78
R&F	12-1-77	Atty.: Corinne A. Goldstein (Covington &	COMMISSION ACTION	
PN RECD	12-1-77	Burling)		
PRESS	DEC 8 1977			
BRET-	11-25-80	RENEWAL OF LICENSE		
801202KG		ATTY: MICHAEL S. BERNSTEIN	GRANTED	4-30-81
R & F	12-2-80	{COVINGTON AND BURLING}		
PN REC'D	12-2-80			

PETITION TO DENY filed 2-28-78 by Morality In Media of Massachusetts, Inc.

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH TO RESPOND TO PETITION TO DENY filed 3-23-78 by
Covington & Burling on behalf of WGBH Educational Foundation.

OPPOSITION TO PETITION TO DENY filed 4-6-78 by Nicholas Fels on behalf of WGBH

ERRATUM TO OPPOSITION TO PETITION TO DENY filed 4-7-78 by Nicholas Fels on behalf of ~~WGBH~~ WGBH.

REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO PETITION TO DENY filed 4-27-78 by Morality in Media of Massachusetts,
Inc. (orig. only; copy to Ref. Rm.)

About the History Cards ...

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast radio stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file.

TV History Cards were initiated in the early 1940s, with the authorization of the earliest TV stations. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12th Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). Prior to that move, the History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of television station history.

