

RADIO ASTRONOMY AT BELL LABS [INVITED PRESENTATION]

Robert W. Wilson, *Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*.

In the late 1920's Bell Labs started establishing field stations in New Jersey to get away from the electrical noise of New York City and do radio research. They were eventually consolidated in Holmdel, NJ with a charter to improve long distance telephony. I will tell the story of how, with the Bell Labs culture of following up on interesting leads, this industrial lab doing somewhat directed research made three major discoveries in Radio Astronomy