2,300 acres bought for Marin park

The nonprofit Trust for Public Land has announced purchase of 2,300 acres of expensive RCA Global Communications coastal Marin property for eventual inclusion into the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore.

Terms of the multi-million dollar deal were not disclosed, but TPL president Huey Johnson said yesterday the property was sold at a price substantially below the property's fair market value.

He said the acquisition will provide public access to Point Reyes from the south, and includes magnificent vistas and more than a mile of frontage on the Pacific.

Frontage also is provided on both Abbotts Lagoon and Drakes Estuary.

Johnson said the additions open the Bolinas Point headland near the GGNRA's north boundary and increase the recreation area's open beach frontage by two miles.

That gives the GGNRA three miles of "unique and precious property," Johnson said.

The RCA subsidiary said it sold because satellite communications and modern coaxial ocean cables have superceded the high-frequency radio equipment and antenna facilities formerly used on the acreage for communications with the Far East.

Johnson said the land will be transferred to the two national parks "at a savings to the taxpayer at an appropriate time." That means when negotiations are concluded.

Johnson said RCA will continue to use transmitter facilities on a small section of the land while it phases out its land-based facilities.