

# OYSTERS & ESTUARIES: STORIES FROM THE GULF COAST



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[www.southernfoodways.org](http://www.southernfoodways.org)

The Southern Foodways Alliance (SFA) documents, studies, and celebrates the diverse food cultures of the changing American South. We set a common table where black and white, rich and poor—all who gather—may consider our history and our future in a spirit of reconciliation.

A member-supported non-profit, based at the University of Mississippi, we stage symposia on food culture, produce documentary films, collect oral histories, and publish compendiums of great writing.

Since 2002, we have collected more than 700 oral history interviews documenting the foodways of the American South. More than 75 of those interviews were collected in and around communities along the Gulf Coast. These stories have a far-flung impact, helping others to understand the myriad of changes along our stretch of waterfront: from natural disasters and gentrification to the economic, social, and cultural evolution of specific communities. Here are just a few of those stories.

# ROBERT COLLINS

THIRD GENERATION SHRIMP DRIER

LOUISIANA DRIED SHRIMP CO. - GRAND ISLE, LA



[\(LINK\)](#)

A.L. "UNK" QUICK  
OYSTERMAN  
EASTPOINT, FL



[\(LINK\)](#)

FRANK PARKER  
SEVENTH-GENERATION SHRIMPER  
BILOXI, MS



[\(LINK\)](#)

We celebrate the people of the Gulf Coast—the shrimpers and the cast net makers, the boat builders and the po-boy bread bakers. And we thank them for sharing their stories, for they underscore the importance of documentary fieldwork—its value in sharing stories from the past, being introduced to people and communities in the present, and learning from them to affect change for the future.

Please visit our online archive to hear more stories from the working waterfronts and waterways along the Gulf Coast.



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