

Pictures from the book

THE IMMIGRANT OYSTER

by

E. N. STEELE

Pioneer Olympia Oysterman

in cooperation with

PACIFIC COAST OYSTER GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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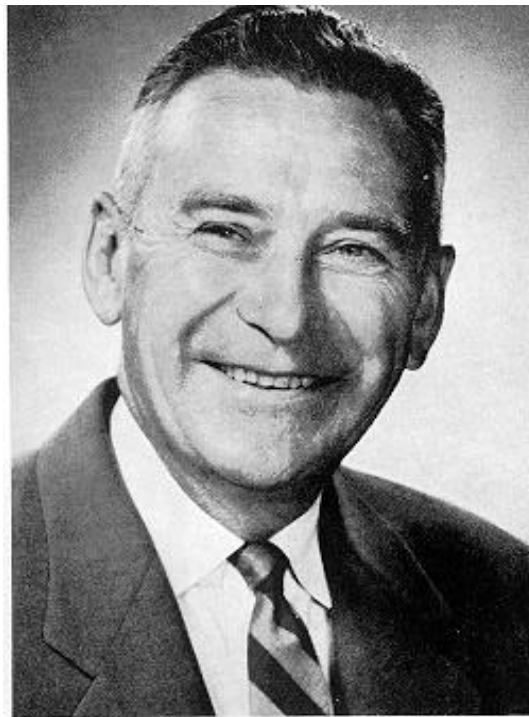
E. N. Steele
Author and Pioneer Oyster Grower



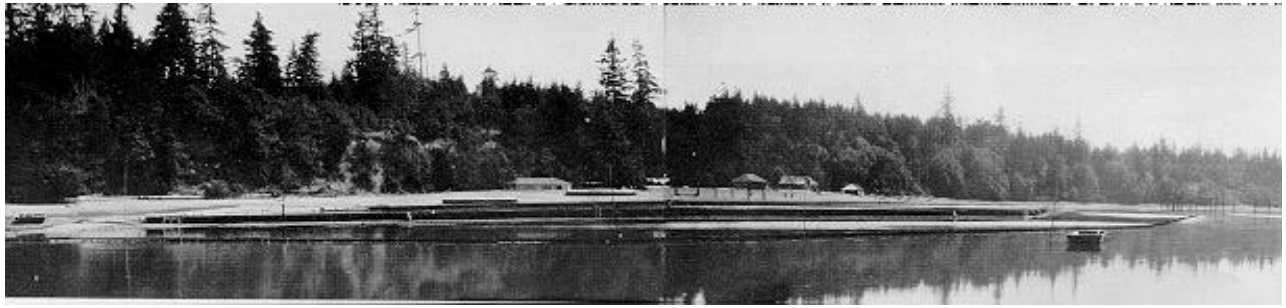
Trevor Kincaid, Sc. D.
Professor Emeritus, U. of W.
For many years, Research Consultant
Washington State Department of Fisheries



Charles R. Pollock, B.C.E., B.S.E.D. C.E.
Secretary of Pacific Coast Oyster Growers Ass'n.



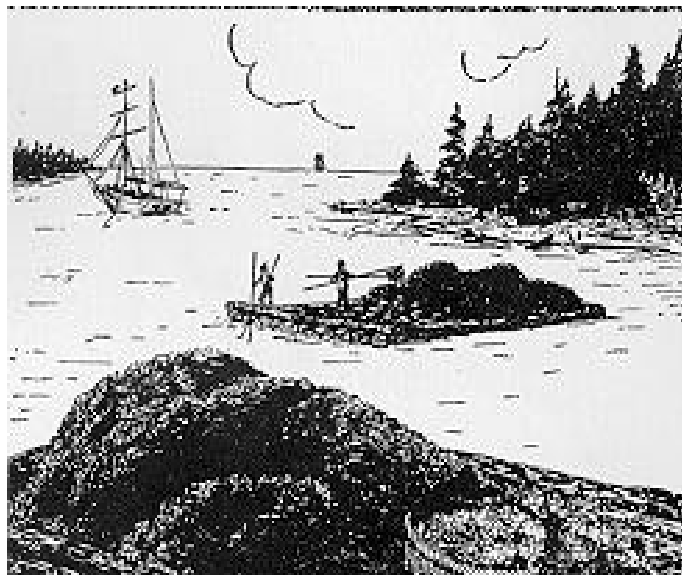
Charles Roy Elsey, M.A. , Ph. D.
Director Research and Development
British Columbia packers Limited



E. N. Steele oyster beds on Oyster Bay, near Olympia, Washington



Natural set Japanese Oysters, Quilcene Bay, 1935, showing 500 young oysters



Perhaps the oldest illustration of oystering on Willapa Harbor in this sketch by an unknown artist, circa 1855 and published in Gerard T. Mogan's leaflet, "Oyster Farming for Profit".



Samish Bay in 1921 showing old sububuran railroad



Unloading Japanese oyster seed



Rock Point Oyster House in 1936



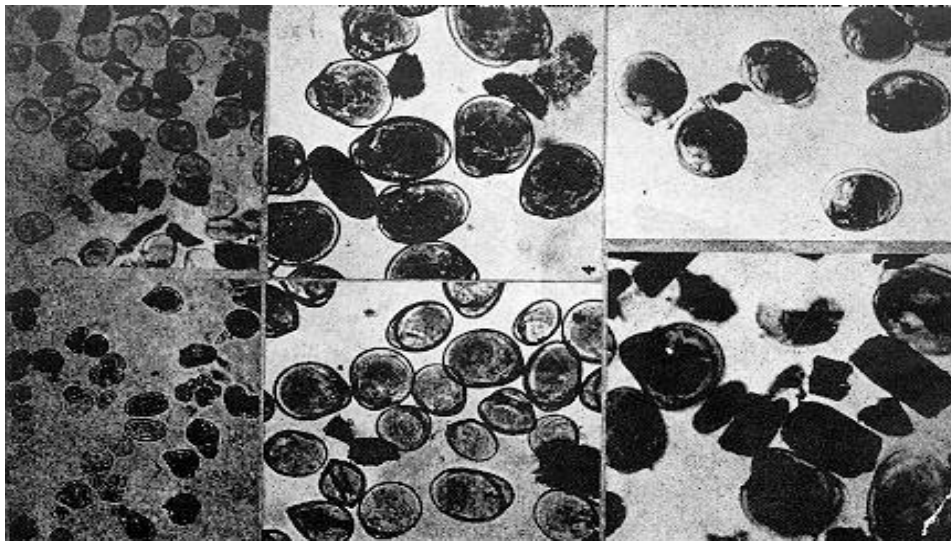
**Adelaide Knauf opens first Oyster House
Sign in front reads "Oysters served today slept
last night in Samish Bay"**



**E. N. Steele Dr. Kincaid John C. Barnes
Inspecting first Pacific Oyster bed.**



Spawning of the Japanese Oyster, taken in August of 1924.



The Pacific Oyster

Up left-larvae in straight hinge

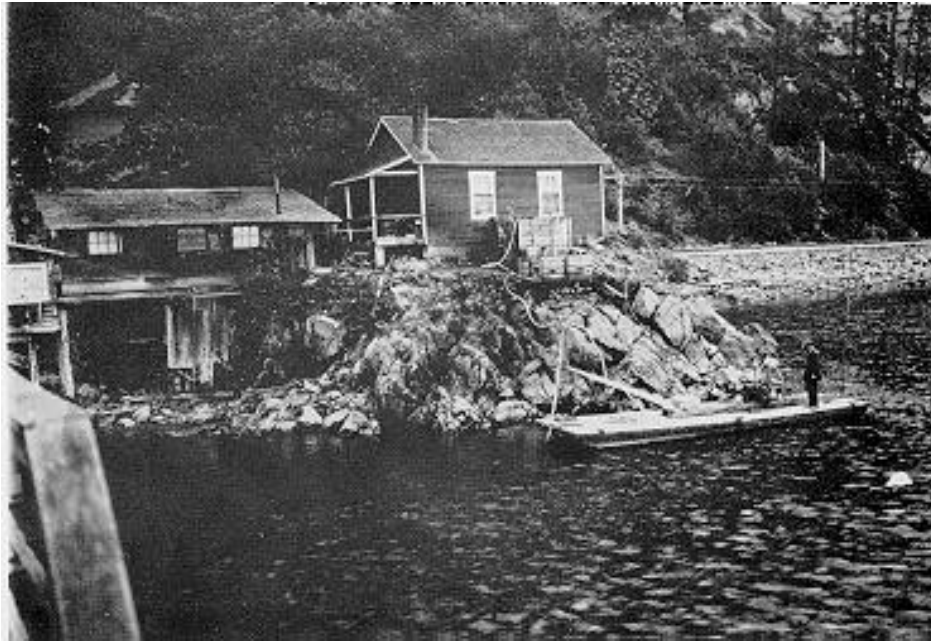
Low left- divided egg-cell

Up center- Advanced umbone

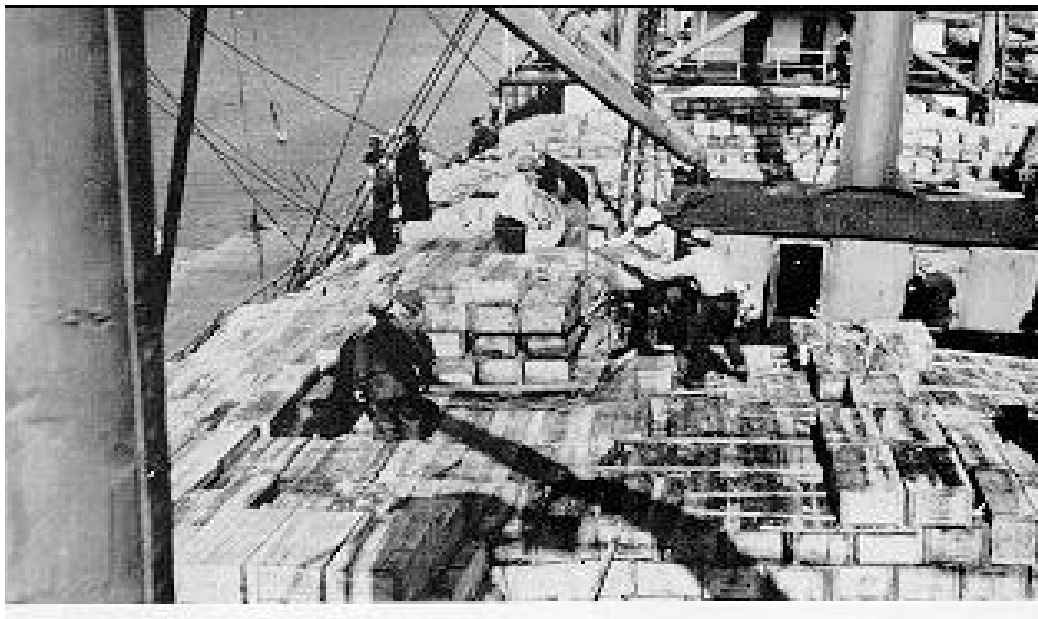
Low center-early umbone stage

Up right- advanced-setting size larvae

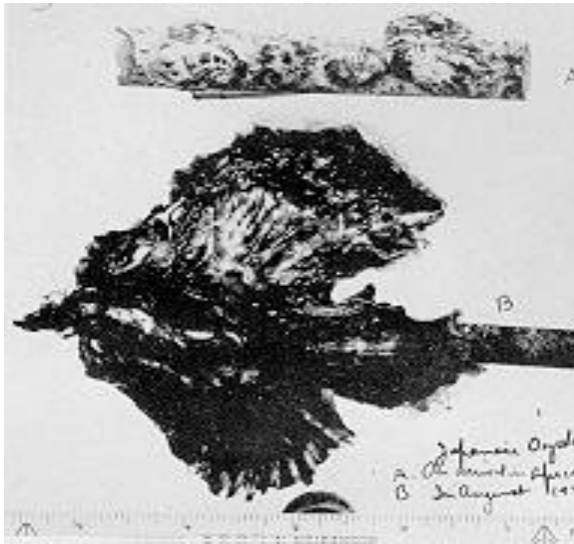
Low right- Willapa native larvae



Dr. Kincaid at Experimental Oyster Hatchery and Laboratory on Samish Bay in August of 1924.



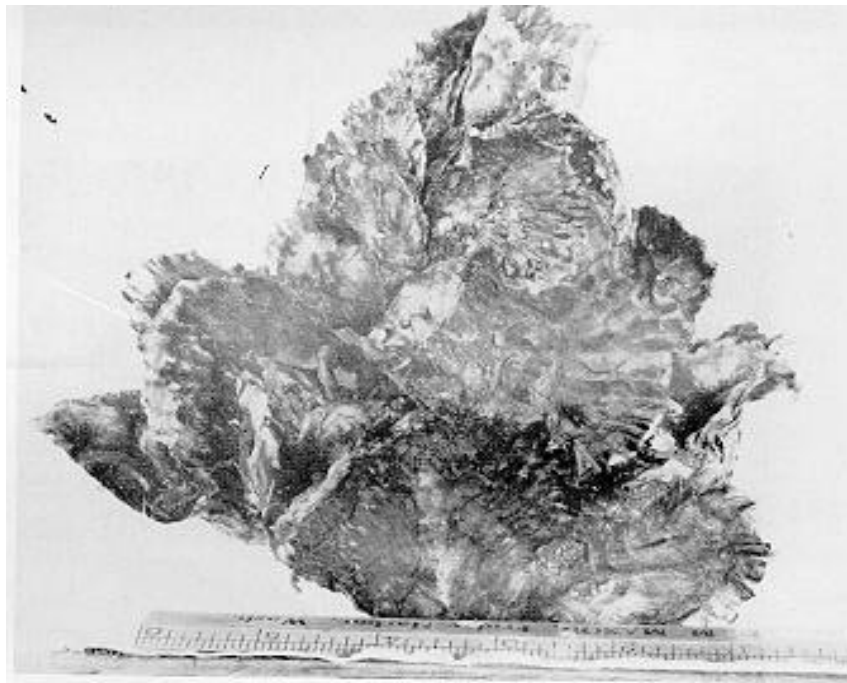
Unloading Oyster Seed from Japan in 1924.



Sample of oyster seed from Japan
(A) taken in April 1924.
(B) same seed in August 1924



The same seed on brush



Cluster of 45 oysters from the same shipment attached to an oyster shell.



Eleven of the many who took prominent parts in activities of the PCOGA, taken in May 1953. Their activities will appear many times in this book. Front row, left to right: Charles R. Pollock, Sec-Tres; K. Honda, Tokyo Foods products Co.; Malcolm B. Edwards, Pres. PCOGA; Arnold Waring, board member; and E. N. Steele, Board member. Back row: Roy E. Wilson, board member; Jerry Yamashita, member of the association; Ivan Holm, board member; R. H. Bailey, Vice Pres. PCOGA; Stanley C. Gillies and R. N. Steele, board members.



John L. Weigardt, April 1946. a leading Willapa grower, examining seed from Japan



E. N. Steele, R. H. Bailey and Kay Honda



left to right; G. I. (Rupert) Lore, President, Oyster Institute of north America; Charles R. Pollock, Sec. Tres., PCOGA; Bob O. Bower, President PCOGA; Harold E. wicksten, V. Pres. PCOGA.

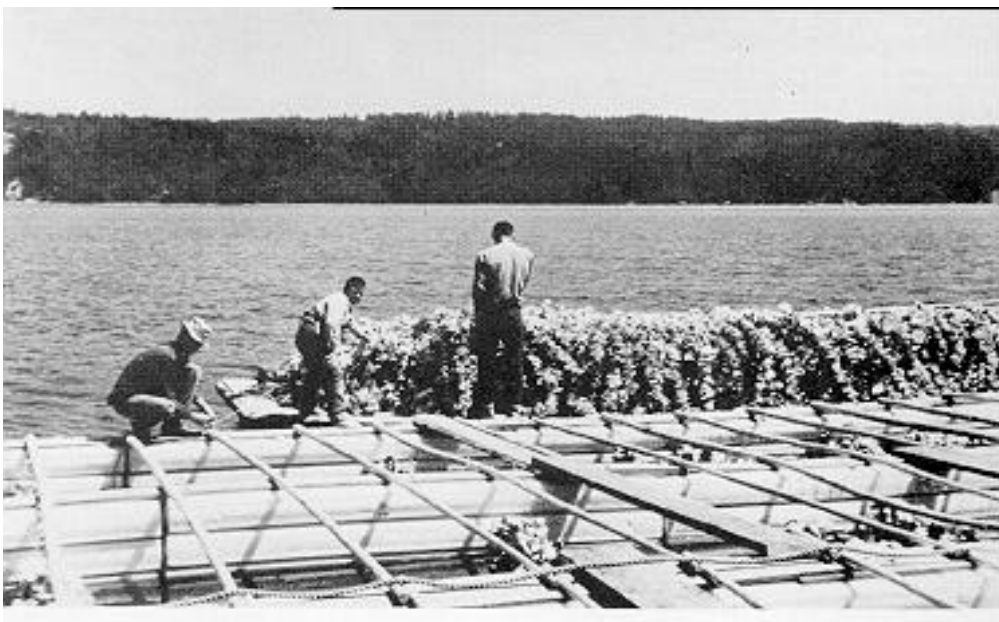


Standing; E. (Jerry) Yamishita, Western Oyster Company; John F. christopherson, B.C. packers, Ltd.;
Seated; Earl R. Brenner, J.J. Brenner Oyster Co.; Bob O. Bower, Ellison Brothers Oyster Co.; Stanley C. Gillies, Stoney Point Oyster Co. Taken at the Annual Convention, Vancouver B. C., August 1963.



New method of seed setting used in the Fall of 1963. Portable floating see racks anchored to piling in deep water at place found to be the best setting area. The total size of the completed raft is 24 by 350 feet with 11,000 strings.

Preparing styrofoam to go into the new floating seed raft



Shell strings are being loaded into the floating seed racks.



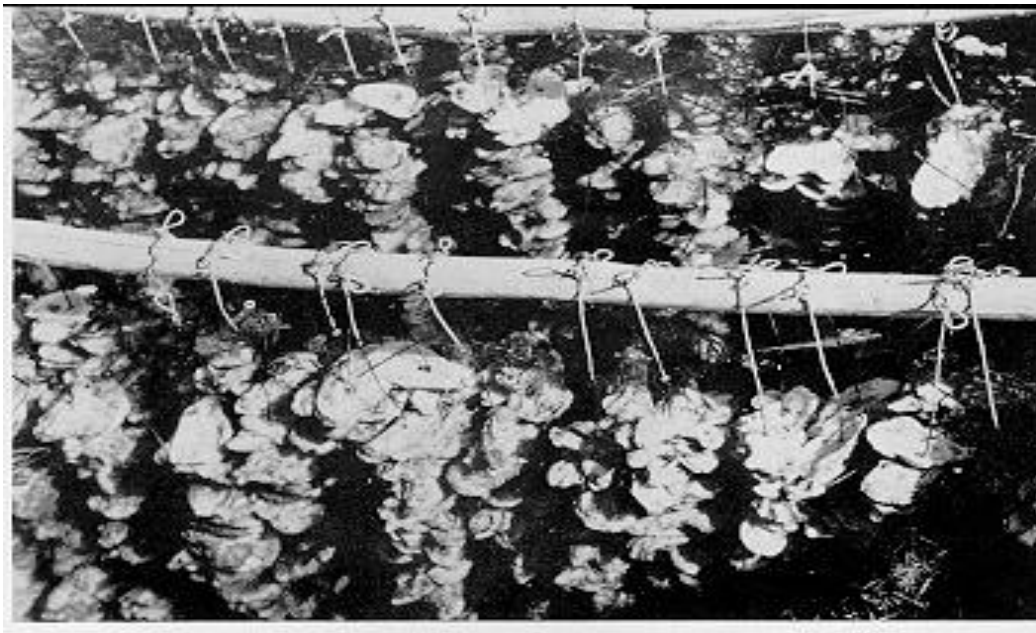
Placing strings on the rafts.



Dick Steele inspecting rafts of more than 10,000 strings.



Portable floating seed racks.



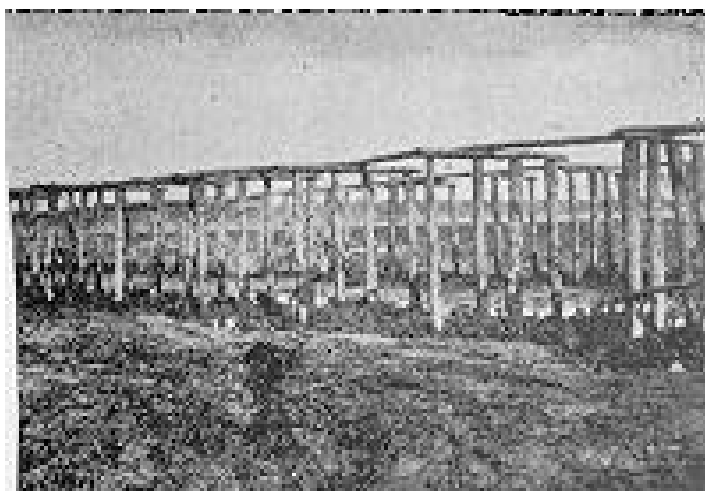
Detail of submerged shells — note clearness of the water.



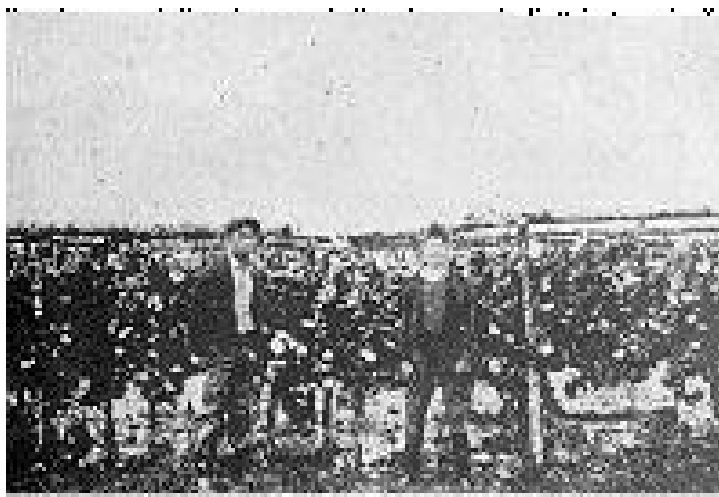
Completed wracks with submerged shell strings.



Preparing to catch oyster spawn in Japan. This compares methods with those used in Japan in 1929.



Seed racks



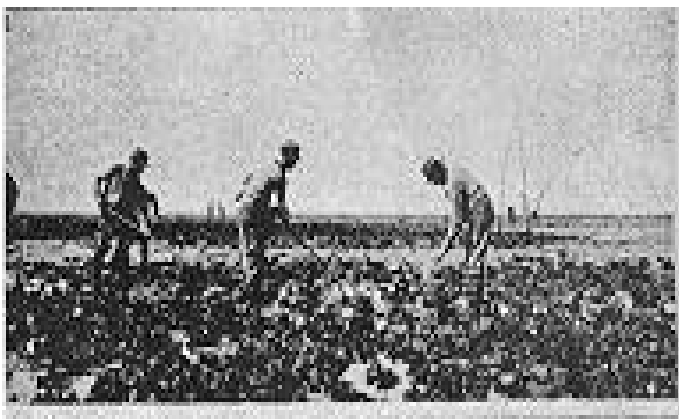
Seed racks bearing a crop of Pacific oysters



Placing the Shell Strings on the Racks



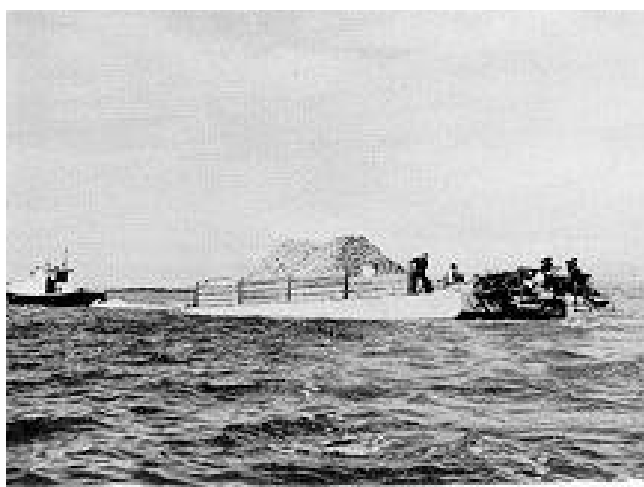
Loose Shell Broadcast to receive a set of Pacific Oysters



Breaking and scattering oysters



Small oysters attached to a heavy "mother shell"



Steel scow with load of oyster shell.



Hydraulic dredge "Ralph Hayes" Used on Willapa Harbor



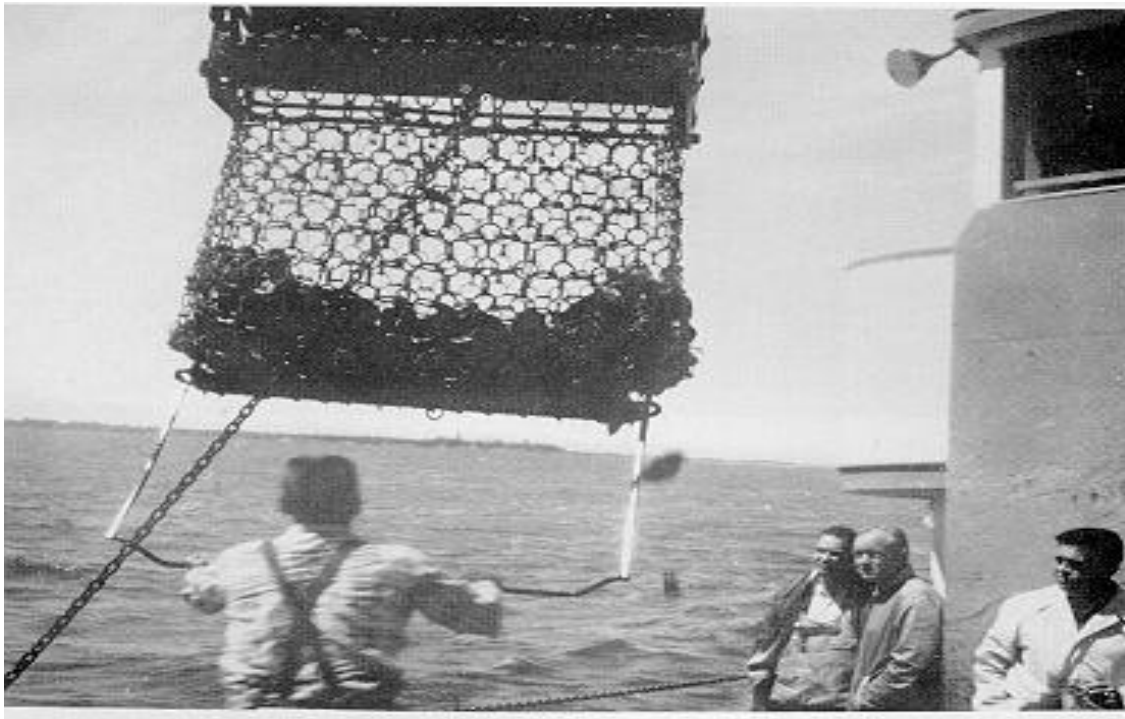
Rock Point Oyster Company Beds in Samish Bay - taken in August 1940.



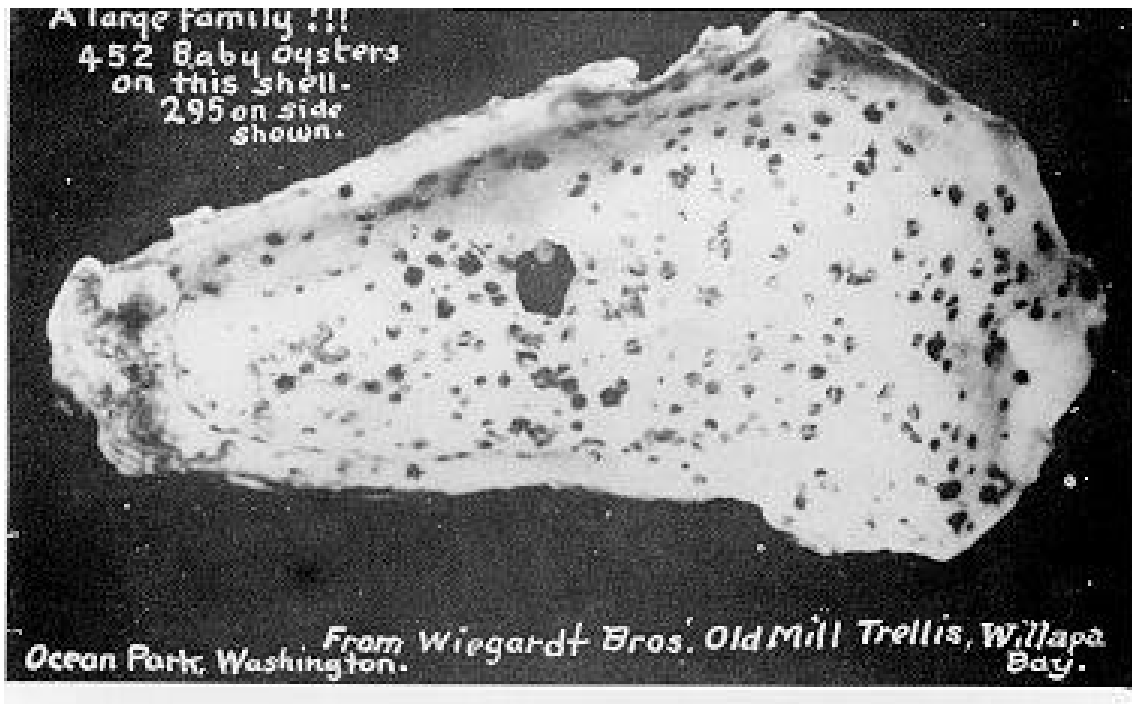
Oyster beds on Grays Harbor Washington

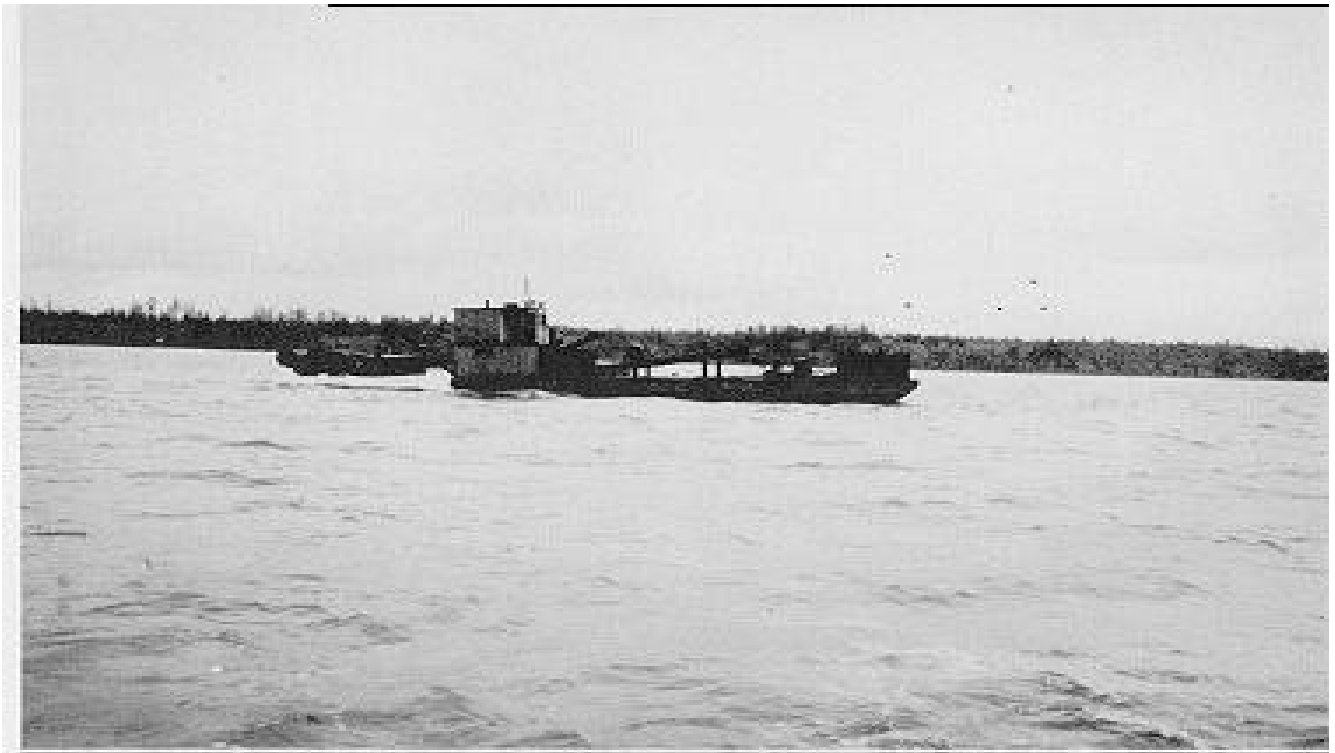


**One of the larger areas, a big bed located between Ocosta and Bay City.
The Coast Oyster Co. Owns or leases 6,000 acres in Grays Harbor of oyster land.**



Over " deep Sea "grounds (sub-tidal area) Alfred Persson of Ocosta shakes a lift of oysters onto the deck of the dredge boat " John Alf " which works out of Markham.

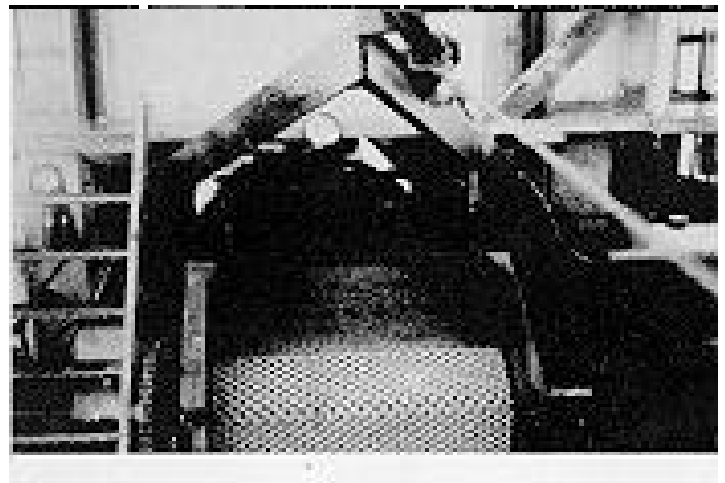




The first dredge in Padilla Bay, R.H. Bailey, the inventor and builder. He has since built 4 more on the same principal. It operates with hydraulic power. When lowered to the bed, water jets force the oysters onto a conveyor chain link belt which carries them to the deck.



The jet end - raised out of the water



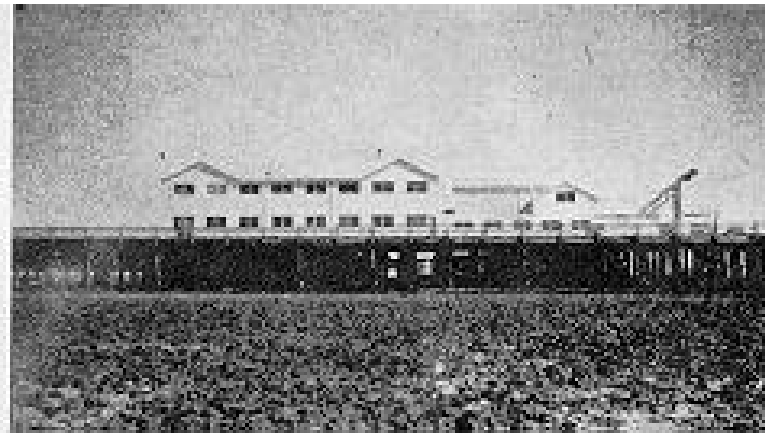
The top of the conveyor



Brenner Oyster Co. Plant located on Oyster Bay between Olympia and Shelton, Washington



Their new oyster harvesting machine picking up oysters at the Brenner Oyster Company Plant.



E. H. Bendickson Plant, Nahcotta



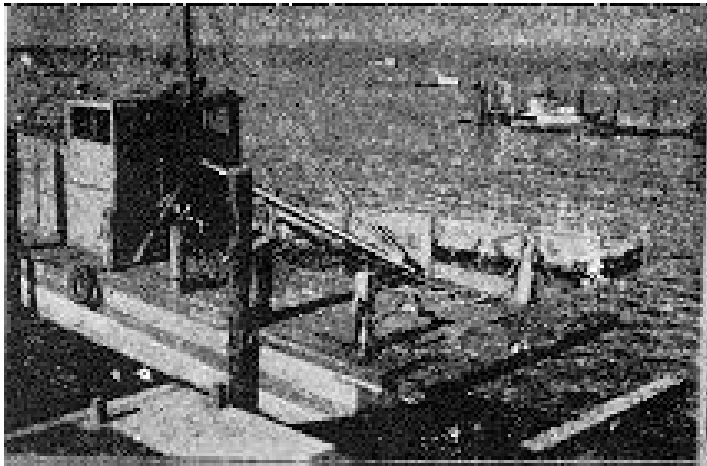
Coast Oyster Company



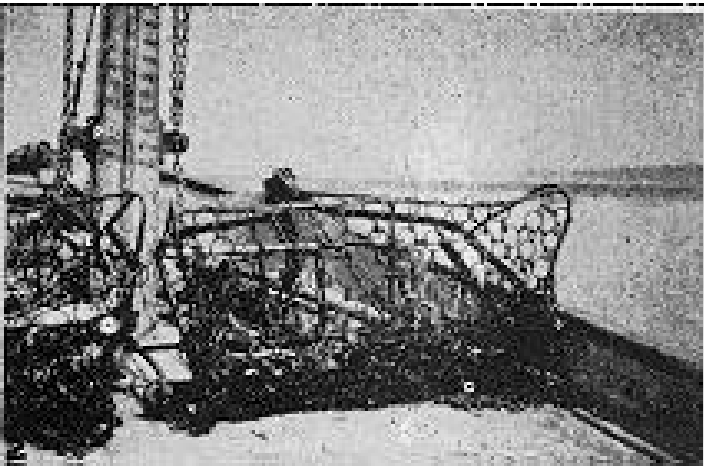
Shell grinding plant, Bay Center



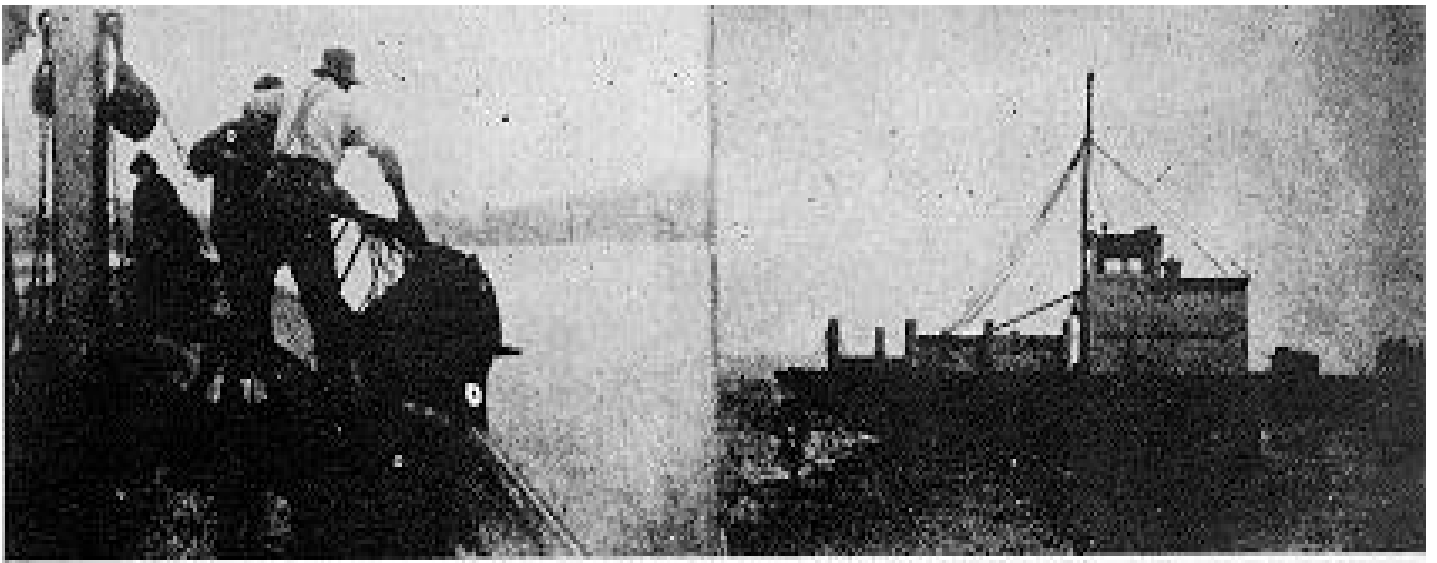
Eberhardt Oyster Company, Nahcotta



Dredge Scow

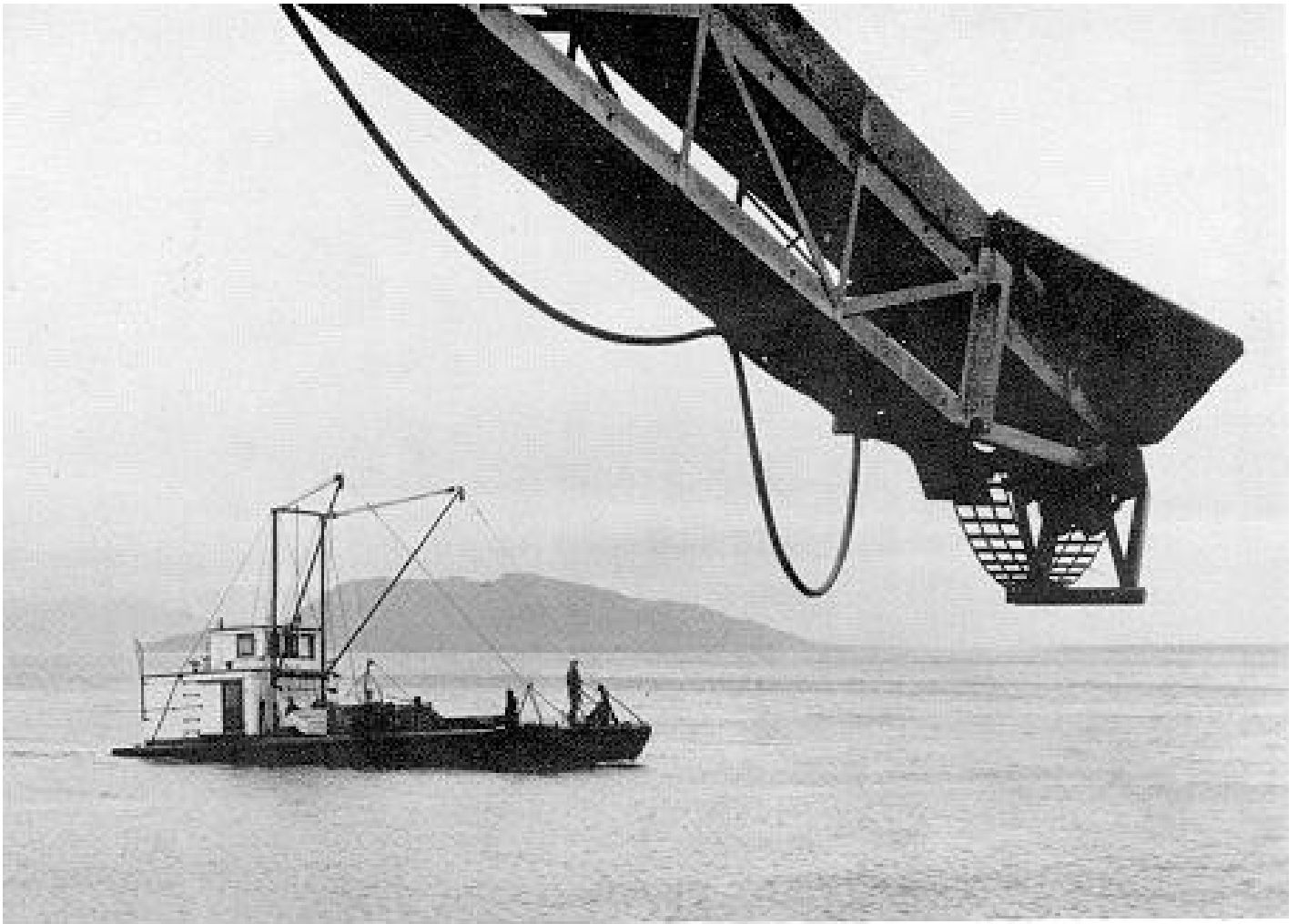


Drag dredge



Hoisting on dredge basket

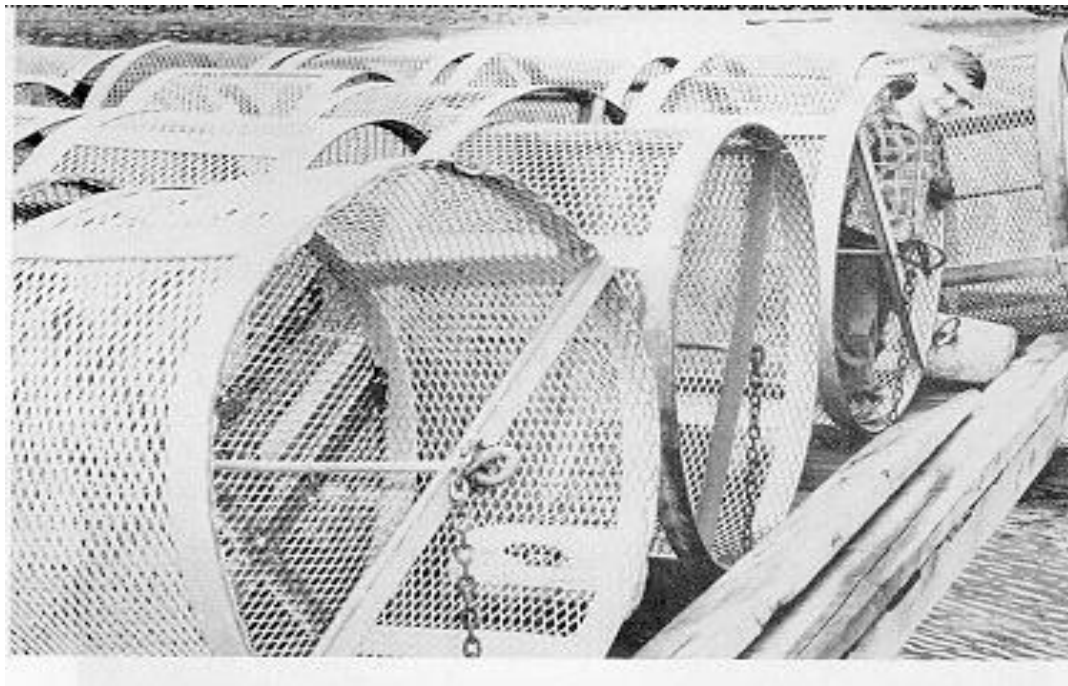
Dredge scow



Rock Point Oyster Company scow type oyster dredge "Clara Ann" unloading at Samish Bay. The conveyor arm shown drops down to the deck for unloading. Photo courtesy of Seattle P. I.



Unloading oysters from scow “Clara Ann” to plant conveyor



John Hinton, 6, son of co-owner of the Rock Point plant, peeks from metal pots often used to hand harvest oysters from Samish Bay when low tides bare the bottom.



Marshall Hinton, a partner in the Rock Point Oyster Company, hand seals glass containers filled With oysters. These are 12 ounce jars for retail sales.



Oyster Grading is something of an art. Grading is done solely by eye, but must meet the standards of size as set by the Federal Standards.

Photos by Dolly Connelly.



Dick Steele, a partner in the Rock Point Oyster Company, displays a drag dredge. It is towed on the bottom at this angle and slides under the oysters on bottom and into the chain bag, to finally lifted and dumped on deck.



Dick Steele holds two fine specimens of the Pacific oyster, Which was introduced into Samish Bay in 1921.

Left: Hellen Steele shucking oysters.

Photos by Dolly Connelly



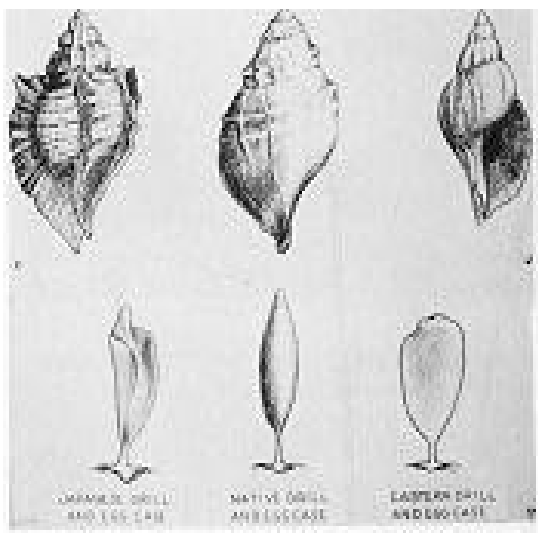
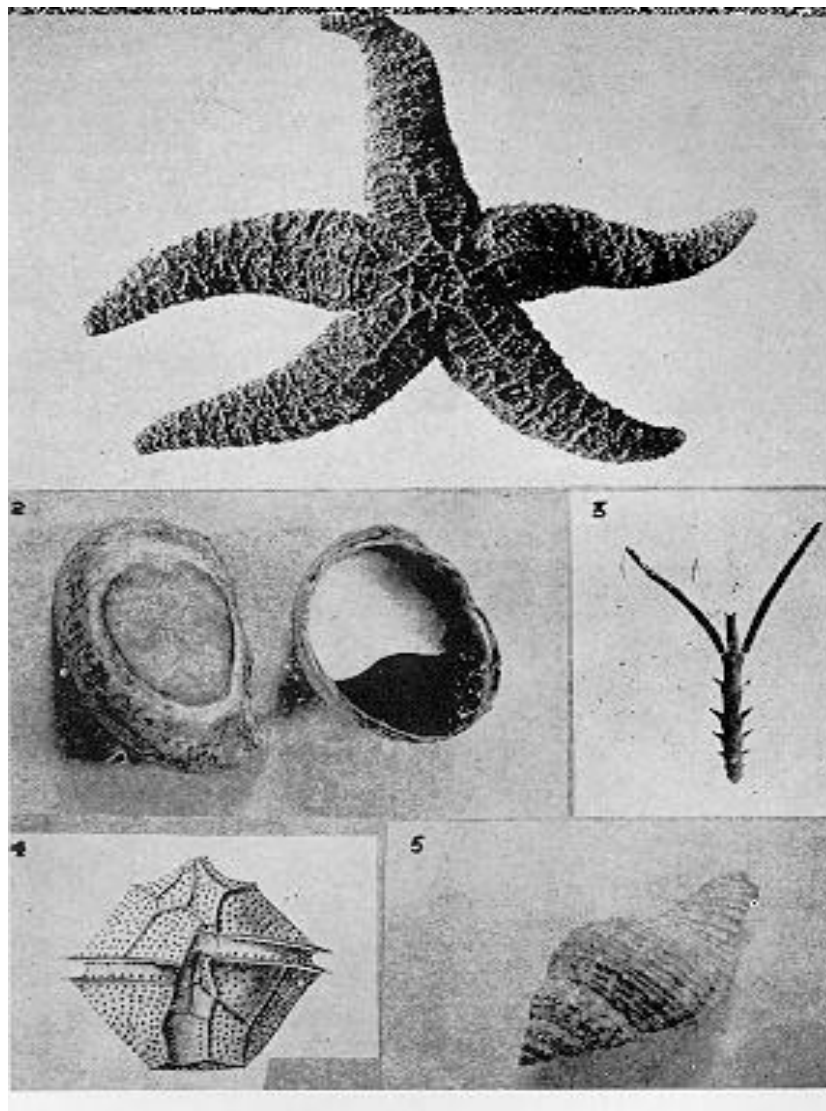
About five years ago (circa 1959) the Rayonier mill at Shelton, after almost exterminating the Olympia Oyster in southern Puget Sound, shut down. At the head of Oyster Bay is the above sign. In front of it when the tide is out, can be seen many acres of Olympia Oysters. The Olympia Oyster has increased about 800%. It is coming back.



In front of the above sign, overlooking thousands of acres of oyster lands formerly covered with Fine Pacific Oysters, now bare and abandoned, are a few scattered oysters poor and unmarketable. The industry in Samish and Padilla Bays has declined to 15% of normal.



Dead baby salmon on beach near pulp mill, Port Gardner Bay, Everett, Washington.



Enemies of the Oyster - top.- Starfish
Center L. - Slipper shell or cup
Center R.- Red Copepod
Bottom L.- Gonyaulax or Red Tide organism
Bottom R.- Eastern drill.
Left- Oyster Drills and their egg pods

Japanese

Native

Eastern



Pictured on this Terra-tire equipped Ford tractor is Earl P. Morgan of Similk Beach Oyster Co. He uses this unique tractor on his oyster beds to work and harvest his crops of oysters near Anacortes, Washington.