

Nantucket Lighthouse Middle School Oral History Interview

Interviewers: Michael Proch & Ty Fleishut

Date: 4/7/2011

Henry Wasierski Jr./Interviewee

Retired bass fisherman, tub trawl fisherman, and scalloper

76 years old

Graduated High School

Abstract:

Henry Wasierski Jr. is a native Nantucketer, and is now a retired man. He used to be a commercial fisherman and scalloper, and now lives in a relaxing home with his wife, Patton. He is 76 years old.

Time Marks:

0:48- 1:25 – introduction, basic information, education

1:25 – 3:34 – basic fishing background information

3:34- 4:10 – family information

4:20 – 5:10 – information about first fishing boat

5:27 – 6:30 Charlie Sayle Jr

6:40 – 9:20 – danger during storms

9:30 – 12:00 biggest fish he ever caught story

12:00 - 13:50 – Selling fish

13:55 - 14:40 – The only thing he doesn't like about fishing

14:40 - 15:30 – all the different kinds of fishing he's done

15:40-16:40 – price change of fish

16:40 – 18:20 – changes in fishing over the years

19:00 – 22:55 – fishing rules and regulations, and how they changed over time

22:56 – 23:25 – when he stopped fishing

23:26 – 24:36 – process of selling fish

24:36 – 26:00 – weather for fishing

26:00 – 28:00 – more info on selling fish off the boat

28:00 – 29:25 – lobstering

29:25 – 34:00 – scalloping with dip nets

34:00 -36:25 - conclusion/why he stopped boating

36:25 – 40:15 – communication/weather

Subject headings:

Role: Commercial fisherman (captain/crew). Dealer/wholesaler,
Family members.

General Social and Cultural Characteristics: Gender Roles,
Family, family roles, family organization, Social networks (family,
friends, neighbors, co-workers), Community (structure and
organization).

Social and Cultural Characteristics of Fishing. Relationships with
other fisherman, Informal rules and regulations.

Gear and Fishing Technology: Tongs, rakes, and scrapes, Boats,
ships, vessels, Other gear and technology.

Business and Economics of Fishing & Other Maritime: Making

a living, Seasonal round of fishing, Family involvement, Costs/
operating expenses, Business risks, Contributions to local economy,
Seafood retail (e.g., restaurants, services)

Fisheries Management: Regulations, Other fisheries management.

Habitat and Other Environmental Characteristics:

Environmental change, Climate, climate change, Habitat, Ocean

habitat, Other habitat and environmental characteristics.

Species Type: Fish - General, Groundfish (e.g., rockfish, cod,
haddock, halibut, sole), Lobster, crab, shrimp, Shellfish (e.g., scallops,
mussels, clams, oysters), Seaweed and algae.

Species Characteristics: Current distribution, range, Nursery areas,

Life cycle stages (e.g., egg, larvae, juvenile, adult)