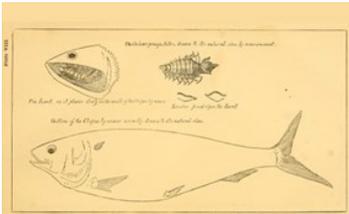


HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE—MENHADEN & REEDVILLE

We have extra space in this edition, so here is a timeline showing the origins of the menhaden industry and how it came to be inextricably linked to Reedville's history and heritage. The bulk of the material is from the "Who We Are" section of Omega Protein's website.

1621—Tisquantum "Squanto", a Native American, showed the Plymouth colony of Cape Cod Bay how to grow better crops planting menhaden alongside the seedlings to supply additional nutrients.



1802—The First Menhaden Sketch

1826—The first use of the purse seine net, which Omega Protein still uses today.

1850—Introduction of the "screw and lever" fish oil press in Maine and opening of the first menhaden oil factory in New York.

1867—Elijah Reed brings the menhaden industry to Reedville from Maine.

1878—Brothers John and Thomas Haynie, widely considered the founders of Omega Protein, set up kettles and cider-mill type walk-around presses on the family property in Reedville.

1913—Haynie, Snow Company was renamed Reedville Oil and Guano Company.

1917—To offset shortages in military resources, the menhaden industry supplied U.S. Armed Forces with menhaden fishing vessels to use during the war.

1918—The Federal Bureau of Fisheries asked Reedville Oil and Guano Company, one of the largest menhaden fishing centers, to explore converting menhaden remnants to fish meal. By **1920**, farmers found that fish meal added to pig diets yielded heartier livestock and bigger profits.

1955—Hydraulic power blocks, nylon seines, and large fish pumps became standard equipment and large steel carrier vessels designed specifically for menhaden fishing replaced smaller, aging wooden vessels.

1972—Zapata Corporation purchased Haynie Products, forming Zapata Haynie Corporation.

1986—National Fish Meal and Oil Association submitted a GRAS (generally recognized as safe) petition to the FDA for refined menhaden oil. In **1998**, the petition was finally approved, allowing the use of menhaden oil in food and beverages.

1998—Omega Protein Corporation incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of Zapata Corporation. Omega subsequently became a publicly traded Company on the New York Stock Exchange.

2004—The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced that the consumption of omega-3 fatty acids may reduce the risk of coronary heart disease. Omega announced the completion of the Company's Health and Science Center in Reedville. It is the only fully-integrated fish oil processing facility in the U.S. manufacture and refine menhaden oil.



1947—The use of spotter planes increased annual catches 50-75%

