The year 1985 was one of celebration for the Woods Hole Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service’s Northeast Fisheries Center. The reason was the one hundredth anniversary of the completion and occupation of the first facility in the world dedicated to marine fisheries research.

Spencer Fullerton Baird, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and newly appointed first Commissioner of the nascent U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries visited Woods Hole in the summer of 1871 to establish a base from which to begin the investigations mandated by Congress when they established the “Fish Commission.” During the following three summers (1872-74), operations were conducted from several other localities along the New England coast. During the course of those four years Baird determined that Woods Hole offered the most suitable natural and physical amenities for the investigations being conducted by the Fish Commission at that time, and for those envisioned for the future. The base for Commission operations was returned to Woods Hole in the summer of 1875 and has remained there ever since, through times fair and foul and several agency changes.

Paul S. Galtsoff in his excellent treatise “The Story of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory Woods Hole, Massachusetts,” published in 1962, stated: “The year 1875 should be considered the year of the establishment of the Woods Hole Laboratory, although the construction of a permanent building had to be postponed for several years.” Subsequently, Baird applied his considerable influence and powers of persuasion, organization, and perseverance to obtain permission and funds from a wary Congress to acquire land, plan, design, and construct a facility that would not only be suitable for the Commission’s ongoing work but also to fulfill two of his long sought dreams: To found an “... informal University of Biology” (see Centennial Lecture II by Paul Gross, page 18, this issue, for more details) and, through the collecting efforts of the Commission’s vessels and investigators, enrich the holdings of the then nuclear U.S. National Museum of Natural History for the enhancement of burgeoning American science. The founding of the National Museum of Natural History had been a lifelong dream and one of the chief reasons for his long-fought struggle to obtain a position at the then young Smithsonian Institution. The dream became reality when he succeeded to the Secretaryship of the Smithsonian.

Galtsoff (1962) has related the details and circumstances of Baird’s efforts, culminating in 1884 with the start of construction of the new facility at Woods Hole, its completion in March of 1885,
Woods Hole Laboratory in 1890. Completed in 1885, this was the first facility in the world to be built specifically for marine fisheries research. From left to right are the U.S.S. Albatross, laboratory and hatchery building, machine shop, pumphouse, seawater tank, and residence of U.S. Fish Commission staff.

U.S. Light-House Board shed in Woods Hole, Mass., in 1875. Baird used the shed as the temporary laboratory of the U.S. Fish Commission until 1885.

Woods Hole Lab in 1962. Completed in 1960, this facility replaced the original laboratory and is headquarters for the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Center. From left to right: Albatross IV; seawater tank; and laboratory building.

and eventual occupancy for that year’s program of Commission work in the summer of 1885. A short “Selected Bibliography” of works containing historical information pertaining to the Woods Hole Laboratory is published on page 68 of this issue.

The Celebrations of 1985 were held to commemorate the history, work, and accomplishments of the Woods Hole Laboratory during the first century of its existence and to rededicate the Laboratory to continued excellence in the conduct of marine fisheries research.

Early in 1985 a Centennial Steering Committee, composed of Laboratory and Center staff members, began planning and organizing a program of activities and exhibits for the forthcoming summer tourist season on Cape Cod to reach and inform the largest possible audience. The highlight of the year’s activities would be a week-long public celebration in August.

Early in March an official announcement, media press releases, and an informative brochure were issued (Fig. 1, 2) followed, on 28 March, by the formal raising of a banner proclaiming the Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory Centennial (Fig. 3). The banner-raising ceremony was attended by Laboratory staff, invited guests representing the other scientific institutions in Woods Hole, the Town of Falmouth, and the local media. Several short speeches, appropriate to the occasion, were delivered by the Laboratory director, the chairman of the Centennial Steering Committee, and some of the invited guests.

Meanwhile, the Centennial Committee, aided by a highly competent, dedicated, and hard working Laboratory staff, were busily engaged in planning, designing, and preparing new exhibits to be housed in the Woods Hole Aquarium for viewing by the public through the course of the summer.

The public exhibits were divided into two major themes, one depicting the origin and historical perspectives of fisheries research at the Woods Hole Laboratory and the other addressing current and future concerns. The historical exhibits were concentrated in the Aquarium’s conference room and consisted mainly of photographs from the
A Century of Federal Commitment to Marine Fisheries Research

Figure 1.—The informational brochure issued by the Woods Hole Laboratory.

Wood Hole Laboratory

Constructed in 1885 by the U.S. Fish Commission, the fisheries laboratory in Woods Hole was the first facility in the world to be specifically built for and dedicated to marine fisheries research. The Woods Hole Laboratory has played a leading role in marine fisheries research throughout its history, and is now part of the National Marine Fisheries Service, with responsibility for conservation and management of marine fisheries off the northeastern United States.

To commemorate the history and accomplishments of the Woods Hole Laboratory, 1985 will be a year of special exhibits and presentations for the public, highlighted by a centennial celebration in Woods Hole in August. There will be a series of public lectures on the history and contributions of the Woods Hole Laboratory by world-renowned fisheries scientists. Many other special activities will also be held with participation by national, regional, state and local officials, culminating in a ceremony rededicating the laboratory and aquarium facilities.

These events will emphasize the U.S. Government's continuing role as a trustee of the living marine resources and the National Marine Fisheries Service's responsibility for providing information needed for management and conservation of these resources.

Figure 2.—The official announcement proclaiming the Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory's Centennial Celebration.

Figure 3.—The Woods Hole Laboratory Centennial banner.
Laboratory's archive collection, models of research and fishing vessels, antique instruments, and examples of research products in the form of early books and reports. These elements were topically arranged in chronological order on multisided kiosks, in display credenzas, and on pedestals (Fig. 4). The exhibits addressing the second theme, that of current and future concerns, were displayed in the public section of the Aquarium and were also largely photographic and illustrative in nature. The major thrust of these exhibits dealt with the organization, responsibilities, and mission of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service with special emphasis on the roles that the Northeast Fisheries Center and its satellite Laboratories play in providing the information necessary for the conservation, management, and utilization of the Nation's living marine resources off the northeastern United States. The exhibits addressed current research efforts and future strategies in a variety of topics. Separate exhibits were presented for: "The Ocean's Resources, Uses, and Benefits to Society"; "Studying the Ocean"; "The Management Process"; "Marine Mammals"; "Oceanic Game Fish"; and "Undersea Research" (Fig. 5). All of the exhibits received high praise from viewers and were popular with Aquarium visitors. The Woods Hole Aquarium hosts, on average, nearly one-quarter of a million visitors during the summer season. The historical exhibits remained on display throughout the Aquarium's open season (8 June to 16 September); whereas, the other exhibits have remained on display.

In addition to the formal exhibits described above, several other special activities and events were presented during the summer. Included among these were specially prepared brochures describing the role and activities of the Fisheries Management Councils on the U.S. east coast, handouts featuring selected fish recipes popular 100 years ago and their modern-day counterparts,
and a variety of memorabilia emblazoned with a commemorative replica of the original U.S. Fish Commission/Woods Hole Laboratory logo (Fig. 6). This logo was affixed to all correspondence from the laboratory during 1985 as well as serving as a cachet for First Issue Covers offered to collectors. The Woods Hole Post Office cooperated in this activity by hand canceling the requested Covers. Several times throughout the summer, and during the Centennial Week, highly popular demonstrations of fish preparation, cooking, and tasting, featuring traditional as well as underutilized species, were presented by Food Technologists from NEFC’s Resource Utilization Branch at the Gloucester, Mass., Laboratory.

The Laboratory’s Centennial Week, 12-16 August, 1985, was the highlight of the Celebration. Plans formulated by the Centennial Steering Committee for the week’s events included: A series of public lectures by internationally renowned fisheries scientists addressing past and future fisheries research strategies with which the Laboratory was and will be concerned; open house activities for the facility and the R/V Albatross IV, in port for the occasion; two public “Open Forums” with select panels of participants, one dealing with fisheries management strategies for the future and the second with fisheries research strategies for the future; informal receptions held in the congenial and informative surroundings of the Aquarium following evening lectures; a formal reception aboard R/V Albatross IV, followed by a banquet for invited Centennial guests; culminating, on 16 August, with Ceremonies of Rededication of the Woods Hole Laboratory. All activities were highly successful and well attended by the local community as well as the public at large.

In the following pages we present: The texts of the lectures delivered during Centennial Week; synoptic treatments of the proceedings of the two forums, (this abridged form is used because of the large number of transcript pages gleaned from the audio tapes used to record the dialogue of participants). However, two panelists had prepared formal statements for delivery at the Fishery Research Forum, and these are presented in this volume in their entirety because of their relevance and representation of the overall tone of this particular forum. Unfortunately no such material is available for the Fisheries Management Forum. In conclusion, a transcription of the addresses delivered at the Rededication Ceremony, along with a reproduction of the Rededication Program (on page 57) are offered.

A short paper and bibliography dedicated to the role and scientific contributions of women in fisheries science at the Woods Hole Laboratory from 1885 to 1985 was prepared as a Woods Hole Laboratory Reference Document (see citation in the “Selected Bibliography”) during the celebration. Although not republished here owing to space limitations, it is noteworthy, and interested readers may obtain a copy from the Librarian, NMFS Woods Hole Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

Committees

The many persons who planned, prepared, and participated in the celebration of the Woods Hole Laboratory’s Centennial are due grateful recognition. On 5 December 1984, Richard C. Hennewith, Director of the NEFC Woods Hole Laboratory, initiated the activities by announcing the forthcoming Commemorative year and selecting a Steering Committee of Laboratory and...
Center staff members to assist in formulating plans for the celebrations. The Committee consisted of Marvin Grosslein, Chief, Food Chain Dynamics Investigation, Woods Hole Laboratory, who acted as Chairperson, and the following members: Allen Peterson, Director, Northeast Fisheries Center; George Ridgway, Deputy Director, Northeast Fisheries Center (Ex officio); Roger Theroux, Fisheries Research Biologist, acting as Director of Operations and Centennial Proceedings editor; Michael Sissenwine, Chief, Fisheries Ecology Division, NEFC; Herbert Stern, Research Planning and Evaluation Section, NEFC; Fred Nichy, Supervisor, Woods Hole Aquarium, NEFC; Helen Mustafa, Research Planning and Coordination Staff, NEFC; Jon Gibson, Chief, Information Services Section, NEFC; James Crossen, Electronics Technician, Resource Surveys Investigation, WHL; Frank Arbusto, Lt. Cmdr. NOAA Corps, Port Captain; Daniel O’Brien, Chief, Facilities Support Section, NEFC.

The full Steering Committee met shortly after its formation to formulate preliminary plans and establish guidelines for the forthcoming celebration. One of the its first actions was the formation of several working subcommittees to attend to the multitude of tasks that a centennial celebration of the magnitude envisioned entails. Seven such working groups were formed with personnel assignments drawn from Laboratory and Center Staffs.

A Publicity Subcommittee, chaired and staffed by Jon Gibson, was charged with the responsibility of preparing and disseminating relevant information to the public via the news media and other means. This committee’s output included announcements, brochures, press re-
leases, programs of activities, and arranging for newspaper articles, interviews, and press coverage of highlight activities, among others.

A Public Exhibits Subcommittee whose responsibility was to conceive, design, and execute all of the exhibits for the Centennial observance, was co-chaired by James Crossen and Raymond Maurer. They were ably assisted in these tasks by Brenda Figuerido, Henry Jensen, Helen Mustafa, Fred Nichy, Michael Fogarty, David Mountain, Ronnee Schultz, Philip Logan, Frank Almeida, and Edgar Bowman. The nature of the work undertaken by this subcommittee required the services of a graphics design specialist. Elizabeth Suijwin was hired as a temporary employee to serve in that capacity, and she played a key role in the design and layout, as well as execution of all exhibits used for the Centennial celebration. The fruits of their labor were justly appreciated by all who viewed the exhibits during 1985.

A Centennial Week Activities Subcommittee was formed to attend to the multitude of details involved in the activities planned for Centennial Week. This subcommittee’s work included selecting topics and recruiting and inviting speakers for the public lecture series as well as the two forums; preparing the Laboratory Rededication Program; selecting and inviting Centennial guests; hosting social functions and vessel and facility Open House activities, among others. Members were Allen Peterson (Ex-officio), and Richard Hendennuth who was Chairperson; also serving were Marvin Grosslein, Michael Sissenwine, Herbert Stern, Frank Arbusto, Daniel O’Brien, Donna Busch, Anne Lange, Thomas Azarowitz, Hannah Goodale, Susan Shepherd, and Roger Theroux.

A Physical Facilities Subcommittee, chaired by Daniel O’Brien, assisted by David Potter, Frank Almeida, and Philip LeBlanc, was responsible for providing logistical support for the appearance of buildings and grounds, traffic control and signage for the summer activities, providing facilities for all of the planned outdoor activities, and other such functions.

A Social Functions Subcommittee was established to attend to the needs of invited guests and to plan and organize the several receptions, luncheons, and other social functions that were to be part of the celebration. Members serving on this Subcommittee, chaired by Hannah Goodale, were Helen Mustafa, Cheryl Windsor, Antoinette Erol, Violet Sikora, Steven Murawski, Thomas Morris, Peter Auditore, and Philip LeBlanc.

An Audiovisual and Documentation Subcommittee was responsible for providing for the audiovisual needs of the Exhibits Subcommittee, the guest lecturers and speakers, and documenting all aspects of the activities of the Centennial Celebration on film and video and audio tape. Patrick Twohig, Chairperson of this subcommittee, was ably assisted by James Crossen, Donald Flescher, Brenda Figuerido, Malcolm Silverman, Ronnee Schultz, John Thiel, and Otis Jackson.

The Port Captain, Lt. Cmdr. Arbusto, along with the vessel Captains (ex-officio) formed the Vessels Subcommittee for liaison with NOAA’s Atlantic Marine Center, which is responsible for vessel operations, and oversaw those activities involving the NOAA research vessels Albatross IV and Delaware II, assigned to NEFC and its Laboratories. The year’s ship schedules allowed for the Albatross IV to be in port for the planned Centennial Week in August. While in port the ship was formally “dressed” in signal flags; exhibits of fishing and scientific sampling gear were displayed on her decks, the crew was on hand for Open House activities held throughout the week, and the vessel hosted a formal Reception preceding the banquet for invited Centennial Guests on the eve of the Rededication of the Laboratory.

The “Dover” string quartet from Boston provided suitable background entertainment at both of these highly successful events.

The plans formulated by these subcommittees generated an incredible amount of work necessary to ensure a celebration commensurate with its importance. This, coupled with some rather stringent financial constraints, mandated the use of in-house rather than outside talents and expertise to accomplish the majority of Centennial projects envisioned. This meant drawing upon the knowledge and skills of the resident laboratory staff to produce the desired results, relying on outside help only for those things impossible to do in-house.

The overwhelming success of the Woods Hole Laboratory’s Centennial Celebration stands as a testament and tribute to the uncommon talents, dedication, and unstinting devotion of Laboratory staff, maintaining the traditions begun one century earlier. During the weeks and days preceding the official opening of the summer season, this group of people volunteered their brains and brawn to virtually transform the Woods Hole facility into a beehive of physical activity reminiscent, to the older hands, of that which occurred during demolition of the old, and construction of the new, buildings in the late 1950’s and early 1960’s.

Center and Laboratory Administrators and the Steering Committee warrant that the magnitude of the tasks performed by this small army of dedicated staff (including, in many instances, their friends and spouses who also volunteered their services) and the professionalism with which they were accomplished, require public acknowledgment. Herewith, we gratefully acknowledge their efforts.

Supporting Staff

Buildings and Grounds


Traffic control, signage, tents, dais, transportation, etc.: Charles Adolewski, John Brennan, Donald Flescher, Dennis Hansford, Marion Hubler, Elizabeth Kenney, Kelly Kress, John Nicolas, Daniel O'Brien, and Robert Ransom.

**Centennial Exhibits**

**Exhibit preparation**


Exhibit electrification and lighting: James Crossen, Harold Merry, Clifford Newell, John Thiel, and Patrick Twohig.


**Exhibit Materials Contributors**

Photographic materials: Frank Almeida, Woods Hole Lab; Anthony Calabrese, Milford Lab; Michele Cox, Sandy Hook Lab; Ruth Davis, Archivist, Marine Biological Lab, Woods Hole; Carolyn Griswold, Narragansett Lab; Thomas Halavik, Narragansett Lab; Judith Kryznowik, Sandy Hook Lab; Franklin Macaulay, Former Port Captain, Woods Hole Lab; Steven Morello, Freelance photographer, Provincetown, Mass.; John O’Reiley, Sandy Hook Lab; John Pearce, Woods Hole Lab; Harold “Wes” Pratt, Narragansett Lab; Jerome Prezioso, Narragansett Lab; Steven Ramp, Woods Hole Lab; Malcolm Silverman, Woods Hole Lab; and Charles Stilwell, Narragansett Lab.

Exhibit artifacts: Robert Benway, Narragansett Lab; Judith Brownlow, Woods Hole Lab; John Casey, Narragansett Lab; William Dunkle, Archivist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; and Ronald Schilit, Woods Hole Lab.

**Centennial Documentation**


Centennial Memorabilia: James Crossen, Andrew Thom, and Mathew Walsh.

**Public Lectures**

Master of Ceremonies was Michael Sissenwine.

**Administrative Support**

Woods Hole Laboratory: Peggy Donnelly, Karen Ferreira, Bobbie Marks (NOS), Elaine Perry, Wendy Siegmann, and Donna Walker.
Social Activities

The following persons provided fish for the various luncheons and receptions: Mark Bennett, Bruce Burns, John Green, Joseph Kane, William Michaels, and Jerome Prezioso.

The following persons contributed their talents and efforts in the organization, preparation, and serving of foods and other consumables presented at the various official luncheons and receptions, as well as for the Laboratory Picnic which concluded Centennial Week: Charles Adolewski, Hidemi Baughman, Daniel Baker, Gloucester Lab; Lorraine Belfiore, John Brennan, Jay Burnett, Maurice Crawford, Elizabeth Cusumano, Gloucester Lab; Peggy Donnelly, Antoinette Erol, Brenda Figuerido, Michael Figueroa, Susan Ford, Arthur Gallagher, Jon Gibson, Hannah Goodale, Melinda Grace, Barbara Grimm, Norma Hardy, Gloucester Lab; Patricia Hersey, Marion Hubler, Joseph Idoine, Otis Jackson, Henry Jensen, Elizabeth Kenney, Bernice Kingsley, Red Kingsley, Jean Klemm, Mary Laird, Donald Mack, Raymond Maurer, Jane Mayo, Margaret Mehmel, Joseph Mendelsohn, Gloucester Lab; Scott Mosely, Steve Murawski, Helen Mustafa, Daniel Pantanjo, Elaine Perry, John Ropes, Gary Shepherd, Susan Shepherd, Wendy Siegmann, Andrew Thoms, Mathew Walsh, and Susan Wigley.

Miscellaneous tasks


Purveyors of Goods and Services

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and support of the following individuals and businesses whose efforts were instrumental in ensuring the success of our celebration:


Donors

We gratefully acknowledge contributions made by the following organizations and firms whose donations allowed the presentation of many activities which would have otherwise been impossible: Atlantic Offshore Fishermen's Association, Bi-State Seafood Development Conference, Boston Fishers Association, Eastern Fisheries, Inc., Falmouth Chamber of Commerce, F.J. O'Hara & Sons Inc. of Rockland, Gloucester Fishers Association, H. V. Lawrence, Mahoney's Too, Maine Sardine Council, Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation, New Bedford Seafood Council, and the New England Fisheries Development Foundation.

Special Gift

We wish to thank Richard Allen and the Atlantic Offshore Fishermen's Association who presented to the Woods Hole Laboratory on the occasion of its Centennial a signed, framed print of the painting "Off the Bank" by Thomas H. Hoyne. It is on display in the entrance foyer of the main laboratory building.

Participants

We are especially pleased to thank those individuals who interrupted busy schedules, in many instances journeying from afar, to participate in our Centennial observance. Their contributions were noteworthy and ensured the success of our endeavor.

Participants in the Public Lecture Series, 13-14 August 1985

Robert L. Edwards, former Director, Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory and Northeast Fisheries Center, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Paul R. Gross, former Director, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

William F. Royce, former Director, Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory, Seattle, Washington.

Peter A. Larkin, Institute of Resource Ecology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
John H. Steele, Director, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Panel of Experts, 
Forum on Fishery 
Research for the Future

Carl R. Sullivan, Executive Director, American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, Maryland (moderator).
J. L. McHugh, Professor of Marine Resources, Emeritus, Marine Sciences Research Center, State University of New York, Stony Brook, Long Island, New York.
Peter A. Larkin, Professor, Institute of Resource Ecology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
Gilbert C. Radonski, President, Sport Fishing Institute, Washington, D.C.

Panel of Experts, 
Forum on Fishery 
Management for the Future

Allen E. Peterson, Director, Northeast Fisheries Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.
Jeffrey Pike, Professional Staff Member, representing Congressman Gerry E. Studds, Massachusetts.
Alan D. Guimond, President, Stonington Seafood, Bristol, Rhode Island.
Gilbert C. Radonski, President, Sport Fishing Institute, Washington, D.C.
Robert L. Martin, Chairman, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.
Lucy Sloan, Executive Director, National Federation of Fishermen, Washington, D.C.

We have attempted to include the names of everyone who contributed, in whatever fashion, to the observance of the Woods Hole Fisheries Laboratory’s Centennial Celebrations; however, in an undertaking of this magnitude and scope it is, unfortunately, almost inevitable that someone is inadvertently overlooked. To those individuals, if there are any, our abject apologies, and our heartfelt thanks for your participation.

The compilation and editing of the “Centennial Proceedings,” albeit a sometimes arduous task fraught with unavoidable delays, has been a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding experience. As editor of these Proceedings, as well as Director of Operations for the Centennial Celebration, I extend my deepest personal gratitude to all participants for their many contributions, their cooperativeness, but most of all their support, without which the many tasks involved would have been overwhelmingly difficult to accomplish.