

FISHERIES ACADEMY (1980)

The Fisheries Academy is the foremost institution of technical training of its type in the nation and probably the world.

It offers long courses in fish health and hatchery management, and various short courses for federal, state, private and foreign technical and professional fisheries workers.

CENTER LIBRARY

The National Fisheries Center Library, located in the laboratory complex, contains an excellent collection of materials on fish husbandry and aquaculture.

Physically containing hundreds of volumes, the library also has computer access to scientific, technical and commercial data and publications from throughout the world.

FISHING FOR HANDICAPPED

The lives of handicapped persons of all types and ages have been enriched by the special Fishing Area for the Handicapped on the Center grounds.

The seven-acre area features eight ponds, boardwalks, a floating bridge, pavilion and picnic facilities.

OTHER LEETOWN CENTER COMPONENTS:

Tunison Laboratory of Fish Nutrition,
Cortland, New York.

Hagerman Field Station,
Hagerman, Idaho.

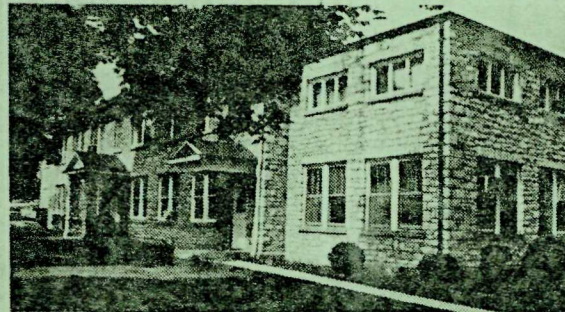
Southeastern Fish Cultural Laboratory,
Marion, Alabama.

Fish Farming Experimental Station,
Stuttgart, Arkansas.

National Fishery Research and Development
Laboratory,
Wellsboro, Pennsylvania.

LOCATION

The National Fisheries Center - Leetown, located in the center of historic Jefferson County, just a few miles from Charles Town, Harpers Ferry and Martinsburg, is readily accessible to the eastern U.S. via I-81, I-70, US 11, US 340 and other major highways.

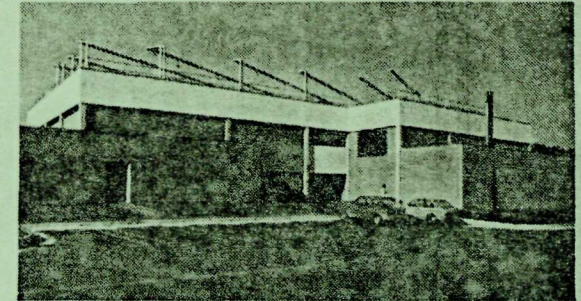


ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (1931)

National Fisheries Center
Route 3, Box 40
Kearneysville, West Virginia 25430
Telephone: (304) 725-8461

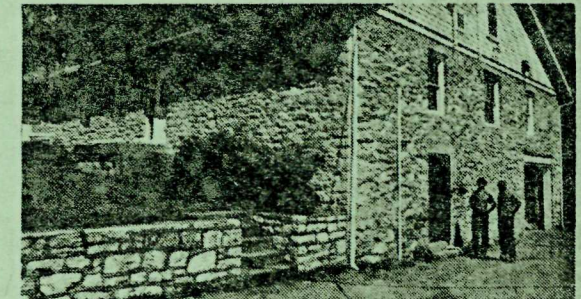
NATIONAL FISHERIES CENTER

Leetown, West Virginia



NATIONAL FISH HEALTH RESEARCH LABORATORY (1979)

... "to conserve the nation's freshwater and anadromous fishery resources for the benefit of the people."



THE MILL (1775)

U.S. Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

50 YEARS OF EXPERTISE....

The National Fisheries Center - Leetown, with a half a century of expertise in fishery resources management, has earned a distinguished national and international reputation in the fields of research, technology, development, and training.

The present facility evolved from a decision in 1930 by the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries to purchase a 148 acres of land at Leetown for a fish hatchery and research station.

Leetown was selected for its climate suitable for the culture of various species of fish and a source of 54°F spring water. The initial purchase included a section of Hopewell Run, and an old grist mill, which although remodeled, is still standing.

Initial construction included a two-story, stone hatchery-laboratory building, circular trout pools, raceways, support facilities, earthen ponds and reservoirs. Production of trout and bass was soon underway together with many pioneering research projects.

Transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1939, the station continued these functions with greater emphasis on research. In 1958, the Eastern Fish Disease Laboratory was established, succeeded most recently by the National Fish Health Research Laboratory. During these latter years, the entire facility was designated the National Fisheries Center - Leetown, which also assumed the administration of other research, developmental and experimental components across the nation.

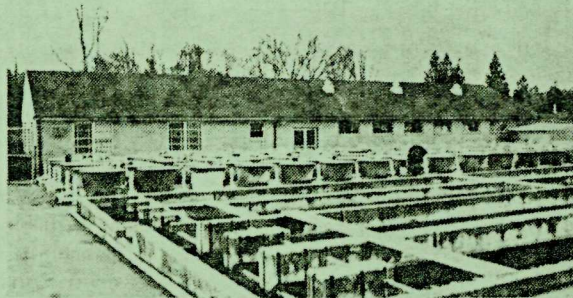
The Leetown facility has always been one of the area's most popular visitor attractions.



VISITOR CENTER
(1963)

The Visitor Center features various species of live fish in large aquariums and other exhibits, including an exact model replica of an early railroad fish car. Trout are on display in three of the original outside circular pools.

To better serve and inform the public, a new Interpretation and Recreation Program is being developed and will be located in the original stone building.



EXPERIMENTAL HATCHERY
(1966)

The Experimental Hatchery, formerly a fishery production facility for the northern and eastern states, now serves as a model fish culturing installation to provide various species of fish for research and special uses.

The hatchery also serves as a highly specialized facility to culture and evaluate genetically-developed strains of rainbow trout, and as a repository for brown trout broodstock to produce eggs for research and other needs.

The Fishing Area for the Handicapped is also managed and operated by the hatchery.

NATIONAL FISH HEALTH RESEARCH LABORATORY

Each year, diseases kill millions of fish. Fish reared in confined areas, such as federal, state and private facilities in this nation and foreign countries, are particularly susceptible to communicable diseases.

Because billions of pounds of fish are produced annually throughout the world for food and recreational purposes, methods of detecting, controlling and preventing diseases are of great importance to mankind.

Thus, the primary mission of this laboratory is to investigate these diseases and interacting biological and environmental influences.

Research involves such highly-specialized sciences as parasitology, virology, bacteriology, immunology, physiology, epidemiology and histopathology. Because fish are consumed by humans, disease treatments must be safe as well as effective.

Studies are conducted on infectious diseases of warm, cool and coldwater fishes.

SOLAR SYSTEM

One of the largest known concentration collector systems for solar energy designed to supply up to 60 percent of the laboratory building's heating and cooling requirements.

The roof-top system has the equivalent of 10,000 square feet of absorbing surface.

