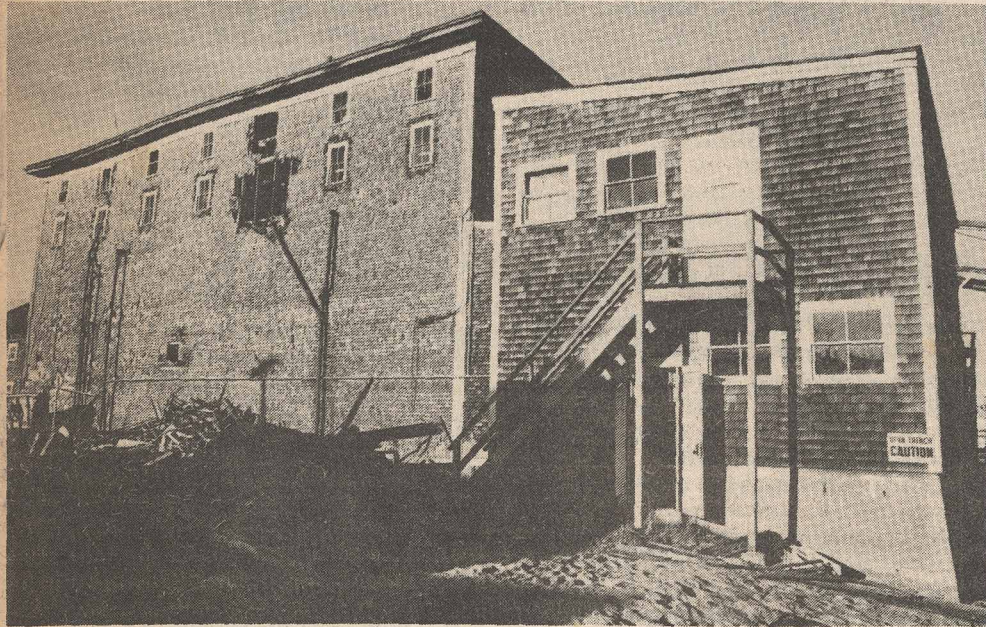


## The End Of An Era

# Cape Cold Storage Comes Down

(Photos by Dan and Janet Boynton)



(Above) Fish packing crates and debris were removed from the upper floors in early December. The building on the South side was demolished a few weeks later. (Right) Last Thursday workmen began the Herculean task of pulling down the main building. Here, a cable is secured to a fourth-floor section.



The last of Provincetown's fish processing plants which flourished during the early 1900's will soon be gone.

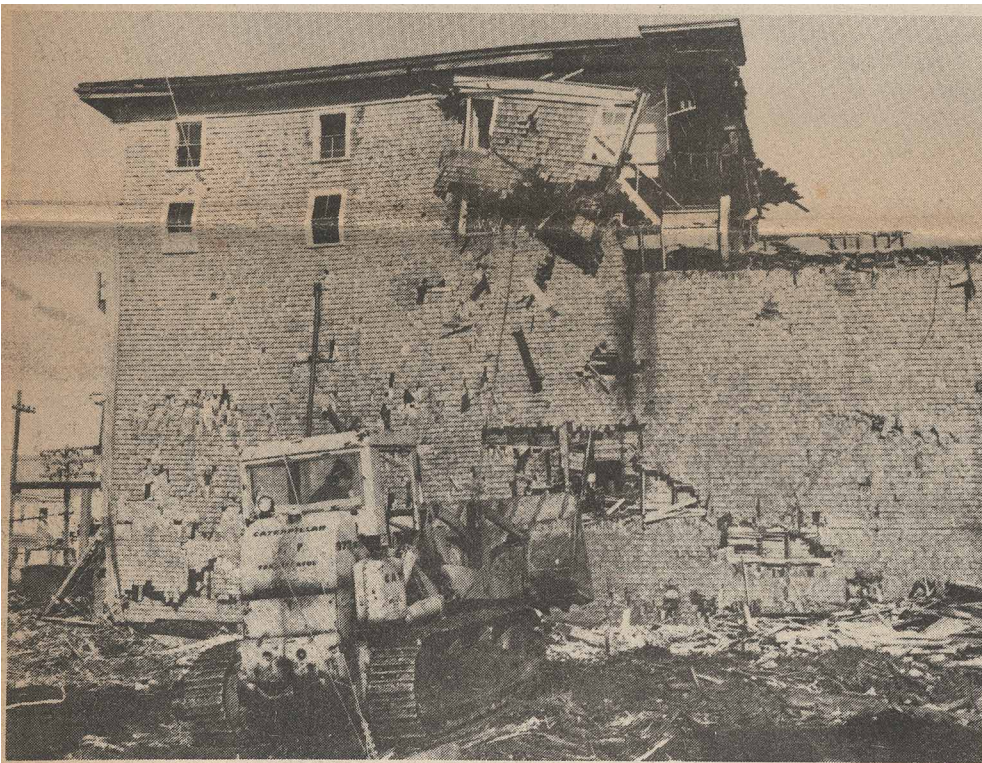
In the early days, bait fish caught by local fishermen were frozen in one of Provincetown's four prospering fish plants, then packed on board cod-fishing boats bound for George's Banks. Recently, the Atlantic Coast Fisheries has processed So. African rock lobster tails and butterfly whiting from Japan to supplement dwindling local resources.

The fisheries company closed their doors a year ago, and Labor Day the 62-year old building began to collapse.

Last Thursday, as the sagging building was being assaulted by bulldozers, a few neighbors came out of their houses to watch with feelings of nostalgia. One spectator commented, "My father used to be a foreman there. He saw it built, and now he's watching it come down."

Yards of rusty freezing coils were strewn about like giant strands of spaghetti, as the relentless bulldozer pulled down great chunks of the building's walls. A fisherman, passing by the half-demolished building shook his head and said sadly, "It's the end of an era."





With a crunching roar the bulldozer wrenches away the West wall.



Spewing dust and plaster, it tumbles to the ground.



A large section of the roof sails through the air.



The besieged building, with its innards exposed to the sea.



Looking like a beached whale yesterday, the Cold Storage Plant bleakly awaits its final destruction.