

MENHADEN F/V CHARLES J. COLONNA - 1950

OFFICIAL NO.	220479	LENGTH	127.7 Ft
GROSS TONNAGE	191	BREADTH	25.0 Ft.
NET TONNAGE	130	DEPTH	10.7 Ft.

Her original hull was built 1920 in Mariners Harbor, New York of steel but purse boats were wood.

Named After Charles Jones Colonna. 1849 - 1920
 Founder and 1st President Colonna's Shipyard - Norfolk, Virginia

Had one Fairbanks Morse main engine "diesel" 450 h.p. Weighed 21 tons...

She would hold about 400,000 menhaden fish in the hold to top of hatch coaming. Her speed was 12 knots cruising and 13-1/2 knots full speed. She was converted from a small oil tanker named Delivery No. 5, which was bought from her owner the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, New York.

Had a total crew of 28 men consisting of:

Captain	Assistant Cook
Mate	Rigger
Pilot	Tom Man - Lead Tom
Chief Engineer	Ringman (Brass rings on net)
2nd Engineer	Bunt Men or Net Men
Cook	Striker Boatman

Was converted to menhaden fishing vessel 1948 - 1949 at Colonna's Shipyard, Inc., Norfolk, Virginia.

Her 1st fishing season was 1959.

1st Captain: John Armstead - 1949 & 1950 - Matthews County

2nd Captain: Johnnie McNeal - 1951 - Reedville, Va.

3rd Captain: Gene Swift - 1952 thru 1958 - Fairport, Virginia

Only Chief Engineer - Owen McFarland - Reedville, Virginia

Owned by: Atlantic Fishing Company - Norfolk, Va.
 B. O. & W. W. Colonna, Sr.

Sold to: Haynie Products, Inc. - Reedville, Va. 1969

She was the 1st of 3 F/V's in Atlantic Fishing Company's fleet.

Captain Gene Swift and some other menhaden fish boat captains would not leave to go fishing or to the factory from which they were going to fish from on a Friday night. They would wait until 12:01 a.m. Saturday to start the fishing season for that year. They thought it would be bad luck if they left on Friday. And no black suit cases or any cat could be brought aboard. Above written by W. W. Colonna, Jr. as told to him by B. O. Colonna, Jr. - June 1986.