

The Picture on the cover is the trapboat "Charlotte" which was restored by the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School students. (some of them in photo above)

Between 1870-1920 trapboat fishing was a major part of the fishing industry on the Cape, accounting for 25% of the fresh fish available on the North-eastern seaboard. This type of fishing relied on wiers, poles and nets set into the waters of Cape Cod Bay to literally trap schools of fish (the most common being whiting, mackeral, & tuna); however, due to the general depletion of fish in the Bay the era of trapping came to an end in 1975. In that year, Louis Cordeiro pulled his traps for the last time. (See photographs)

In may of 1977, nine men struggled in 37 degree temperature and 55 mile an hour winds to raise a 14 ton trapboat built in 1918 named the "Charlotte." The boat had been abandoned on a beach in the West End of Provincetown in 1968. When she was at last freed from the mud and resurrected, the hard oak keel was found to be in almost perfect condition. Two years later, in 1979, the restored "Charlotte" was presented to the Provincetown Heritage Museum in a dedication ceremony which took place on June 23rd. (see photographs) The project was sponsored by the Provincetown Historical Association.

1979

(cover photo by Cyril Patrick, Jr.)