

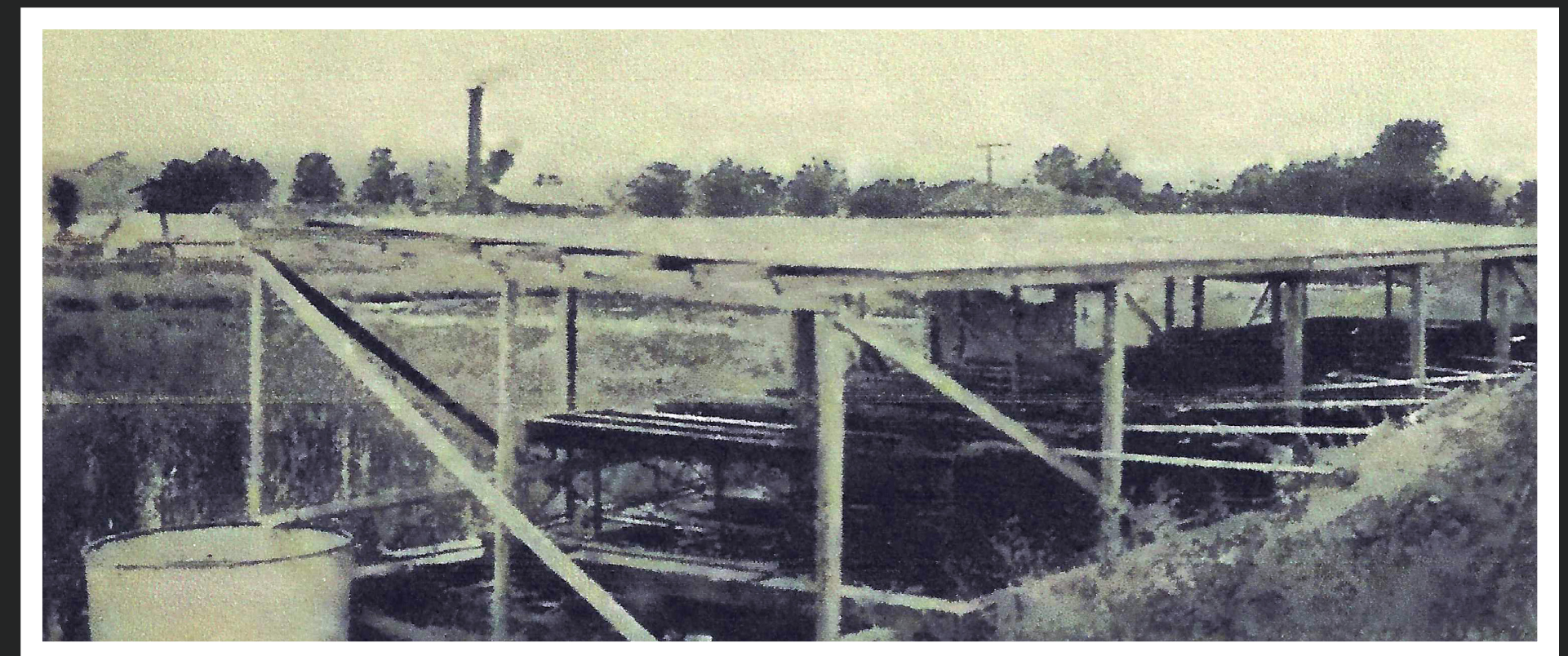
#12 Tank House

The original function of the Tank House was for mussel and fish research. The Tank House consisted of a 1-story, wood frame building with a gable roof, composite shingle roof, and pebble dash stucco exterior. The interior had two small offices and six mussel/fish troughs (concrete and metal) of different sizes and depths. There were also six concrete exterior troughs or ponds used for mussel propagation. In 1931 an additional seven galvanized troughs were installed outside the building. The 1941 inventory report refers to this building as the "holding house." The report notes there were six interior troughs (4 metal and 2 concrete) and 16 exterior troughs.

Daily operations were straightforward. Fish of one species were harvested and placed in a trough. Glochidia from the appropriate mussel were captured and then dispersed into the trough with the proper fish host. Fish were exposed to the glochidia for 10-20 minutes. After the fish gills were infected, the fish were ready to return to the river. Researchers soon learned that glochidia exposed to bright sunlight were less viable than those protected by shade. As a result, shelters were constructed over the exterior troughs. The change in ambient conditions paid large dividends for the researchers, providing more consistent and better results. With the termination of mussel propagation (early 1930s), the Tank House was converted to a holding house for fish and remained so until the hatchery-wide renovations in the 1950s. The Tank House was razed in 1952-53, and by 1954 the current administrative office was constructed on top of the original Tank House. An extension of the administrative office on the south side of the building was completed in 1984.



Overview of the Tank House in 1941 with fish/mussel troughs in foreground, facing west.



Mussel troughs with sun shelters in 1921, facing southeast.



Seining for fish for infection with glochidia.