

3-D Imaging Past & Present

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Rossier in China & Japan

Bennett and the Lost Cycloramas

Libby Prison

'50s Flavored Finds

A taste of the late '40s through the early '60s found in amateur stereo slides

by Mark Willke

Rooftop Treasures

I thought these two views complimented each other nicely, even though they are completely unrelated. Both feature eye-catching oversized objects on roofs for advertising purposes, which are a lot of fun to view in 3-D.

The first slide was photographed right here in Oregon by an unknown photographer. It shows an official weigh station for the Astoria Salmon Derby, which was

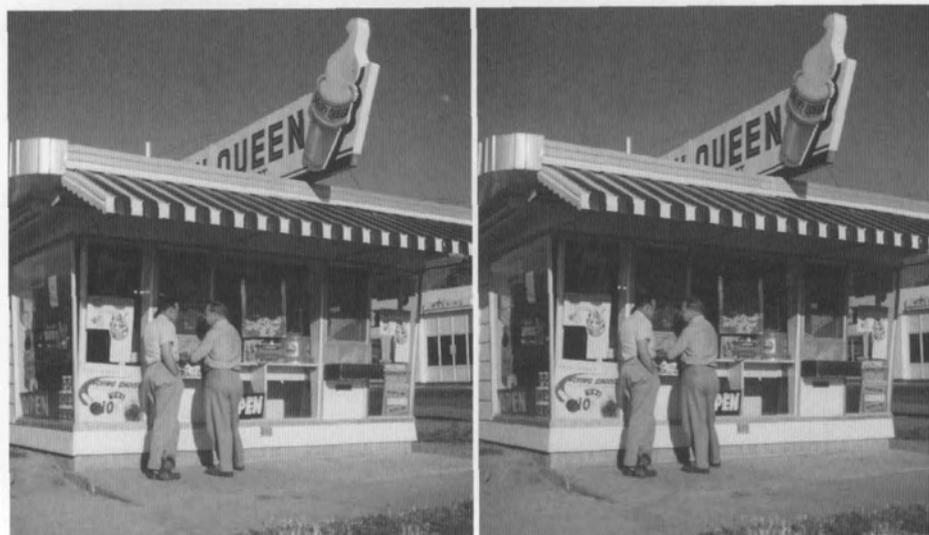
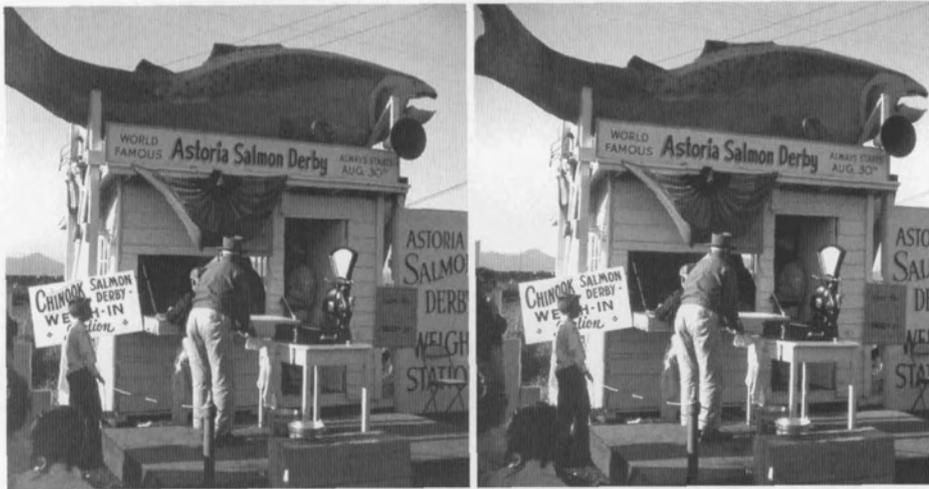
presumably located in Astoria, where the Columbia River flows into the Pacific Ocean. I had not heard of this derby before, and a Google search provided only limited information. It was apparently an annual 7-day event first held in 1936, with prizes for those who caught the largest salmon. It was still being held in the '50s, but I was unable to find mention of when it officially ended.

The town of Chinook in the Washington side of the Columbia also held an annual salmon derby,

and entrants in that derby could have their fish weighed at the Astoria Salmon Derby weigh stations. The sign on the far left mentions this second derby, so it is not clear which derby was in progress when this view was taken (or perhaps they both ran at the same time?) This unlabeled slide provides no information, but I sure like that giant fish on top!

The roof decor in the second view is not quite as dimensional and realistic as that in the first, but it is still fun. This small Dairy Queen appears to offer walk-up service only, with no seating. Most of the numerous signs in the window are just small enough to be unreadable, although I do see one promoting the "Flying Saucer" ice cream treat (which looks quite similar to today's Dilly Bar) for 10¢.

This unlabeled slide from a different unknown photographer was mounted in an older-style (gray with red edges) Kodachrome card-board mount, and offers no clues about the subject's location. 📷



This column combines a love of stereo photography with a fondness for 1950s-era styling, design and decor by sharing amateur stereo slides shot in the "golden age" of the Stereo Realist—the late 1940s through the early 1960s. From clothing and hairstyles to home decor to modes of transportation, these frozen moments of time show what things were really like in the middle of the twentieth century. If you've found a classic '50s-era slide that you would like to share through this column, please send it to: Fifties Flavored Finds, 5610 SE 71st, Portland, OR 97206.

As space allows, we will select a couple of images to reproduce in each issue. This is not a contest—just a place to share and enjoy. Please limit your submission to a single slide. If the subject, date, location, photographer or other details are known, please send that along too, but we'll understand if it's not available. Please include return postage with your slide. Slides will be returned within 6 to 14 weeks, and while we'll treat your slide as carefully as our own, Stereo World and the NSA assume no responsibility for its safety.

