

3-D Imaging Past & Present

March/April 2007
Volume 32, Number 5

NSA

A Publication of
National
Stereoscopic
Association, Inc.

STEREO WORLD

**Did This
Realist
Screen
Help Avoid a
Nuclear
War?**

**Rin Tin Tin!
Beam Splitters**

'50s Flavored Finds

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

by Mark Willke

50th Anniversary of a Loss

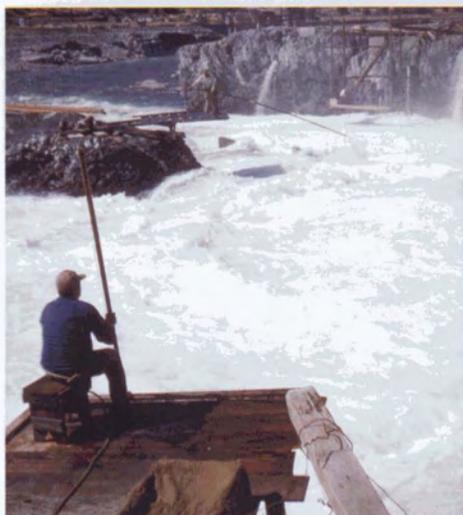
Our two views this issue return us to the Columbia River—the same river between Oregon and Washington near where last issue's image of the Astoria Oregon Salmon Derby weigh station was taken. If you navigate this river inland from Astoria for 150 or so miles, to an area about 8 miles east of the city of The Dalles, Oregon, you will *not* see the rapids and falls pictured below, but that's

what makes these images so precious. This area was known as Celilo Falls, and a little research on the internet reveals that generations of Native Americans fished at this site for over 10,000 years. Wooden platforms and scaffolds were constructed to allow better access to the many Salmon passing through the thundering waters. These fish were scooped up in long-handled dip nets, although spears were sometimes also employed to catch the fish.

Louis and Clark passed through this area in 1805 on their expedition, and made note in their journals of the violent waters of the rapids and falls there. They also mentioned seeing Indians fishing from wooden platforms around the falls, as well as seeing large quantities of fish being dried there.

By the 1940s, several dams had already been constructed across the Columbia River, and another was proposed near The Dalles. Construction began in the 1950s, and on March 10, 1957, the gates of The Dalles Dam were closed against the Columbia. The newly formed lake behind the dam completely flooded the entire Celilo Falls area, forcing an end to a way of life for the Native Americans.

Today, 50 years later, stereo images like these allow us to go back in time and visit the area and its activities before it disappeared. Dated August 1955, these Realist slides were mounted in older-style (gray with red edges) Kodachrome cardboard mounts. 📷



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.

