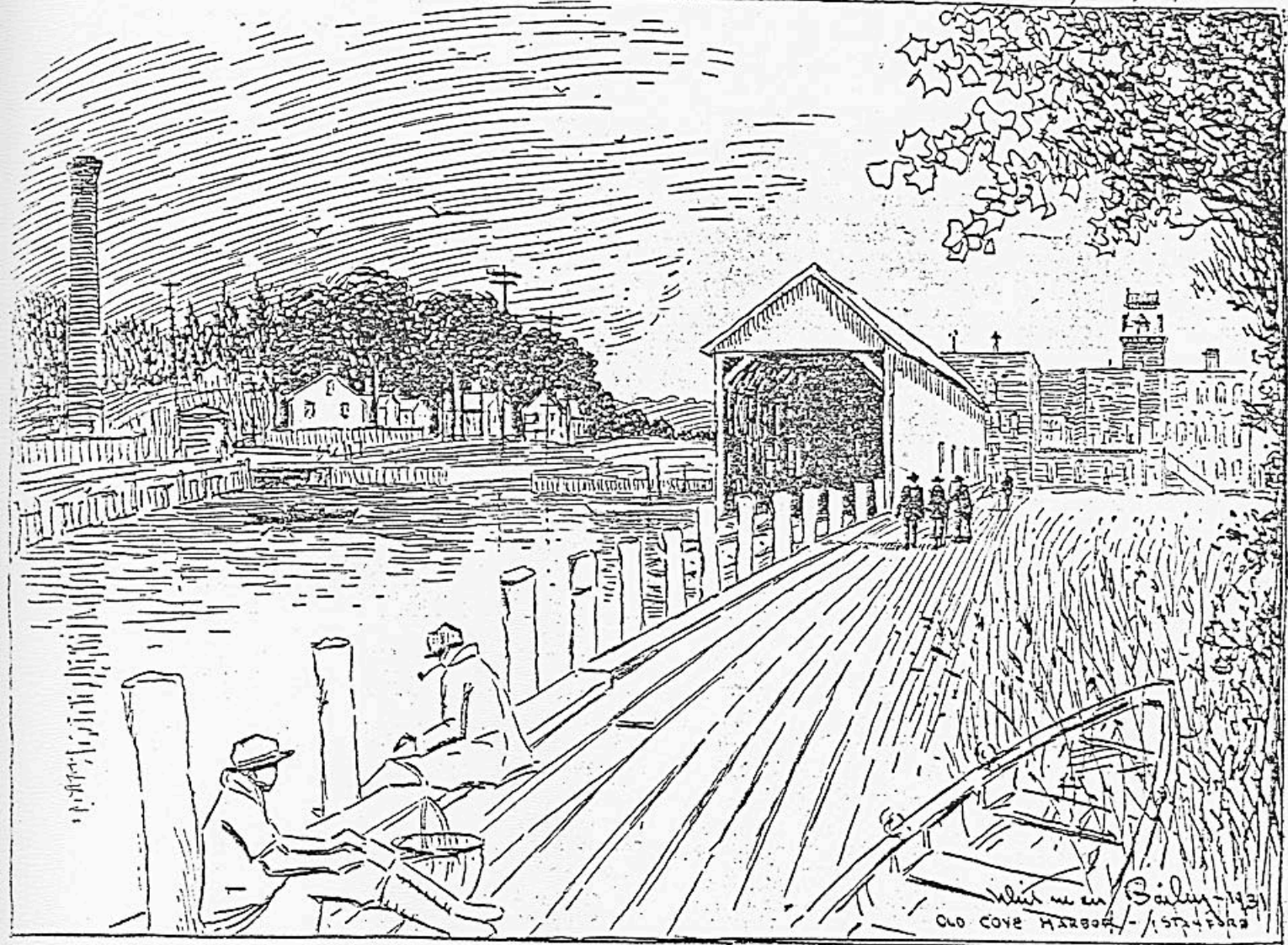


# ARTIST'S VIEW OF OLD COVE MILL HARBOR

May 16, 1931



Prior to the year 1832 an extract from logwood was almost unknown. About this time Henry J. Sanford started, in an experimental way, the manufacture of dye-wood extracts. He chose for his undertaking a small wooden building, which stood to the east and near the present dam in that section of Stamford known as the Cove. This site was chosen, no doubt, because of the water power, for as far back as 1791, a flour mill had been conducted by William Fitch and John W. Holly at this same point. Henry San-

ford's enterprise aroused unusual interest, for the extracting of dyes from logwood was something untried. But the business rapidly grew to such an extent, that Sanford was soon forced to erect a much larger building, which stood about a thousand feet to the west, where a good channel offered fine shipping facilities. Now curious boats, laden with logwood brought for the purpose of making dye-wood extracts, slowly made their way along this channel. The Cove section of Stamford had some into general fame, for these logwood extracts were

shipped to all parts of the world.

It was not until 1844 that this concern was changed under the laws of Connecticut to a corporation, known as the Stamford Manufacturing Company. The manufacture of licorice paste was now added to its products. In 1859, after Henry J. Sanford's death, the concern had a number of different owners but in 1875 the firm came under the management of William W. Skiddy. Mr. Skiddy was not only a successful business man, but he also had a love for the beautiful. His desire was to

make the Cove section an attractive spot, so that many of the present trees, the various pathways, the general landscape which one enjoys here today are undoubtedly a part of Mr. Skiddy's plan to improve the neighborhood.

Owing to several large fires which have occurred here from time to time, the old Cove mills have practically disappeared, but there is still enough left in the general neighborhood to signify that this section once played an important part in Stamford's early industries.

Whitman Bailey.