Bethinking of Old Orleans

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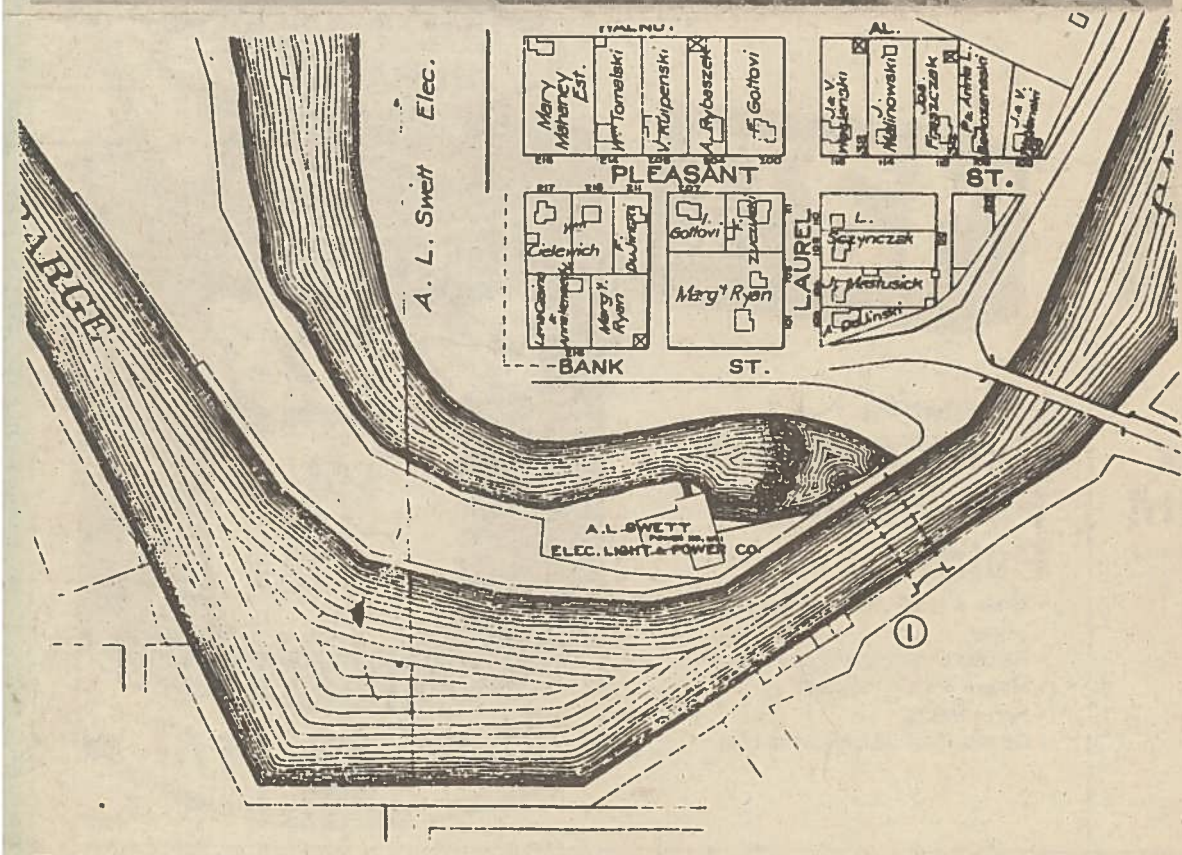
MEDINA AQUEDUCT



Both the photo shown here, taken in May 1914, and the map from the New Century Atlas of Orleans County, published in 1913, show the Medina Aqueduct. In the photo we have a view looking westerly into the Medina canal basin. In the distance the spire of the First Baptist Church projects skyward, while in the foreground we see the top of the then newly constructed aqueduct in the bottom of the canal. This aqueduct replaced an older one when the canal was last enlarged. It is necessary here for Oak Orchard Creek to flow under the canal immediately upstream from the Medina Falls on Oak Orchard Creek.

The map shows the aqueduct with dotted lines and the falls directly to the right of the A.L. Swett Electric Light and Power Co. The photo also shows the Swett Building which is in the center, just to the north of, and immediately outside the concrete retaining wall. A large square smoke stack is also quite visible at the Swett Power Co. When this photo was taken, work was just being completed on the canal as we know it today in the Medina Canal basin.