

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

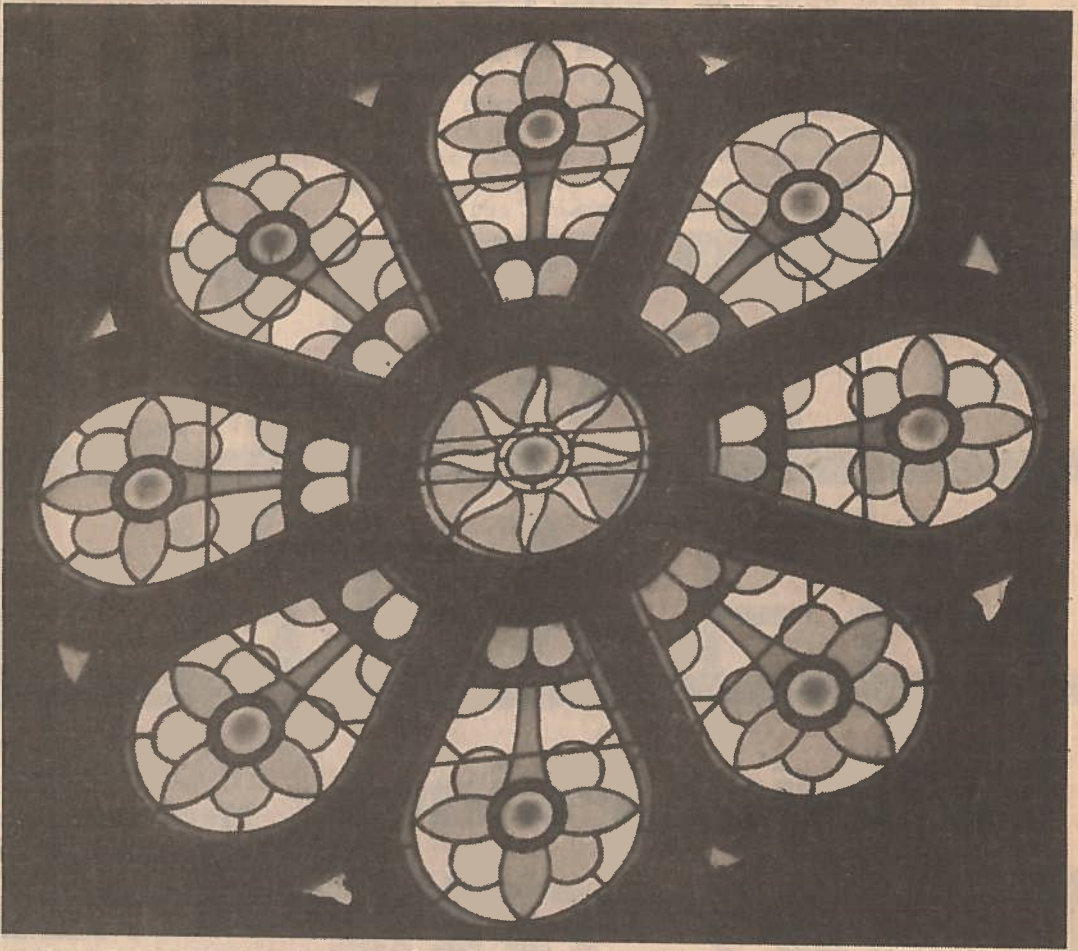
C.W.Lattin County Historian

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## "LUMINARIES IN THE FIRMAMENT"



It has been two years since I ran a series of stories in this column on stained glass windows found in Orleans County. The project of surveying these precious forms of local fine art and writing about them has been somewhat fallow but not forgotten.

In a quasi sense church windows fall into the public domain and therefore, when it comes to fine art, are our major works of art. We have no notable paintings or sculptures in the public domain. If one sees architecture as a fine art, we indeed, have noteworthy examples.

The Cobblestone Society Museum has now decided to have me compile enough material on this subject to publish a 60-page booklet entitled "Luminaries in the Firmament," (Gen 1:15), A Guide To Stained Glass Windows Of Orleans County. The book, illustrated with color photographs, will have over forty figural stained glass windows found in around twenty churches, representing many denominations. The illustrations will be arranged in chronological order, telling the story of the life of Jesus. It will begin with the Old Testament, i.e.: Isaiah's Portrait, Christ Church, Babylon, followed by New Testament stories and parables such as "The Penitent Woman" from St. Mary's Church, Medina, and ending with allegorical images, an example being: "Christ At The Door," Carlton Methodist.

It will describe and illustrate not only the symbolic nature of the windows but will give related historic information of style, maker, costs, etc. Any late 19th Century and early 20th Century examples of stained glass, including Tiffany, Pike, Bohé, Haskins, Keck, and Lamb windows, plus a few windows from the 1950's will be included. The book will be edited for liturgical correctness by the Rev. Ted Auble, MA, STB, of the Rochester Diocese. Photographs are by Dr. James Orr. The preface will be written by Valerie O'Hara Murray from

the Pike Stained Studio in Rochester.

The cost of publishing a limited edition of a thousand copies of this book in color will burden the Cobblestone Society. Outside financial support is needed and your participation is requested. The book committee made up of William Nestle, James Orr, Evelyn Lyman, Jean Bistoff and C.W. Lattin, has set up the following guidelines for patrons who wish to help. There are several categories to choose from; Silver Patrons, \$25, Gold Patrons, \$50, and Platinum Patrons, \$100. Patrons will have their names printed in the book under their category. In addition, the Platinum Patron is entitled to one copy of the book.

Special gifts of \$500 will receive a one-half page and \$1,000 Patrons will receive a full page. Names may be accepted in memoriam under all categories.

The Cobblestone Society is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the New York State Regents in 1967. Therefore, donations are tax deductible.

Checks should be made out to "The Cobblestone Society," Box 363, Albion, New York, 14411. Please be specific as to how the name or memorial is to appear in print. The deadline is September 1, 1992.

"Luminaries In The Firmament" will be released in late October for this year's Christmas market. Pre-publication price is \$12.95 before December 1, 1992. After that date the price will be \$14.95.

The book committee thanks you in advance for any consideration you may give this unique project and collectors' item.

The rose window shown here is one of two from the First Baptist Church, Holley, N.Y. Being an original installation in that church, it dates to 1890 and is a good representative example of glass work in geometric formation from that period.