

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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FRANK W. MALLISON 1860-1943

During his active life Frank Mallison designed and supervised the construction of many industrial structures, public buildings and residences in Medina and other parts of Western New York. He was born in New York City and came to Knowlesville at the age of 16 in 1876. Then moving to West Barre he married Estella Rowley on Christmas Day 1879. He moved to Medina in 1889 and a little while afterward went to Albion where he became associated for a decade with William V.M. Barlow, an accomplished architect. In 1900 he began his architectural practice in Medina entering into partnership with Arthur Soucie under the firm name of Mallison & Soucie.

While he was engaged in the contracting business, together with that of architecture, he designed and built ten cold storages in Western New York. Among them were three Medina Cold Storages plus cold storages at Barker, Brockport, Lyndonville and Williamson. He designed and supervised the construction of the Catholic Church at Clinton, N.Y. and the Universalist Church parish hall in Middleport. Other Medina buildings attributed to his skill are the State Armory, the former N.Y.C. Depot, City Hall, Medina Memorial Hospital, the Masonic Temple, East Avenue plant of S.A. Cook, the Cook Building and the former Odd Fellows Building. He was also the supervising architect for Medina High School.

He designed homes in Medina for Dr. T.C. Corliss, J.C. Posson, Milton J. Whedon, Carl Wirth, Irving Bowen, George A. Bowen, Edward Slack, John W. Lindke, Alonzo L. Waters, Mrs. Irving Rowley, B.C. Dice and Fred Breitbeck where Mrs. Fred Brietbeck (Mallison's daughter) still resides.

Mr. Mallison was also a well-known fraternal leader in Medina, being active in the Medina Lodge of Masons as well as the Odd Fellows. He attained high positions in each order being Master, High Priest and District Deputy 1922-23 for the Masons. In the Odd Fellows he was Past Noble Grand, Past Patriarch and Grand Patriarch of the State Encampment in 1918.

The fact that most of Frank Mallison's work still stands is living testimony to his skill as a talented architect who selected fine materials and joined them securely.