

# Bethinking Of Old Orleans

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## The old swimming hole

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Our photo featured with this story was taken in July 1934 by Fred Holt. In the *Albion Midlander* of August 1934 we glean the following article under the title "Callard's Popular This Summer."

The "old swimming hole" has gone distinctly modern down at Earl Callard's on Otter Creek in Waterport. Nearly any time these hot summer afternoons many budding aquatic stars are to be found at this spot, making use of the high chute, dangling from the swing or bounding gracefully into the air from the various springboards to land in the water with hardly a ripple or a splash--maybe. In

erecting the various pieces of equipment to be found at this summer playground, Mr. Callard has added greatly to the recreation of many swimming advocates in this section.

The high slide or chute to the right appears to have a metal liner in a wooden structural support system. This is certainly quite a homemade piece of work which took some engineering skill to contrive. And what's more it looks like it was fund to use. A kind of scaffolding built around the tree has a diving board suspended off it and access to a swing hanging on the tree limb. Note the vintage cars parked on the grounds.

We also see some men in a rowboat with fishing equipment. Our picture was taken just up stream on Otter Creek before it flows into Lake Alice. Earl Callard, a resident of Waterport owned the farm-land seen here.

I've been given the impression that he may have charged a small fee to drive onto the land and use the swimming equipment.

The *Albion Midlander* was a little monthly newspaper put out during the mid-1930's by the Orleans County Trust Company of Albion. It featured human interest stories from the area.

