

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

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## MONITOR CLOCK WORKS - MEDINA

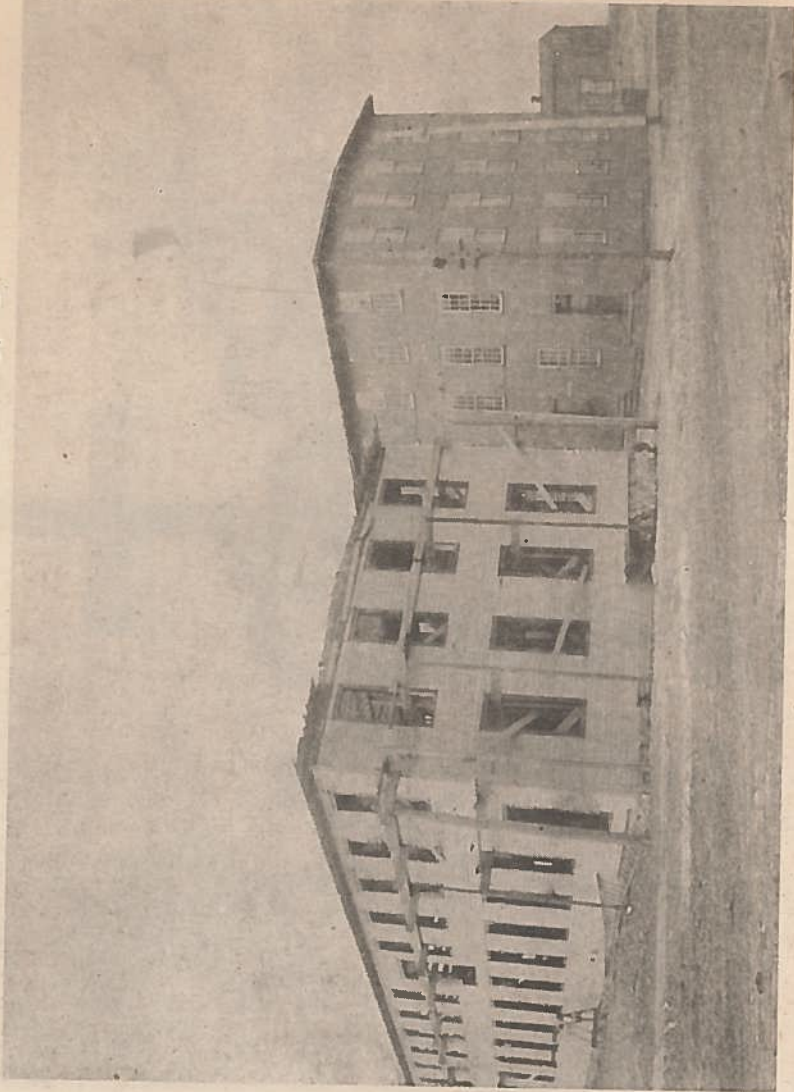
The Orleans County Business Directory copyrighted 1910 by Roberts Bros. Co. lists one clock manufacturer. The listing appears as: "Monitor Clock Works, 149 Glenwood Ave., Medina, N.Y." This alone does not tell us a great deal about this one-time small business. However, I recently ran across this photo which could possibly date to around 1905. On the back, someone wrote in pencil "Monitor Clock Works" plus several names of men including "Bert Chubbuck, owner, Ed. Gould, Supt., Jim Luspa, John Troczykuske, Jim Garrett, Jim Daly." In checking the 1911 Orleans County Directory, I find under Monitor Clock Works, B.A. Chubbuck, propr., 149 Glenwood Ave." The directory also lists Edgar Gould as a foreman at the Monitor Clock Works. The names of the others do not appear in the 1911 directory except a James Daily who is listed as a factory worker.

It's fair to assume that these other men noted on the photo, might have worked there if they were young men at the time and unestablished they might well not be included in a directory listing.

Monitor Clocks occasionally show up in

antique shows and shops. The most typical ones are small wooden wall clocks with about a 6-inch diameter dial and no glass door over it. They are driven by a single pull chain weight which needs to be wound up every day much like a cuckoo clock. However, I've seen mission style grandfather clocks and a couple of shelf clocks. All the ones I've seen appear to be made of oak and have a paper label in the back indicating the manufacturer.

From an old news clipping I have since discovered, we find that the Monitor Clock Works was established around 1904 in the Mahar Block on East Center Street in Medina. Shortly thereafter it moved to Glenwood Avenue into the top floor of a building owned by A.L. Swett. Here several different types of clocks were made including grandfather clocks in mahogany. In 1911 the clock works moved to Brockport with Edgar Gould relocating there as the superintendent of the wood working shop. In 1916 the Monitor Clock Works went out of business which was partly a result of the shortage of brass during World War I. Mr. Gould then returned to Medina where he had a wood working shop



on North Street.

I believe the Monitor Clock Works was located on the third floor of the building to the right in our photo. When this picture was

taken, the building to the left appears to be under construction. Both of these buildings were part of the A.L. Swett complex on Glenwood Ave.