

Clark's Mills

Our photo circa 1902 is from a glass plate negative, which depicts the area once commonly known as Clark's Mills.

This view was taken looking due north from the top of the old railroad trestle near Waterport in the town of Carlton. Here we see Oak Orchard River and the mill pond used for water power to the mill.

To the right is the mill which appears to be a large gambrel roof structure with bold advertising painted on it. This states: Geo. F. Lum Purity Flour.

A team of horses hitched to a wagon is seen in front of the mill. In the center of our

picture we notice two iron bridges, supported on a large masonry pier in the middle of the river. The road to these bridges has been long abandoned and the bridges removed many years ago.

This road connected Park Avenue and Oak Orchard River Road. Coming west off Park Avenue it made its downward decline under the east end of the trestle to the mill and then crossed the river to ascend on the west side. All this was immediately below the power house and Lake Alice, which were both completed in 1920.

The 1903 Orleans Directory lists George F. Lum as a proprietor of Waterport Mills. The

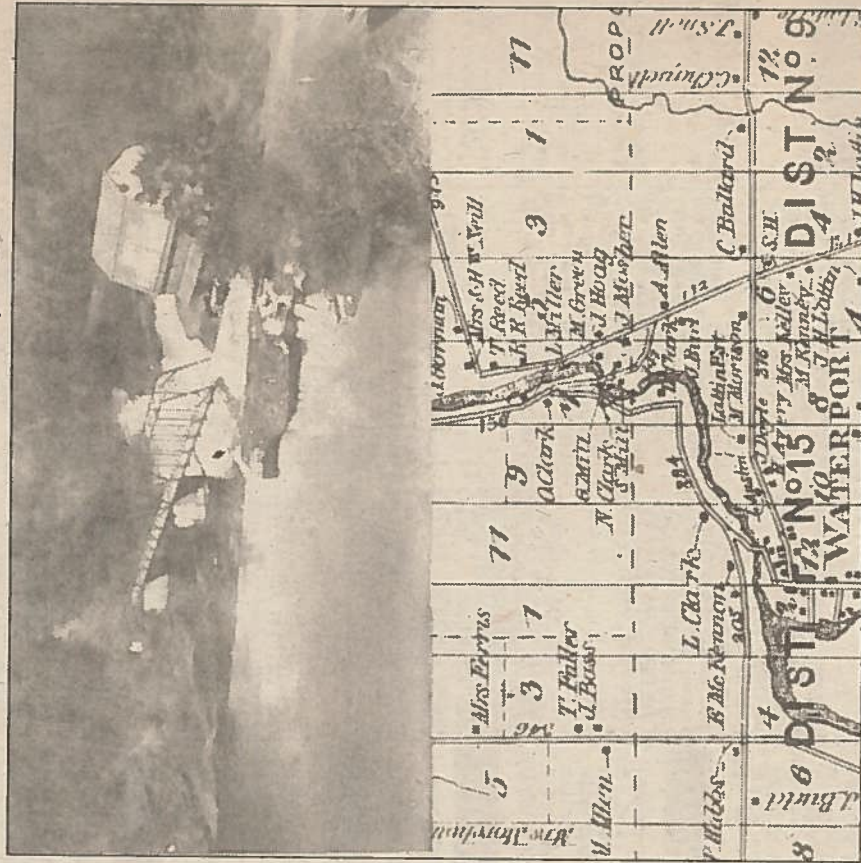
1869 Orleans County Directory lists Nelson Clark as owner of a grist and saw mill.

Our map from the 1875 Niagara-Orleans County's Atlas prominently shows N. Clark with a G. Mill and a S. Mill.

By the time our picture was taken, the saw mill appears to be gone with only the grist mill remaining which would have been adapted and upgraded into a flour mill.

Our photo also shows the intake for water through a mill race under the road to the mill.

Now almost 100 years after this picture was taken it would be difficult to see any remains of what shows here.



11-1-2000