

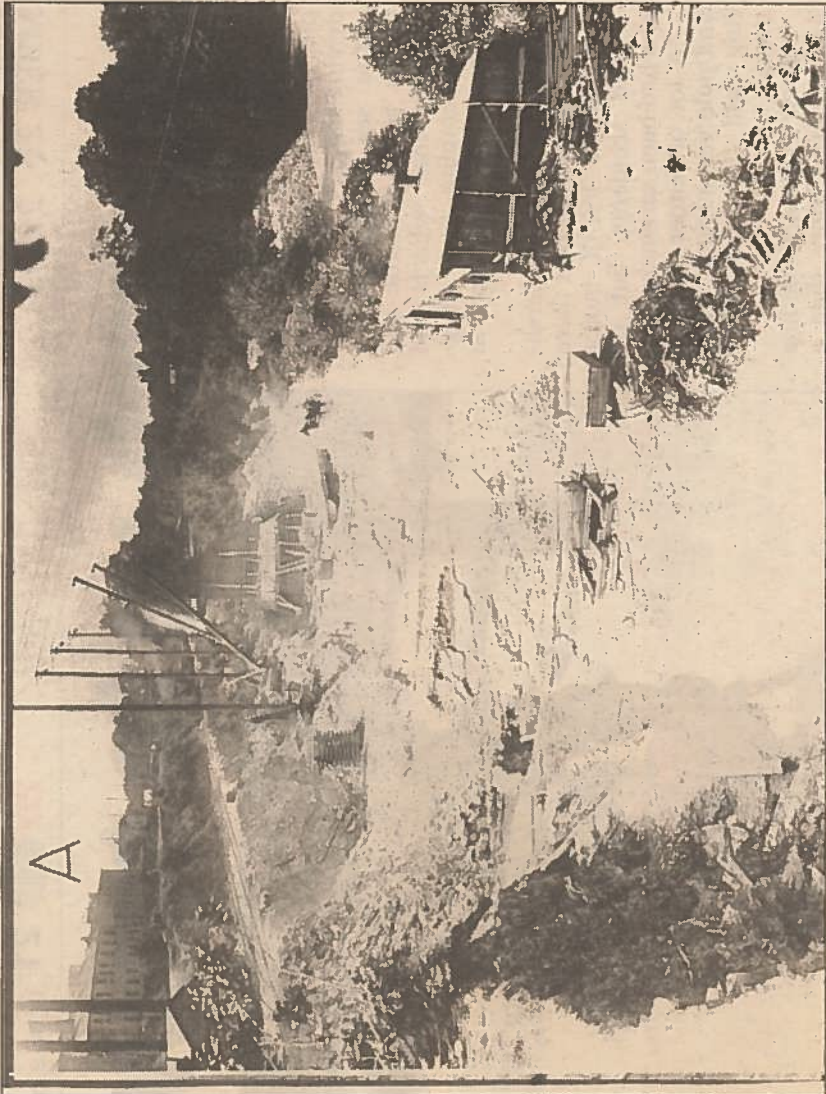
Bethinking of Old Orleans

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Canal Work

No. 51



With the present work on the Medina Aqueduct and Canal Basin, it is of timely interest to look at how it was done back in 1913.

Picture A was taken on July 8, 1913, looking northwest between the Erie Canal at left and Oak Orchard Creek on the right. Yes, that's the canal in the upper left of photo A immediately behind those stone buildings

seen there.

In the upper center of photo A we see the beginning construction of the retaining wall which was being built in 1913. Dead center in the picture is Medina Sandstone bedrock which the retaining wall is set on.

I think the shed to the right was simply a temporary structure for sawing wood for forms and a place

to store tools. Smoke appears to be coming out of a stack on the roof, so I am assuming they were using steam power.

This picture gives you a pretty good idea of how much wider the canal became when this project was completed.

Photo B was taken on July 31, 1913, and shows the retaining wall pro-



gressing.

Again looking northwest, we see a view of Oak Orchard Creek on the right. This view was just west of where the Church Street bridge crossed the canal.

In the lower right hand corner we see a horse-drawn wagon with stones in it. To the right of the retaining wall there is a track laid for

a small steam engine and little dump cars for hauling away earth and stones.

Note

The use of many derricks in both picture for lifting purposes. In photo B a bucket attached to the derrick is used for dumping cement into a form.