



## BETHINKING OF OLD ORLEANS

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# Brown's Berry Patch

BY C.W. LATTIN

Yes, this is Brown's Berry Patch in the Town of Carlton. Or, more correctly, this is the site of Brown's Berry Patch.

Our photo shown here is that of the First Presbyterian Church of Carlton, which was erected in 1854 in the Greek Revival style. In the foreground is the Oak Orchard River Road as it intersects onto Route 18.

In the left rear of the picture are church sheds, which were used for the horses while people years ago attended wor-

ship services. To the right are the former barns on the Simpson farm, which is now part of Brown's operation.

The Presbyterian Church of Carlton was organized in 1841 and disbanded around 1917. Their meeting house had two front doors, one for women and one for men. Following its function as a church, it became a farm storage building and was eventually torn down when Brown's acquired the property in 1959.

This writer congratulates the Brown family on their recent

observation of 200 years of farming, from 1804 to 2004 in the Town of Carlton, the oldest farm in Orleans County.

While farming has changed drastically over this period of time, the Browns have kept pace by looking ahead to the future with readiness to serve the required needs of consumers. As Bob Brown recently put it, "We are not just in the farming business but rather the food business." Certainly our picture represents a familiar site to many but a greatly changed scene to most.