

BETHINKING OF OLD ORLEANS

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Park ¹¹⁻⁴⁻⁰⁴ Water Tower



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Our photo shown here was first published in the Journal-Register on May 10, 1961. It shows the demolition of the 130-foot-high water tank that was located in State Street Park in Medina.

It was erected in the early 1920s to provide pressure balance and storage of municipal water when Medina took its supply partly from wells in Shelby and partly from the canal. In 1960, Medina started to receive its water supply from Niagara County making the old water tank obsolete.

However, this municipal landmark was not about to give up. It seems the tank resisted all efforts to be toppled.

Wrecking crews from Lancaster Development Inc. had a great deal of difficulty in getting it down. The legs of the tower were cut, but just settled down and had to be cut again.

A cable was fastened to the top to pull it over, but the cable snapped. Once the cable was repaired, wreckers pulled it again and finally the tower tipped as we see in the photo.

But in a final statement of resistance, the legs twisted and buckled that caused the water tank to fall in the opposite direction as planned. The tower came to rest over the park's embankment along Oak Orchard Creek.

The Lancaster company bid \$1,500 for the scrap metal in the tower.

Our photo shows the Horan Road canal bridge in the lower right background.