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WATERPORT, 130 YEARS AGO

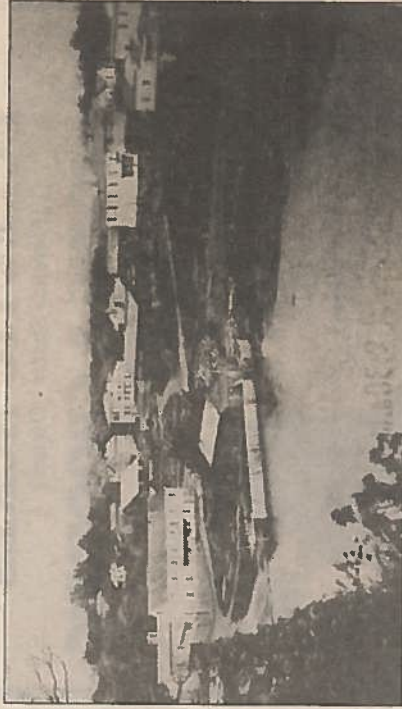
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Our photo view of Waterport in the late 1870s was taken from the north embankment of Oak Orchard River looking in a southeasterly direction. Many of the buildings no longer stand.

This picture was taken, however, when Waterport was a thriving and self-sustaining community. This of course was in part because of water power generated from Oak Orchard River.

In the foreground was the mill pond, dam and mill race which provided water power to several businesses.

To the left is the grist, flour and feed mill in the larger building. Center is the saw mill with logs in a yard beside it.



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to become the Albion Power Co. The dark colored building was the agricultural works where plows and cultivators were made out of cast iron, i.e., a foundry.

In 1898, a steel arch bridge was built across this area, thus

Waterport's main street.

In 1919, A.L. Swett of Medina turned this area into a reservoir for electric generation which he named Lake Alice in memory of a deceased daughter. Consequently, the mills and foundry were removed then, or prior to