BETHINKING OF OLDE ORLEANS

Vol. XXIX, No. 46

11-22-07

CURTIS FOUNDRY

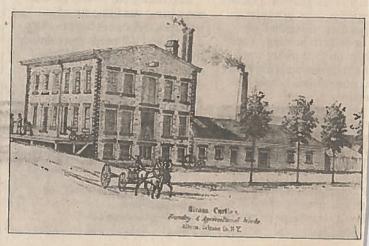
BY C.W. LATTIN
Orleans County historian

bout 1845, Hiram Curtis built a foundry on the southwest corner of Main and Orchard Streets, just north of the Erie Canal in Albion. The building was a simple two-story foundry built of field cobbles with 12 windows on the side and 10 windows in the front, with a central door on the first and second stories.

In addition to running a general foundry, Mr. Curtis manufactured plows until his death in 1870. This business continued to operate under the administrators of his estate for one year.

In the spring of 1871, the Curtis Manufacturing Company was organized with \$50,000 and purchased the property. This company manufactured agricultural implements, including teapers, mowers and general nachinery.

The building stood until about 1895 when it was torn



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

down.

The Lake Country Pennysaver now stands on the site and utilizes a portion of the foundation of Mr. Curtis' foundry. A small portion of the cobblestone work can be seen at the rear of the building today.

The loading dock seen here was located on the edge of the street or the north approach to the canal bridge.