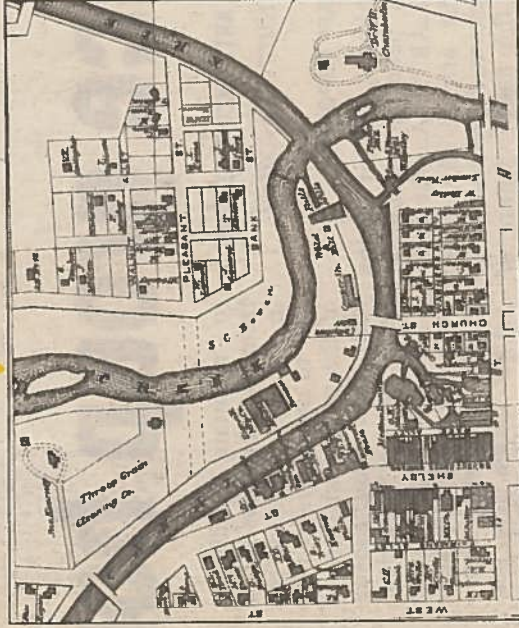


# Business booms at the basin

BY C. W. LATTIN  
Orleans County historian

The map shown here is taken from the 1875 Orleans County atlas showing the Medina canal basin. It is absolutely amazing the number of business establishments that were once located here because of the Erie Canal.

The ones I can spot on this map are as follows: S.C. Bowen Warehouses, Ives & Son Warehouse, L. Brennan Blacksmith Shop, The Bancroft House (Hotel), Medina Iron Works, The Gas Works, Warehouse, Coal Yard, Beggall Mfg. Co. and Machine Shop, a foundry, Throop Grain Cleaning Co., Cooper Shop, Weld & Hill Flour Mill, W. Hedley Lumber Yard, W. Hedley Saw & Planing Mill and Plaster Mill, L. Davy Carriage Shop, and a canal collector's office. Also, there were many



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## Bethinking of Olde Orleans

country and our local economy.

At 1 p.m. Saturday during the annual Canal Heritage Days celebration in the Medina canal basin, a tour will be conducted by local historians. This will lead visitors along a route on the north side of the basin where the Medina falls may be seen, along with the Medina aqueduct and the canal retaining wall — an engineering feat in itself.

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canal basin as we know it today. It is perhaps unfortunate that back then, all the old-time flavor of the early canal days was obliterated.

What remains today are only fragments of the bustling times when the Erie Canal was a link to the rest of the

other businesses in the relatively small district, all because of the major impact of the canal. Our map, alone, shows close to 20 business establishments.

Between 1911 and 1914, this area of the canal was expanded into the present