

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin • County Historian

Vo. VI

No. 38

ARCHITECTURE DESTROYED

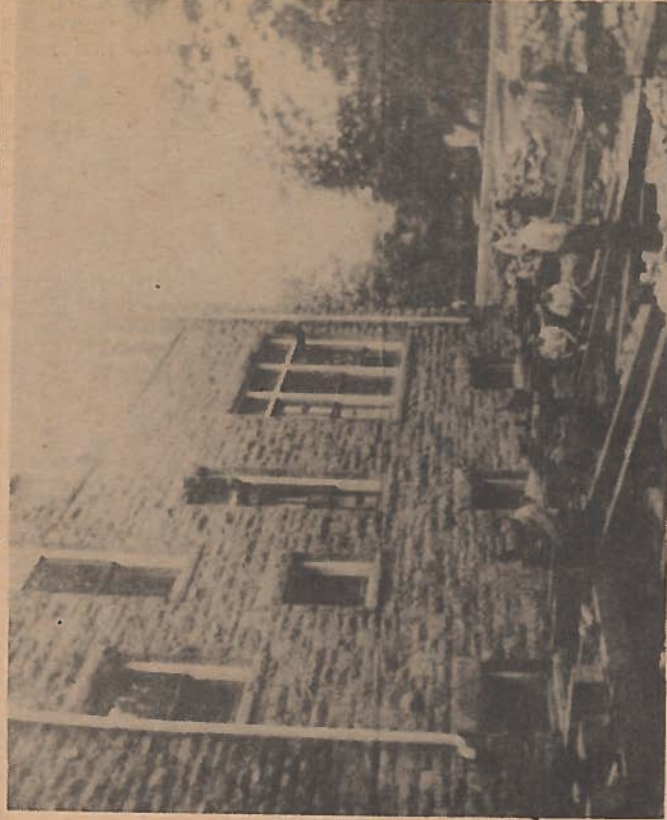
Part XXV

Former High School - Medina

9-20-84

At a Medina School meeting held in Bents Opera House on March 12, 1897 it was voted that a high school be built for a cost of \$10,000. Work on plans and construction began almost at once for this school which was located on South Academy Street. The school was built of Medina Sandstone in the Victorian-Romanesque Style. Buildings of this style are characteristically massive in form, have arched openings and high peaked roofs. A winter time photograph displayed here shows the building during the mid 1950's.

By 1921 however, this high school and an adjacent academy building were deemed too small for growing enrollment. A new construction program was accepted at that time. The old academy building was razed to make way for the present Medina High School which was completed in 1923. In order to have enough space on the school grounds for the new building, the older 1897 high school had to be moved. The other photo included here shows this mammoth Sandstone building being moved on wooden skids in 1921. It was re-located just a little west of its original site still facing South Academy Street. Many students who attended school there at that time remember that classes were not suspended during the



move. "Yes, that's right! They moved it with the kids inside." Mr. Clifford Wise, whom I wish to thank for much of this information, recalls that a construction worker was killed on this project.

From 1923 until 1955 this school building was used for elementary pupils. During the following twelve years it was used for conference rooms and administration offices. In February 1967 the interior was destroyed by fire and in the Fall of that year it was removed to make space available for parking.

