

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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Arcade Block, Medina N.Y.



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Arcade Block - Bancroft House

With these three pictures it is interesting to see how the same corner in Medina has changed throughout the years. One of the first major business blocks erected in Medina was the Arcade located on Main Street at the Pearl Street intersection. It housed an entertainment hall, grocery and boasted a boat landing in the heydays of the old Erie Canal. Later the structure was used by the Medina Bank until 1866. J.A. Johnson of Yates then purchased the building and remodeled it making it into a hotel which he called the Johnson House.

In 1873 H.N. Bancroft purchased the Johnson House and changed its name to Bancroft House. It was at that time that a six-story tower was added and other architectural elements in the Second Empire Style were added. The tower, in fact, had a community clock with dial illuminated by gas jets. Around the turn of the century the property was purchased by A.H. White who changed the name again, making it the White Hotel.

During the 1920's a fire caused extensive damage to this outstanding landmark. It was then that the third and fourth floors were removed along with the tower. All that remains today are the first and second stories with the Medina Parts store being located on the main floor.



BANCROFT HOUSE, MEDINA N.Y. H. N. MOPKINS PROP.