PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located on Tonawanda Creek within the limits of the Town and City of Batavia, in Genesee County, New York.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The constructed works consists of channel and floodway improvements by clearing and enlargement.

- An improved channel, with bottom widths varying from 75 to 100-feet was excavated between the downstream project limit and the Batavia municipal dam.
- A cellular sheet pile retaining wall was constructed between Oak and Walnut Streets to obtain the required channel width without disturbing the existing bank protection and structures located on the left bank.
- Tonawanda Creek channel and floodway were also cleared within the project limits of natural growth, and other obstructions as necessitated by hydraulic requirements.
- Bank protection was provided at locations where increased scour was expected.
- Existing drainage facilities flowing into the improved channel have been altered to integrate them with the improvement.

AUTHORIZATION

Construction of flood control improvements on Tonawanda Creek at Batavia, New York, was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1948 (Public Law No. 858, 80th Congress, second session) in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief of Engineers in Senate Document No. 46, 80th Congress, first session.

PROTECTION PROVIDED

The project has been designed to provide flood protection for the city of Batavia. To accomplish this it was necessary to extend the improvement works for a considerable distance downstream of the City, since a flat stream gradient exists at this locality. The degree of protection provided was determined by selecting the plan of improvement which appeared to be the most feasible from an economic standpoint. The upstream limit of the project is near the Lehigh Valley Railroad bridge, east of Kibbe Park in the City of Batavia. The project extends from that point, 3.5 miles downstream and terminates approximately 1 mile from the River Street bridge, in the Town of Batavia.
CONSTRUCTION

Clearing and enlargement of approximately 3.5 miles of Tonawanda Creek through the City of Batavia and vicinity was completed during the period between November 1954 and November 1955. The prime contractor was Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company of Buffalo, New York. Material required to complete the project was obtained locally with the exception of steel sheet piling that was used in the retaining wall, which was purchased through Bethlehem Steel Corporation of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Final inspection of the project was made on October 14th, 1955 by representatives of New York State, the City of Batavia, and the Buffalo District Office. The inspection revealed that the project was complete and acceptable with the exception that there was a need for:

- Repair of the cellular wall where the pile on the stream side of cell 6, adjoining the “Y” pile linking cells 6 and 7 weren’t interlocked.
- The placement of bank protection and a head wall at the outlet for the 24” storm sewer discharging into Tonawanda Creek at station 136+47.
- Protection of the right bank at station 171+74, and 189+5 to prevent erosion at points where two rivulets discharge into the improved channel.

Repair to the cellular sheet pile wall was completed and was found to be acceptable on November 2, 1955. The other work that was found to be necessary at the time of the inspection was scheduled for completion during the 1956 construction season. The formal transfer to local interests was made on October 19th, 1955.
BATAVIA – BIRD’S EYE VIEW
BATAVIA – GENERAL PLAN AND AERIAL MAP OVERLAY