



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This image shows the old Orleans County Jail, circa 1998 in Albion. Sheriff Sullivan E. Howard is seated on the front lawn.

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Old Orleans County Jail held local area's rouges

OVERLOOKED ORLEANS: Teenage drinkers, vandals among the inmates

By **MATT BALLARD**
Orleans County Historian

ALBION — Nearly 180 years ago, the first jail in Orleans County was constructed at Court House Square of hewn timbers.

Prior to the completion of that building, jail cells in the basement of the first court house were used to hold prisoners. During the county's infancy, criminals were sent to Batavia for confinement.

A 19th century photo shows the second jail, constructed of stone, as it would have appeared in 1885.

Looking south on Platt Street, we see Sheriff Sullivan E. Howard of Holley seated in the front lawn of the jail.

The wood structure to the right of the jail provided housing for the sheriff and his family. To the immediate right of the sheriff's home and just out of view sits the court house.

We can assume that the woman seated in the hammock to the left of Sheriff Howard is his wife Phina Cole

but fails to make it beyond the yard; he is immediately recaptured.

■ **July 18, 1882** — Frank Gaskill, 14 years old of Albion, is sentenced to 10 days in jail for drunkenness.

■ **Jan. 12, 1883** — While locked up in county jail, Patrick O'Reilly declares he is one of the murderers of Lord Frederick Cavendish of Dublin, Ireland. The sheriff determines he is a liar, seeking free passage back home to Ireland.

■ **Nov. 11, 1886** — James Morgan, 22 years old of Laurel

Hill, is caught breaking street-light globes in Medina and sentenced to 15 days in jail.

■ **Dec. 9, 1886** — Mrs. Robert Mortimer, of Medina, is arrested and fined for chastising a female teacher at the Central school in Medina. In an attempt to avoid a jail sentence, she attempts suicide by overdosing on laudanum, but is unsuccessful.

■ **Aug. 1, 1889** — Mary Winchester, 34 years old of Shelby, is sentenced to 90 days in jail for using indecent language and insulting a woman at Medina.

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