

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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FACTS OF EARLY TIMES

VICTORY



DEFEAT.



Oak Orchard was laid out in 1803 and was the first north and south highway in the county.

In 1813 what is now known as County House Road was opened to give access to a grist mill at Shelby Center.

Medina's first burial ground was located on West Avenue near West Center Street across from the Baptist Church.

In 1836 the Medina and Darian Railroad opened using horse power to pull the cars which soon became impractical.

The first incorporated school in Orleans County was the Gaines Academy, a three-story brick building built in 1827. It was destroyed over fifty years ago.

The first steam railroad through the county was built in 1852.

Woodmen cut wood for 40¢ per cord in the early 19th century.

As early as 1822 a library association existed in Kendall, and was maintained until the school district libraries were established by the State.

The first hotel in Medina was built in 1824.

A brewery was operated in Medina as early as 1827 using locally grown hops.

The first newspaper in Orleans County was printed in Gaines in 1824 and lasted four years.

People found rest on straw ticks upon rope beds before the mattress as we know it.

The leach barrel was a fixture on many premises and women made their own supply of soft soap from lye and fats.

In 1832 a hotel known as the Eagle Tavern

occupied a site on the Court House Square in the vicinity of the County Clerk's office.

In 1852 wheat was worth 94¢, corn 50¢, oats 38¢, potatoes 75¢ per bushel and butter was 13¢ per pound.

The first physician in Albion was Dr. Orson Nichoson who was also the first county clerk.

The first settlement in the Village of Albion was commenced by William McAllister in 1811.

The first post office in Orleans County was established in Gaines with William J. Babbitt as postmaster.

The name Lyndonville was established by the post office in 1846 after people agreed at a public meeting to the name Lyndon. This was chosen because several of the inhabitants were from Lyndon, Vermont.

Salt was made in Holley as early as 1814 and in Medina in 1818.

Gaines hotels once gave shelter to such distinguished guests as Gen. Lafayette and Gen. Scott.

The summer of 1816 was marked by frosts and crops of all kinds were destroyed. Pioneer families scarcely had enough food to eat and many animals starved.

Before paper bags came into use, grocers had the ability to roll up a paper cornucopia to hold your purchases.

Our illustration shows election roosters which were symbols used after election time to announce a candidate's victory or defeat. The crowing rooster was however, the symbol most commonly used.