

## Mt. Albion tour

10-13-2000

Historians Bill Lattin and Neil Johnson will conduct a walking tour of the Mt. Albion Cemetery at 2 p.m. Oct. 14. The tour will take place rain or shine and will commence at the chapel off Route 31, one mile east of Albion.

This tour will conclude this year's series of cemetery tours which were planned by the Orleans County public historians as a means to bring attention to our local heritage because of the 175th anniversary of Orleans County.


Tours have been hosted at Mt. Albion, Beechwood in Kendall, Millville in Shelby, Hillside at Holley and Boxwood in Medina. One of the most incredible turnouts of people was for the Millville Cemetery tour in July which speaks well of the interest and pride of this cemetery and for the cemetery association

which made every effort to promote the event. More recently, the Friends of Boxwood Cemetery are to be commended for rejuvenating pride and interest in their beautiful cemetery.

Perhaps one of the most unusual and fascinating monuments in Orleans County is the beehive pictured here. This is located in Mt. Albion cemetery and serves as a headstone for George H. Ashby 1842-1891. Ashby is listed in the 1869 Orleans County Directory as a clerk in the canal collectors office and as owning a confectionery. His advertisement from the same directory also appears here. However, the 1887-88 Orleans County Directory notes him simply as an apiarist.

This marble beehive certainly leaves room for some

G. H. ASHBY,  
DEALER IN  
**CONFECTIONERY,**  
FOREIGN & DOMESTIC  
**FRUITS,**  
NUTS, TOYS, &c.  
ICE CREAM, OYSTERS,  
and Soda Water.  
ALBION, N. Y.



speculation. As a symbol in religious art it suggest great activity, diligent work, order and religious zeal in acquiring virtue. My own feeling about it is that it had nothing to do with any of the above for Ashby but rather was a personal comment interest in raising bees. It is believed that he sold supplies or apiarists or bee keepers. To me, it appears

more of an advertising gimmick than a religious symbol. Whatever the reason for it being there, it is certainly most unusual. This will of course, be one of our stops on the tour slated for Oct. 14. As has become a tradition for these tours, a \$10 prize will be awarded to the student who is first to find the designated symbol of the day.

