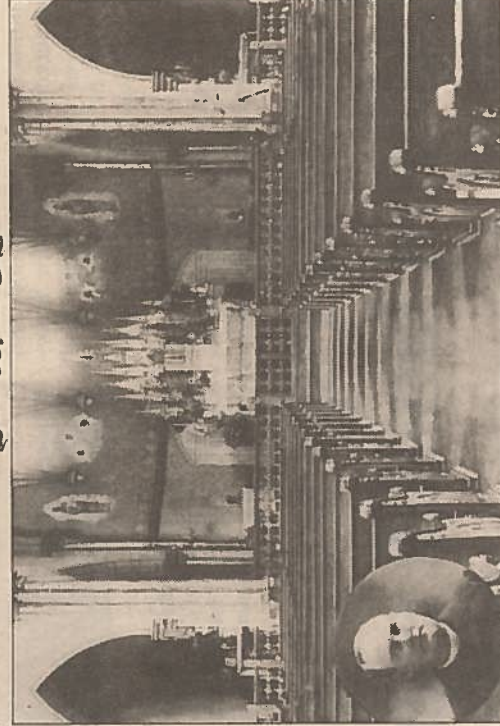


Regional preservation conference upcoming

On April 5, the Landmark Society of Western New York will present its 17th Annual Regional Preservation Conference in Albion. This year's conference will highlight the Village of Albion, which features two adjacent National Registers-listed historic districts. Albion has also been named to the New York Preservation League's current "Seven to Save" list as a historic place well worthy of preservation.

Registration for the conference will begin at 8 a.m. at Pullman Memorial Universalist Church, followed by the 9 a.m. keynote address at Christ Episcopal Church. This will focus on the importance of the Erie Canal. Bill Condo, coordinator for the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Commission and Peter Selgrist, Director of Preservation Services will present a vision for the future of the canal.

The public is invited to attend the keynote address free of charge. (In this case go directly to Christ Church.) For all other components of the



this tract John Bero will discuss steps congregations should take in planning for the use and maintenance of their buildings. Valerie O'Hara, owner of Pike Stained Glass Studios, will talk about stained glass restoration. Ann-Isabel Freidman of the Sacred Sites Program, New York Landmarks Conservancy, will present "What Grant Funders are Looking For." My own presentation will deal with church interiors, how they used to look and avoiding remodeling.

Our illustration of St. Joseph's Church in Albion shows what it looked like soon after it was dedicated in 1897. In 1952 the three windows over the altar were closed up and replaced with a large mural depicting "The Glorification of St. Joseph." Notice the fact that there is no pulpit in here. At the time this picture was taken it was common for Catholic churches not to have them as preaching was not the focus of Mass or worship.

House and Building Restoration and Landmark Commission and Preservation Board training. At the end, participants are invited to explore Albion's two historic districts which are the downtown business section and the historic Court House District, or attend a reception at the Cobblestone Museum Church in Childs.

As Orleans County historian, I will be giving a presentation as part of Maintaining Historic Religious Buildings. In

conference you must register by March 28 for the \$35 fee.

Following the keynote address there will be five conference tracks at different locations including St. Joseph's Center, Albion First Baptist Church, Christ Episcopal Church and Pullman Memorial Universalist Church. Sessions will include such topics as Revitalizing Main Street, Religious Building Maintenance, How to Complete a National Register Nomination, Historic