



## A forgotten church

BY C.W. LATTIN

**T**oday, few people would remember or are aware that a Lutheran Church ever existed in Albion.

It was known as St. Jacob's Evangelical Lutheran Church and was housed in a frame building located at 525 East State Street.

It was not until late in the 19th century that German immigrants came into Orleans County with most of them settling in Kendall or Medina. However, a few families came into the Albion area at that time and hence the inception of St. Jacob's. The Rev. A.T. Hanser, organizer of the first Lutheran church in Medina in 1885, also organized St. Jacob's the following year with the small congregation meeting in the Presbyterian Sunday School

rooms.

By 1887 the Medina church was growing and the Rev. George Bartling was appointed pastor with the Albion church also in his charge. At that point the Lutherans changed their meeting place to the building on East State Street near the stone quarries which was known as the Quarry Chapel. Regular services were held there and in 1889 the so-called Quarry Chapel was given by the Village of Albion to St. Jacob's Church congregation. The origin of the Quarry Chapel building still remains unknown.

Services were held there for around 45 years but the number of Lutheran families in Albion did not increase. By 1925 there were too few members left to keep the property in repair and maintain services with

borrowed pastors which seems to have been a tradition at St. Jacob's.

It was then that trustees, Edward Benthin and Fred Long, deeded the building to Chiesa Christiana Inc. which is the organization of Evangelical Lutheran churches in Western New York. This organization arranged for the pastor of the Lutheran Church in Brockport to hold services Sunday afternoons which ended within the next decade.

In 1946 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Salvatore purchased the church and remodeled it into a very attractive home.

The 1913 Orleans County Atlas shows the Lutheran Church located on East State Street next to Reed, Allen and Reed Quarry property.