



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CIDER AND VINEGAR WORKS

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This picture is taken from the 1905 Souvenir Book of Albion. It shows a mammoth wooden structure from the railroad tracks that was located off Fruit Street. Back in 1905 this was known as the Rogers and Mathes Cider and Vinegar Co. They advertised evaporated apples, pure cider, vinegar, sweet cider, golden russet sparkling draught and cider champagne.

A 1917 map shows this cider and vinegar plant as being operated solely by W.E. Mathes.

Fruit Street is now known as Crimson Drive as the Albion village board changed its name several years ago to accommodate an apartment complex known as Crimson Heights. This street runs between McKinstry and Clarendon

Streets a little south of the railroad.

The 1917 map shows four major businesses located on this street back then. At the corner of McKinstry Street was H. Crowther and Son Feed and Coal Yard. East of this the W.E. Mathes plant and east of that later known as the Peerless Cold Storage. On the south side of Fruit Street was the Thomas Page Fruit and Vegetable Canning Co. which later moved to West Avenue.

To go down Crimson Drive (Fruit Street) today you would have absolutely no idea that any of these buildings or major businesses were ever located there. Storage units and vacant land plus apartment buildings have disguised the landscape beyond recognition from what appears in our 1905 photo.