

Apple harvest 1905

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This vintage photo from the 1905 Souvenir Book of Albion shows a number of apple pickers in a local orchard. Not only were these men picking apples but some of the crew seen here were also sorting the apples.

Notice the height of the fruit trees, which necessitated the tall ladders. Men appear on them holding baskets filled with apples they have just picked.

In the center of the photo is a sorting rack in which all the apples were dumped. The barrels in the picture used for shipping the apples were faced.

This meant each barrel was faced on the top with bigger apples in a circular design to impress the buyer once the head of the barrel was popped off. The head of the barrel was snapped into place with barrel



PICKING, SORTING AND PACKING APPLES

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

press which one man is holding.

The variety of apple and destination was stenciled on the top of each barrel head as the picture indicates.

To the left we see a horse hitched to a wagon loaded with barrels of apples

which was probably headed to the nearest railroad depot.

Variety of apples, species of apple trees, methods of harvest and preservation have surely changed over the years. But the fact remains: New York state apples are still the best!