

# Early electric light in Orleans County

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This photographic post card from 100 years ago shows one of Albion's early electric street lamps. These were located on cables over the main intersections in the village — this one at Main and East Park streets. The Pullman Memorial Church is prominent at this corner.

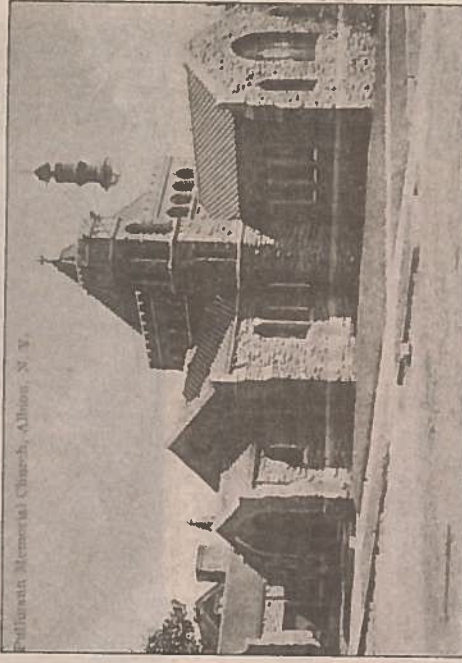
The Orleans American newspaper ran an article about Albion's street lamps on April 12, 1890. It read: "On Monday evening last about 7:30 the electric lights were turned on by Miss Louise Hart, youngest daughter of Hon. E. Kirke Hart, and the Village of Albion was, for the first time in history, lighted by electricity. The streets were crowded with people, and the general opinion seemed to be that the lights were a great success. Of course, more lamps would give more light, but a tour of the village shows us that there are few dark places left on our streets. As it is, we think the light given by the electric lamps is superior to gas, as

gas is to candles and we regard this new motion as one of the greatest improvements and benefits that our village has ever known."

So consequently, Albion wasn't far behind in a progressive trend to light its streets with electricity. The first power locally was generated off Oak Orchard River out of a power house at Waterport in 1888.

A reminder: The next in the series of concerts, Eastman at Albion Courthouse Square, will be 3 p.m. May 9 at the Pullman church.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Pullman Memorial Church, Albion, N. Y.

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