



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## A reminder of the fairgrounds

3-24-11

BY C.W. LATTIN  
Orleans County historian

The long building pictured here was a horse shed located on the old Orleans County Fairgrounds. This stood along the south side of West State Street at the sidewalk's edge near the intersection of State School Road and the Albion Eagle Harbor Road.

A 1917 map of the Village of Albion indicates it was 400 feet long. My guess is it was built in the late 19th century.

This picture was taken in March 1962 shortly before it was torn down.

I would estimate that there were close to 40 stalls in this building.



Small typical horse stall windows fronted West State Street while the stalls opened on the south side of the building facing the race track.

The track on the old Fairgrounds was one half-mile in length, complete with two grandstands and a judge's stand.

In fact, one of the grandstands was built over horse stalls.

This of course represents a time in our American

history when the most popular sport was horse racing.

Through succeeding sales of this property, the horse track is completely obliterated and all the old fairgrounds buildings long gone.

On the site of the building are now two small houses and a day care center. The Albion Elks Lodge also is part of the greater area once used by the Fair.

Indeed, many changes have occurred since this picture was snapped 49 years ago.

*C. W. Lattin is the Orleans county historian. His column appears every Thursday in The Journal-Register and The Albion-Advertiser.*