



Baptist meeting house

5-24-12

This fine example of Federal style architecture once stood on Main Street in Albion. It was built in 1832 by Albion Baptists for their meeting house.

The congregation was organized in 1830 out of the Gaines Baptist Church.

This building was used until 1860 when the present First Baptist Church on West Park Street was dedicated.



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vacant until 1907 when the IOOF built their Lodge on the site. The building to the left was the residence of Roswell Burrows built in 1851. In 1899 the structure was transformed into Swan Library.

It's interesting to note that before the Village Hall was built on East Bank Street in 1873, the bell in the tower of this meeting house was used as the village fire alarm. We also notice a clock in the bell tower.

The facade of this building had three front doors which was somewhat typical of church architecture of this time frame. This goes back to when men and women sat on separate sides of the church. Hence

women went in the left door and men went in the right door. However, when the services were over, the entire congregation made its exit through the middle door. Thus the preacher could greet everyone on the way out.

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Because of successful revival meetings in the 1850's the Albion congregation increased in size thereby outgrowing the old meeting house on Main Street.

Following its use for worship the building was used as a concert hall and was finally torn down around 1892. The lot stood