

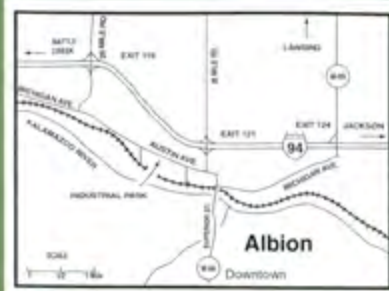
Downtown Development Authority

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Albion Community Foundation.



Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce (517) 629-5533
Albion City Hall (517) 629-5535



Amidst the quiet rolling farmlands
and cool lakes of south-central
Michigan Albion is nestled along
the forks of the Kalamazoo River.

A Short Walking Tour

Albion Michigan

The Smart Downtown



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Albion Design / Maggie LaNoue
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Tour the Treasures of Downtown Albion



1 Downtown Albion has been the focus of the community for over a century and a quarter. It was named a National Register Historic District in 1997.

A short walking tour will reveal some interesting features of Albion's "Superior" main street.

As you enter the historic downtown, you are welcomed by the American Molder which is representative of the foundry which has been a staple of Albion's economy for decades.



The Albion post office, built in 1917, retains the familiar architecture of the original building through several modernizations, which make it a thoroughly up-to-date facility.



4 The historic Albion train depot was rescued and renovated in 1986. It now houses Amtrak and Greyhound facilities, as well as a private business.



5 Here is Superior Street (hence the "our main street is Superior" slogan--cute, huh?). Immediately you will notice the brick paving. One of the few such brick streets in the country, it was completely refurbished in 1993. The streetlights are authentic reproductions of the lights used in the early 1900s.



Turning west at the intersection with Cass Street, the City Hall has been serving as the seat of Albion government since 1936. It retains the original look through several remodelings.



East of Superior Street is Stoffer Plaza, home of the Farmer's Market during May through October.



8 Heading east on Cass towards the beautiful Albion College campus you will pass Lloyd Park, one of several "pocket parks" in the



community. It was once the site of the Albion Mill and is a charming stop to view the river and—usually—a flock of ducks. Sit a while.

9 Walking on toward Erie Street you enter Rieger Park and view the site where Juliette Calhoun Blakely observed the first Mother's Day in 1877. Rieger Park is a delightful stop for a relaxing stroll in summer or invigorating ice skating in winter.



10 Albion Public Library—one of many Carnegie Libraries in the country—is yet another much-updated building in Albion which retains its original character. It is an example of how Albion combines the best of yesterday with the new millennium's technology.



11 Still in the downtown historic district is the Gardner house Museum. The ever-changing exhibits are under the watchful supervision of the Albion Historical Society.



12 Back down Superior Street one of the fixtures of the street is the Bohm Theater. The art deco facade and marquis have been illuminating the area since 1930s.



Come back for the Festival of the Forks celebrated every year the third weekend of September. It's a fun time which observes the establishment of Albion along the forks (reason for the name) of the Kalamazoo river.



The people of Albion are proud of our Downtown District and hope you enjoyed your mini-tour. Contact the Downtown Development Authority or Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce for more information on visiting or how you can become part of our growing downtown.

You are welcome here!