

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Significant Date:

Two World Wars and the Depression (1915-1945)

Registry Year: 1981 Erected Date: 1982

Marker Location

Address: 810 Austin Avenue

City: Albion

State: MI ZipCode: 49224

County: Calhoun

Township: Sheridan

Lat: 42.25419600 / Long: -84.76506900

Web URL:

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Holy Ascension Orthodox Church

In 1904 the Albion Malleable Iron Company began recruiting workers for its foundry. The arrival of six Russians from New York City marked the beginning of Albion's "Foreign Colony." By 1915 the Foreign Colony had grown to around six hundred people of several Eastern European nationalities, most of whom were Orthodox Christians. Initially, a visiting priest from Detroit conducted Albion's Orthodox services, but by 1915 permission to build an Orthodox church had been granted. A fund drive within the city raised five thousand dollars. The cornerstone was laid on April 30, 1916, and the church was consecrated on Thanksgiving Day of that year. Holy Ascension Church was the only non-Greek Orthodox parish in south-central Michigan until the late 1950s.

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