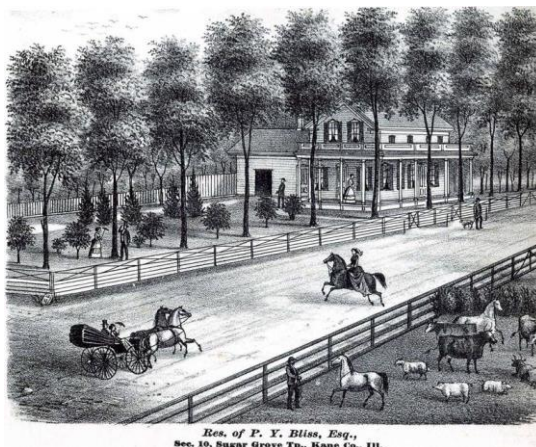




Did you know that Sugar Grove has a Historical Society? It sure does! It is located at 259 S. Main Street. The house that sits at this address was not built there, it was moved there! It is called the Bliss House, and was originally built between 1838-1839 at the intersection of Bliss and Merrill. P.Y Bliss built this home to be a residence and store. Mr. Bliss filled the store with items that were in demand by the settlers of that time. According to Mr. Bliss, the annual sales exceeded those of any other in the county by thousands of dollars which was an astounding accomplishment for that day. Later, the combination home and store was moved across the road (on Bliss) from the prominent corner so Mr. Bliss' son Harrison could build a larger, grander home on the site. In 1997 the home had a second move to its current location at 259 Main Street. It took five years to get the building in shape before it opened as a museum in 2002.

There are lots of stories to be told about Sugar Grove. We will try sharing some with you every-other month. These stories will be either from the book "Sin-Qua-Sip, Sugar Grove, A History of Sugar Grove Township Kane County, Illinois" written by Patsy Mighell Paxton or told by one of the current Board Members at the Historical Society. If you would like a copy of "Sin-Qua-Sip" for yourself, they are on sale at the Bliss house!

In the meantime, if you would like to visit the Historical Society and take a tour of a home built 177 years ago, please visit them on any Tuesday from 1-4pm. They welcome visitors! Through cut-out areas, you can see inside the walls and ceilings to see how things were built back then! From the basement, you can see trees that are used to support the main floor! If you are in town Saturday, December 5th for Holiday in the Grove, stop by between 10am and 1 pm and visit us for a free raffle ticket to win a holiday gift basket! We will also have a craft available for the kids! Look for our next article towards the end of December. Hope to see you soon!



*Res. of P. Y. Bliss, Esq.,
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(Facts and photo are from the book "Sin-Qua-Sip" written by Patsy Mighell Paxton).