

ABOUT US:

Martin's Gen'L Store is owned and operated by the Historic Millburn Community Association, Incorporated, on an all-volunteer and not-for-profit basis.

Our mission is to preserve, protect, and enhance Millburn, which is part of the Village of Old Mill Creek, Illinois.

Membership is open to the general public. Members are encouraged, but not required, to participate in our activities. There are many opportunities to become involved, such as serving as a shopkeeper in our museum to greet visitors and help care for our collections, as well as assisting with historical research or fundraisers.

Donations are always welcome. The Historic Millburn Community Association, Inc., is an IRS 501(c)3 organization.

We invite you to visit our award-winning Internet website at:

www.hmca-il.org

For additional information, contact:
Dorothy Berthold, Chairperson,
at (847) 265-1967.

MARTIN'S GEN'L STORE MUSEUM OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURE



Free Admission

Museum Hours

Sunday 12:30–4:00 p.m.

Closed mid-December through mid-April

Owned and Operated by
Historic Millburn Community Association, Inc.
38757 N. US Highway 45
Old Mill Creek, IL 60046

www.hmca-il.org

Located at the intersection of US Highway 45 and Grass Lake Road in Millburn of Old Mill Creek, Lake County, Illinois.

Welcome to Lake County's oldest continuously operating general store. We invite you to browse among our treasures of yesteryear.

The original owners were Richard and Charlotte Pantall. Richard (in photo below taken about 1905 in this building) was originally a cobbler, whose business had outgrown a small shed just south of this property. In 1862, he purchased this land and built the front portion of this building for a store. He paid \$200 for approximately three-quarters of an acre of land. A few years later, he added the back portion of the store, and a new home to the north of the store in 1868. From 1864 until 1904, the store served as the Millburn Post Office and Mr. Pantall was the Postmaster.

This store was the town meeting place for the school and cemetery boards and for other town residents as they gathered around the potbelly stove. The store sold everything from a mouse trap for a dime to overalls for \$.75. Penny candy was, of course, a penny. You could find shoes for \$1.35, freshly ground coffee for \$.35 per pound, tea for \$.45 per pound, and a pair of pants for \$.75. The Pantalls had no children of their own, and took into their home a young orphan, Edward Martin (photo). Ed helped Mr. Pantall in the store for twenty years before taking over and operating the store himself for fifty more years, until 1958, when he retired. The store was then leased to other merchants.



Edward's son, Richard (pictured below), spent many happy years growing up in this community before he relocated to California. Upon his death in 1985, Richard bequeathed this property to the Historic Millburn Community Association, Inc. It was his expressed desire that the Association establish a 1900s general store museum in memory of his family. We think he would be proud of our accomplishments.



In 1979, this building and seventeen other structures in Millburn were placed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Millburn Historic District. One building has been placed on the Illinois Register of Historic Places. We are trying to preserve Millburn to share with others.

The Association opened this museum to the public in July, 1988, with items found in cellars, sheds, attics, and homes throughout the community. We have been adding to our collection from a number of sources ever since.

We encourage you to join the Historic Millburn Community Association, Inc. Annual membership dues are \$10 per person. Lifetime memberships and memorials are also available. Benefits of membership include many activities, which are only open to H.M.C.A. members.

Thank you for visiting. Please come again.