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## **Ben Fuller House**

The Ben Fuller House holds significant importance in architectural history primarily due to its construction method. Here are the key points that make it architecturally significant:

1. **Balloon Frame Construction:** The house is likely one of the earliest examples of balloon frame construction in the United States, and possibly the world. This innovative building technique represented a major shift from traditional heavy timber framing to a lighter, more efficient method using standardized lumber.
2. **Early Date of Construction:** Built around 1840, it is considered one of the oldest surviving buildings in DuPage County, Illinois. This early date of construction adds to its historical and architectural value.
3. **Innovative Design:** The house showcases the innovative qualities of its builder, Ben Fuller, who was the founder of Fullersburg. The design reflects the transition in building techniques during the mid-19th century.
4. **Preservation of Early American Architecture:** As one of the oldest structures in Illinois, the Ben Fuller House serves as a well-preserved example of early American residential architecture.
5. **Historical Context:** The house's construction coincides with the early settlement and development of the region, making it a tangible link to the architectural practices of pioneer settlers in the Midwest.

The significance of the Ben Fuller House was further highlighted when architect Wilbert Hasbrouck was hired to investigate its historic importance. His findings confirmed the house's exceptional architectural value, particularly in terms of its construction method and age.