



HISTORIC CHICAGO BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION

It wasn't difficult for Brian and Patricia Egan to make the decision to purchase their historic bungalow in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood. Patricia, who spent her childhood in a bungalow in Avalon Park, was already well acquainted with these compact homes. She already knew of their advantages and their charm. She was excited to live in one again. "I feel right at home," she explains.

The home is a one-and-a-half story red brick structure, notable for its prominent and numerous white, multi-light windows. The bungalow is located on a shady, corner lot and surrounded by other single-family homes from the same era. It is a quiet and picturesque neighborhood. "It's a great neighborhood," Patricia explains, as she finishes chatting with a neighbor who's just dropped by. "The neighbors are all very connected. We look after each other."

The house dates from the early 1920s. On October 24, 1919, George Pagels applied for a building permit to construct a brick residence on the lot at a cost of \$5,500. Construction began that same month, but the home was not finished until the spring of 1920.



Mr. Pagels was a contractor by profession. At the time he applied for the building permit, he was 37 years old. He lived in the Provisio Township area of Cook County with his wife Bertha and their two children, Marion and George Jr.

During the 1920s, the home was occupied by Nelson M. and Anna R. Doty. Before moving into the bungalow, the couple resided in an apartment on the 5000 block of St. Lawrence Avenue which they shared with Anna's mother, Magdalena Renner. Mr. Doty worked as a clothing designer while his wife was employed as a saleswoman. Sadly, Mr. Doty passed away in the late 1920s.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Doty took in two boarders, Grace and Fyrn Shannon. Grace Shannon, 40, was also a widow and worked as a sales woman in a shoe store. Her 19-year-old daughter, Fyrn, was employed as a typist at the telephone company. The two had relocated to the Chicago area from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The Egans have lived in the home for 21 years. In that time, they have made few changes to the home. The most significant include removal of a wall to expand the kitchen and converting the basement into living space. They have made no additions, despite being a relatively large family—testament to the clever and efficient design of the home, which is an integral element of bungalow style housing. They hope to undertake a small rehabilitation project in the living room/sunroom area of the home at some point in the near future. For the time being, however, they are content to enjoy their spacious and comfortable home on its picturesque corner.

The Egans certified their bungalow in September of 2001.