



HISTORIC CHICAGO
BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION



In the Galewood community of northwest Chicago, Jim and Margaret DeLauriea have spent the past year enjoying the charm and comfort of bungalow living. Their brick checkerboard octagon bungalow was exactly what they had been looking for when they began their hunt for a house. “We looked at all kinds of homes—Tudor style, Colonial—but we kept coming back to the bungalow.” Jim DeLauriea remembers. “We were in the

beginning stages of purchasing a house nearby when this one came up for sale. We came to look, and we said ‘We have to try to get this house.’ It was exactly what we wanted.” With its original doors and hardware, refinished wood floors, unusual arched interior doorways, and signature stained glass windows, it’s not hard to imagine why the DeLaurieas fell in love with their Galewood bungalow.

The bungalow was one of three properties on the block built by contractor and investor James Fredrickson and Company in late 1929. Architect C. Kristen designed the group of bungalows, and contractor James Peterson began construction in October of 1929. By the next spring, the bungalows were ready for sale to individual owners for around \$10,000 a piece.



William J. Demmerts, an engineer at a nearby foundry, moved into the bungalow, along with his wife, Alice and their two sons, William and Robert, in early 1930. The son of German immigrants, William was right at home in the predominantly German and Swedish neighborhood that surrounded his new bungalow. The property changed hands several times after the Demmerts family moved out, and after years of

uncertainty and foreclosures, the bungalow came into the hands of Jim and Margaret DeLauriea.



Since the house retains most of its original features, the couple has focused on restoring the details of the bungalow. They restored all of the original wood windows in the house to working condition, and replaced the aluminum storms on the front bay with wooden storms, using the HCBA energy efficiency grant. The DeLaurieas also plan to renovate the upstairs attic



space, which was converted into two bedrooms and a half bath by a previous owner. “We wanted a place that had plenty of room, historic character, and space to entertain, Jim says, and we found all of that in this bungalow.”