


940 DOUGLAS 

Sol C. Eppenstein began construction of 940 Douglas in 1917. At the time, he was Vice-President of the Illinois Watch Case Company. Built on Elgin's "Gold Coast," this house reflected the owner's status. Not only does it contain 25 rooms, but these rooms are also spacious. The living room, for example is 31 feet by 17 feet. Furthermore, the house contains 154 windows, filling it with light.

The exterior of the home reflects the influence of late Prairie Style architecture as well as a Mediterranean Villa influence. The massive overhanging tile roof and its window groupings and continuous stone sills give it its horizontal line.

Because the interior of this house is so extensive, only a few highlights will be noted. The massive living room is set off by its carved Italian stone fireplace and the fan-shaped windows and French doors. The woodwork in the foyer is butternut. Note also how the alcove in the foyer follows the lines of the clock that stands in it.

Off the master bedroom are two dressing rooms with built-ins. The master bath contains a marble shower which has its original fixtures. Also impressive features are the sleeping porches off other bedrooms.

Upon entering the basement, note the clothes dryer, a "metal box" which was fired from the bottom to dry the clothes hanging on rods on top. Also in the basement is a wine cellar that is original to the house.

Upon exiting, note the carriage house which matches the main house in design.