

## ***HISTORIC LANDMARK AWARDS***

**c. 1956** - 112 North Ardmore Avenue



This post-war ranch house was built by the J.W. Reedy Construction Co. and served as its model home. During the 1950's and 60's, this company built over 200 similar ranch homes in Villa Park and the surrounding area. These well-constructed houses provided affordable housing for the returning veterans. In 1982, Robert and Lillian McHone purchased this home.

### **The Reedy Ranch**

"Can't sell from an empty wagon" was often quoted by J.W. "Jack" Reedy, owner of J.W. Reedy Realtors.

The Reedy homes evolved from the lack of available housing plus the pent up demand for housing by returning World War II veterans.

J.W.Reedy chose to build a modern version of the "Chicago Bungalow" that would offer quality and durability at an affordable price.

The abundance of available, fully improved building sites at reasonable prices triggered the J.W. Reedy Company into action with over 200 of these homes built and sold in Villa Park and surrounding communities in less than a 10 year period of time during the 1950's and 1960's. Several of the Reedy homes were sold to tradesmen who worked on them.

The Reedy homes featuring brick exterior, full basement, along with lath and plaster

construction, originally sold for under \$20,000. In 2003, they now sell for nearly 8 to 10 times their original cost.

2003 Historic Plaque Awards were presented at the Villa Park Historical Society on May 4.

*Villa Park Historic Preservation Commission — Photograph by Carol Marcus*