

## *HISTORIC LANDMARK AWARDS*

1926 - **Commercial Building**, 125 South Villa Avenue



Back in 1926, Villa Avenue was a booming shopping area. Over the years this building housed many successful businesses. Its unique center hall connects the four shops, and may have been the first enclosed shopping "mall" in Illinois. During the 1920's and 30's, the A & P Grocery was its anchor. In the early 1940's, it was occupied by the Ben Franklin variety store. During the 1960's and 70's, the occupants were John's Family Shoes, McGrew's Family Shoes, and Tony Fitzpatrick's art studio. Since 1981, the principal occupant has been Anona Center East, a private club.

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