

## Bungalows

### Houston Heights, Montrose



The bungalow is an all-American housing type with its roots in the Indian province of Bengal. These single-family homes were called *bangla* or *bangala*, and British colonists adapted these one-story thatch-roofed huts to use as summer homes. The space-efficient floor plan clustered the kitchen, dining area, bedrooms, and bathroom around a central living area. In the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Houston, an impressive number of bungalows in a rich variety of styles were built throughout Montrose, the Houston Heights, and Woodland Heights, forming an important and neighborhood-defining vernacular architecture. The rampant demolition of these structures in recent years has resulted in significant – and irreplaceable – losses, particularly in the Houston Heights. The HAHC estimates that the majority of demolitions in Houston’s historic districts have occurred in the Houston Heights East and West Historic Districts.