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Title: Ellen Watanabe-Huxtable Interview
Narrator: Ellen Watanabe-Huxtable
Interviewer: Anna Takada
Location: Chicago, Illinois
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<Begin Segment 7>

AT: 00:25:12 And so how long was your family been uh over on the north side of Chestnut.

EH: 00:25:19 We were there until I was out of the eighth grade, so that would've been 15, 16, til the mid sixties probably. And during that time that particularly had great turnover, it was residential when I was very little. It became highly nightclub oriented as Rush street, which is right there, moved, was expanding, so it became a very, a very dynamic nightclub neighborhood. It was highly nonresidential. And so then our family kept on moving further north. We moved up to right by Wrigley Field for a while and lived there. The people that owned the restaurant at Clark and Chestnut moved their restaurant up to up to the north side of Chicago right by Wrigley Field. Um, so their restaurant moved. At that time there was already a small Japanese, oh, a small restaurant owned by a Japanese person on a very small triangle of land on Clark Street, right by Wrigley. Um

AT: 00:26:15 Do you know what that was called or where exactly it was?

EH: 00:26:17 It was like Hamburger Heaven or something.

AT: 00:26:21 Hamburger King?

EH: 00:26:21 Hamburger King. Somebody's told you about Hamburger King already?

AT: 00:26:25 It was even around in my lifetime.

EH: 00:26:28 Okay. It was on a little tiny triangle of land and they had like seven little stools in it and it was bizarre. And then I went across the street from, that was Nisei Lounge, which was the bar that had pool tables and when my family moved up that way was my favorite hangout, which is pretty fun because it was a bar and

he didn't, he never drank. Having seen how beer is made, he didn't want to touch the stuff. And so, but he would go there frequently to play for the Nisei Lounge, which was happily happily next door to the restaurant, has, door passed between that and the Japanese restaurant moved up from Clark Street. So it was a very nice little microcosm community. Star Market was just a few blocks down on properly Belmont and Clark. And so there was, there was a relatively compact Japanese community at that time.

- AT: 00:27:16 Would you happen to remember the name of the re, the new Clark restaurant?
- EH: 00:27:22 Oh gosh, that's a good question. It was Clark Restaurant and it became, I can't remember. I'll have to think about that one. Good question.
- AT: 00:27:32 And how about your address with what streets were you living on?
- EH: 00:27:36 When I lived, when we moved up north, I always in high school then, which would have made it in, in the late sixties, late sixties. And it was, we lived at 921 West Cornelia, which is one of the court buildings. It's just down the street from Wrigley field. We lived, we lived in, in the court, which put us very close to both the Japanese owned restaurant and the Japanese bar, which is very convenient.

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