

**Interview with Trudi Minkiewicz
conducted by Marian J Krzyzowski
for
the Chene Street History Project
October 7, 2002**

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MK: Uh, this is Marian Krzyzowski and I'm at the home of Trudie Minkiewicz, here in Sterling Heights and its October, today's the 7th, I believe, yes.

TM: Yes.

MK: October 7th, 2002. And we're here to talk about um Chene St. and Ms. Minkiewicz memories of Chene St. She was a business owner. But let me begin first by asking a little bit about yourself, your family, where they're from, your connections, your identity, uh, if you can maybe just start with that, that'd be great.

TM: You want to know more, like, my coming.

MK: Who came here from.

TM: My grandparents, four of my grandparents.

MK: Came from where?

TM: Three of them came from Wilno, which was the Poland. And my grandpa Minkiewicz came from Radom.

MK: Okay.

TM: And they...my my the Minkiewiczs, settled in Schenectidy, New York.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And the Kozaryns, my mother's family, were in Syracuse.

MK: Are they related to the mayor of Hamtramck?

TM: I don't know.

MK: Okay.

TM: I tried and I never got close to him to really ask, you know, he was. My mother spelled her name with a R-Y-N. And he spelled his with an R-E-N.

MK: Yeah, right.

TM: But, I don't know. As far as I know there weren't any, but being he was, I think he was from Michigan, you know. But I don't know. I don't have, don't know any of my relatives from Poland. Even though I'm planning to go next October, but I don't have any ties there. My ties are in Schenectady and Syracuse. And my last aunt died in uh January, which makes me the oldest on both sides of the family.

MK: Do you mind my asking how old you are?

TM: I was 76 in July.

MK: Congratulations.

TM: Very proud. Thank you.

MK: Congratulations.

TM: And, uh, I never married. And I don't have a family except some nieces and nephews. So, everything um, it's kind, I just know what about my background what my mother told me and about my great, oh, my grandparents, um, we just had a family reunion about 5 years ago and there was, my, the aunt that knew every, that knew the most, told me as much as I know.

MK: Okay.

TM: So that's about how how, or during the Depression I was 15 months old and we came to Detroit.

MK: So what year, do you remember what year you came to? It must have been the 30's.

TM: I was born in '26. No, it had to have been like about '28.

MK: Oh, '28, okay.

TM: I would say. And I think if I remember my mother telling me, it was March of 1928, 'cause it was, my dad came looking for a job.

MK: And what were your parents' names?

TM: Uh, Joseph and Veronica.

MK: Okay, and, your, do you remember your mother's maiden name?

TM: Kozaryn.

MK: Oh, it was Kozaryn, okay.

TM: Yeah, and I know her mother's maiden name, too.

MK: Which was what?

TM: Harlukiewicz

MK: Harlukiewicz?

TM: Yeah, Harlukiewicz.

MK: Okay.

TM: And my grandpa Minkiewicz was a Fietkiewicz and her mother's maiden name was Smilgin.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: So I can go that far back.

MK: Okay.

TM: Which is, uh, I'm proud of.

MK: And and, do you, were they all Catholic? Do you identify Catholic.

TM: Oh yes, definitely. Yes.

MK: Okay.

TM: And all Polish on both sides.

MK: Mm-hm, okay.

TM: Even my brother married a Polish girl.

MK: Okay.

TM: But she wasn't from Poland but she was Polish on both sides so we're definitely Polish and proud.

MK: So you moved to Detroit in in 192...

TM: About '28.

MK: Okay. Where where, do you know where you guys moved?

TM: As far as I can remember, the first I can remember, 3 years old, we lived on Warren just east of McDougall. Because there used to be a drug store I think on the corner of McDougall and Warren. And then I can remember living on Boulevard Ct. Uh, which was, like, where Kantor street is and Boulevard. There used to be a Sfires, A&P Store, and a drug store on the corner. And from there, I think we lived on Mitchell and Medbury.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: These were kind of.

MK: Right.

TM: And from, then we moved on Medbury and.

MK: How old were you on Mitchell and Medbury, do you remember?

TM: Uh, I had, this all had to have been before I was 5 years old.

MK: Okay, so you were moving a lot, okay.

TM: Yeah. And then uh, we lived on a Medbury...this is what east of Boulevard, is that Moran or Elmwood?

MK: Uh...

TM: We're at the next street.

MK: The next one would be Elmwood.

TM: Elmwood. Then that's where we lived. And I soon was in , and that's when the Depression really hit, and we had no place to go. And somehow my dad's friend found a home on St. Aubin. And we were the original squatters. We just took over a flat and I had a great-aunt living, there was my brother and I. My great-aunt with my parents. And, uh, we had friends that came from Pennsylvania, husband and wife, stayed with us. This is in two bedrooms. And my uncle, my dad's brother and his wife stayed with us. And our friend's sister came. We were all just grouped all together.

MK: What was your brother's name?

TM: Joseph.

MK: Joseph?

TM: Mm-hm.

MK: Okay. And St. Aubin and what, do you remember?

TM: Medbury.

MK: Okay. So right there, a block away from St. Stan's.

TM: Right.

MK: Okay.

TM: We always lived near a church and a school. My dad always, and uh, I think I was 10-years-old we moved on Harper just east, west of St. Aubin. And I don't know how long because I went to Communion there.

MK: Do you remember the number, the house at that point?

TM: 2004.

MK: 2004 Harper.

TM: Yeah.

MK: Great.

TM: And then I guess I must have been about 11 and for whatever reason, I think we needed more room, 'cause we had one, two bedrooms. And we moved on St. Aubin and Medbury. And that was 5858 St. Aubin, and we lived there 25 years. .

MK: Wow. So what year, do you remember, that would have been?

TM: If I went to Communion in '36 it had to have been either '36 or '37.

MK: So that would have been '62, '61 that you lived there 'til.

TM: Um...no, wait a minute, because my dad died I think in '57. I just found his holy picture.

MK: Okay.

TM: And I can, I just had it. Because it fell out of there and uh, it's when he died, that's when we moved.

MK: So '1957, you would have lived there about 20 some years.

TM: Well, I think it's 27, my dad died in '57.

MK: Okay, okay.

TM: And right after that, oh about the spring, we moved on Hendrie. Now five years prior to this is when my dad bought the store.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: So that much I can remember. And then we lived on Hendrie, uh...

MK: Do you remember the address on Hendrie?

TM: 2245.

MK: Okay.

TM: Yeah, 2245 Hendrie.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And we lived there I think it was 30 years.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And then.

MK: So what years?

TM: Well, if my mother died was it '87.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: No, '86 my mother died because my dad was born in '87. No she could have died in '87. So 1987.

MK: Mm-hm,

TM: And then I moved to Centerline Towers Senior, and I lived there about 10 years, and then I bought this condo. And I'm here just 5 years now.

MK: Your dad was young when he died.

TM: Yes.

MK: 52.

TM: And my brother was 51.

MK: And what did they die of?

TM: At that time, my, they don't die from these things he had. Ulcers, well he had ulcerated legs like I had. He had high blood pressure, and he had a perforated stomach ulcer.

MK: Okay.

TM: So, uh.

MK: Okay. So let's back up now. So you went to St. Stan's school?

TM: Mm-hm.

MK: Now what, can you tell me a little bit about, about this?

TM: I started, when we lived, I think on Boulevard Court, that's what it is. I went to Parke School for kindergarten for maybe, it seems to be a couple of days because I remember going but I don't remember anything else about it. And then when we moved, we had to move on Harper, no we lived on St. Aubin, that's uh, I started St. Stanislaus, I was 7 years old.

MK: What do you remember about the school?

TM: Uh, all I can remember now, I went to the 3rd grade because this was Depression and uh you couldn't afford the tuition for two of us. And my dad was always sick, he always had these problems. And as far as I can remember, it was the same. You know, um, what it is now. Um, kind of, I mean, nothing outstanding.

MK: Do you have fond memories of it, do you have, you know, the, was it just a.

TM: I mean, it doesn't matter, I don't have great memories, bad memories, but nothing. I was never one of those school..., you know, I had to go to school, that was one thing my dad. And you know Depression times, things were bad, and, uh, oh, I was protected. I was sheltered by my parents.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: Not any of this going on, I wasn't aware of it. And if I would have been approached, my parents were right there to help me and I could, see my parents were like 20 years older than I. So there was, and they were a mother and father. They weren't strict or you know, but when my dad looked at me and I knew he meant business. Now my mother, she, you know like a, you know you have a lenient, well, uh, you could sort

of get around her but there was never, they worked together. And, uh, we had to go to school, we had to get up, one thing on St. Aubin that I remember. We had a big fire in January and I was 9 years old, because my cousin was born and during the night we had to run, it was 3 in the morning, it was a big fire. And my mother got us out in time, we were upstairs. And soon after that we moved to Harper where I made my Communion. And, uh, the only thing was that when Monsignor Borkowicz came, well he was a businessman.

MK: Oh I know.

TM: And, uh, my mother didn't pay for the other tuition so he wouldn't take us in, so we went to a public school.

MK: What school did you go to?

TM: Majeske on Trombly between St. Aubin and Dubois.

MK: Okay. And that's where you went to elementary school?

TM: Elementary, to the third, to the eighth grade. And then I went to Gruesel for the intermediate. And I went to one year to Northeastern.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And when the riots broke out and my.

MK: In '43.

TM: '43, yeah. And my dad was active in the church so we had to go back, he wanted us to go to public, Catholic school, again, because my then we had moved on St. Aubin and uh Medbury. And, uh, I always laugh, we had to go to Catholic school, but we had to work and pay our own tuition 'cause money was tight. And, uh, I had, I mean, when to say, 'cause the war broke out so uh...I mean it was like a business. I mean I was always one of those, the sensible girl. You know, I didn't do anything my parents wouldn't like. And there weren't any boys to run around and get in trouble with, because they were all in the service.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And so, you say, bad memories or good. I have fairly good memories because Chester Nowak was a friend of ours, mine. He we stayed kind of close living there. Hedy Gaskey, I don't know did, if you Cass Maj, his sister, we were all from the first grade. We see each other now socially. Not only, you know, like reunions, you know, so, we kept good contact with the classmates. So I would say it was a good relationship.

MK: After first year at Northeastern you went back to St. Stan's?

TM: Right.

MK: And then you graduated from St. Stan's high school?

TM: Right.

MK: What year did you graduate?

TM: '45.

MK: '45. You said the '43 riots, do you remember the '43 riots at all, was there anything going on on Chene St.?

TM: Oh yeah.

MK: Or in the area of Chene St.

TM: I don't know about Chene St. I would say yes, but we had to be home at a certain time. Uh, I don't remember too much because I worked at Sander's. No, I could have worked at downtown but stores were closed and uh...what I can remember is I was coming home from school from Northeastern down St. Aubin, I went down where it, Canf, Warren to St. Aubin. And my mother was standing on the corner and crying and waiting for me. And I wasn't aware of what went on. But, uh, but not to confuse it with, they were tipping cars, it was not in my area. I don't remember anything in our area. But uh, it was bad, it was bad, it was a bad riot. I can remember the second one a little bit more.

MK: Mm-hm. We'll we'll get to that too. So, uh, okay, you graduated from high school.

TM: Right.

MK: Uh., in 1945. And at that time your father was, was he working someplace? Or was, did he have a?

TM: Yes, he uh, he was working for Kar Nuts, he was working for selling Yankee Potato Chips. He was a driver salesman.

MK: Okay, so, when, uh, and what did you do after you graduated?

TM: Uh, I just worked. I worked at a cleaner's in Hamtramck. Oh no. While I was in high school I worked for uh, for the Sobczaks, the grocery store across the street. I worked part time and went to school.

MK: Where where was where was the store?

TM: The store was on St. Aubin and Medbury.

MK: Okay.

TM: And that was a family-owned store.

MK: Okay.

TM: It was there for years. And that was a neighborhood's.

MK: Right.

TM: Ma, Ma and Pa the old type grocery store.

MK: And it's still there, the building is still there, isn't it?

TM: Could be. I haven't gone that way for a while. I go just above but not, I usually turn off on the service drive when I go to church.

MK: Okay. So when when did, what do you remember of Chene St. at that time. You know, what do you remember Chene St., what it was like in 1945.

TM: Well everything, we used to refer to it as, if you went downtown, or you went uptown. You know, every store was bustling. Um, big business. We were kind of, when from St. St. Aubin to Chene St. it was a little dark at night and I wasn't allowed to go out that far, by myself. But once you got on Chene St. you were safe. There were a lot of people walking and uh, well, there weren't that many cars, like now. People were walking and, a lot of people out.

MK: Do you remember any any stores at that point, right after the war that sort of stick in your mind?

TM: On Chene St.?

MK: Yeah.

TM: Well.

MK: That you you remember going into.

TM: Oh yeah. Um, we used to go, well Zarembski, on Palmer. That was a big one.

MK: Can you tell, tell me a little bit about Zarembski?

TM: Um, it was, they referred to I think as a dry goods, but they had all the clothes, men, women, from outwear clothes to underwear. You could get any kind of a, and if they

were open today I think that if you wanted an old-time long john for your grandfather, they had it. You know, I mean, like for women when they wore , if I can say that. I mean, you can get all this old type of clothes. Uh, hats, gloves, Communion dresses you had a lot. Now, a, everybody died but Carolyn is in a nursing home. She had a serious stroke.

MK: Who were they, do you remember their names, who ran the store?

TM: Well Zarembski was the mother and father. And Helen, their daughter, was Szymanska. And her daughter is Carolyn Szymanska, she never married. And, uh, if you'd ask like Fr. Skalski, he could probably tell you what nursing home she's in.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And I don't know if she'd want to talk to anyone.

MK: Right, sure.

TM: Uh, she had a severe stroke. That and uh.

MK: Was it a, was it a one-story store?

TM: Yes. The store was one-story, and they lived upstairs. Oh, and on the corner was a Adamczyk Bakery. It was a big Polish bakery. That would be the Adamczyk family. And then Zarembski.

MK: Can you can you describe the Adamczyk Bakery, the Bakery, what it was like?

TM: Yes, it was a corner bakery, it wasn't a very big bakery. But it was family-owned. The father baked. And the mother ran the store. And then the girls as they grew up, they worked in the store. And, uh, the girls are alive yet.

MK: I'm going to.

TM: Mary, Mary Adamczyk she married uh, Joseph Przekora. And when he died, she married a Norm Wassin. And, who went to school with her. And he passed away so if you need her, I wouldn't know where she lives, but she would be under Wassin. W-A-S-I-N, I think.

MK: Mm-hm. I've actually contacted Junia.

TM: Oh, okay.

MK: Szymanski. And I'm going to be interviewing her a week from this week.

TM: Mm-hm. Oh.

MK: I contacted her and she said she'd be happy to talk about her bakery.

TM: Sure.

MK: But what do you remember as the customer of the bakery. What do you remember about the bakery?

TM: I didn't go much to that bakery 'cause when I worked in the grocery store, they brought in bakeries.

MK: What grocery store?

TM: At the Sobczak's.

MK: At the Sobczak's store?

TM: Yeah.

MK: Okay.

TM: And that was a meat market, you bought all your groceries, that was before the, uh, supermarkets came in.

MK: Right, okay. What else, what other stores do you remember then?

TM: Well I'm going down from Palmer. Well across the street was the Nowak brothers. They were the big, and, with the bakery there was a Hass Hardware Store. And that was fairly large. There was sort of competitor. But I didn't go in much there because we didn't need it. And as far as I can go, now on the corner of Hendrie, it was a little restaurant. Now, well, between, oh no, okay, we're going to back up, there was a Rosolowska, there was Ritz Theater, the show. And next to the Ritz Theater was the Rosolowska Bridal Shop. And that was uh, big bridal shop. And I mean that was the fancy one of the neighborhood. They designed big dresses right there. And as a little girl I remember, when a young girl would go looking for a bridal gown they'd be trying it on and you know. We'd stand and look at her, now it was just a big thing for us to see them fitting the gown. And yet I.

MK: Was that next to the New Elk? Or?

TM: Yes, ye, if that's the.

MK: The Ritz was.

TM: The Ritz was next.

MK: And then the New Elk.

TM: There was Ritz Theater, and I think the bridal shop was is where the hardware, um, I get some senior moments.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And with that second-hand store.

MK: Right, it's next to the New Elk Bar.

TM: Then that'd be it.

MK: Yeah, yeah, it's still there. Yeah, the building is still there.

TM: The building, yeah. It's right next to the. If I remember that was right next, I remember it was a big store.

MK: Yeah.

TM: It was a big bridal shop and next to that, I'm talking now as a little girl about 7, 6,7. It was a restaurant on the corner. And that was a big, it wasn't a fancy restaurant because in them days you don't didn't go to restaurants, it was all home-cooked. But I can see that restaurant and for some reason I think my aunt worked there for a couple of, when she came from **Schenectedy** she worked there for a couple of weeks or whatever.

MK: Do you remember the name of the restaurant?

TM: Not at all.

MK: Mm-hm. What about the Nowak Hardware Store. Can you tell me a little bit about the Nowak Store?

TM: Oh, that was a big one. Yeah that was, in my mind, whether it was or not, but in my mind, if you wanted anything and you were, how would you say...uh...if you were loyal to your parishioners and friends you went to Nowaks. That was the one, you know. And like I said, I, we didn't go much 'cause we never owned a home so we didn't do much at Nowak but since I went with Chester to school, that was the big store. And then I don't remember, I remember his mother and dad very vaguely. And I know he, his parents died at an early age.

MK: Mm-hm. Right.

TM: I don't know how. And then Chester went.

MK: Right after the war.

TM: Yes. And Chester went to Orchard Lake. So we kind of lost a little track with him and Eddie was in the hospital. But while Eddie was in the hospital, Chester ran the store. And I don't remember, I sort of, for some reason it seems maybe you know, if Chester was excused from going to the service because of this, I don't remember him, because I remember the two boys. One was in the hospital and somebody was running the store. And then, um, when Eddie came back from what I understand in rumors, they were, they got along well and he just jumped right into the business.

MK: Mm-hm. Mm-hm. They had a lot of toys too didn't they?

TM: That came a little bit later. A little bit.

MK: Yeah.

TM: Yeah, and, if you wanted Christmas shopping, this is one on Chene St. Now, we went only as far as Ferry. If we really, you know I mean, when I grew up, and when I say when I grow up out of high school then you went toward Forest because that was all walking. We didn't take the streetcars. And, uh, yeah, they had a beautiful selection of toys. And I think you could buy on credit in them days. You didn't have a card but you could buy, they were well-respected in the neighborhood. And by the church they were uh, looked up to.

MK: What about the Chene Ferry Market? Can you say anything about the Chene Ferry Market?

TM: Oh yes. That was a big thing. I can remember going to the market, oh, at about quarter to six and getting all the bargains. That's going back to the Depression times. And, we were laughing, we would pick up all the orange papers and bring them home, smooth them, and use them as toilet paper. That's permissible. Uh, yes and what they were throwing out, you could get carrots, like the California carrots maybe three bunches for a nickel. Which is a big thing. Dozen, three dozen oranges for 25 cents. And, what was, they were, besides the inside of the Ferry Market they had on the street, stalls, and across the street they had stalls, the farmers had. And from what I've heard, these stalls were little stands, there were some on Ferry east of Chene. It was a big, oh my God, every, talk about Eastern Market I don't think is anything compared to what it was then.

MK: And do you remember? I was talking to Joanne Thiel, yesterday, actually, and she said that there were, that when she recalls that there were a lot of Jewish vendors too.

TM: Mm-hm.

MK: That the farms. Can you say more about that of who were the Polish farmers, there were Jews, who was there?

TM: Well, I don't know when the Joanne's brother-in-law come in because he had a big stall. There was, we used to buy for the store tomatoes, Olejnik, that I remember. And uh, by name that's about all that I could remember. We didn't buy much because there was only 4 of us. And so we didn't shop too much.

MK: Were the farmers Polish? Do you know

TM: I would say most of them. Um, 'cause Olejnik's, and I'm thinking of Joanne's brother-in-law, the name will come to me. Um, he was Polish. And I, uh...I can't, you know I wouldn't, off-hand, I would say between Jewish and Polish most of them. Because they were mostly the Polish people.

MK: Mm-hm. So what about the Jewish people that were there. Who were they, do you know? Were they, they weren't, were they farm, they weren't farmers, were they?

TM: I would say most of them were like, I think they call them vendors. One side was the vendors they brought the stuff from either Eastern Market on the, as I'm coming in from the Chene St. side on the left side were most of the farmers. So you either bought from a vendor or from a farmer, if I'm using the right term.

MK: Okay, so what side were the vendors on? When you when you came in, let's say, uh, the, into into the market from the Chene St. side. Which side were the vendors and which side were the farm.

TM: Right side.

MK: The right side were the vendors?

TM: Yeah.

MK: And the left side were the farmers.

TM: Right.

MK: So more on the on the Ferry side were the were the farmers.

TM: Yes.

MK: And the vendors were on the Palmer side.

TM: Right, yes.

MK: Okay, okay. Good. Was Polish used a lot in the market?

TM: Oh yes. Well I think, as far as I can remember, I think every Jewish vendor spoke Polish. 'Cause the people were all Polish.

MK: Did you did you speak Polish?

TM: Yes, mm-hm. Yeah.

MK: Okay. So let's talk a little bit about the business that you know you got involved in and I guess your dad was involved in? Tell me a little bit about how that started.

TM: Well my dad was never a happy person working the 9 to 5 type. You know. And he wouldn't work in the factory. And he had these little uh, uh, driver salesmen's jobs. He worked uh for Kar Nuts and Yankee Chips and uh.

MK: Where where were Yankee Chips?

TM: They were on Michigan and 18th Avenue.

MK: Okay.

TM: And that was run by a Polish man. Young fellow, at that time, young, you know. Uh...but my dad always wanted to be in business by himself and he managed to get up enough money and to bought this store. It used to be called Calabros, and in that store they had made sugar cones.

MK: What was the address of that store?

TM: 5910 Chene.

MK: Okay.

TM: Now that was right next to the bank.

MK: It was between Harper and and Medbury.

TM: Yes.

MK: On uh, on the west, on the on the east side.

TM: Yes, east side.

MK: East side of the street. The same side where like Bray Auto Parts is now and so on.

TM: Yeah, mm-hm, yeah. And, uh, and that's how we got into the business. Well my dad was working and uh, then my brother got married right after that. He went out on his own. And my dad passed away and we were in big debt. My mother was only 52 also, and I worked at J.L. Hudson. So the only choice I had was to go and help her. Because uh, my mother was too old and too young. Too old to get a job and too young to, because

she went only to 6th grade, she didn't have any uh...qualifications or abilities, she couldn't get a job. And, uh, and then that's I guess what we were there for 35 years.

MK: So when did you after start, when did you personally become involved in the business? What year? Do you remember?

TM: My dad died in '57, I'd say '50, about '58, the early part of '58.

MK: Okay, and he had been running it for about 5 years you said.

TM: Right, as far as I can remember.

MK: So what what what, can you describe the store. Can you describe the business? What did it look like physically?

TM: Well, as you walked in it had an island counter and there was a soda bar and to today I resent anyone calling it anything else. It was a soda bar. With light lunches. And it was an island counter with the old time, you made your own sodas, malt. And uh, we always had the register in the middle of the uh island. So if anyone come in they couldn't find it and would be a little hard to take out of. You know you didn't have a a stand. And we had greeting cards, magazines, and then my dad for Christmas dabbled in a lot of toys. And uh...then we had the light lunches, like hamburgers, hot dogs, ham sandwiches, and then canned soups. We didn't do much baking, you know, cooking or anything like that.

MK: What was the name of the business?

TM: Jo-Gee's. It was from my brother Joseph and Gertrude. My dad named it after both of us. And, uh, it it stuck it caught on and we had Stroh's ice cream. And at one time we were the top uh customers in the city of Detroit for Stroh's. We sold a lot of ice cream. But we were in a big debt because we owed about \$20,000 when my dad died. And the year we paid off the building where we could have been sitting on easy street they closed the school down. And our business dropped to nothing.

MK: What year was that?

TM: I wouldn't have any idea now. The , is it a 20 year loan? You know I don't remember when they closed the school. That's the whole thing.

MK: Okay so I'll backtrack that time. So...can you tell me a little bit about what you did in the business.

TM: Well mostly I did like the shelling out ice cream and making the hamburgers. It was what they call a Mom and Pop store. You did everything. You know and even plumbing if I had to. Cleaning up, janitorial. There was nothing about, you know, that you didn't

uh, list in my job description. It was all my. And my mother worked with me, I mean we both worked together.

MK: Anybody work in the store besides the two of you?

TM: We had the school girls would come in and work, you know, after school or even at that time they had, the girls would come in for lunch we had, and then they'd have enough time to eat and run to school.

MK: What kind of hours did you run your business?

TM: Well before the second riot which was in the 60's we ran, when we first ran in we would open up at 10 in the morning. And we'd close at twelve at night. Seven days a week. 'Cause we used to get a lot of business coming from the theaters, you know. And, uh, after the riots we started to close a little earlier, it was 10 o'clock and then it got to be 6 o'clock because it was getting dangerous.

MK: Was the building two, was it a two-story building?

TM: Yes.

MK: So who, what was upstairs?

TM: Originally they had offices, which I don't remember, and my dad rented it out to boarders.

MK: And, uh, can you describe the building from the outside if someone were the see it, what would it look like?

TM: Lot of people thought it was part of the bank, 'cause the same contractor built the bank and he built our store. They were side by side and it was a brick building, red brick. And when it was um, the big, it was a big store. I mean, several____. And, uh, door in the center with a big windows and we never...put anything in front of the windows so for our safety's sake people could look inside. If something was going on, they could look in and see, you know. We never let them decorate 'cause sometimes some cigarette companies want to come and put a big display and we didn't allow that. You know, we wanted it to be looking out. People were very nice and uh, up until when we closed, it was a nice place, I never regretted not having a social life because that was our social life. You knew all the people they didn't run in to be in a hurry. Although lunch times we had a good crowd at lunch then when we had basketball games or football games we had a big, uh, big business.

MK: Where did St. Stan's play football? Did they have a football field?

TM: They had a football team the year I graduated so and in our memory, what monseignor said, they formed a football league, team, and that's my brother's on the team. So it would be in '46, yeah, '46.

MK: Now where was it, where did they play? Where was the field?

TM: Right in back of our store there was a big playground, park.

MK: Is that Vernor?

TM: Vernor Park.

MK: So they played they played at Vernor Park.

TM: Well I don't think they really...I don't know where they played. But we played, I know when we played Orchard Lake, that's one of the store. Now the division I think was more like Holy Redeemer, the west side.

MK: Right.

TM: But I don't remember, them, the home games. I wouldn't know where they played the home games.

MK: Okay, okay. So the bank that was next to you, which bank was it?

TM: Commonwealth.

MK: And what was next, the other side of you? What what were the stores next to you?

TM: The one I can remember when we went in there was a beauty shop next to me. And I don't remember the next one. But then there was Dane Donuts. The one with the beauty shop and uh, there were two together, stores. That was one building. And then there was Dane Donuts.

MK: And that was Roni Kuskowski.

TM: Roni, her husband.

MK: And her husband. And were they open about the same time you were?

TM: They, I think came in either right just before us, or just after us, you know, it's a matter of months.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: Now that I'm thinking I think that they were there before we were there.

MK: And were you friends at the time or?

TM: Not at that time. But later on, uh, in a few years, my brother married Roni's niece.

MK: Mm.

TM: So it's sort of like a family, intermarriage.

MK: Mm-hm. Mm-hm, okay. Can you tell me a little bit more about Chene St. during Christmas. At the time, what was it like on the street, can you describe it a little bit?

TM: Well when I got to, when I graduated, and even in high school, and I worked downtown. Well in them days it was so prestigious to shop downtown, you know, you didn't want to have anything to do with poor _____. So I shopped more at Hudson's and uh, that's about, uh... I can't remember much about Chene St. 'cause Hamtramck was a big one too. Uh, there were more clothing stores on Chene St. You know, uh, 'cause then the pizza place came but that's all later. I mean when I talk about, you know, since '45, uh, yeah, I don't. Yeah, the Dane Donut, and then right after that there was a Green Feather Restaurant next door to them. Did anyone mention that?

MK: Mm-mm.

TM: That's where Bray Auto Parts is. I don't know what it was before that. 'Cause as a little girl we didn't go too much on Chene St. I mean, it was a big thing to go with my mother. Uh, in the block where Nowaks were they were was Lenzon's. Which was a big, uh, store too. So you, you know, once you, uh, got to Lenzon's uh, and Zarembski's you didn't need to go too further.

MK: Mm-hm. Okay. What about the um, you mentioned the riots in '43 and then the ones in '60, what what was going on in '67 on the street?

TM: That was a bad one. Uh, that I can remember, uh, we had helicopters flying low and I know my brother, uh...lived in St. Clair Shores and he made us come to stay with him. But my mother, we stayed for like, couple hours, and then my mother said, we better go back because maybe some of our neighbors need us. And we stayed uh, we had like a good relationship with the Dane Donuts They said, if we're in trouble to call them, you know. It it was, people were more together. Well I don't know now because I really don't need anyone so I can't say more, it isn't right to say. But people kind of got together and were, you know, but it was scary as far as I can remember.

MK: Did you actually see any of the looting or any of the stuff that's going on on the street?

TM: No. But uh, Sleder, uh, Sleder's was looted. I think he lived out near St. Joan of Arc Parish and they went home, closed up and everything was taken out of his store. All

his liquor. That's about the only one that I remember 'cause most of the people lived there and they took care of, they stayed in their store, you know.

MK: Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

TM: You know, in the stores, and so as long as you were there, I know the National Guard, they were flying and marching up and down so it was, when I say it was scary, but it was safe. We either ran the store, we weren't afraid to stay in the store, but uh, and we walked, we walked from Hendrie to the store. It wasn't uh, that bad. It was bad, but...

MK: You mentioned Sleders. Did you know the Sleders? The people who ran that store?

TM: Uh.

MK: _____.

TM: Well George Grost.

MK: Who?

TM: Grost.

MK: Grost.

TM: Yeah. He was the last owner that I remember...I don't remember Sleder but there was a little Spanish man that worked there, pharmacist. And then in them days you didn't go to a doctor, you went to a pharmacist. And they gave you everything, 'cause we didn't have that sophisticated medication like now. And if you had a cold, you'd cut yourself, you had an infection. I can remember him.

MK: Do you remember his name?

TM: No, I wouldn't anything. I know he was dark, and he was kind of short. And when I say short, it's maybe 5 foot. Something like that. But George Grost is uh, I don't know if he bought it from the owner. I'm trying to think. But George was a very nice person. Uhh, by then, um, you know they didn't, weren't as uh, free giving out medication but as I'm thinking, um, we went with all our prescriptions there. Which wasn't much because we weren't sick often.

MK: 'Cause the other across the street there you had Przybylski and Son.

TM: Yeah.

MK: And so you went to Sleder instead of Przybylski.

TM: Yeah.

MK: Any reason?

TM: Because it was a bit closer.

MK: A bit closer. Mm-hm. What about the movie theaters? I mean you must have gone to the movies.

TM: Oh yeah.

MK: Can you tell me about all the movie theaters on Chene St. you were in?

TM: Well you didn't go to Ritz because that was uh, uh, like a run down movie. There was King Theater. And then Home and Iris were the two big ones.

MK: Can you tell me about about the theater? What they what they were like? What, you know, how often you went, what they were like inside?

TM: Uh, well.

MK: Like the Home, because that was probably the closest.

TM: Home Theater, in the old days, we were just talking, there was a line up around the corner at a good movie. And they had, uh... ____, it was just, you know you walked in, a little lobby and you sat down. I remember Home Theater, if I remember right, it was all on one floor. Iris Theater had like, a balcony. That was the big one and you, you had to, as a little girl you had to have an extremely good movie because you couldn't cross across the Boulevard. Uh, that was already a little bit too far. But Home Theater yes and Iris were the two big one, and then, I don't know when...King Theater was called Fredro. F-R-E-D-O. Before it became King Theater.

MK: Mm-hm. Were you in it before it became the King Theater?

TM: I probably was.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: You know, because now they all just came already as I was growing, when I say growing up, I must have been about 12, 13 years old. You know, so, but, see whatever, I think whatever Home and Iris had, then King Theater would get it later. So there wasn't any reason to go that often, unless you missed the movie here then you went uh, and in them days we didn't miss 'em. We couldn't go see the adult movies. My parents wouldn't allow it you know. But, Shirley Temple, and Bobby Brine and Freddy Bartholomew, were those kind of movies we could see.

MK: You mentioned some restaurants. What about uh, I remember talking to somebody about the Round Bar and and that restaurant there. Were you ever in that one?

TM: Well yes.

MK: Can you tell me a little bit about that, about that restaurant and how, what it looks like?

TM: I didn't, like I said, we didn't go much to restaurants. Because money was tight and, once we were in the store, so I was an adult we went, Round Bar, the downstairs was a bar, and you had to kind of go through the bar and go upstairs. And, uh...trying to think of the owner's name, he died and his wife, she worked at the bank, Mary. It will come to me as I'm talking or you'll just walk out the door it'll come. They had good food and they made good business from the market. Uh, there was Round Bar and then there was one on Chene and Ferry. There was Martin's, there's another one. And then there was a, right next to uh where the uh, be, uh the store on the corner at uh, Ferry Market. Chene, uh, at the corner. And they used to serve food there. Uh, if I can remember it was a Polish fellow. But Round Bar you had to go upstairs and uh, like I say, what the, obviously the food wasn't bad or I would have remembered. It had to have been good, you know. And uh...yes, I remember the cook. And she used cook, she, when she left Round Bar she went to the Polish Village in Hamtramck and started that up. So she was a good cook.

MK: Was it Zosia?

TM: Yes, Zosia. Zosia, yeah, Zosia. And that's how they called it Zosia's uh, if you wanted to go to Zosia's Restaurant we went to Polish Village. That and today they're still cooking the same type of food, which is excellent. You know, I mean, cooked, tastes like my mother cooked.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And how they cook it I don't know but their food, their meat balls, their soups, and I go there still today. I go there at least twice a month.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: Reasonable. But going back to Chene St. There was another restaurant Martin's was it fairly big and I uh, trying to think of their name because there was a Martin's, it was shortened, and their daughter was married to Eddie Machiaski. I think their name was something like Marcinkowski. Did anyone come up with it or talking or?

MK: Uh, I think, uh, yeah, I think John Jaczkowski mentioned that. They were they were on the same side of Chene as the market was, right?

TM: Right.

MK: Right.

TM: Yeah, you went through the alley, all farmers and uh vendors were there.

MK: Right, uh, yeah he.

TM: In fact, going back, right in back of those businesses was where you bought your chickens and ducks. They had stalls over there. And they used, as far as I can remember, they used the garages or barns, you didn't have a garage in them days. Barns to kill the fowl.

MK: I noticed, you know, on your card that you know Miller Funeral Home. Can you say a little bit about the Funeral Home or there was another one over on Medbury I think, too.

TM: Wasik.

MK: Yeah.

TM: I use the Polish words because they say Vasik.

MK: Right.

TM: Wasik and Miller were the two big ones. They were the two only ones. Um...Miller and my dad were real good friends. And my dad was the godfather to their youngest boy.

MK: He wasn't Polish or was he Polish?

TM: He was, um...Kashub.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And uh, but he spoke Polish.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And I think he, I'm sure he was, they said, Kashub. Now I don't know how his father. I don't remember his father. But they, now Miller and then there's Miller um in Hamtramck. That's the nephew.

MK: Mm-hm. There was a Miller on Van Dyke, too, Miller's Funeral Home on Van Dyke.

TM: That was his brother.

MK: Okay.

TM: Yeah. They were all, they were all gone, all the Miller's, but uh, Leo is on uh, the Joseph Campau. That's the nephew. That's a direct. Uh, Toni Miller, um, we were very close friends. And she's in Arizona now. And uh, she wouldn't like me to tell any of this. But she's knocking 100.

MK: Wow.

TM: Yeah, but she's, 'cause she was, uh, she's knocked off a couple of years but she would have liked you to think she was like maybe 80. But she was close to my mother's age. Who would have been I think 98. But uh, she still is alert person. I mean she's uh. And her uh son, uh, the youngest boy was my dad's godson so we were real close friends.

MK: So, uh, Anthony Miller who owned, who who, can you describe him? What was?

TM: Tall, lanky, jolly old man. Well, that time, when I was a kid you know, 16 years old. But uh, walked down the street had a good word for everybody. You know I mean, he was uh, uh, a real nice person. And again his wife was a little, carried airs. And uh, I'm sure you're not going to play that for anyone.

MK: Yeah.

TM: But uh, he was a real good fellow. And he was for the poor people. Uh, they say if you were poor you went to Millers. So uh, that's all I'm going to say. Because Wasiks are nice people and um uh, and there was never, see my dad studied embalming at New York State. But he didn't have a high school education. So he was always friendly with the funeral directors. And he was with both of them. But somehow Miller's just, when they had their last boy, they picked my dad as the Godparent. But we were like, close to both of them, you know, both funeral homes. And uh, anything above Wasiks, the family is still living.

MK: Right.

TM: And I remember the grandmother, too. So uh, but that's going to you know, I don't remember them being in business. I remember them being in business because they were originally they were on Dubois and then they moved on uh, on, Han, on Medbury, which was a coal yard at one time. And going back did anyone bring up those on uh, um, Palmer there was a coal yard. Right where the Ferry, there was the Ferry Market and then the coal yard.

MK: So was that on the same, it's on the opposite side of the street from the market.

TM: Same market, same street.

MK: Same street. So it was, so was it next to the market?

TM: Mm-hm. Yeah.

MK: No, I don't remember that. Because I remember, because I remember, for example across the street from the market on Palmer was the Kroger store behind the Palmer Bakery.

TM: Yes, that was a Kroger

MK: So where was the.

TM: But that was before Kroger's. Um, they come up with the name, too, uh. I could just about see uh, that was a coal yard. It wasn't a big one, it wasn't a huge one.

MK: But that's where the Kroger Store was, that's where the coal yard was?

TM: Well there was some homes there.

MK: Uh-huh.

TM: Because I know there was the **Flordix**, and then I don't know who was the next one. And I don't know just about where. It was a coal yard because there was **Orchi**, the two homes that were standing and uh, I think there was a house next to them too. And uh, there was a coal yard there on Palmer, yeah. There was a coal yard on Palmer, and I don't remember how far 'cause then they, the Kroger's, that was a big supermarket came in and ruined all the Mom & Pop businesses in the in the uh neighborhood.

MK: Mm-hm, mm-hm. When, let's go back to your store. Uh, you say you had Stroh's ice cream. Uh, what about other suppliers? Who else, who else did you buy from?

TM: Oh we had uh pop, like Coke, Vernors, we had a cigarette machine. We had candies and school supplies. There was Motor City, it's on Little Mack in St. Clair Shores, originally it was like around Kirby and Chene St. They had a wholesale house.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And uh...a little sundries, nothing too much. But uh, greeting cards and uh, we'd get some magazines.

MK: Was the ice cream, though, the major.

TM: Yeah, that was.

MK: That's what you made your money on?

TM: Yeah, yeah, originally we went in for the ice cream. 'Cause that's what it was when my dad bought it was an ice cream store.

MK: So you you had a competition because you had Werners down the street from you.

TM: Yeah.

MK: Can you say a little bit about Werners?

TM: Well, we nev, it was a little competition but it wasn't that much because they had...I think they had Borden's Ice Cream. So if you wanted the Borden's and in them days you went for quality. I mean, you know, I mean name things. And we figured we had, there was enough business for both of us. You know, so it didn't hurt and we said, uh, and we were friendly. 'Til now we're, you know, when I see 'em at a wedding or , so, but, it was a type of a competition. And then there was, in the middle of the next, well, I'm going back. There was, on the corner of Hendrie and.

(Tape 1 Side A End. Tape 1 Side B Start)

MK: Okay, let's start again, so you're talking about competition.

TM: At Chene and Hendrie there was a cigar store. And then Frank's bought it out. Was a nice fellow . And he had ice cream 'til he moved across the street. So there was like three stores.

MK: So the, tell me about the cigar store, because I think they had the Indian out front didn't they? Do you remember that?

TM: I don't. You know now that you mention it I sort of think so. But I wouldn't say yes or no. It just seems, there was something.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And next, no, that was across the street from us. It was Genca studio and across the street it was a barber who like these boarders would go there and take baths. Did anyone tell you in them days 'cause like uh, a lot of homes had outhouses. They didn't have tubs. And you went there and I don't remember how much he charged. But you wouldn't uh, mostly men I remember would go in and they went for baths.

MK: Which block was he on? Where where was he at exactly?

TM: Across the street from us.

MK: Oh, on the west side of Chene.

TM: Right.

MK: Okay.

TM: It didn't last, I mean, maybe it was, uh, before that may have been a big business that I don't remember because right after that it stopped, I mean, people were getting plumbing inside plumbing.

MK: You mentioned Wern, you mentioned you see Werner, is this Richard Werner?

TM: No.

MK: Or who who do you see?

TM: Well, George.

MK: George?

TM: Mm-hm.

MK: And he's still living?

TM: I guess as far as I know.

MK: Do you know how to get a hold of him?

TM: I wouldn't have any idea and I think if you would look in the phone book I sort of think his son still has a card shop, a Hallmark card shop, some place on John R. around Oakand Mall. I went, he used to be on Kelly. I used to go there quite a bit for cards.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: But uh, but he expanded and from what I understood it got too big to run two big stores. They closed the Kelly one and that's about, it would be like, I'm sure it's a Werner card shop. Hallmark's.

MK: Mm-hm. And was his son's name Richard? Was that?

TM: No. Um, Matthew.

MK: Matthew. Okay. Okay.

TM: Yeah, that's uh, that's the one that was running on the one on Kelly.

MK: Mm-hm. Mm-hm. You mentioned Dan and Vi. Can you say more about, 'cause they were they were on the on the other side of the street weren't?

TM: They were on our side.

MK: Right. So can you tell me about their store? What was it?

TM: Originally it was a big uh, grocery store. And if I remember right, it was Burek's. It was, and I'm going back when I was a little girl.

MK: Durek or Burek?

TM: Burek.

MK: Burek.

TM: If I can remember. I can be corrected on all these names 'cause uh, and then uh...that's...all I can remember. Well I'll just back up one store. There used to be uh a second-hand store, a junk store, and Steve, he sold Christmas trees. I think everyone at Christmas went to him to get a Christmas tree there.

MK: Where was he?

TM: Right next to Dan and Vi's. And then Dan and Vi's. I don't remember when they came in. And they uh, with the pizza. And uh.

MK: What are their last names, do you know?

TM: Um, Paluh. P-A-L-U-H. Um, his wife, he died, right after my brother, and he was a young man and his wife remarried and that, I wouldn't know how to get a hold of her. And he had a couple of boys, they're not in business so uh I wouldn't have any idea and how to get a hold of her. But she wouldn't know much, and I don't think Dan would know much about Chene St. Only maybe about his own store.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: Because they came in a little later.

MK: Mm-hm, mm-hm.

TM: Much later, I mean, uh...uh...yes. Much later. So that.

MK: Let me go back a ways again back to when you were in elementary school and you had first Holy Communion. Did you have pictures taken, photographs taken? Do you remember? Where did you have your photos taken?

TM: Genca across the street.

MK: Okay, can you tell me about Genca? The the.

TM: Now she's still living. And uh, I, I could get a hold of her but I would to ask, she's about 89 years old. And her name now is Kotz. K-O-T-Z. And she lives on the west side and I don't know if it's Ewald Circle. That's about as far as I can get. They were, uh...the big uh, there was Hoffman and Genca. And that's where we had our graduation pictures taken there and uh, she didn't have her own family. She married this...Kotz whose brother was a dentist. Now if you're going to try and find somebody, that's about I can tell you. Uh, her husband, I don't know what he did, he passed away. And she was one of the first graduates of St. Hya, of St. Stanislaus School. And I had just seen her oh about 2 months ago at a Polish aid doing. And uh, very nice person. Like I say, I don't like to give out phone numbers because I don't know how much they would want. But I will see, I don't have her number to begin with. But I'm going to see somebody who is going to talk to her. They uh, turned around socially. And I said, well you ask Marie if I could give her number or I could give her your number.

MK: Okay.

TM: Now if she's 89, she could tell you a lot about.

MK: Right, right. And where was the Genca Store, where was the?

TM: Right across at Chene and Medbury.

MK: It was on like, where where?

TM: On Chene.

MK: Okay.

TM: Across from us.

MK: Okay so.

TM: West side of Chene St. West and then north, yeah.

MK: Okay, so the other studio, the other place was Hoffman, right?

TM: Hoffman Studio. I can know that because that was the rich kind.

MK: Oh I see.

TM: The rich people went there. You made, you pointed out a couple of times the kind of differences between rich and poor.

MK: You make the differences between rich and poor, I mean, Miller being for the poor and Genca being for the, was that common, I mean was there a feeling on the street, there were certain people who were on the rich end and some who were on the poor end.

TM: You know, in them days, we were all poor. And the thing is you didn't know you were poor because everybody was poor. But as they were kind of growing you know uh, uh, like, okay I'll give you an example. I had to wear high black tennis shoes because they were 15 cents a pair if I can remember. And the girl next door, her father worked, and she wore short white tennis shoes. They were 25 cents. And she was in a better class because she was. Now we lived together, but that was the difference, you know. You couldn't afford things. Uh, and I'm telling you were at the tail end of the Depression where jobs were hard until my dad got a job, well then we kind of came up in the world. Then my brother and I were working part time. But, uh, and like, most of us, and Ronnie let's say, because I didn't know her 'til they came on Chene. Uh we had CC camps where boys went to work, you know to help out. I don't remember what they were and what they stood for.

MK: Conservation Core.

TM: Oh okay. And uh...uh, we were, um, she'll tell you about the poor, I mean but we did too we were poor. We didn't go visiting to other peoples' homes like you do now. You know, we didn't know who had a big TV, well there were no TVs but you didn't know what they had and we were happy with our own, you know. So, but, as they were coming up then a little bit, kind of, just like you do now you know. Up until I moved here, it's surprising I felt the difference in church how the people kind of took me in more warm. Before I was lived on Hendrie 'cause we were, we struggled you know, and uh, but you could see the difference in the way you were taken in. I don't know if I could explain. Maybe you've experienced it coming, being a, Displaced Persons. I know there was a lot of like.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: You were put down down.

MK: Right.

TM: You know.

MK: Right. Right.

TM: But it didn't bother me to that point because I always felt I was as good as the next the person you know and I always managed to work, baby-sit, and uh, up until I could afford things, they were never big things but uh.

MK: You were associated with St. Stan's, you know you did, you went to school there and you were a parishioner. How long were you at St. Stan's as a parishioner?

TM: Well, 'til 1936, well from 1936 and I went to Communion. And then the two years, but we couldn't, we couldn't join the parish because you couldn't afford 10 cents a week for the pews.

MK: So it was required.

TM: Required, yeah, to be a parishioner. And up until maybe I got into high school did my father got a pew in church. And that put in that, like you say, a little bit higher class already.

MK: So you actually had a specific spot in the church?

TM: Mm-hm.

MK: Where was your spot?

TM: I don't remember too well but it was either 65 or 63 something. Churches were packed. Churches were packed. And uh, if you uh, somebody a stranger sat in your seat you could have got the usher to ask him to move.

MK: I didn't realize that. Now how long was that the case? How long did you have actually an assigned pew?

TM: Well you know until, I think until the highway came and people started moving out. It was, it wasn't long after we got our pew. And I don't remember before that because we didn't have a pew. But you kind of looked, you know, whose their names were on it. I don't know if you'd go to St. Stanislaus you could see little holes from screws where you had a little plaque where your name was. And you'd go in and you'd look for your name.

MK: You don't have your little name do you still the plaque anywhere.

TM: No. No.

MK: So you were there I assume until then, so after that though you went to St. Stan's until they closed or?

TM: No, no no.

MK: So tell me about what.

TM: '45. They didn't close until almost I think the 70's.

MK: So what, did you got to church somewhere else?

TM: Oh, when they closed the church, that's what about 10 years ago, 10, 11. I tried, I went, I lived across St. Clements and then I tried different churches and I just wasn't comfortable. So we...I was a little involved with St. Hyacinth's knowing the people from the store. And as we were going Fr. Skalski was warm person. You know what he is. He even announced yesterday, they announced that you're looking for information besides being in the bulletin. And we joined the parish and.

MK: How long ago was that? How long ago did you join the parish?

TM: I would say roughly about 9 years, maybe 10.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: Maybe it was a little more because yeah because I lived on uh at at the towers. So right after, maybe a year or two 'cause I went to Mass. You know I never missed a Mass and uh. Maybe about looking, not even a year now as I think back. Because I tried St. Clement's. I went, I went right through the parking lot. And I didn't like how, uh, the St. St. Clements. And I tried the Holy Ghost's Father and St. Mark's. Maybe up to about a year that I tried different parishes and uh I just found a home and uh.

MK: But before that you still went to Mass at St. Stan's as long as they were open?

TM: Oh as long as they were open, yes.

MK: You went to St. Stan's.

TM: Yeah I stayed a parishioner, yeah. Yeah.

MK: And you mentioned before the the pastor Fr. Borkowicz. Uh, he was a businessman. Can you say more about him?

TM: Well.

MK: Besides the fact that he was, you know, kind of.

TM: He was a good man. He was a good man. But, uh, we had Monsignor Grupa and when Mon. came in 1936 the year we went to Communion. And, uh, he was a good man but I mean...money was, you had the money, you paid up front you know. That's about all that. But he was a good man and my dad worked a lot for him and 'til the day he died he had a high respect for my dad. And I wrote to him and even now with, well they refer to them as their niece, but she's not their niece, in fact Cass said that she sent him a picture of me, or my father, something he's going to get her to me. That the Monsignor kept all these years. And we were looked up to when my dad started working and we were in business and uh, we gave our share. And uh...yes my parents were very, I can't say anything against the Monsignor.

MK: When did her die? When did Borkowicz die, do you remember?

TM: You know everything seems like yesterday to me. Maybe 5 years ago, maybe not.

MK: Oh, that's quite a while though.

TM: Yeah. He was I think 97.

MK: Wow he was an older guy. I didn't realize he lived that long.

TM: Yeah. Yeah, he was a priest. I remember sending him a card I went to see, to get a card. He was a priest 75 years. He had already retired, naturally. When I went to get a card the lady says, you mean for 75 birthday. I said, no, 75 years a priest. And uh, there was a great shortage of priests so he was ordained at 24. So when he was, he went blind, but he was a good man, a politician. He was as far as I could, for the years that I went to public school until my dad got uh more involved there was like a little void. And uh, I'm thinking when I look down like that so it's not that I don't what to look at you. But uh, when I got to high school my dad because a big worker with the church. And uh, he was an usher and uh, uh. But he was involved in a lot of politics. When I say politics he went to a lot of meetings. The one who could tell you a lot about, uh, was Cass Maj who married a Grzegorzewski whose a plumber on Chene St.

MK: Right right, that's right, Grzegorzewski plumbing.

TM: Yeah. He married her daughter so he knew, so as far as the church, he, he's a great guy.

MK: He's an usher at St. Hyacinth now?

TM: No, he's a commentator.

MK: A commentator.

TM: In Polish.

MK: Okay, uh. Can you describe St. Stan's inside? It was closed, I mean it's not closed it's a Baptist church now, what what, can you describe what it was like?

TM: Beautiful church, it's been praised by architects 'cause they never had the pillars in the center. Uh, he is, Monsignor he could get money out of everybody. We, in the old days when we had to paint our church, people donated. Uh...it had excellent acoustics because one time the General Motors choir sang in there. Because of the acoustics.

MK: So there were no pillars in in it.

TM: None.

MK: Huh. And stained-glass windows I assume?

TM: Oh yes. Uh, as far as I understand. If you would call the minister or whoever they would let you in. They were very accommodating. They, uh, they opened the church and uh, uh. There were only about 50 families. We had to close the church. Now this Michael Bonk. They're working they want to buy the church back. But when you get it, what are you going to do with? There's nobody there. You know I mean, if I gave you that church, what are you going to do? You know it's expensive to run it and the people aren't there. The only thing we resented the fact, we were still viable. And we were supporting. And I don't know if you were aware. You have to give the church, 6% to the diocese. We gave our 6%. And when they closed us, we wanted to die naturally. We didn't want to be closed. But it would have been maybe 5 more years and we would have folded up. So it was down, the people were dying, moving. And, uh, but up until then we were, there were not many people. I mean, nothing that, were you in for Mass at St. Hyacinth's maybe? Or you didn't make it to Mass?

MK: I was there on the Saturday I was.

TM: Saturday. Well they had.

MK: Because Sunday was St. Albertus.

TM: We didn't have that much. We didn't have anything, you know. At St. Hyacinth, at that time St. Hyacinth's was the bigger parish. You know, and, so we had maybe 25 for Mass if I can remember. I can't remember.

MK: Right.

TM: And as I say, maybe 50 parishioners. You can't do that much. But we were still the outsiders that were, they belonged, but they didn't live there.

MK: Yeah, I I went to, I belonged to St. Hyacinth's I mean when I was growing up that was the parish we went to. Although St. Stan's I went to when I lived on Lyman we would go to St. Stan's instead of. Because I think Immaculate Conception was close but we still went to St. Stan's.

TM: I'll tell you about Fr. Skalski. He's having health problems. And we're all concerned. But he's a wonderful man. He's uh, I mean, uh, he doesn't, what do you, how can I say, he's not a fooling around type. You know you can't giggle or like women fool around. He'll set you right down. But he's warm, he pulls you around and jokes. If he knows you're a joker he'll kid around. But his mother if I'm right had alzheimers. And we keep thinking he repeats himself and he gets lost. But uh, if anything happens to him I don't know what I'm, what I will do as a. Because it's a long way to go to church.

MK: Right.

TM: I belong to their Seniors, I play cards there on Tuesday.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And uh. Father is just uh, we were peeling potatoes Friday for the Festival. He made us come to rectory and uh have lunch. And I don't know how much. Did anyone give you Michael Krolewski's name?

MK: Yeah, I got his name, yeah.

TM: Yeah, he's another. And he's. I think when we were talking, he said he's American born and went at 3 years old to Poland. Then came back. But he's got a lot of history of Polish. He wro, I think he wrote a book or put it together.

MK: Right. Put it put it.

TM: He's uh, you know as I'm talking. And he's trying to get a group going and it's only 3 dollars a month. Uh, assisting the Polish. Now these are the Polish people. I just sent him the three dollars. I figure it's not going to break me and uh, very nice person. He's a, I think he, he would probably be, you know.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: You put me in mind of him.

MK: Right.

TM: You know, getting information. Because he would like to know a lot of things.

MK: What about other people that you can think of now that might might be? You know I'm going to be coming Friday to the Seniors' group and I'm going to make a pitch. And I'm going to ask people if they if they're willing, you know, to talk to me to sign up and I'll set up some appointments to do the same thing I'm doing with you. So I'm going to do that Friday and you know, hopefully get some people to to agree. Uh, are they're any other people you can think of, I mean you mentioned Genca, Marie Genca, or Kotz, so you you said you'll probably talk to somebody who will talk to her.

TM: I'm going to talk to her friend.

MK: Okay.

TM: And I'm going to give her your phone number.

MK: Okay.

TM: And I'm talk, now on Warren and Chene there was a Kelly's Florist.

MK: Right, I remem.

TM: And her mother was a sister to the bridal shop which was Grace's Bridal Shop on Chene. The big one I think is our the expensive one. She was, uh, Rosolowska. I talked to Arlene, and, uh, now Arlene is about my age or a little younger. I don't know how much she knows. But I told her, I'm going to see her her granddaughter is getting married Saturday.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And when I talked a little bit, not too much, and I says, you know I'm going to give her his, your, uh, I'm going to ask her to call you.

MK: Okay that'd be great.

TM: Yeah. I uh, I have, I'm going to write the numbers on the, you know.

MK: Okay.

TM: By the time I find anything in my purse, you know, it'll be, so, I'm going to write a, so she's, I talked to her and uh, uh, like I said.

MK: Cass Maj. What about?

TM: Cass will give you, he'll give you the shirt off his back. He's got a lot of information.

MK: How do I get, how do I get a hold of him?

TM: Uh.

MK: Through, through father? Or?

TM: Through father. Um. I'll tell you what. I'm going to call him.

MK: Okay.

TM: And I'm going to give him your phone number.

MK: Okay.

TM: I just pulled your phone number down, uh.

MK: Okay.

TM: Like I say, I'll have to talk to his sister. His sister is living for Rome next week. And she's busy. They were there yesterday. They were selling uh uh, big raffle tickets. Uh. I'll see if I can find his.

MK: Or, or if you can let him know and then give me his number and if he says it's okay I can call him so he doesn't have to charge a call.

TM: Okay, I'll tell him that. Uh, um. Because they, even though they lived on Lyman.

MK: They did?

TM: Yeah. But they were, they're warm people. And his sister is involved in everything. She had, I don't know she had eight children.

MK: How did you spell their last name?

TM: M-A-Y.

MK: Okay.

TM: And don't call him May, it's My.

MK: Okay.

TM: Make sure it's My. They'll correct you on it. Which I'm proud of, I think, uh, and uh, Cass Maj and Hedy. I would give you, have you talk to Hedy. I know Hedy won't be at home. And, uh. But she could, and I'm, I tell you what I'm going to be at a Polish aid function a week from Thursday and I'll see. Right now I can't think of them. These used to be all business people. And when I run into some of them, I might see Marie Gensa there.

MK: Oh.

TM: I'm not sure. And I'll tell her. I'll I'll give her your number or I'll ask her.

MK: Or ask her if it's okay to call.

TM: I figure it would be better if you could call her.

MK: Right, exactly. Permission to call her. And I'd be happy to call her because then, she doesn't spend, you know, she doesn't have to spend the money or anything.

TM: I don't have her number now.

MK: Right.

TM: I'll have to. Like I said, it being that Hedy is leaving. I might see Hedy on Friday. She might come to the seniors.

MK: Oh, I'll be there.

TM: Oh, you'll be there? There are, I know there are a couple women who would be more than happy to talk to you because they like to talk.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And I'm thinking one is Rose Przybylinski. She lives on Warren on and uh McDougall. She still lives there. And she's one of the original members of St. Hyacinth. And I, you know, when you talk like that I can't think of any of the. St. Stannies. Most of them are gone. My book is cleaned out with address I was and even now I was looking and, oh, this one died, this one, so, and now like Wasik, these the young kids. They won't know too much.

MK: Right, right.

TM: They wouldn't know uh, and both parents are gone.

MK: I met, who was at the uh, I met, uh, someone at St. Albertus who ran a funeral home, Kulwicki?

TM: Yes.

MK: Is that her name Pat?

TM: No.

MK: What's her name, what's her first name?

TM: Jeanette.

MK: Jeanette. Where was their funeral home?

TM: **Ratlat**. It was on St. Aubin. She married a . Uhhh, I see St. Albertus, closer to Forest. There was a Mulawa and Kulwicki. There were two funeral homes.

MK: Oh.

TM: Now Mulawas they, I don't know if any of them are living. And they all married later and there weren't any children, you know.

MK: Right.

TM: And I wouldn't have any idea of getting, Mulawa. Kulwicki, she, she married a Kulwicki, now, she may know a lot because of her involvement.

MK: Right.

TM: With St. Albertus.

MK: St. Albertus, right. That's, I think so.

TM: I know her real well. Yeah, I see her often.

MK: 'Cause I saw them, 'cause I went to the heritage Mass yesterday over there because they had all those kids there you know and uh. So yeah. So I met her there. So I never heard she had the same funeral home. But I don't, I don't remember the funeral home.

TM: Oh, I don't know if you got from Joanne Thiel, it came to me, her sister married a Polka who was a farmer who used to come in with good excellent corn. That was her sister married.

MK: See I'm going to I'm going to try and see Joann soon. Okay. Uh.

TM: Did you, you know how she lost her husband just recently?

MK: Yeah, I heard, I heard.

TM: In Windsor yeah.

MK: At the casino.

TM: We kind of smiled but it isn't funny. It's terrible. But. I always say if I die I want to die what I love doing most you know. But he and I went to school from first grade. Um.

MK: You knew him?

TM: Mm-hm. Yeah.

MK: Mm-hm. And he he lived in the neighborhood then?

TM: Yes he lived on Milwaukee and uh, between Chene and Dubois. His mother was a big worker for Stannie. And his brother Syvelster was a big bowler. He worked for the Chene and Trombly as a young fellow. And he, his name was a lot in the paper, he was a big bowler.

MK: Did you go to Chene Trombly>

TM: I bowled there, yeah.

MK: What was it like? Can you describe Chene Trombly?

TM: Well, it was a big bowling alley. And uh, busy. You had to wait for lanes. And I think when I started there weren't many open lanes. You had to be on a league to bowl because there was no room. Uh, yes they were now, trying to think the old man, the old, oh, I don't know what their names are, but the old folks, I'm sure they're all gone. And I'm trying to think, Joe, Joe, it'll come to me in a little while. He was the vice president at the Commonwealth Bank. And, uh, I would almost say he is living. Paulus. P-A-U, I think L-I-S.

MK: His first name do you know?

TM: I think, I'm pretty sure it's Joe.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: I don't know where you would get a hold of him.

MK: And he was, he was involved at Chene Trombly Rec?

TM: His father owned it.

MK: Okay.

TM: And then he kind of took over but that's when you know like the riots and it went down.

MK: Mm-hm. Right.

(break)

MK: I wanted to ask you, you know thinking of Chene Trombly. What about Chene Trombly Market? Did you, do you remember that?

TM: Yes. Uh. I'm. Niedbalas bought that store from Sandomierski. Okay. Sandomierski sold Chene Trombly and bought the one on Chene and Ferry right here. Uh, Niedbalas. Mrs. Niedbalas bought that store and her daughter-in-law Jean and I went to school from the first grade. And she died. Her husband died. And their younger son, I think he's 50. He just died about a month ago. And there's one boy left, Dennis Niedbala. I uh, wouldn't know how to get a hold of him. Uh, 'cause I saw too late in the paper to go pay my respects. And that was a big, that was really like a meat market and a grocery store. But we didn't go there because I worked in the same type, you know, for

Sobczaks. But I knew Jean. She was a worker in church. And very lovely person. Very nice. And, then they bought that uh, uh, Edsel Ford. And that was their store.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And they uh. Uh, they had a big, uh, uh, uh, a big business they had and even they had like when the lottery came out they had that **two** machines. They were, there was a line up for lottery numbers. That's what I'm. But then when her Poletown the Dodge, when they closed Dodge Main, that's what took a lot of business. They even hurt, no I think we were gone by then. Yeah, we were gone about then. Yeah. That's about all I can, you know, tell you, unless there's something specific.

MK: No just curious if you remember the store at all what it looked like and so on.

TM: Yeah. A regular grocery with a big meat market and you stood in line just about, I mean it was always crowded. You know.

MK: I I remember it because my, we used to, my parents would always get bagels after church, they would always stop there to get bagels.

TM: Yeah.

MK: Even after we moved over to Harper Van Dyke we would come back.

TM: Well you probably were buying them from Sandomierski's.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: Because uh, Niedbalas came in, when I say later, it was probably like in the uh, uh...I'm trying to think when Jeannie, whether they left 'cause her parents owned the uh, grocery store on uh...right across from Liberty Creamery, which was on Grandy and Piquette if I think, if I can remember right. There was a big Liberty Creamery. And then her, Jean married a Niedbala and her mother and brother they bought Pomaranski Mitchell Market. Do you remember Mitchell on I think Hendrie?

MK: No.

TM: Hendrie and Mitchell. And then I say as I'm talking it's coming. Jean married Eddie and uh, yeah and then when the Poletown GM came in they built this place across from the Edsel Ford.

MK: So when did Sandomierskis uh, sell their sell their store.

TM: I wouldn't, I haven't any idea.

MK: And then you said they moved down on Ferry and Chene.

TM: Right.

MK: At the corner store. And how long did they have that one, do you know?

TM: I wouldn't know.

MK: Do you know their first names? Any of the first names? No.

TM: I'm trying to think there was somebody I had meet who had married to somebody in the family but it's just not coming to me.

MK: Right, okay. What, when did uh, things begin to go visibly down hill? When when would you say, looking back on it?

TM: Chene St.?

MK: Yeah.

TM: Well the expressway took up a lot 'cause across there were, uh, lot of businesses and then the riot really and then uh. I'm trying to think uh. Then when the big stores started coming people were moving out. That's you know, going to the suburbs and that kind of hurt the churches and the businesses.

MK: What about the other other places that provided employment besides the stores. I remember New Era had a had a plant there on a, was it Grandy? One of those.

TM: Hendrie and Grandy.

MK: Do you remember that that the factory?

TM: Mm-hm. Yeah. They were there until we closed the store that I can remember. And they bought this big place in Texas someplace and uh...and that's about all I would remember. But yet they had they had a lot of people coming from uh, New Era. And, quite a few.

MK: Right, people who worked there would come for ice cream.

TM: Right. Right. And see by coming to the bank. They'd cash their checks and then they'd run in for sandwich or for lunches you know they wanted something quick.

MK: Mm-hm. Do you have any old menus any kind of, any stuff at all from the stores?

TM: No.

MK: No bills, old bills, nothing with the stores name on it?

TM: No. Nothing.

MK: Business card?

TM: We uh...when we closed the place we only had four rooms and there was nothing that I could take. Nothing. I had a lot pictures. I'm trying to think. I just felt um, I told my niece or nephew, whatever you want, take it. And they weren't interested.

MK: That's too bad.

TM: It is. You know, and uh. Now the only person, what I do have and I will talk to Ronnie's son maybe before.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: You get. He saved a lot of stuff from the bakery. Now how much of what he had.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: But we had, I guess you could call it the deed to the store.

MK: Right.

TM: And I don't know if I told you it's kind of ripped and uh we saved it. And, there was lots with names of the people who owned it.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And Medbury was originally called Endecott street. And I gave it to Dan because of his bakery, uh, and he put it together and he showed it to me and he said do you want it back or. I said no, you know I mean what am I going to do with it. So he might, now I'll ask him. Maybe he can take picture of it.

MK: Or I can take pictures of it.

TM: Or contact you. Yeah, I'll give him your phone number and he, he likes to talk to people you know. He doesn't.

MK: Good good. Okay. Do you have any other things like this, for example, this is a great, because you've got, in the name of a Chene St. business. Anything at all like this from you know when your mom died what what did you, where was she, also at Millers?

TM: She, yeah, but they weren't in business already, so she was at **Binchkovski's**. Well, the youngest boy married a **Binchkovski** girl.

MK: Mm-hm. Because I would like to get a picture of this, you know, before before I leave today. 'Cause this is, you know, this is this is I think pretty valuable beyond you know obviously the meaning it has to you.

TM: Yes, um. When my godson passed away his wife brought to me a lot of little pictures.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And uh, that was uh, because they don't have children and she thought that I would like it. And she gave me um, it just fell out as I was. No, I didn't even look, no these are inside. This is New York State. Nothing, no.

MK: Nothing from the from the store. Or your house on, no.

TM: Mm-mm.

MK: Any other thoughts you might have about, you know, just being in business, you know I mean part of it I guess one thing I wanted to ask you and I didn't specifically was, being a woman running a business. You know, I mean, it's typically a male, a male thing. What, what was it like running a business as a woman?

TM: In them days, you know, it was Mom and Pops and children. You know I mean you didn't have too many uh outsiders working. And uh...it was a neighborhood store and everybody knew everybody and um. In the evening a lot of people would come. And I think they came mostly to visit. You know they came, they'd see this one and this one and sit and talk. I think we had 26 stools. So it was more of visiting type. You know, I'm in no hurry, nobody was rushing. And when we stayed open until midnight, uh...people could go for a walk or come from the movies, stop in, have a coke or an ice cream. So it was, it was safe. Safe up until the 60's riots. Then the neighborhood really went down. You know. And after that it still, what it is today. You know because everybody moved out.

MK: One of things that I didn't ask anybody else and it just occurred to me because I remember, there was a period of time around the 70's I think when a bunch of Yugoslav families moved in. Were there a lot of, do you remember that at all? Kind of the the, the Yugoslavs moving into the neighborhood?

TM: Yeah. Like one lady said, they were the salvation of the neighborhood because they were whites and they sat outside, they talked, and it was more, for me, I felt it was safer. You know, we didn't have a problem.

MK: Mm-hm. Right, right.

TM: There wasn't that, uh, we were glad because they sat outside, they, um, they're clannish so there were a lot of people. And you got along with them. They didn't go shopping like downtown or you know. So it was more a neighborhood thing.

MK: Right, right.

TM: Yeah.

MK: The house you lived in for the longest period of time, can you describe it? Is it still there by the way?

TM: Yes, it's on Hendrie. And it's a four-family house. And from I understand, Mr. **Bortz** family built the house and, she was a lovely woman too. And he died. She has two boys and I wouldn't know how to get a hold of them. And they never had the, uh, phone listed, and uh, I didn't need their phone numbers because she would call if I **dated** or anything you know it was. So it was a nice family, we, we lived there, the Adamczyks were next door. And it was just you know, everybody knew everybody.

MK: Who else lived in the house besides you?

TM: Well Mrs. **Bork** and then there was a Mrs. Binkowska and then Mrs. **Bork's** son, who married, he lived downstairs.

MK: And you lived upstairs?

TM: And we lived upstairs.

MK: It had a balcony?

TM: Yes.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: And close to the church.

MK: Mm-hm, mm-hm.

TM: And.

MK: What, the building that's across from St. Stan's now that is still standing, it's called the St. Stan's center. What was that?

TM: It's called what?

MK: The St. Stan's center, you know, it's like, it's like, it's still standing, it's an old building from you know, it's like a, it's like a house almost. It's got a couple flags on it and stuff. It's right across the street from the church.

TM: If you're talking about the one that's like a store, well, it was a store front.

MK: Yeah.

TM: Used to be a coal yard and that's where Wasiks moved and had their funeral home.

MK: Funeral home. Okay, that was the funeral home that's what I thought.

TM: Yeah.

MK: Okay.

TM: And now St. Stannies had their club house right there.

MK: Right, okay. Well great. I really appreciate you taking all this time and patience for answering all these questions.

TM: Well I hope I've been some help.

MK: Oh yeah.

TM: And like I said I will talk to Hedy which is Cas' sister.

MK: Okay.

TM: And see if we could get Marie on your, um, she's probably the oldest member of St. Stanislaus that I could remember.

MK: Okay.

TM: Being in business. One thing across from us, and as a little girl we had an open store, they called them cripples. And you could get any paper you wanted, they were in wheel papers and uh, you didn't go inside because we were scared you know. They were nice men when I got to the store but uh, I guess the word crippled, you know in wheelchairs, and that, they had, like factory workers and the building isn't there. You would, it was open, the bottom was brick and open and if you were coming from work you could buy stuff.

MK: And where was that exactly?

TM: Uhh, the Genca's, there was the barber shop, there was Cohen's Jewelry. And next to Cohen's Jewelry.

MK: Okay, what do you remember about Cohen's Jewelry. You're the first person, because I knew this store existed but you're the first person to mention it. What do you remember about Cohen's jewelry?

TM: It was a nice, it was a Jewish man. Family run.

MK: Do you remember the first name?

TM: Sydney.

MK: Sydney Cohen.

TM: Uh-huh.

MK: And how long was he out there?

TM: As far as I can remember his father uh, as a little girl, his father ran it, then he took over.

MK: What did it look like if you were to describe the store?

TM: Uh it was like a rounded windows, something like well like Max's on Chene St. next to Nowak, where the windows and you could, naturally as kids we'd go looking at jewelry.

MK: Did you ever go inside and buy anything there?

TM: Yes. But not much because you know.

MK: What was it like inside?

TM: Oh gosh. With just two long counters. And then back was like an open type of an office where you paid.

MK: Mm-hm. And what was he like? Do you remember him? Can you describe him?

TM: He well. I, I'm trying to think here you know as a kid you had these uh, he was kind of baldish and at that time he was maybe 5'2, 5'4, 5'5, not a tall man, not a heavy-set man. A nice man. A nice man to do business with. But like I said I didn't.

MK: Did he speak Polish?

TM: I wouldn't know. I doubt it.

MK: Mm-hm.

TM: But I couldn't say. Because we had, and then next to Miller there was Kozdroj attorney, which was Dr. Sliwka there. And next to them there was a Svoboda Jewelry.

MK: I don't remember that.

TM: That's got a, there was an auto parts store, a small auto parts store. It wasn't even, wouldn't even touch Bray's. Uh, yeah. And Genca, I remember that. But Dr. Sliwka was there. I'm sure the whole family, he had two children. But they were little kids as I was a in high school already so I wouldn't have any way of even.

MK: Did you go to him?

TM: At that time, yes, but see we didn't go much to doctors in those days.

MK: How about dentist? Did you go to any dentist on the street?

TM: We used to go to the one on, above on Hendrie and Chene, right on the corner. Dr. Osowski. And then Dr. Lisowski came across from us which I, he Dr. Osowski had I, I'm assuming he retired at, I know he died. And then Dr. Lisowski was on the corner and then before him I don't know what was upstairs but downstairs it was a pharmacy...Schram's Pharmacy. And then there was a hat shop. Now it's a parking lot. So uh.

MK: One of the things that, you know, you mentioned also Max's, have you, did you go, did you shop at Max's, did you ever go to Max's?

TM: Yes. When my dad.

MK: How do you compare Max's and Cohen's? What were they like?

TM: Max's was a big one. That was, everybody went to Max's. Um, like I said I didn't do much shopping but I remember when I graduated eighth grade my dad took me and he got me a ring for my birthday. My eighth grade graduation. So that much I can remember. And there was, we didn't, we couldn't afford much jewelry, you know. And then I wasn't a jewelry person until today I'm not.

MK: What about other, were there other Jewish business businesses on the street that you remember that were clearly Jewish besides Max's and Cohen's? I remember for example Margolis for example was was Jewish.

TM: Yes, that was uh.

MK: Can you remember Margolis Furniture?

TM: Yes that was at, in the block I'm sure that.

MK: It was past Ferry.

TM: Nowaks was at. It was toward Ferry. There was Margolis and Maliszewski.

MK: Can you describe those those stores?

TM: I don't, and again, like I said, we didn't have much furniture. But we would go to Maliszewski. And he still has a place on Mack and it's either Grosse Pointe Woods, Grosse Pointe Park, he has, it's a carpet.

MK: Is it, does it have the same name? Does he use his own name?

TM: It would. If you were to look in a phone book it would, it's an E, and I think it's a big C, and I and a M carpet. And I think it's Ed Maliszewski. And if I would remember his sons would be running it.

MK: Okay. So the store's name is EC.

TM: EC and I think M but it goes still under Maliszewski.

MK: Oh it does okay.

TM: But he's a, he's dealing primarily in rug and I think if you want to look up in a phone book. Now I usually I'm out that way once a week and I could get the number. It's on Mack and it's towards like around Vernor I don't know what familiar on the east side.

MK: Yeah I am, yeah I know that area.

TM: It's this side uh.

MK: It's before Vernor?

TM: It's this side of Eight Mile Road. Which is Vernor, closer to town, south. Because I go from here down Eight Mile and Eight I turn. It's in a little mall and he's on the corner and I can see the E like a red E with a C and I think it's an M and I also wonder was the C for carpet. It's Ed Maliszewski's Carpet.

MK: Okay. Well I'll try to get a hold of them. Because that would be. I remember Maliszewskis because they were in the same block, Maliszewski and Margolis.

TM: Right.

MK: Were were almost next door to each other, a couple doors apart.

TM: Right, right, yes, right. And now like I'm saying. He, I would say he's still alive because I would have known through the obituary but I would say he's retired. It had to, he, he had a couple of boys and I know he lives in Grosse Pointe.

MK: Okay well I'll track him down.

TM: Mm-hm.

MK: Okay, well that's great. Good, well thank you very much.