

077 Celeste Fuda

Please note that there was some Italian speech in this audio file. The translation for the Italian speech is in brackets in bold font next to the Italian text.

[0:00:00]

Interviewer: So I just want to say that I'm at the home of Mrs. Fuda, and you lived on Robert Street and you had the store on the corner of Robert and....

Respondent 1: Yes, yes. Robert.

Interviewer: Okay. DO you know when you lived on Robert Street?

Respondent 2: When did you move there? Do you remember?

Respondent 1: I think '81, '82.

Respondent 2: No. On Robert Street.

Respondent 1: No, **[0:00:30]** no, no.

Respondent 2: On Harbord. Here you moved '83.

Respondent 1: Yeah. Okay, thought you said Toronto.

Respondent 2: Down Harbord.

Respondent 1: Harbord take too long, but after moved from Harbord come here.

Respondent 2: Yeah, but when did you move to Harbord?

Respondent 1: Oh.

Respondent 2: Not here.

Respondent 1: Oh, when move to Harbord.

Respondent 2: Yes. I just asked her when she moved here.

Respondent 1: 1960. 1961.

Interviewer: [0:01:00] 1961?

Respondent 1: No, Johnny 1961.

Interviewer: Johnny was born in 1961?

Respondent 1: Yeah, born.

Interviewer: You know, you said your memory is not very good, but I want to talk about what...

Respondent 1: Well my memory very good, just no see.

Interviewer: Oh, you don't see too well.

Respondent 1: No, memory I remember when I was a young girl, a small girl. Oh.

Respondent 2: You remember everything.

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Respondent 2: That's good.

Interviewer: So can you tell me when you lived on Robert Street, [0:01:30] when was that? On Harbord Street.

Respondent 1: 1961. No, no.

Respondent 2: No, no. That's when Johnny was born.

Respondent 1: 1960. No.

Respondent 2: Maybe 1950-something.

Respondent 1: '59 maybe.

Interviewer: 1959?

Respondent 1: I think 1959, 1960.

Respondent 2: Mrs. Poretta moved over in 1958 onto Robert Street.

Respondent 1: Yeah. Maybe **[0:02:00]** in 1960 because Johnny by 1961.

Interviewer: That's when Johnny was born?

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Interviewer: 1961?

Respondent 1: 1961. I was there not too much, not too long.

Interviewer: Okay. So you were there before '61.

Respondent 1: Maybe '60. Yeah.

Interviewer: Okay. And when did you move out of Harbord Street? When did you move up here?

Respondent 2: '81.

Respondent 1: '81.

Interviewer: 1981. Okay.

Respondent 2: '81 or '91? '91, right?

Respondent 1: '91.

Respondent 2: Yeah, **[0:02:30]** '91. Sorry.

Interviewer: Wow. Okay.

Respondent 2: I'm trying to remember the dates here.

Respondent 1: '82 maybe.

- Interviewer:** Okay. Now, but you also owned the store on the corner of Robert and Harbord?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, Robert and Harbord. When the bank close, everything close. Nice people there. Everybody love me, I love here. I remember the people die [0:03:00] young, very bad – not close to me, just very best friend for me.
- Interviewer:** So you had good friends. Your good friends lived here.
- Respondent 1:** Oh yeah, yeah. Especially the mother-in-law.
- Interviewer:** Mrs. Poretta was your friend.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah. I feel sorry.
- Respondent 2:** And she knows all of – like when we were talking before about the Giannones and she knows. She knows Aunt Mary, like Maria. Remember Maria Giannone?
- Respondent 1:** [0:03:30] Yeah, Maria Giannone? Yeah.
- Respondent 2:** And George Giannone?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Respondent 2:** They all were social together.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah I remember those. Giannone. Maria che dice mo? Ma chi sei, Maria?
- Respondent 2:** She's got dementia now. Yeah. She doesn't talk too much. She's forgot everything.
- Respondent 1:** Mm.
- Respondent 2:** Yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** But at that time there were a lot of people from Italy living in the neighbourhood.

- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. And **[0:04:00]** I have a store, and a lot of people want to come into my store because I have Italian things.
- Respondent 2:** Products.
- Respondent 1:** Everybody happy, yeah.
- Interviewer:** So what did you sell in your store?
- Respondent 1:** Sell because my husband want – my husband want to sell because he said I work too much, and I want – nobody no want.
- Interviewer:** But your husband and you worked in the store together?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah. **[0:04:30]** More me.
- Respondent 2:** Mrs. Fuda was there all the time.
- Interviewer:** Really?
- Respondent 2:** Always, yes. And she's so...
- Respondent 1:** The night-time, the kids for school – St. George's school come in here, I close late, and I want ricetta **[note: this is recipe in Italian]** for spaghetti for sauce, and I give. Thank you very much, Mrs. Fuda. He called me Mamma Brown because I have Mrs. Black and Mamma Brown.
- Interviewer:** Mamma Brown?
- Respondent 1:** Mamma Brown.
- Respondent 2:** **[0:05:00]** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** In the – when I...
- Respondent 2:** Oh.

Respondent 1: I close in the night-time when the guy come in. Let me call Mamma Brown.

Respondent 2: Oh.

Interviewer: Okay.

Respondent 1: In the can.

Respondent 2: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Interviewer: So you worked in this store, but at night you went home to be with your children?

Respondent 1: No, children don't have – not when Rocco had died too.

Respondent 2: Rocco, [0:05:30] her older son, just died about three years, not even.

Respondent 1: No.

Respondent 2: Two-and-a-half years ago.

Respondent 1: On March. March.

Interviewer: In March.

Respondent 1: Three years.

Respondent 2: Yeah. In March it'll be three years.

Interviewer: I'm sorry. I'm sorry to hear that.

Respondent 1: Ah, this is the life. No can't make – I can't change it. Life come in and nobody change.

Interviewer: Right.

- Respondent 2:** Mrs. Fuda was very – she didn't have to go far when she was working for – because [0:06:00] upstairs was where they lived above the store.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. I live upstairs, I have one big type – oh go up and down, up and down. This is the man, I know. This is the man who was. [Doorbell rings]
- Interviewer:** So you lived – but I lived at 158 Robert and you owned that house, or Johnny owned that house? 158 Robert Street.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** I live there.
- Respondent 1:** [0:06:30] Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** Yeah. So...
- Respondent 1:** That's a – maybe I know – no, I don't see you there when you buy it.
- Interviewer:** No, because you had already moved up to this house.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah. I think when we put for sale over there.
- Interviewer:** Yeah, yeah. I lived there until Johnny sold it.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, exactly.
- Interviewer:** And then I bought a house on Borden Street.
- Respondent 1:** Was a boy...
- Interviewer:** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** I wish I phone more because I know the phone better work. I phone now. I better remember you.

- Interviewer:** Sure. Do you want to phone him now? **[0:07:00]** Maybe after we talk for a few more minutes.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, after. Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Okay. Mrs. Fuda?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Would you tell me where you came from before you came to Canada? Where did you grow up?
- Respondent 1:** In Calabria. Reggio, Calabria.
- Interviewer:** Calabria.
- Respondent 1:** Malito, far away from Reggio, Reggio province.
- Interviewer:** Uh-huh. **[0:07:30]** And how old were you when you came to Canada?
- Respondent 1:** I think thirty years.
- Interviewer:** At thirty years old.
- Respondent 1:** Thirty years because it was ten years married, ten years. Sorry.
- Interviewer:** Married in Calabria and you were there for ten years?
- Respondent 1:** I have two kids, Rina and Rocco. I have two kids. I bring two kids in Italy.
- Interviewer:** So Rina and Rocco were born in...
- Respondent 1:** **[0:08:00]** No. Johnny born here.
- Interviewer:** Johnny was born here.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah. Rocco...

- Respondent 3:** I'm sorry to interrupt you. We're doing an interview. How are you? I am Rosanna. I am the first grandchild. My sister went to pick up the...
- Interviewer:** Oh, so that's your sister, okay.
- Respondent 3:** Yes. Sorry, I didn't realize. I was going to be here – trying to be here half an hour before you, but anyway I'm half an hour – the day run long.
- Interviewer:** Would you like to join us?
- Respondent 3:** I will join you in a moment.
- Interviewer:** Okay.
- Respondent 3:** I'm just going to settle some things. I was going to offer [0:08:30] to make a tea. Would you like one?
- Interviewer:** No, thank you.
- Respondent 1:** No. Coffee.
- Interviewer:** No thank you.
- Respondent 1:** Coffee, Italian coffee. Espresso. Yeah. I take a coffee.
- Respondent 3:** You better take one as soon as you finish this interview. [Laughter] I'll be back. I'll be back in a second.
- Interviewer:** Okay. So you came, you came to Canada with two young children.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** And then you had Johnny here.
- Respondent 1:** Johnny is 1961, John.
- Interviewer:** Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

- Respondent 1:** Born.
- Interviewer:** Right. And when did you open the store? Around that same time?
- Respondent 1:** Same [0:09:00] time. When I was pregnant, I don't know. A couple of months by Johnny.
- Interviewer:** So you were a busy woman. You were working in the store...
- Respondent 1:** Oh.
- Interviewer:** ...and you had three children.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** Tell me what it was like in the neighbourhood. What did you think?
- Respondent 1:** Everybody good for me, everybody. Good people. Good personality, and good friend.
- Interviewer:** Mm-hm. [0:09:30] Mm-hm.
- Respondent 1:** I can no say – I have in Portuguese.
- Interviewer:** Yes.
- Respondent 1:** I don't know, Medeiro. Portuguese be there now. Friend Italian, Siciliano.
- Respondent 2:** Sicilian.
- Respondent 1:** Si.
- Respondent 2:** Yeah, yeah. And there were some Jewish people there too.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah.
- Respondent 2:** They're all – actually the people who you bought your house on Robert Street were from – I think it was Mr. Silverstein, wasn't it? Or

Silverstein? **[0:10:00]** The one that Johnny and Rina bought, that house on Robert Street.

Respondent 1: I don't remember. Not too long.

Respondent 2: He was a tailor. I remember that. Yeah.

Respondent 1: I don't remember. I take everything.

Respondent 2: Yeah. That's okay. So – but you know you were asking, Eleanor, what kind of things she sold in the store, and she had lots of produce, and she had like mortadella and all the **[0:10:30]** cold cuts.

Respondent 1: Oh too much to sell.

Respondent 2: You had everything, right?

Respondent 1: Yeah. Italian things. Mortadella, salami, Genoa salami, and prosciutto.

Interviewer: Oh.

Respondent 1: Prosciuttino, e como se – oh no se piu **[and what's it -- oh, I don't know anymore]**.

Respondent 2: I can't remember.

Interviewer: Is that another kind of meat?

Respondent 1: Oh no. I can't tell to Rosanne. Sometime...

Interviewer: **[0:11:00]** So you had a lot of meat, different kind of meats...

Respondent 1: A lot of meat, yeah. And I sell the veal chop, pork chop.

Interviewer: So it was a lot of meat.

Respondent 1: Oh yeah.

- Respondent 2:** Yeah. She was like...
- Interviewer:** It sounds like she was a butcher.
- Respondent 1:** Chicken leg, chicken wing.
- Interviewer:** Oh.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Because I knew there was some Jewish butchers there...
- Respondent 2:** Yes.
- Interviewer:** ...and now I'm learning you had all these Italian kinds of meats.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** So it was different from – a lot of corner stores have no meat.
- Respondent 1:** Cheese, mozzarella, [0:11:30] ricotta, provola, provolone.
- Interviewer:** Oh yummy.
- Respondent 1:** Fromaggio.
- Respondent 2:** And you can go in there and even buy, like, a dish, or a bowl.
- Interviewer:** Oh.
- Respondent 2:** You know, she had some things, like, you know, like house wares.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah. I keep too because I think somebody come in. One want something and I have to go far away. Dishes, this, that, a lot of things is [0:12:00] for home. For home. Yeah.
- Interviewer:** So look, so you were an Italian woman and you were working.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.

- Interviewer:** Were a lot of other Italian women working, or were they staying at home with their children?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, I have one was my niece, my niece.
- Interviewer:** Uh-huh.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah. She before worked somebody – I have to tell you.
- Interviewer:** But I'm wondering, some mothers stay at home and some mothers go to work, and I [0:12:30] think at that time a lot of mothers probably didn't go to work.
- Respondent 1:** No, no. I work all the time.
- Interviewer:** Yeah, yeah.
- Respondent 1:** When I have Johnny I stay one month, and after a month I started to work. No work too much. Make cash.
- Interviewer:** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Uh-huh. But when I'm listening to you, it sounds to me as if you liked working.
- Respondent 1:** Oh yeah, yeah. [Laughter] Even for now.
- Interviewer:** [0:13:00] Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** I feel sorry and I can't do much more because now I can't work. I cannot see.
- Interviewer:** Oh.
- Respondent 1:** I had...
- Respondent 3:** Oh wow, that's just water.

- Respondent 2:** Thank you.
- Respondent 3:** This drink, because you need it, has her official name of Albanese Maria Celeste Fuda with their date of birth. Because by the time she spills it all over you [laughter]...
- Interviewer:** Thank you.
- Respondent 1:** My own daughter making fun. My daughter. My daughter make this, make **[0:13:30]** party and give one to everyone.
- Respondent 3:** It was nine years ago.
- Respondent 1:** Everyone person give one name.
- Respondent 3:** Her family – her birthday, that was the bonboniere.
- Interviewer:** So you got some nice gifts.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** I will show you the pictures when I make eighty years.
- Interviewer:** Okay.
- Respondent 1:** Eighty years. No, no. This fifty years. Me and my husband. She make another party.
- Interviewer:** So you had a fiftieth anniversary party.
- Respondent 3:** Chi stai parlando de, non? Chi cosa vuoi diche? **[What are you talking about, grandma? What do you want to say?]** Cosa dei parlane fa ottanta anni? **[things that you're saying about when you turned eighty?]**
- Respondent 1:** **[0:14:00]** No. Questa for...

- Respondent 3:** Quando fatt'ottanta anni, no? **[When you turned eighty, no?]**
- Respondent 1:** Quando fatt'ottanta anni. Yeah. **[When I turned eighty, yeah]**
- Respondent 3:** Yeah, when you were eighty years old.
- Respondent 1:** Quando fatto mo party con nonno. **[When you threw my party with your grandpa].**
- Respondent 3:** No. Your fiftieth, I don't remember what you gave out...
- Respondent 1:** Fiftieth. Mm. You know, the anniversary.
- Respondent 3:** Yes, but I don't remember what you gave out. Now you know I'm going bother you. We're going to move this back so I can sit there across from you.
- Interviewer:** Okay.
- Respondent 3:** Sorry.
- Interviewer:** I'll turn this off a minute. I just want to say I want to welcome you to join us. You are Mrs. Fuda's granddaughter. What is your name, please?
- Respondent 3:** I am Rosanna Lacissa. My mother would **[0:14:30]** have been her daughter, Rina Fuda would have been her daughter.
- Interviewer:** Okay. So I know I've been in touch with Rina...
- Respondent 3:** Yes.
- Interviewer:** ...and she has health problems, so it's...
- Respondent 3:** Yes, unfortunately.
- Interviewer:** ... hard for her to come and join us.
- Respondent 3:** Yes, yes.

- Interviewer:** Okay. Well I'm glad that you're here. Okay. So thank you. What we were just talking about is that your grandmother was always a working person, and we were just saying...
- Respondent 3:** She loves outside work versus the – she's not a home person. So the store, she thrived in it because she was able to be working, but at the same [0:15:00] time, because the community around her was very Italian-oriented in the sense that they were all there for the first time from Italy, she got to associate with – it was like being back home.
- Interviewer:** Yeah.
- Respondent 3:** She didn't feel like she was working. She was just associating with her own.
- Respondent 2:** It was very – her social life.
- Respondent 3:** It was because you could – it was just like if you're back home, you would catch up at the marketplace. So she was the marketplace.
- Interviewer:** [Laughs] Yeah. She likes people. What school did your children go to in the neighbourhood?
- Respondent 2:** [0:15:30] Lord Lansdowne?
- Respondent 3:** Okay. I know my mother went to public school, so...
- Respondent 2:** Lord Lansdowne.
- Respondent 3:** Would that be the grade school?
- Respondent 2:** Yeah. That's at the bottom of the street.
- Respondent 3:** And then there was – okay, is that the one near Christie Park? Is that the high school?
- Respondent 2:** That was the high school.
- Respondent 3:** Okay.

- Respondent 2:** That was Harbord Collegiate.
- Respondent 3:** Okay. Because my mother – I know my Uncle Johnny went to St. Peter's, but my mother's school was all public. I know she did a two-year high school program, which would have been – I'm not sure – at the high school collegiate. Oh what's down – scuola dai mamma **[0:16:00]** to sta ricordo? Or non ricordo? **[Mom's school, do you remember, or not remember?]**
- Respondent 1:** Christie. Christie.
- Respondent 3:** It was at Christie. Christie Pits or Christie. I don't know. I'm afraid I don't...
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, Christie. Ianda na scuola **[there there's a school]**. Yeah.
- Respondent 3:** Okay. I know she had a long walk, so [laughs].
- Respondent 1:** Johnny go in the scuola – le scuola...
- Respondent 3:** St. Peter's.
- Respondent 1:** No, no St. – after.
- Respondent 3:** Yeah. Okay. And then...
- Respondent 2:** Where did Johnny go to school? Did he go to Lord Lansdowne?
- Respondent 3:** He went to Catholic school.
- Respondent 1:** Lansdowne. **[0:16:30]** Yeah.
- Respondent 2:** Yeah. Lansdowne. Yeah. That's where all the boys went.
- Respondent 1:** When he was a boy.
- Respondent 2:** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** After go...

Respondent 2: Central Tech?

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Respondent 2: He went to Central Tech then.

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Respondent 2: Yeah.

Interviewer: When you lived above the store, who else was living there with you?

Respondent 1: I have my family, my husband.

Respondent 3: But you shared with your sister-in-law at one point, no? Zia Laninna e Uncle Sam?

Respondent 1: Oh. Oh. Yeah. I mean this. Yeah, I have my sister – she lives in [0:17:00] Barrie now.

Interviewer: Your sister lives in Barrie now?

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Respondent 3: So it would be her husband's or – uno momente. Your sister-in-law, Zia Laninna, who's still alive, believe it or not. But she only stayed there a little bit of time. At one point they were there for a year. It would be her husband's brother, whose name was Vince, and his wife, and their children stayed for a year. And another point, my grandfather's youngest brother, who's still alive, he lived with them for quite a few years, so yeah. Until they all found their own place they were staying with them.

Interviewer: So that [0:17:30] was a very strong pattern because I've heard this before.

Respondent 3: Until they're settled, the families stay in with you, yes.

- Interviewer:** They move in and they pile in, and there could be six, eight, twelve, one or two kitchens, one bathroom. [Laughs] And they're all there and they...
- Respondent 3:** And it makes the cousins grow up more like siblings versus cousins because my mother and her first cousins felt more like one family versus the cousin, right? It makes them closer.
- Interviewer:** So has your mother – obviously your mother has talked a little bit about that.
- Respondent 3:** Well you know, we actually – **[0:18:00]** is there a picture here? With these kids coming I have to find – I'm going to go find some pictures.
- Interviewer:** Okay.
- Respondent 3:** There was a picture here with all of them, the little cousins growing up together.
- Interviewer:** But the fact is the family grew up. The older generation, who were thirty and thirty-five, forty years old, and the younger generation were all together.
- Respondent 3:** Yes.
- Interviewer:** I guess no grandparents came.
- Respondent 3:** No. Her parents were very much – her mother was alive, but they were back home, so.
- Interviewer:** Okay, so...
- Respondent 3:** But you know what? At one point my grandfather, her husband's father, did **[0:18:30]** come over and he ended up splitting. He ended up – when he passed away he was in her house, but he did split time between the other son and her, so yes, at one point they did even have an older – I was five when he passed away, my great-grandfather. But I remember him being with them.

Interviewer: Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

Respondent 3: Yeah.

Interviewer: How did you learn to speak English?

Respondent 1: I no speak very good English, ma just like that. I don't go to school or nothing. I go to school before, goes okay. But I no have time. I want to [0:19:00] take lessons for car and no time. I have no chance too.

Respondent 3: She regrets not having her license for the car. The one regret that she – because she says – she regrets not learning to drive.

Respondent 1: The store I close late because the people come. I feel sorry see the store close. I close late. My husband sometime go by the light and stay there. I live upstairs and I have to go. Sometimes Mrs. [0:19:30] Borra, Lina...

Respondent 2: Lina, yeah.

Respondent 1: ...come in at night-time too because she knows I close late. Another one, Mrs. Coletta, knew there, but she died.

Respondent 2: Mrs. Coletta. Yeah.

Interviewer: So you regret that you didn't learn to drive a car.

Respondent 1: No, no.

Respondent 3: The one thing I hear, or – not really – yeah.

Respondent 1: No. No time take lessons. I don't know.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Respondent 3: I don't know where she would drive to, but she regrets [laughter] not getting her...

Interviewer: But did you have a car?

- Respondent 3:** Yeah, my grandfather had a car.
- Respondent 2:** Oh yes.
- Respondent 1:** **[0:20:00]** We have two car, one called Cadillac...
- Interviewer:** Cadillac?
- Respondent 1:** ...another one [laughter]...
- Respondent 3:** Oh yeah.
- Respondent 1:** ...Buick.
- Interviewer:** A Buick?
- Respondent 3:** I always remember this golden Cadillac. In those days with the parking and all the less cars, you could afford to drive a huge-sized car. Like I would not want to drive a huge car now in this city driving.
- Interviewer:** But a Cadillac?
- Respondent 3:** Yes.
- Interviewer:** Buick?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Respondent 3:** I remember them picking me up from school in the Cadillac.
- Respondent 1:** My husband, you know, very fancy.
- Interviewer:** Yes. Very **[0:20:30]** fancy. [Laughs]
- Respondent 2:** Oh yeah.
- Respondent 1:** I don't know.

- Interviewer:** Is that you and your husband?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Respondent 3:** That would be in their kitchen above the store.
- Respondent 1:** My husband in the – when make fifty years anniversary.
- Interviewer:** Uh-huh, uh-huh, uh-huh. Very, very nice.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah. Was too fat. I don't know. [Laughter] Yeah, yeah, yeah. Too fat. Yeah. [0:21:00] I don't know why.
- Interviewer:** You have a beautiful face.
- Respondent 2:** I don't remember her being heavy.
- Respondent 3:** No, but anyway it's just...
- Respondent 1:** No, I don't know.
- Respondent 3:** ...she's got a thing about weight. [Laughter]
- Respondent 1:** I don't know why. [Laughs]
- Interviewer:** When you were living there in the house, did you have a garden behind your house or any space behind the house?
- Respondent 3:** I don't think she had a garden.
- Respondent 1:** No, no, no.
- Respondent 3:** No. They just did the...
- Respondent 1:** So it was just the back lane.
- Respondent 3:** Yeah. They would do barbecues. Because she had a butcher shop inside the store, they always had barbecues, [0:21:30] so – or a lot of families were having maybe meat once at the end of the week as a treat, it was very common to eat meat every day at her house

because they had the butcher shop, so I remember lots of barbecues.

Respondent 1: Sometime I go far away, far, you know. What you call it? Farm?

Respondent 3: You would go to the farm?

Respondent 1: Yeah. My sister-in-law, my...

Respondent 3: You go to the farm for what? Fatiga?

Respondent 1: No, no. Picnic.

Respondent 3: Oh, you mean like beach more.

Respondent 1: Sandy.

Respondent 3: More the beach. Oh, they used to go to the beach a lot.

Respondent 1: Yeah, the beach.

Respondent 3: [0:22:00] My parents, yeah. We never did the beach thing, but apparently they – which one though? Which beach?

Respondent 1: Lake Simcoe.

Respondent 3: Oh okay.

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Interviewer: So did you close the store?

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Respondent 3: On the Sundays they were closed.

Respondent 1: Sunday.

Interviewer: Oh Sundays you were closed and you would go to the beach.

- Respondent 1:** Yeah. Because I never go no place.
- Interviewer:** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** I bring to – no Rina and Rocco.
- Respondent 3:** Bring where, Nonna?
- Respondent 1:** Down Lake Simcoe.
- Respondent 3:** But you brought – you don't remember. Si, you brought my mother. The [0:22:30] whole family went. You didn't leave her at home.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah. [Laughter]
- Respondent 3:** My mother has weeks of these because she would say like, "No, I don't know anything. I never do beach things." But like people go up north, it's crowded, it's crazy, but in those times, the '50s, the '60s it was really easy to just go and have a nice, relaxing day.
- Respondent 1:** You believe I like eat meat, yeah, because I have too much flower. I don't like to eat.
- Respondent 3:** You don't like to eat meat because why? At the beach because of the sand? Because you do a barbecue out there too. [Laughter]
- Respondent 1:** Oh.
- Respondent 3:** She's very fussy, my [0:23:00] grandmother. When we cook, we have to have our hair tied up, and our apron on. And no one dips the same spoon. [Laughter]
- Respondent 1:** I have my brother-in-law, Vincen – brother, my husband, and my sister-in-law. For me it's two sisters.
- Interviewer:** So you're very close with your sisters-in-law.
- Respondent 1:** Oh yeah. He and Maria, 1947. Never argument.
- Interviewer:** No arguments in all those years.

- Respondent 1:** No, no, no. She phone in the morning, or me **[0:23:30]** or him every day.
- Interviewer:** That's wonderful that the families got along so well.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. For me, I don't know. I have half a year more, and I look for her like small girl.
- Respondent 3:** You look at her like she's a child?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah. Yeah, yeah. Because...
- Respondent 3:** Oh, Nonna has an attitude that she can teach...
- Respondent 1:** A couple of years I have more, she have...
- Respondent 3:** Como ti – lei vuole parla di fatto Harbord Street? **[She wants you to talk about Harbord Street]**. Si parla di Barrie quando se...
- Respondent 1:** **[0:24:00]** No, mai dicere a mi ando lonta pour... **[No, I just told her I go far for...]**
- Respondent 3:** I'm telling her let's stick to Harbord or we're just going to go – but she wants to know your memories of Harbord Street, Nonna.
- Respondent 1:** Chi ne mi ricordo. Tu dice... **[I don't remember. You say.]**
- Respondent 3:** Did you tell her what year you went to Harbord Street from Italy?
- Respondent 1:** Si, si.
- Respondent 3:** I know they first lived on Emerson and a couple of other little streets before they actually bought the store.
- Interviewer:** When you were living on Harbord Street, did the neighbourhood begin to change, or it always stayed the same?
- Respondent 1:** Some change, some no.

- Interviewer:** Yeah? Could you **[0:24:30]** remember any changes that happened?
- Respondent 1:** For me, nobody changed. It was all okay.
- Respondent 3:** The people were the same, Nonna? Or was it the cultures started changing? Ere sempre persona giuda, ou comincia cangia? **[Was it always Jewish people, or did it begin to change?]**
- Respondent 1:** No. Saccio io quando cambia. **[I don't know when it changed]** Because nobody changed.
- Respondent 3:** While you were there it was the same. So while you were there it was always the same.
- Respondent 1:** When I live there, everybody okay after.
- Interviewer:** Yeah. Was it safe?
- Respondent 3:** Oh yeah. Very safe.
- Interviewer:** Was it safe?
- Respondent 3:** Yeah. It was very safe. **[0:25:00]** Tu potrebbe dorma con la porta aperta? **[Could you sleep with the door open?]** Vuola sapere s'era safe. **[She wants to know if it's safe].**
- Respondent 1:** Never scared there. Nobody come, and nobody making trouble. But now it changed, time. Before it was like my house. Before I want to come in here and ma na va **[and then I go]**, ma doppo **[but after]** it was very hard, especially doppo **[after]** I had the store.
- Interviewer:** Yeah, so okay.
- Respondent 1:** When you have nothing to do you worry, **[0:25:30]** like think, but after I have a lot of thinking to do, nice friend, all people for me was friends.
- Interviewer:** Did you have any friends who were Portuguese? Or were all your...

- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** Yes?
- Respondent 1:** Portuguese I have – lots of Portuguese.
- Interviewer:** And some Jewish friends?
- Respondent 1:** Jewish not much.
- Interviewer:** Not much. But Portuguese friends.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah. Portuguese, yeah, yeah. I had one neighbour, he was called Louie.
- Interviewer:** Louie?
- Respondent 2:** **[0:26:00]** Louie?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah. He was – ella figlia Maria. **[He had a daughter, Maria].**
- Respondent 2:** Oh. I can't remember his name.
- Respondent 1:** He moved there, from there.
- Respondent 2:** Yeah, I know.
- Respondent 1:** Move – I don't know si **[if]** move or not.
- Respondent 2:** I don't think they're there anymore. No more.
- Interviewer:** Mrs. Fuda, do you remember any stores besides – your store was a butcher and a cheese shop and a corner store.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Do you remember any other stores on Harbord Street?
- Respondent 1:** **[0:26:30]** I have one in Brunswick, but no live too long.

Interviewer: Brunswick. What kind of store was that?

Respondent 1: He put spaghetti, like no meat, nothing.

Interviewer: Uh-huh. But was it a restaurant? Or was it another store?

Respondent 1: Oh, have a restaurant too. Make pizza.

Interviewer: Oh, a pizza restaurant.

Respondent 1: I don't know now where he is.

Interviewer: Uh-huh.

Respondent 2: Poretta's.

Respondent 1: Yeah.

Respondent 2: Yeah.

Respondent 1: **[0:27:00]** Oh, I think no. No. Now I tell I have did the best for the whole family, work there.

Respondent 2: Mr. Kromer was across the street. Do you remember Mr. Kromer? He had Kromer Radio?

Respondent 1: Oh yeah. Mr. Kromer. Oh, the best friend too.

Respondent 2: Yeah.

Respondent 1: We go there for Joe Pileggi.

Respondent 2: Joe Pileggi. Yeah.

Respondent 1: He in trouble. It's the **[0:27:30]** best friend for me and for...

Interviewer: Poretta and Kromer.

Respondent 1: Yeah, yeah. And the best friend in the street. It was the Poretta family.

- Interviewer:** Yeah, yeah.
- Respondent 1:** For me, like it's even family.
- Interviewer:** So you felt that close to them.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** Like you were all family.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** What about where did you go to church? Was there a church near there?
- Respondent 1:** St. Peter. St. Peter.
- Interviewer:** And where is that?
- Respondent 2:** On Bathurst Street.
- Respondent 1:** On Bathurst Street. Yeah.
- Respondent 2:** Bathurst and Bloor.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** [0:28:00] Uh-huh.
- Respondent 1:** Sometime helping, you know? I now go. I feel tired. After, I think. For store get up, for church no. [Laughter] It was ten years all my life I remember I go to church. All.
- Interviewer:** Before you came to Toronto?
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
- Interviewer:** And then – but when you came here...

- Respondent 1:** Now I'm forty years no go because my legs no good.
- Interviewer:** Uh-huh. Uh-huh.
- Respondent 1:** The [0:28:30] priest say the communion here...
- Interviewer:** Oh that's very nice.
- Respondent 1:** ...to have priest and me.
- Interviewer:** Oh that's very nice. Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** Yeah, yeah. Everybody love me. I don't know why. [Laughter] I don't know.
- Respondent 2:** Because you're so nice.
- Respondent 1:** I don't know what to do the best. Now everybody...
- Respondent 2:** Yeah.
- Respondent 1:** ...speak too good for me.
- Interviewer:** You're a beautiful woman.
- Respondent 1:** This eleven, Angeli come. Sometime I will take them for passing time. Hi, Bella. Hi. Rocco, [0:29:00] vieni qua [come here]. He coming from school.
- Respondent 2:** Yeah.
- Interviewer:** Did you ever go to Kensington Market?
- Respondent 1:** No, no. One time go before.
- Interviewer:** Yeah?
- Respondent 1:** But not much.
- Interviewer:** Well I guess you didn't need the market, you had your own.

Respondent 1: No, I go before I have the store.

Interviewer: Oh, before you had the store you went.

Respondent 1: Yeah, yeah.

Boy: Hola.

Respondent 1: Hola! Oh hello.

[00:29:24]

[At this time the recorder was turned off,
then turned on again a few minutes later for a few final remarks.]

[0:00:00]

Interviewer: Okay. Mrs. Fuda?

Respondent 1: Si.

Interviewer: Your granddaughters are here, your great-grandchildren are here. It's a busy house. I just want to say thank you. I enjoyed meeting you, and I enjoyed listening to you talk about your life on Harbord Street in Toronto.

Respondent 1: Thank you too. Thank you. And thank you, Silva, too. Was my neighbour and now far away, ma **[but]** I miss you.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Respondent 2: I miss you too.

Interviewer: And thank you very much too. It's really been a pleasure having you help, and listen to what **[0:00:30]** you've learned from the generations.

Respondent 3: Thank you.

Interviewer: Thank you.

[00:00:34]

[End of recording]

Please note that there was some Italian speech in this audio file. The translation for the Italian speech is in brackets in bold font next to the Italian text.