

Interviewer: Lindsay Schmitz

INTERVIEW AND TAPE SUMMARY

Name: Nora Todoroff

Date and Place of Birth: Granite City, Illinois 1928

Address: 

Telephone Number: 

Interview Date, Time, and Place:
Dec. 5, 2001 1:00 pm Mrs. Todoroff's home

Interview Summary (attach additional sheets, as needed):

- her father's immigration
- her father's participation in World War I
- her father's shoe repair shop
- The Macedonian Church
- The Macedonian Bulgarian Ladies Aid Society
- Macedonian food
- Lincoln Place businesses

Note any special circumstances involving the interview:

Biographical Summary of Eleanor (Nora) Todoroff

Interviewed by Lindsay Schmitz

December 5, 2001

Nora Todoroff was born in Lincoln Place, an immigrant neighborhood in Granite City, Illinois, in 1928. Her father immigrated to the United States from Macedonia when he was 17 years old. Shortly after immigrating, he joined the service and fought in World War I. During the war he suffered a serious injury and spent 18 months paralyzed and in the hospital. He eventually recovered and returned to Macedonia for a short visit. During his short return home, he married Todoroff's mother and the couple moved to Lincoln Place. As a result of his war injuries, Todoroff's father was unable to perform heavy, manual labor for the remainder of his life. This prevented him from working in the many factories located near Lincoln Place so, instead, he opened his own shoe repair shop in the neighborhood. When Nora Todoroff was 10 years old, and an only child, her mother died as a result of medical problems with her hip. Todoroff's father never remarried and raised his daughter alone until she reached adulthood. Eventually, Todoroff, herself, married and in 1961, she, her new husband and her father moved out of Lincoln Place to a larger home on the other side of Granite City. Todoroff gave birth to two daughters and currently has several grandchildren and one great-grandchild.