

Interviewer: Lisa Smithe

Interviewee: Anne Kovach

Date, Time, and Location: Wednesday, November 14, 2001, at 3:30 pm at Mrs.  
Kovach's residence.

{Please begin Tape 1, side A}

Lisa Smithe: This is Lisa Smithe and I am interviewing Anne Kovach and this is Wednesday, November 14, 2001 at her residence. Please state your full name and spell your last name.

Anne Kovach: It's Annie M. Marie Kovach. K-O-V, as in Victor, A-C-H.

Smithe: Okay and.

Kovach: Birth date is May 27, 1926. I was born at 837 Pacific Avenue, in Granite City, Illinois.

Smithe: All right. Anne, please tell me a little bit about your background.

Kovach: Okay. I come from a family of five girls. A mother and father came from Hungary. Father came here in 1906, 1906 he arrived at Ellis Island, and my mother arrived here in 1913. I have the name of the towns but that's neither here nor there, but they were married in Akron, Ohio, in 1916. And I have two sisters born in Vestaburg, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth, who was in 1917, Julia in 1918, and I had a sister born in Eleanor, Pennsylvania in 1919. Another sister and myself were both born here in Granite City. She was born in 1921, and of course myself in 1926. I believe we moved to Granite City in 1921. From records that I have seen from another relative my parents, not my mother, but my father at one time lived in Venice and in Madison, Illinois. I can't really say when they came to Granite City. I am assuming since my sister was born in 1921, it had to be maybe a year or so before that. We lived in this little duplex house on Pacific Avenue, which is now Neidringhaus Avenue. I can remember, or heard, the streets were all cobblestone

and then they were paved later I don't know how many years after that. My father worked at the Commonwealth, which became General Steel Castings. And of course the Depression came along and my mother went to work. At that time I couldn't understand, well I was too young too much to understand but why the men didn't get the jobs instead of the women, you know. But Mom was a dipper. And she made that cup right there (points to a shiny, silver cup on her coffee table). And she was doing that, and my father was a chipper. And I don't know when he retired, I can't say too much about that. But, anyway. Growing up, wonderful times in what was known as Lincoln Place. After Hungary Hollow, it was known as Hungary Hollow, I never knew why they named it that. But some of the people didn't like it so they named it Lincoln Place. And we had the clubhouse (Lincoln Place Community Center), which was just wonderful. I believe it was in Mr. Howard who was the owner of the Commonwealth General Steel Castings and I understand he had the building put up. And he furnished everything for us. We had a wonderful playground, we had Sunday school classes, we had Bible school classes in the summer, and if you didn't participate in Bible school classes in the summer you weren't to participate almost anything else. And really the kids from Lincoln Place were the only ones who had the advantage of the clubhouse down there. We had the neighborhood of West Granite, but none of the children from there came. And it was just for us more or less. And I learned to sew down there I made my first piece of embroidery work, which the lady, Miss Prather, was in charge. And she was a strict person, she was good, she was strict. And she gave you one skein of thread out of six. And I had to do this piece (points to a square piece of fabric with embroidery, see attached photocopied artifact) with one skein of thread. Never do that (laughs). But, anyway, she was very good about it, and the boys, well I course, I learned to sew, I learned to quilt, I made a quilt, a little Dutch girl quilt, while I was there. I sewed a dress. Then we had exhibits, like in September before school would start, we would have these exhibits. We had the stage there and we'd put on the programs and everything was exhibited. Everything that everyone made through the summer months were put on exhibit. And you got ribbons or whatever. They also had tournaments and the boys had marble tournaments, the girls had Jacks and



Balls. I came in first on the tournament, and my gift was a red work, a man's work handkerchief. That was my gift (laughs). We used them for scarves you know we had scarves at that time or anything else. But I can remember that so well. We had, during our Bible school for the summer, it was two weeks, you had to learn certain scriptures out of the Bible and you had to remember the books and all that. We had crowns, and every time we remembered something out of the Bible, we had a program, and every time we remembered something out of that Bible you got a star on your crown. And there were so many squares that you fill out. After those squares, if you filled the whole square, all the squares out on this crown you got a Bible. And I received a Bible from a Mr. Tate who owned a funeral parlor across on State Street I can remember that. Across from St. Joseph Church, and that is where I got my first Bible. My mother always saw to it that we went to Sunday school on Sundays. Father was Catholic, Mother was Protestant, but she more or less did everything the Catholic way, you know. But she saw to it that we went to Sunday school, we didn't go to church. So it was all denominations really. So you had, oh all ethnic people the Macedonians, Bulgarians, we had a Greek family there, we had a German family, we had the Mexicans, and of course the Armenians, and the Hungarians. Everybody knew everyone else. It was just wonderful. You knew all the kids that you grew up with. We had, all of us had gone to the Washington School, which is in West Granite. They finished and went on to Central School. My sisters did, my four sisters. But I was the only one out of the family that went to high school. I was the only one. At that time they couldn't afford it. Kids quitting school and going to work, and at that point I say my dad wasn't working. We had what you call the Hungarian home down there. We had picnics, we had dances, we had, oh we had a festival, which they called the Grape Festival. They hung up all these packaged fruits; cellophane wrapped fruits, all different kinds, up on these wires that were strung on the ceiling. The girls were dressed in their Hungarian dresses and the boys were out there. They had the dance, and they'd be out there dancing. The guys, if you caught one of the guys pulling a piece of fruit off the wire then you got to grab him, and he had to pay for it. I couldn't, I still, I don't get the drift of whether they had to pay, what they did with that, or if the girl danced with

him or that. But I can remember having those Grape Festivals like that. During our picnics they had contests the Prettiest Hungarian Girl, which one, my eldest sister was in. She was the prettiest, even though she was my sister, I know. The way you got to win first, second, or third place was you sold tickets. And who ever sold the most tickets, that's how you came in, you know. Well if you didn't have any money, you know, mothers and fathers bought a lot of tickets. So, anyway, but that was fun too. And it was really nice. Three of us girls got married and that got married had our weddings there at this Hungarian Hall. It's just so much fun. Oh I don't know. Playing with the kids when I was young to, I can remember the Commonwealth that at nine o'clock blew a whistle, that meant all, everybody was to go home. All the kids were supposed to be at home by nine o'clock. I believe that was the Commonwealth that did that. We had all sorts of factories around here, and I don't know how much more, what I can think about to really say other than having this Hungarian Hall and the clubhouse and all the different nationalities and the people just mixed so well together, kids going to school. I can remember my sisters telling me the Illinois terminal used to come with the bus down there and my mother would give my sisters each got a nickel. They were dressed up on Sunday and they would get on the bus, and the driver would take them on his rounds, and he would bring the girls back and let them off on the corner there where we lived. The grocery stores, we had a wonderful grocer. Everybody be, like some families, they were lucky their parents, their father maybe worked a couple days a week or whatever. We had this grocer, and I know we had a bill with him, Mr. Abe Mitseff. And he was wonderful. Dad got groceries from him. And he would send home every time Mom would go or Dad would go, usually Mom would go and pay the bill, you did that every two weeks on payday. And there for a while they couldn't. But he would send us two little bags of candy home for us five girls. Friday, that would be like on a weekend, you know. And Friday night my dad would go play cards at the Hungarian Home. They played for coins, and they had what they called chips. And I don't if they were any more than worth a nickel, but he used to bring candy bars home for us if he won any of the chips, you know. That was a good time. I can remember a lot of good times down there with everyone. We had girls that come over and Mom would



make bread, and she'd do this on a Friday, or my oldest sister would, bake bread. We would have friends come over and she'd always want the crust of the bread because, you know, we had the homemade bread. At Easter, the Hungarians, it was a custom; the day after Easter the boys would have bottles filled with perfumed water. I don't know where they got the perfume, but they'd be filled with water. And they were sprinkling bottles. And they would go around to the girl's homes and sprinkle them, and if they caught them they were supposed to get a kiss from the girl, you know if they sprinkled them. Tuesday was supposed to be the girls' day, but they didn't get to do it because you had to go back to school on Tuesday. As a child too, we lived in three rooms. There were seven of us living in three rooms. We had no living room because that was Mom and Dad's room. In the winter they closed off the one room and they moved their bed into the kitchen.

Smithe: Wow.

Kovach: Yes. Yes. And then my sisters and I, we had the middle room. I bet Christmas, I can remember people coming over to play cards but they'd play with mixed nuts usually walnuts, though. They played with walnuts. It was like money, you know. And our stockings would be hanging from the cook stove over to one of the doors on the ceilings, you know. That's where we had our stockings hung. And we'd get an orange, an apple, and nuts in there. There were no toys. One year I can remember, I must have been maybe eight; I got my first prettiest doll. I couldn't see it, on the Christmas tree. Dad always saw to it we got a Christmas tree. And that was in that front bedroom of theirs which had the door shut 'cause we couldn't afford to heat it. And I peeked through the keyhole to look at the Christmas tree and I saw this beautiful doll there dressed like a little girl. And oh my goodness, oh my goodness (laughs). Excitement. Excitement, you know. I don't know. We didn't have school quite often in the winter because the weather was so bad. We had so much more snow and ice back then when I was little then we do now. It's unbelievable how many days; the snow might last from November through February. We had snow all the time, and we walked to school from Lincoln Place to



West Granite. Maybe, I don't know if it was a mile or not. I mean it was cold. We used to walk in groups because at that time where the Union Starch used to be it wasn't fenced in, there were no trees, so this was all out in the open so when the cold wind would blow, you know, you just didn't have any protection to walk. I could, let's see, the teachers when we'd get to school, some of the kids that came and didn't have gloves, and she would run their hands under the water. We just had a little sink in the room.

Smithe: Hmm.

Kovach: Yes, I couldn't figure that one out. As I got older it comes back to me now 'cause I can remember her washing the girls' hands, you know, trying to warm them up. Oh I don't know, let's see, what else was going on. I have to look through my pages here (referring to a couple pages that contained notes of what she wanted to cover in the interview).

Smithe: How was school for you? What type of subjects did they teach you in school?

Kovach: Basics. Basics really. In grade school the first through the sixth grade I went to Washington School, we did. And they were just the basic lessons there. Math, Spelling, Reading, Geography, History, and school was really good. All you needed was a tablet and a pencil. Every thing else was furnished, the crayons, the construction paper, we made all the, we did have Art. And the art was we made things. At Christmas we made these little houses where the doors and the windows opened and they had cellophane on the windows and you colored whatever you wanted whatever colors you know you did in there. You never had to bring any supplies from home. We had activities, I can remember being in gym, and I couldn't under-, this I still can't figure out why, but we had wired fence-like in the room where the gym was. I guess it separated the gym from the lunchroom. That, I can still see that but I don't remember why that was separated like that. We never had

to, our books were all furnished for us. We didn't have to buy them. We had milk everyday for three cents. You got a carton of milk. So chocolate was my favorite so everyday I got, my father gave me enough for the week and we'd give that to the teacher and we'd have milk everyday. My music lesson was a harmonica, which we paid forty-five cents for.

Smithe: Oh my goodness.

Kovach: Yes, and so I had lessons on the harmonica while I was at school. I am trying to think what else was in school. We had, we also had programs 'cause I can remember being in a couple of dances. We had gym. But I can remember we had programs in school. Must have been Halloween and Christmas. I can remember one Halloween we had this play, we had a beautiful stage there, we had this play. All us kids were dressed as sunflowers, and we had the pumpkins and everything that was out there. And this one classmate a boy classmate and he had a beard and he was backstage and he was holding this pumpkin that was lit. It had a candle in it, and it was lit. And his beard caught fire (laughs)

Smithe: Oh my (laughs).

Kovach: ...fire in there. It was so funny, but of course you know that was bad. But we sang songs with that, and you did little dances on that. It was a skit, it was a Halloween skit. I can remember being a soldier. Our parents made our costumes for us whatever they could find. I was a top at one time, and that was real cute. It was really cute. But we had tumbling, more or less tumbling and games in the gym. And from there on I went to Central school well there you got a little bit harder. And then I went on well that was two years. And that's about all I can remember from there other than not going to school that was good (laughs). You know you got to stay home. We'd sit around the coal stove in the middle room and there too my older sister she was like, she was taking care of us, you know we were all at home. She noticed that the heat was going down in this coal stove well she put a little coal

oil on it. You know what happened. Poof. Her eyelashes burnt, her eyebrows burnt, she was very fortunate that that was all that happened to her. Oh my father was so upset, so upset with that. But during the time too, in the summer, we used to walk to the levee, walk. The road from down there, there were no homes out there. And it was just beautiful on both sides of this road that was just lined with trees, just big trees all this shade. And it was just pretty. And we walk to what we called the levee just out walking. Just looking out over the water and all that. We did have a flood one year. I could remember walking on top of the levee and it looked like that water was just ready to come over, which would have flooded. I think when Lincoln Place did get flooded, but I don't remember that. I just remember walking on the levee. We were lucky that the river didn't overflow, the river didn't overflow. The Depot came along. They built the Granite City Army Depot, which was good for us. One year there two men in high school I got we go to work four hours after school at the Depot and we got to work eight hours on Saturday which was good there was so many of us that did got to do that. It was good experience for us. Your grades have to be up and have to be up to par you didn't have to be a grade A student or that, you know. And you got to work there and that was nice. There was another time we were almost flooded and they thought the levee was going to break and there were leaks in it. So we would work during the night and hire in people to come in and fill sandbags and I worked all night several nights to register people coming in to fill sandbags. We were fortunate with the Depot there because they fought it otherwise we'd have probably have been flooded. I have pictures where the streets were flooded down there when we had a big rain. I have pictures standing out in the middle of the street and my mother and my neighbor standing were all standing out there to show how deep the water is. And some of the young fellows would get into a boat and ride, use the oars, and go with the boat out into the fields that were flooded.

Smithe: Oh my.

Kovach: And oh gosh there's so many things that really happened down there. Let me see what I can tell you (looking at her list again) about I got about Washington



school, Sunday school, Commonwealth, Mom working there. That was another thing I said my dad used to go, my mother used to work shift work. Dad used to go walk; of course we had to go across the tracks Lincoln Place. The upper class across the tracks, I mean you know. Dad would go in and wait for her and walk her home at night. That was hard for him to think that she was working and he wasn't. My oldest sister took care of the house and she did the cooking. Another thing we did at Easter, we had a special noodle that we made. That was for, we had chicken soup was the big thing at our house on Sundays so on Easter us girls would sit down, and mom would roll out the noodles and she'd cut them in inch squares or inch and a fourth squares and we had this little gadget and this little board well it looked like similar to a pencil but it was shaped with a point on it. You would put that down on this square noodle individually on that square noodle and you would roll that and it would make a ridge like a shell. And that's what we'd do. It would take us all afternoon to do that. We would only do that on Easter. It was part of our Hungarian heritage, and with Mom making strudel and that. Making sure you don't get a hole in the strudel dough when you are stretching it where today you can buy Filo (fē-lō) dough or Filo (fi-lō), how ever you say it. That was another thing we did at Easter besides the eggs. And birthday cakes, I don't ever remember ever having a party, but Mom made the cake, no recipes or box cakes or nothing. I mean she just made by feel. She made our cakes like that. Nice. But they were really pretty. Our pastries, we make a three-decker pastry. It is a cookie you cut it in a diamond shape for all holidays. At Christmas I make them. I am not making too many of them anymore. It is a lot of work and I don't know of anyone who is going to make them after I am gone. With the girls, they're my daughter-in-laws, and you know everybody is working and I just don't make them. I don't know. They look forward to Christmas wanting to know if I am going to make these cookies. I make cutout cookies and then we have the nut roll and the poppy seed roll. You can buy those in bakeries now. They are very good. I am trying to think of what else would be of interest.

Smithe: Was there any certain Hungarian dish that you remember the most that you liked?

Kovach: Yes. Stuffed cabbage. Rolled cabbage...

Smithe: Hmm.

Kovach: ...with sauerkraut. Another one, my mom made plum dumplings. Those are delicious. You make a batter out of mashed potatoes and make a dough, a soft dough. You put a plum; you seed the plum, the Damson Plums, the smaller plums, not the big ones. And you seed it. Take the seed out and put a spoonful of sugar in there. You can put a cube in there today. And then you roll this dough around this pull and you put it in boiling water for a couple of minutes until it comes to the top. And you roll it in buttered browned breadcrumbs and then you sugar it.

Smithe: Oh wow.

Kovach: And when you cut it open the juices just roll out from the plums.

Smithe: Wow.

Kovach: Yes. Yes. And our chicken soup is very good. Chickens our chicken soup is good. And people talk about how Hungarians how Hungarians make a Hungarian goulash. I hated it (both laugh). I never did like it. I think my mother, when they talk about Hungarian goulash, and I've been to restaurants where they make it. It is not what my mother made. It is more like a stew when you go out. When my mom made it, it was just the meat and potatoes and onions. I just never cared for it. I just didn't care for it. 'Cause if that is the original goulash because it depends on what part of the country you came from. It is just like your North and South. Everybody cooks different. I just didn't like it. Then we had noodles that we made with the squared noodles again. We'd sauté shredded cabbage and you brown that and you pour it over noodles, cooked noodles. And that is very good. I like that too. I

haven't made that for a long time either. Most of my boys liked a lot of the Hungarian dishes except my youngest. He doesn't care for a lot of it. He won't eat cabbage (laughs). Those were some of the dishes and mom always, and doughnuts. Oh my goodness, she'd make this, oh just this big; oh of course you know there is seven of us. Make this big platter of doughnuts. It didn't bother her if we just go ahead and grab it off the platter and eat it maybe before we were supposed to or whatever. On Fridays she followed the Good Friday. My dad being Catholic, even though he didn't go to church, but she would make a noodle for her meals and it would be either with potatoes, potato noodles, or the cabbage noodles. We had cottage cheese noodles. She would make a soup and there were be no meat in it. It would be green beans. It would be very good. She would make crepes. Of course people called the crepes, we called them just pancakes. They were just plain pancakes for us. And she'd roll them up with cottage cheese in the center or jelly. My children like it with grape jelly. Which isn't the tradition, I don't think you know for a Hungarian crepe. That was on Fridays too. Anything that didn't have meat in it. That's about it as far as cooking. My sister became a very good cook. My oldest sister, 'cause Mom worked and, she took care of things. You had to have talked to my, the young, the sister who was born before I was here in Granite. She was so funny. We always had a lot of fun with her. I can remember the kids, my dad would ask them to do something, and they didn't want to do 'cause he had one of the stores here, was run by some Armenians, and all the fellows from Lincoln Place would gather there. They called it Blubby's. They all gathered there, of course you'd walk down that way and they'd either whistle or they'd, you know, make noises or whatever. But that was a good place to be too. I started; my mind went somewhere else (laughs). Anyway, we had to do a lot of walking, and I am trying to think what else right now (points to pause the tape).

[Break]

Kovach: I can remember my oldest sister doing the housework and the cooking since my mother worked, and I had one sister, and she was a devil she was the



comedian of the family. She could do anything; she could do any dance step that you wanted. She was so funny she kept us entertained. She really did. But one day, my eldest sister was cleaning the house. She had washed the kitchen floor up and the younger one came in and she started, she walked across the floor. So the older one hit her on the head with the mop handle. And the younger one told her, "I'm going to tell Mom that you hit me." And she, the elder, the older one told her, "Well, if you don't tell Mom," she says, "I'll give you a nickel." And another time my father was looking for two of my sisters, and they used the bamboo poles. You didn't have any fancy fishing rods I guess back then. I don't know. But he wanted some fishing poles. We had this Hammer Man's Hardware Store in town. And he was hollering for my two sisters to come, he wanted, they knew what he wanted, and he wanted them to get these fishing poles. Well, they would have had to come home and walk in front of all these guys sitting over at Blubby's carrying these fishing poles. So, we were in what you call the shotgun house. It was just three rooms, but it had a porch from one end to the other. My father was on the porch and he would walk to the, he came out from the kitchen in the back and walked to the front of the house hollering for my sisters. Well, they knew what he wanted so they were on the other side of the house. While he was walking to the front, they ran to the back. And he came back and then he went to the back and he's still hollering for them, you know. So when he came to the back they ran to the front, on the other side of the house. And he caught on to what (laughs) they were doing (both laughing). He fooled them (both laughing) we waited and he pretended to be going to the end of the house and he waited and he caught them. And so they would have to go, and they did not want to go. So he gave them the money and he told them what he wanted, a couple of rods, you know. So they went to get a friend of theirs. I am not going to mention her name, but they went to get a friend of hers, and she'll do it, she'll do it. And she did! They went over there and asked her, "Do you want to go with us?" I believe it was Hammer Man's. "We got to pick up a couple of fishing poles for my dad." So she went with them and they had her carry this rod, these poles home. So (laughs) didn't bother her. But my sisters were good for that. The younger one, like I tell you I'm the youngest, but then she was the younger one out of the four. I had one sister who

could fall asleep anywhere she was the third one, third sister. And she could fall asleep anywhere. We had in the back, of course they had sheds at that time, and that's where you kept all your junk and stuff. And Mom used to throw rags back there because in the summer we used to have a man that used to come through the alleys with a wagon. And he'd holler, "Rags. Rags." Well, then mom would take whatever rags she had, and give them to him cause see then he would take them and sell them. And my third sister fell asleep back there one day, so the fourth one, she went back there, and she didn't like it 'cause she was sleeping. So she hit her in the nose (laughs). And she, the third, the fourth one, she was writing a history of their life, not so much with me because they kind of ignored me cause I was the youngest one. They kind of ignored me, but she had this all written down, and I don't know what she did with it but it was hysterical. I mean she was really something else. She gave my sister a bloody nose (laughs). You know, I mean we used to sit around and talk about this. And then what they would do, each one had their junk box.

Whatever little bit of jewelry they had, maybe a pencil or a pen, just their own little personal items. Each one had one. And on Friday nights, Mom would be working afternoons and Dad would go play cards. So there we'd all sit. We would have enough, and by that time my sisters had gotten a job in ST. Louis, three of them did. And they made seven dollars and fifty cents a week. So they gave my dad so much out of that and then they got streetcar fare to go to work and they got enough for a soda everyday for their lunch 'cause they bagged their lunch. They took a sandwich for lunch. So they, we all had, they would get me a soda too, that's on that Friday night. And they all bring their boxes out and look at them. And they'd trade with each other for whatever was in there. "You can have this. Or you can have that." Or you know, "Or I'll give you this for that." And the second sister (laughs) she always ended up with whatever she traded she still had what they gave her but some how or another she always got back what she gave them for trade. So they really, they kind of have fun. They'd talk about it and they'd laugh so much about all these little things. Like I say, they had more fun than I did. I was very quiet believe it or not as a child. I was very quiet. I would go with my dad sometimes to where he'd play cards and the men down there would want to give me a nickel to get a candy



bar and I wouldn't take it. I just wouldn't take it. I was shy. The quiet one. In fact, when I got married I moved away from down there. I lived there for about a year, and then we moved away. I didn't go back that much other than to just see my parents and a couple of my friends down there. But other than that, I didn't go back. Where my sisters after they got married, one of them did live down there (Lincoln Place) and the others moved away but then they would go and visit friends. They had clubs, women clubs down there. I wish I had a picture of their Halloween Party that they had. My sister, the younger one, was pregnant and she had long johns on. Men's long johns that opened in the back and there she is with this big stomach. Of course you know who she is even though she's got a mask on. They just looked like they had so much fun. But see I wasn't in on any of this. I just didn't, it didn't seem like I belonged. I was too quiet. After I grew up, I did get into high school and that, I was just a different person. My sisters were married and we really didn't get close until we had gotten older and we all had children. I had my children and that's when we got close and started to really have family get-togethers and that. When I think about my sisters, the four of them, they were so close in age. Almost like a year apart, two years apart growing up like that so they had a lot of fun. They went to the dances, especially the younger ones, at the clubhouse they had dances; I think that cost them a quarter to get into the dance. They had the band down there and it was fun for them. Of course the boys at, of course I am jumping from one subject to another, the boys at the clubhouse too, I talked about the girls having the sewing and that. The boys had crafts too, they had a workshop, which was located in the basement, and they made like, I think they made like benches and things, but they did woodwork but they learned to do that there. So they had exhibits for them. And of course we had our wonderful, wonderful basketball team. The state that came in first, and most of those boys were from Lincoln Place. And I understand one of the fellas that really helped win the games the State Championship; I understand he got his first pair of gym shoes from the clubhouse there from Miss. Prather that was in charge of that place there. The girls also had a basketball team. They had a club. My sister, one of them, one or two of them was on a team there too. But I don't know that they played with anybody else, but I do remember them being on the



team. So it was, so it was wonderful. I meet a lot of friends, and we all say how happy we are that we grew up down there. We didn't have the money, but we had more than other people had, that parents did have jobs and that didn't go through the Depression like we did. I can remember I have a picture of myself as a child in school with a sweater that in my dress that didn't even look like it was ironed, which it was. Because I have memories of no electricity. I can remember not having any electricity at our home. I can remember when they turned it on. I can remember my mother's first electric iron, which my sister used, my oldest sister, because Mom was working. But I can remember with a yellow handle, that was the first electric iron. I can remember the first refrigerator because we had the old ice box type where you bring a box of ice. And Mr. Naumoff used to come with his truck and give us ice. And he'd chip a piece off for the kids that were out there in the summer time. He'd chip a piece of ice off to give to us. I can remember to empty that pan that was under this icebox and the drippings from the ice, you know. Having a stove that was down, our kitchen, we got the electric iron and we were in those three rooms we lived in that shotgun house. I can still see us heating the irons before that on the coal stove to do the ironing. I can remember that. I don't know who has our irons, but at my father repairing our shoes. Have soles on their shoes, I think you bought them for a nickel or a dime. He shaped them. I have a kit downstairs, a shoe kit, like that repairs of the different sizes of shoes. He gave haircuts. I can remember people coming over, men coming over and he'd give a haircut to. He also made us root beer. My dad. Dad didn't make beer, but he did make root beer. I have a bottle capper downstairs that, caps put the caps on then. I have one of those too. That I bought at a yard thing somewhere 'cause I don't know what dad. When you are moving you just get rid of things that you don't think you are going to need anymore. And my shoe kit that I have was my father-in-law. I have that. But my sister, my youngest sister, has the one that my mother and dad had. I can remember moving. We moved. I can remember moving three-two times. Before we lived in this shotgun house we lived right next door. We loved it. Like I say though being the youngest it didn't matter to me, but it did to my sisters. Someone only living in that house just a short time and somebody bought it 'cause we were renting so we

moved just right next door into the shotgun house. From there, after my sisters had gotten married, three of them, four of them, three of them got married then my mom and dad bought another house, and that was on Maple Street. So that was good, but then our kitchen was in the basement. A lot of the homes there in Lincoln Place had kitchens in the basement. Yes.

Smithe: It seems very unusual.

Kovach: Yes. There was no, nothing upstairs, no sinks or anything. You didn't have a kitchen upstairs it was in the basement. It was a big kitchen. Then you had the furnace room and the coal room. When we moved there that was really good because I felt like oh boy this is an improvement from the others. When you are young like that too and you are going to high school you get kind of a little bit embarrassed that you don't have things that you'd like to have. And you really shouldn't be 'cause our parents were good to us. My mother was a very loving person. She never cursed she never talked about anyone. My father was good to us. He never laid a hand on us. All he had to do was look at us and we knew we... it was either kind of slow down a little bit or you know. I can remember my sister having a date. The guy that was, and again well we lived in a shotgun house, there was no place to entertain but in the kitchen. You could see with four other sisters there (laughs) trying to entertain a fellow, you know.

Smithe: Yes.

Kovach: This fellow came to the house and he blew the horn out. Wanting her to come out, and she's grabbing, my sister is grabbing her coat. She is getting ready to go out. My father says, "Where are you going?" And she, oh she says, "My date is here." She says, "I am going," you know, "I'm leaving now." He says, "Sit down. Take your coat off." The guy honks the horn again. And she's getting angry, she's getting upset, she's thinking if I don't come out, he's going to leave. And so she can't go out. So finally my father goes out. She thinks oh my gosh, my father is



going out. He's going to leave; he's not going to come back in. 'Cause my father could be the kind. He could be live you better not do this or you just didn't. Anyway, he goes out and my sister is waiting inside, and ...

{Please turn to Tape 1, side b}

Kovach: So my dad goes out and he's out there for a couple minutes or so, pretty soon he comes back to the house and he sits down. My sister is looking at him because he doesn't say anything. So pretty soon she hears the knock on the door. The guy, and so my dad answered the door, and he asked, "Is Julia home?" (Laughs) And he said, "Yes. You are welcome to come in now." 'Cause he told my sister later on he says, "A gentleman would come to the door, and ask for you instead of you going out when he honks." So my father, I think European people that come from the old country like that from Europe were a little more strict. We had to tow, tow the mark with him. He was a good father; I mean he did his best. He could be trying to be somebody that he wasn't but we respected him very much, very much. And my mother, my mother was loving, though. She was shy too. My mother was shy. Sundays her day was on Sunday afternoon and she would gather at this was Mrs. Kakoski's. Dry Goods Store on the corner of Spruce and Neidringhaus. A group of women would meet there. In the winter they would sit inside in the dry good store, she had chairs in there, and they would all sit in there and talk. Just companions. And then in the summer, they'd sit outside on the corner; you'd see this group of women. (Excuse me). But I could see my mother didn't do much talking, she listened. I never heard my mother say a mean thing about anybody, talk about anybody, or anything. So she just listens. And she used to also, Mom read in Hungarian, and which I can't do, and she would go to this woman's house and two women would be there and they would have books, like pamphlet type things but they were stories in Hungarian. Mom once a week would read to them, the stories. And then they would furnish, this woman would furnish refreshments. Mom would take me with her, and sometimes she'd be there a little bit later than I wanted to be, or I couldn't stay awake. I could remember being there, and if her daughter knew



this, I think sometime next time I see her I'll have to tell her sometime. They had this, they had a nice home. They had the buffet in the dining room. And she had this three-layer cake. I can see this with three different pink, green, and white colors. Three layers and iced. I was thinking to myself when mom was reading, "Boy are we going to get this tonight (laughs) for dessert." We did. And she was very nice about it. And Mom sewed for people. She made aprons or she did mending for them. She got, when she got sick, she got kidney stones, she got real sick and she lost her job. Of course my dad, after she got sick he didn't want her to go back to work. I think at that time he finally got started back to work again. She didn't even get her vacation time from the Stamping Works from Nesco there. She was there fifteen years and she was entitled to a week or two of vacation and she didn't get it. So it was kind of, you had the good and the bad about it. A lot of the women from Lincoln Place worked there at the Stamping Works, they really did. Her hands got real rough, the tops of her hands. He knew she was tired and that. Anyway, it was good time. Being the youngest I didn't really realize the bad situations as much as they did. There was a big difference between our ages. When they talk about, when my sister used to talk about my mother when they lived on Pacific Avenue. There was a duplex and my aunt and uncle and their two boys lived on one side. To this day I don't know how many rooms were in that duplex. We lived on the other side, my mother, my sister said my mother everyday, before my dad would get home from work, she would give them a bath and dress them up in their little white dresses and they used to have to sit on this bench on the side of the house and wait for my dad to come home. She said they did that, mom did that everyday. So I can imagine that hard you are scrubbing these clothes on a washboard. She had a hard time. My mother was very pretty. But you can tell after she had the babies. You can the difference of what it had done. The aging. She looked altogether different. It didn't even look like my mother. She had it hard. I guess most people down there did. We had a lot of friends. We had one family. Across the street from us, their dad, he had a radio and in the summer, he liked baseball, and I guess he thought the whole neighborhood did because he would play his radio; he did it as a good thing. He wanted other people to be able to hear it. Hear the games on the radio. He played it

really loud. We were good friend with them. In fact, my sister, my younger sister, was very good friends with their daughter. She is the one they asked to go with them to pick up these fishing poles. So anyway I wish she was here there are so many things she could tell you about Lincoln Place and about the people and that. There were good times. They would good times. I am not sorry that I lived down there and experienced all of that because I feel like I had a good, I had a good life down there. I didn't, I missed out on a lot of things 'cause I thought my dad would not let me do these things that I wanted to do even though I worked at the Depot. A lot of the girls were going during the wartime, after the USO they were going to Scott Field, I believe. Just to go dancing. They had chaperones. I wouldn't even ask my dad if it was all right to go. That is the kind of person he was. We were always thinking, we always thought the negative things instead of the positive things about him. He probably would have questioned it a lot if I did go. But the other girls down there, they got to go, and I didn't. I wanted to stay after to school in high school. I was the only one that went. I wanted to quit one year when I was sixteen. One of my girlfriends she quit school and went to work at Stamping Works in the payroll department. We were still running around together and she asked me, "Wouldn't you rather go to work?" I got to thinking boy we could use that. I wanted to quit and my father wouldn't let me and I thank him, I wanted to thank him for that. 'Cause I was the only one (who went to high school). I had a good job with the government. I put in thirty years with them. I have very good memories and some not so good, but not bad. Just things that I wanted to do and I didn't do 'cause I thought my dad wouldn't let me. He probably would have, I don't know. We just never asked him. So anyway, that's most of my life down there. If I could just. I talked with other people my age and say that if we could do it over we wouldn't change. Maybe if we could make things better, and not have to do without. I can remember, like I said, not having the electricity, and just using two rooms when you got three because you couldn't heat them. The people down there were very friendly. They were all real nice to us. They liked my mother. My dad, I don't know, I don't think they talked too much sometimes about my dad. He liked to give people the impression that he had more then what he had. Like I say, he was good to us. People when they



wanted something they would come and ask him to do things. The club the Hungarian Home down there when he wasn't working he took care of it for a while as a bartender. He took care of that down there. It was just, I wouldn't mind living some of it over, the better parts. And maybe I could change things a little bit, but anyway, it was good. It was really good.

Smithe: Is Lincoln Place now (clears throat). What are some of the changes that you have noticed?

Kovach: Well, run down. The Depot is gone. It did real well while it was here because they brought the money in. People have moved out. Families, like myself and my sisters, we got married and we moved out. The young people didn't stay. They all moved somewhere else, maybe out of town. But they got out of Lincoln Place. They stayed for a while, even after they got married. But then they eventually moved out because you were having a different class of people moving in. Businesses were not good. They were closing. The older people were passing away. You just didn't have it anymore. And it just changed. It is not the clean; most people kept their homes up real nice. They all had their gardens and their flowers and they took care of their homes down there. And it was all just different. It is a different generation let's just say that. It is a different generation. The homes are not taken care of, and of course they are old. They are old and what can you do? They are old. I have a nephew that still lives down there. I have a cousin that lives there. And they pretty well take care of their homes. You are getting neighbors not the ethnic group that you had before because the children had moved. Some of them are out of town they've married and just left. That's what I noticed most. I mean it is getting run down.

Smithe: What would you like to see happen? Are there any changes that you would like to see take place?



Kovach: Oh really, not anymore. Just like anywhere else. If people would just take care of their homes. We don't have the Hungarian Home anymore. That was one thing I failed to mention. The Hungarian people didn't stick together as well as the Bulgarians and the Armenians. Armenians they still gather together. With the Hungarians it was always like someone was always wanting to do more than what the other one was. I don't know how to describe that. They just didn't agree, just didn't get along as well. After the older, the younger people were growing up and they wanted this opportunity probably to have the parents turn over this Hungarian Home to the younger people. Well, you know, younger people were going to change it. That's another generation. They didn't want the same things. They wanted something different. The older people would say, "Well no, you can't do that." It just faded. It just faded. People weren't coming anymore. We weren't having the dances, the buildings getting run down. They didn't have that many more members anymore. I was there Sunday. My youngest son gave his wife; they had a surprise 40<sup>th</sup> birthday for her. So I was there (the original building that was the Hungarian Hall) and I went upstairs, cause we were in the lower part, I looked around. It was turned over. We couldn't sell it we couldn't make a profit on the building. When you have an organization, any type of organization I understand, you cannot sell it because who would get the money? So they turned it over. The Mexican people down there they had their club. Well they bought it. Well, they got it for a dollar. So they have it. They used to have dances down there, but the building is old. I think it was built in 1918. It's old. They made changes. They took the stage out. They took the stage out that was upstairs. We used to also have plays there and that was the stage. And my youngest sister used to be, she was the funny one, and she was in the plays these Hungarian plays. It was so good. It was just so good. We had Hungarian school there. We learned to read and write as much as we possibly could. We would have a program after that. We had a man who came from Europe. He had a radio station for a while in Hungarian. We had Hungarian music. I noticed even now the Germans have a radio station. The Polish people have a radio station. They play their music; their ethnic music and they have their picnics and that. There is nothing with the Hungarians. Now the when they gave them the building... but

there was only a handful of people yet that belonged to it. They would meet on a Sunday down there; kind of have meetings and stuff. And I really don't know what went on. They had some beautiful pictures that lined the walls upstairs where the dance hall was. I don't know what happened to those pictures. I'd love to have one but I don't know what happened to them. I don't know if the last few members got rid of them, if they threw them away, if somebody took them, who got them. I talked to some Mexican people they don't remember whatever happened. They said, "If they were there they got thrown away because they didn't want them they were Hungarian soldiers." Just really pretty, big beautiful frames and everything, and I said, "I'd love to have one." But we don't know what happened to them. We had all sort of dishes and silverware for the weddings and whatever doings was down there, cause they had a lot of weddings down there. I don't know what happened to them. They took them; the Mexicans got rid of the stage. I went upstairs and they were having a meeting Sunday, when I was there. I kind of looked around a little bit but it's not the same. They changed things downstairs, and it's just not the same. If we could have kept it, if the young people would have stayed with it, then you intermingle too. You are not always marrying into the same nationality. I did marry a Hungarian guy. It was nice. But it just didn't always happen. It just happened to be that way for me. And my sisters did too. All but one married Hungarian. There's not that many out there. Even my children, they can't speak a word of Hungarian. They wouldn't even know what an...I am sorry about that. I wish they that they could mingle with Hungarian people. The dances, the picnics, the fun we had so that they would know what my background was like. We have, well I don't, Hungarian church in St. Louis. It is just across the Poplar Street Bridge down in that area. Now my oldest son, he goes over and buys things from there. I have been there. It is a beautiful church. They have doings there once in a while but I have never been there during that time. I am not real good about, it's in an area, it's hard for me to figure out how to get down in there and how to get out. But I would like to go. I have been there a couple of times because they have served lunches. We've been on a group, on a bus tour to see the church. They have the pastries there. I don't think they taste as good as my mother's did (laughs) or my sisters. I don't



know. It would be nice but there is no. Like my children, they don't know anything about it. And even if I could do anything or I could go back or whatever and have the Hungarian Home and have it like it was before that will never happen. Those would be good changes. You know, to where I could be with the same class of people I was with then. But it is not going to happen. It just can't. Look at the music and everything you have today. I mean I don't know what kind of music you like, but you're as young as my kids are. But everything is different. Everything is different. Now we have, they don't even have, the Mexicans don't even use it for their dances down there now. They have their dances somewhere else. So it's the ethnic people aren't down there it's just so. I don't know what you could change it to. The Depot is sold. I mean it is no longer the Depot. The port has taken it over which is good. It is still going to be there. Which is good. There's not the business down there. They got taverns down there. The homes are all, you know, they are just not in good shape anymore. And the people who do move in now are just there because they can get a home cheaper down there and everything. It doesn't cost as much. Anyway, that's about it. I miss it. I really do. When you get older you reminisce a lot. Everybody does. I heard that. Well I do. I do that a lot. I think about it and the fun we had and the people that I knew down there. It's just different. And I am glad I was born in the generation that I was born in. I was pleased about that. I think we had it better than young people have it today. It is harder. Everybody has to work. Everything is different. I am sure like I said Mr. Petish he'll be talking to someone. I hope he does because he can tell you so much more than I could have. I didn't even know this that there was a Hungarian band down there and they all wore uniforms, and he has a picture of that. I didn't even know that they had this. There is just so much that he remembers from down there. Of course he was kind of a wild one, you know. I don't mean wild, wild, but I mean he knew everything down there. I had my wedding there. I had about 300 people there. I have pictures of that I'll show you of how many people, of the type of people was there. What kind of, it's a Hungarian wedding. When we got married, well when my sister, my oldest sister got married, her husband was in the service. Her boyfriend at the time was in the service. He was coming home on a two-week leave.



My father got together everything they needed for this big wedding. And back then friends of the family would do all the cooking; the baking, and they'd all get together. The ladies seemed to have such a good time. I have pictures of the cooks that did everything at the wedding. We had, and my sister, and my father had to go out and you must realize that this was wartime so there was a lot of things you couldn't get. But she had a big wedding in two weeks time.

Smithe: Wow.

Kovach: Yes. I had a big wedding. We had food. I was still living down there when we got married. We had fried chicken, we had chicken and dumplings, we had sausage, we had stuffed cabbage, we had every kind of cookie you could imagine, layer cakes. Just everything. I had a bridal dance, which Hungarians did. You had a bridal dance. You dance with the bride and it'll cost you a dollar. That was to give the young couple a start on whatever getting their home or whatever their start in life. We had, I had the bridal dance and oh my goodness my hair is a mess, it's flying in all directions from the dancing. It's a lot of fun. It is just a lot of fun. Everybody comes. They didn't go to the church. Back then, we didn't go to church to see the wedding it was just almost just the family and the bridesmaids and that. But everybody came to the wedding. Everybody came to the wedding. One thing I can remember before I got married, when you had a wedding the best man and the groom would go, and that's how they would do their inviting, they would go to all the families that would be invited and they would take like a 1/5<sup>th</sup> of whiskey...and invite the family to the wedding personally. When I got married it was invitations that went out. That was a lot of fun. I could remember a young couple that was getting married, and the day after the wedding, there were no honeymoons then, the day after the wedding while they were in their little apartment that they had all these people would come and gather around and start singing out at the door waking them up in the morning. I remember fun things. They were fun things. It didn't cost that much.

Smithe: It sounded like you had a marvelous life.

Kovach: I did. I did. I can honestly say I did. The only thing I do miss is being so doggone shy that I didn't go out and do the things. When I listened to a sister-in-law of mine, this lady that we're very close friends we're almost like sisters, and when I listen to her and the things that we did I thought, "Oh my gosh you had so much fun." I was too quiet. I'm having more fun now in my old age than I had as a young person. That's not right. I miss, I felt like I missed a lot as far as that is concerned. But again, I don't want to blame my dad because I don't think, like I said he was never mean to us. I think I was afraid to even ask him if it was okay to go. I mean we just didn't. I don't know. I don't know. I can remember sitting around the kitchen table and it was almost like it was really quiet and you didn't talk. We always had gum. We always managed to get our gum. You never threw your gum away. You never threw that piece of gum away that you had in your mouth. When you sat down to eat you took that piece of gum out of your mouth and you put it under the table. And believe me, then you could get it, but if you didn't have any gum, this is a horrible thing to say, but if you didn't have any gum you could always look under the table and see if one your sisters left a piece of gum under there. And you took that piece of gum off the table under there (laughs). Sometimes you could look around the whole table and see where a piece of gum had been. You look at all these big round tables and Mom had one. That's where the gum went. Dad used to cut my hair. He clipped my ear one time. Yes, but he did. He cut my hair all the time. He did. He accidentally clipped my earlobe and oh your earlobe bleeds something terrible when it is punctured. He felt so bad about that. He really did. But that's okay. We had all the childhood diseases I guess that came a long. You know whenever you had measles or mumps or anything they put this big red sign on your door. Quarantine. I had measles and mumps on the one side, never on the other side just on one side. That is all the diseases I had. I can remember having the measles I was very sick. I was running a high temperature and it was winter and that's when we had to close off the one room. I stayed; I slept with my mom and dad at night because it was cold. And we had feather beds. What we called



featherbeds. They were like comforters but they were feathers, stuffed feathers. Some of your covers they got, even today though I think that they do have them. Downs. Down comforters.

Smithe: Right.

Kovach: But we had the featherbeds. We had an outhouse. We never had a bathroom back then. We took a bath in the kitchen behind the coal, behind the kitchen stove. And you put a rope up there and you would hang a sheet over so nobody could see you. Well, my younger sister (laughs) she was in there taking, of course then you always took another bucket, you had a bucket on top of the stove for your hot water because we didn't have hot running water. The next person to take a bath, you just dumped another bucket of water in this tub, you know for the next person. She was taking a bath. And who was coming to the house? The insurance man. We had John Hancock. I think he only charged a nickel I think. You had to pay a nickel or dime or whatever for it. So here he's coming, he's walking, of course to the end of the house. He comes into the kitchen. Well, she's in the kitchen she's behind the stove taking a bath and my other sister or somebody let him in. He's sitting at the table and she is back there and she doesn't want to move. But she stood up. She burned her bottom against the stovepipe on that stove. She had a burn about this. Oh yes. And she couldn't holler (laughs). I don't know how she held it. Could remember her burning herself really bad. You didn't go to the doctor back then. If you were really sick the doctor came to your house. We didn't see the doctor or the dentist. If we had a bad toothache is when we saw a dentist. We very seldom did. You didn't, we didn't anyway, I am sure a lot of other people were that way. When I think back about that it had to be her, the funny one of the family to get burnt like that. We had fun. I am not unhappy that I grew up where I did. I liked it, and I think a lot about it and I am proud of it. I talked to a Mexican girl not too long ago. I didn't realize we lived on the same street for a while. Well we grew up and I didn't recognize her. She says, "I am proud of where of where I grew up." She says, "Living in Lincoln Place, we had more than the kids in town had just by

having the clubhouse. And God bless the man who saw to it that we had it, and Miss. Prather.” She caught you biting your fingernails oh she’d smack your hands for you. If you misbehaved you couldn’t come to the clubhouse for a few days. She was just like another mother. It was good. I was too young, things got better as I got older. I was too young to have bad things bother me. I didn’t know whether we were having it good or we weren’t because most people were going through the same things we were that lived down there. We had a bakery down there...you could take a roast down there or whatever you had and he’d put it in his oven for you. He might charge you a nickel if it was a family he thought who couldn’t well he just wouldn’t charge you anything. He would bake your rolls for you or your cakes if you took them. I’ve seen Armenians, I remember this one girl going there with a big tray with some sort of cakes on this pan, not a tray, but a pan-baking pan to be baked. And she took that in and there were cakes about this big. And there was dough was just twisted around. Real nice family. And we would get bread for a nickel a loaf. And my youngest sister worked there for a while with him and she would come home and he’d give her bread. And if my mother would go get bread he would make her the little loafs to give us girls at home. Everybody down there, everybody was just good to each other. They were good to each other. We had a candy store down there on the corner that sold candy and ice cream, and of course you got it for a nickel. You got I don’t know how many pieces of candy (laughs). I think people today kids miss so much. I don’t think. I think I had it better. The times financially, no. But the memories and the things that we did. We had the places to go as we got older, to go dancing. Kids don’t have that. They have nowhere to go, especially here in Granite. They don’t have anywhere to go. They hang out at the fast foods or on the parking lots of shopping centers. There is nowhere to go. Our playground was fantastic. I don’t see parks or anything that had what we had like the club or the playground. I can’t even tell you what they called them. We had things there that, gosh, we could go anytime of the day. Anytime. And play there. Our parents knew where we were. We played on the street corners under the streetlights and we’d be out there until they blew the whistle it is 9 o’clock it’s time to go home. And everybody did. You didn’t hear too much grumbling. I



think the kids had fun. When you don't have anything you make do with what you got. I used to make dressers and that out of matchboxes. I took a big matchbox, in fact I have an old one, it is just the box. You take the big one and you have the little matchboxes and make drawers. You used imagination a lot. I look at my grandchildren today. There is just too much, too much. My children had a lot too. They really did and that's because we didn't have it. It is just. I don't know. They had clubs down there. Some of the fellows down there that were born and raised, they formed a club. They'd have their get together once a year. I was still too shy to even, I thought no they really don't care if I come down there or not. That was just me. I see so many people going down there and they're so happy to see me. Like I saw two yesterday, one was from out of town. She was in my class and it was just so good to see her. You are always happy to see all these people. And I was kind of disappointed that I didn't see more at the first meeting regarding this project. So anyway, I can't, I just had another aunt that lived down there. She was German. She was married to my mother's brother. My father came from a family of, oh my goodness, how many children were there? Maybe seven or eight. My mother only had a brother here and a brother in Europe. When they came over her mother and dad and brothers came but they didn't stay they went back to Europe. But one brother did stay so she just had. And my aunt, she worked at the clubhouse for a while. And her daughter was born and raised down there. She could remember a lot of things when her mother worked there too. She wasn't there. I don't know whether they had called to let know that this is going on. I've seen other people I've talked to and they said, "Oh I don't know anything about it." They would love to have come. And they probably could tell, tell more stories than I could, remember more than I could.

Smithe: I can tell you that I really appreciate your time that you've taken to...

Kovach: Well, I hope it was interesting. I mean I, like I say, I don't think. I think you would have gotten more from my sister. It will be two years next month that she is gone. But she could have...

Smithe: I am sorry.

Kovach: ...she could have told you. She was funny. She was funny. And she had fun. She had fun. And I guess the others did too. My oldest sister and myself were more or less alike. She was shy too, but she laughed all the time. She was a happy person. She was shy and that. But other than that I can't really think of anything else other than I loved it down there. I did. I did. And I'd be lying if I said I didn't because I have, I have some feelings that aren't as good as others but I have more better memories growing up down there. I used to be a little bit; they used to say the kids liked to you know, like the wrong side of the tracks we were on. All ethnic people. And that is just like Madison, Illinois, they had a lot of ethnic people there too. And used to have what they called little six. Where the mill is where a lot of the homes were torn down. They were bought out and they were all ethnic people. They were good time.

Smithe: Well thank you very much for this interview.

Kovach: Well I appreciate. I was a little bit concerned, little bit worried. I don't know if I've told you what, anything you could use or what. But I would like to show you some pictures and some things before you leave. Just to let you see what my family looked like.

Smithe: I would love that.

Kovach: I am proud of them. Ok? (Smiling)

Smithe: Thank you.

[Attached are Anne Kovach's photocopied pictures. Included are pictures of her family as well as programs from different events she attended at Lincoln Place]