

Baba's Donovan: A Historical Audio Walk



You can access this audio walk through SoundCloud or the Geotourist App, listening to it in the neighbourhood or from the comfort of your own home. Although there is a suggested order, feel free to listen to the stories in whatever order feels right. There are no rules. Enjoy!

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| 01 | 619 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba remembers the Depression, speaking about a Ukrainian family that was evicted from this former house.

| 02 | 611 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba remembers the Kuchmar family that lived in this house, recalling its members and the hard times that they faced.

| 03 | 609 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba speaks about the dances that she used to attend in the basement of this building.

| 04 | 601 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba recounts her childhood memories of this home, which used to be a boarding house.

| 05 | 595 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba speaks about her memories of this building, which used to be a general store, noting its history and her personal connection to it.

| 06 | 587 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba remembers her Depression-era experiences in this house, which used to be a boarding house. She explains the conditions that led her father to lose it, her mother's responsibilities in this boarding business, and the important role that St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church played in her parents' lives.

| 07 | 571 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba speaks about the Sunday night dances that she attended here with her friends.

| 08 | CORNER OF KATHLEEN STREET AND BESSIE AVENUE

Baba explains how this part of the Donovan has changed over time, recounting her encounters with Mrs. Shustra, a neighbour.

| 09 | STROLL DOWN PERKOVITCH LANE

Baba recounts the tragic experiences of a neighbourhood family.

| 10 | PERKOVITCH LANE, BEHIND 587 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba shares her childhood memories of this lane.

| 11 | 557 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba recounts the history of this building and her memories of the Perkovitch family.

| 12 | 552 KATHLEEN STREET

Baba shares her memories of this building, which used to be a restaurant. She stresses that it functioned as an important community meeting space and also speaks about her family and friends, and St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

| 13 | 319 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba recounts the history of this building, which used to be a bakery and is now a laundromat.

| 14 | BUILDING BETWEEN 332 AND 346 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba recounts the history of this building and its owners.

| 15 | 332 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba shares her memories of two Italian families that lived here on Montague Street.

| 16 | 343 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba points out that this was the house in which she was born in 1927.

| 17 | 352 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba points out that this building used to be a general store that was operated by the only Jewish man in the Donovan.

| 18 | EMPTY LOT BETWEEN 362 AND 352 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba speaks about a Ukrainian woman who lived on this lot and made a living by bootlegging.

| 19 | WALK NORTH ON MONTAGUE, TOWARD JEAN STREET

Baba discusses how neighbours, of various ethnicities, interacted with each other in the Donovan.

| 20 | 380 MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba recounts her memories of the Chinese man who had a laundry business on this lot, remembering how she and her friends teased him.

| 21 | CORNER OF JEAN STREET AND MONTAGUE AVENUE

Baba recounts the Priemski family and the fundraising functions held in their boarding house for St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church; the house was demolished and the lot is now empty.

| 22 | 402 FROOD ROAD

Baba remembers her interactions with the bank's manager and his role in the community.

| 23 | LANEWAY, BEHIND 386 FROOD ROAD

Baba shares her memories of this lane, which is located behind the home in which she spent the bulk of her childhood.

| 24 | 386 FROOD ROAD

Baba speaks about her childhood memories of this home, where she spent her childhood.

| 25 | 325 JEAN STREET

The Burke family used to live in this apartment building. Baba was close friends with Lorraine and Irene Burke and recounts her memories of playing with them in the neighbourhood.

| 26 | 350 JEAN STREET

Before St. David's Catholic school was built, this was an empty lot. Baba recounts the fun she and her friends and brothers had here.