

### **Oral History: Hanna Schevah, June 20, 2001**

Hanna Schevah, born November 1940 in Magnitogorsk, Russia, to parents who escaped from Lodz, Poland, Rafel and Zipporah Rafalowicz, describes: her grandparents and extended families, most of whom perished in the Holocaust; fitting in well and having a happy childhood in Magnitogorsk; her father's employment in a large weapons factory; a sister born in 1944; at the time not being aware she was Jewish; speaking Russian and having Russian friends; the family returning to Lodz in 1946 and living close to the former ghetto; as a child, knowing very little about the war; recalling her father telling her about the death in the Lodz ghetto of his parents and family members; being shown Holocaust-related photos by her father; a cousin describing where to find the graves of relatives; Polish neighbors being very unfriendly; her father being an ardent Zionist; moving to Israel [document shown at end says arrival in March 1950]; her father's anger and regret toward the end of his life that he and others escaped Lodz and thereby left those who remained without leadership in the ghetto; moving to Australia with her husband and two sons for a year but then staying permanently (grown sons returned to Israel). [Shows photos and several documents.]

\*As heard/transliterated