

## ZBIGNIEW FLESZYŃSKI

ur. 1921; Lublin



<b>Tytuł fragmentu relacji</b>	The Jewish District stretched from The Cracow Gate
<b>Zakres terytorialny i czasowy</b>	Lublin; dwudziestolecie międzywojenne
<b>Słowa kluczowe</b>	English, Jewish District

### The Jewish District stretched from The Cracow Gate

The Jewish District stretched from the Cracow Gate down Nowa Street, Lubartowska Street, Kowalska Street, towards the Old Town; Podwale Street limited it from the foot of the hill, and up to Kalinowszczyzna District; in Kalinowszczyzna District some Jews lived too. I went to the Old Town because my mother's aunt lived in Jezuicka Street, next to the Cracow Gate. I remember those narrow streets, like Szambelańska Street, which was opposite Jezuicka Street but went to the other side. From the Cracow Gate one could turn right to Jezuicka Street, and to Szambelańsk Street to the left. We rather did not walked in the Old Town Street. I also remember well that near the Cracow Gate, in front of the Gate on the city's side there were glaziers standing. They had such wooden cases with panes of glass inside, and if a customer came they followed them to their houses and installed glass in the customer's houses and took money from them, so it was a while-you-wait kind of service. There were also carriers in denim jackets. I remember them: they wore knee-high boots, yarmulkes and had strong ropes tied on. They had always stood there, except for Sabbath i.e. from the Friday night until the Saturday evening, and also except for Sundays as it was forbidden to work on Sundays. Anyway, from Friday night to Monday they were not there, but stood there on the other weekdays: it was such a characteristic view. There were many Jewish shops there, and particularly they were the so-called soda shops i.e. small shops selling soda water. There were such 50-litre or 100-litre copper siphons, one could also buy makagiki, apples, seeds. There were also workshops; a lot of shoe repair workshops: very small and shabby-looking ones. In the Old Town, in Lubartowska Street there were also many Jewish tailors, and shopkeepers. Petty squabbles did happen, but nothing serious; anyway, I, at least, do not remember anything serious. There was tolerance, although Jewish-owned shops were picketed by the members of the National Democrats Party and student organizations; they just stood in front of a shop, and shouted: "Do not buy from a Jew" and that was all. So people did not buy at the shops which were picketed, but they went further e.g. to Narutowicza Street and bought an ice-cream or soda water at a Jewish soda shop. Another district densely inhabited by Jews was Wieniawa District. That area was burnt down to earth during the WW2, so nowadays, it is even difficult to say where all that was situated; all those little houses, cramped cubby-holes, one next to another.

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