

Morris's grandmother was Rebecca Ledgin/Kravetz who was born in Skud (Skuodas) in Lithuania in 1853. Her husband Isaac who was a drapery salesman died in Skud leaving her a widow with six children.

David, the eldest child, travelled to Glasgow first, followed by the rest of the family when they could afford to emigrate over the next five or so years. The family were told that their ancestors left for two reasons; so that the male members of the family could avoid the twenty-five years military conscription into the Russian army and because of the growing number of pogroms and anti-Jewish feelings.

David was born in Skud in 1873 and arrived in Glasgow in 1895. He married Millie Sherman two years later in 1897. He worked as a cabinet maker then a credit draper and general dealer. When there was no demand for the fine cabinetwork he did, Millie sold out of two suitcases, taking the tram out to villages from Glasgow. David did the books and stayed home. David became a naturalised British citizen in 1939.

Harry was born in Skud on 28 June 1880 and arrived in Glasgow a year after his older brother in 1898 where he worked as a travelling drapery and jewellery merchant. He married his childhood sweetheart Fanny Bass in 1906 and became a British citizen in 1916. He died in 1920 at the young age of thirty-eight.

Samuel was born in Skud in 1884 and married Sarah Banks in Glasgow in 1904. He worked as a drapery salesman and died in 1934.

Annie was born in Skud in 1885 and travelled with another young woman by boat from Riga, Estonia to London and then onwards to Glasgow to join her family. She initially worked in a cigarette factory and married Moishe Yonah Brunowski, who was born in Galicia in 1883, in 1907. Moishe later anglicised his name to John Morris Brown but was originally also known under the name of Moishe Maier Schwartz. They married under the name of Schwartz on 4 August 1907 and lived at 80 Main Street and 32 Rutherglen Road in the Gorbals.

Archibald 'Hershie', Morris's father, was born in Skud on 12 December 1887 and arrived in Glasgow on 10 June 1900 where he worked as a tailor's machinist. He became a naturalised British citizen in 1919 after he was demobbed from the Army. In 1917, Archibald enlisted in the 9th Russian Labour Corps and served until Dec 1918. After the war he married Minnie who also originated from Skuodas. They had two children, Morris and Fanny Sadie (Sandra). Sandra married Cyril Arkush in 1946 and they had two daughters.

Bessie the youngest child was born in Skud in 1892. She married Benjamin Morrison, a chairmaker in Glasgow in 1914.

I am grateful to Anne Gilbert who provided her family information and photographs.