

OK . . . we are 'barely' related!

However . . .

I have corresponded at length, with Judy Feldman, who I'm sure you know. ?

So you are connected to 'my family' in 'rather' the same way that her husband is . . .

Through Frances and Ben Abrams.

Judy 'introduced' me to Steve Abrams, their son . . .

And I was hoping that he might have some documents or photos to share.

But he was kept, pretty much in the dark, by his mom . . . about her dismal childhood and family . . .

and only met his 'grandfather', Sam Appel, on the eve of his bar mitzvah! And never saw him again.

I expect that Frances tried very hard, to put her troubled parents behind her! And that is why she never talked to Steve about any of it. ?

Frances had a sad sad background. Her parents (at least her mother) seemed extremely unstable.

Her mother, Celia . . . was my grandmother, Mollie's sister. And they had one more sister, Bella.

Bella committed suicide after a psychotic episode.

Celia ended up in Middletown Psyche Hospital . . . and I believe she died there in 1940.

My grandmother was agoraphobic as she aged . . . and never left her yard. She lost 3 small children, in a row . . . and never came 'back' from the trauma.

So . . . there seems to be a definite chemical 'imbalance' there - in the women.

Celia and her kids moved back in with Celia's elderly parents - and are listed as living there, on the 1925 Census, when Frances is 12.

My great grandparents died in 1927 and 1928 - and then the kids seem to have been placed in an

orphanage. Celia is admitted to the Mental Hosp. by 1930,

after losing her parents . . . and who knows what else.

(Frances, Margaret and Max) spent time in the Hebrew Orphans' Asylum in NY - beginning in 1929, during the Depression.

Frances is shown on the orphanage records, Sept 5 1929. Sept 10th. And Feb 1, 1930.

In the 1930 Census, she is shown back with her parents, but they are listed as Sam, Celia, Frances and Max Appel. She is 13.

By the 1940 Census records - Frances was 26, on her own, working as a clerk, and boarding with a family named Mandell, in Queens.

I understand that she remained close with this family . . . (I forgot who mentioned that to me.)

Putting it in perspective . . . by this time - for the last 10 years or so . . . her mother has been in the Psychiatric Hospital in Middletown.

Her mother is listed as divorced, and Frances' dad, Sam Gibiansky (aka Appel) has remarried.

I've been 'living' with these folks, pretty intensely, on and off, for the last 3 years.

I started out not knowing anything . . . Only my grandmother's name!

And now feel as though I know most of them quite well!

Here are the photos which may be of interest to you. I do not have any documented photos of Frances, or her parents.

I do have photos of Frances' siblings, Margaret and Max.

And of her aunts and uncles - Celia's siblings.

Thanks for getting back to me!  
- Karen Wagner Kinser

Frances Gibiansky (Appel) Abrams' family members.

Her maternal grandmother - Chana (Annie) Zeitchik Squire. She was Chana Zeitchik Skwirsky in the Ukraine.

Her youngest son, Isidore, arrived in the U.S. first . . . and immediately changed his name to 'Squire'.  
Her husband - Solomon (Skwirsky) Squire.

Harry 1876-1953 - with Rachel, Tillie and Sophie.

'Sipa' or Sophie with infant Bessie.

Julius Squire (not verified!) Arrived 1904  
1879-1948

Isidore Squire 1884-1949  
Arrived 1899 Changed name from Skwirsky to Squire  
w wife, Edith Friedman

My grandparents.  
Mollie Squire Margolefsky 1885-1966 Arrived 1906 with her 2 sisters.  
Isidore Margolefsky 1885-1957  
Child, Louis. 1910-1911

No Photo of Celia.  
Middle Sister.

Below:  
Bella Squire Myers 1891-1939

Margaret Gibiansky Ohnstead (right) with her husband, Ralph and son, Gary.  
with brother, Morris(Max) Gibiansky (far left) and his wife, Frances Christina

Frances Gibiansky Abrams' siblings.

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