

Maya Kaganskaya's Great-Great-Grandparents



This is a picture of my maternal great-great-grandfather Vilenski and great-great-grandmother Vilenskaya. I don't know their first names. The photo was taken in Radomyshl in the 1860s. My maternal and paternal relatives came from Radomyshl, Zythomyr region [about 120 km west of Kiev]. The majority of the population in Radomyshl was Jewish. There were municipal buildings and a market in the center of the town. Jews also resided in the central part of Radomyshl. Like in all other towns Jews were craftsmen and tradesmen in their majority. There was a big beautiful synagogue and several prayer houses in the town. My ancestors were religious Jews professing Hasidism - a wide spread religious movement in Bessarabia. My maternal great-great-grandparents whose name I don't remember were Hasidim. They lived in Radomyshl and their children, who also became Hasidim, were born in this town.