

# THOMANN-BRINKMAN-LOW

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Updated 2022 November 20

**Maria (Thomann) Brinkman Low** lived in two different Baychester houses:

- in 1930 she lived at **2075 Basset Avenue**;
- in 1940 she lived at **2207 Boller Avenue**.

**Maria Thomann** was born in Wissembourg, Alsace, France on July 24, 1884<sup>1</sup>, daughter of **Jacob Thomann** and **Marie Bauer**, of Germany. Maria emigrated from Alsace on Sep. 13, 1904.<sup>3</sup> It is unknown when, she married **Egmont Brinkman**<sup>2</sup> (born in Germany), but he claims her as his wife in his 1913 Petition for Naturalization papers. Maria and Egmont had a son born in 1906 while Egmont Brinkman was still married and living with **Clara (Rodin) Brinkman**. By 1908 Clara had filed with the court for maintenance from Egmont, claiming Egmont's dalliance with Maria. Interestingly, the 1910 and 1915 censuses both list Egmont and Clara living together. By 1917 Clara remarries.

When **Egmont Brinkman** filed his Petition for Naturalization in 1913 he claimed not only Maria Thomann as his wife, but also claimed two children: **Edmund**, born 1906, and **Wilhelmina**, born 1913. In 1914 Egmont Brinkman's Petition for Naturalization was denied.

Egmont Brinkman's common theme is his work as an orchestra musician. Ultimately, Egmont died in 1939 on Welfare Island, and was buried on Hart Island.

We first find **Maria Brinkman** in 1920<sup>3</sup> as a 34-year-old married woman, unemployed, with two children. There is no husband mentioned in the 1920 census. They lived on Avenue A in Manhattan. A roomer, **Richard Low**, was living with Maria and her children, employed as a canvas worker. He later became Maria's second husband.

**Maria Thomann** and **Richard Low** got married in Manhattan in 1929<sup>4</sup> and were then living in Baychester at **2075 Bassett Avenue**. Maria's two children, **Edmund Brinkman** (aged 23) and

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<sup>1</sup> "New York, Southern District, U.S District Court Naturalization Records, 1824-1946," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QP7X-Z42V> : 31 May 2018), Richard Low, ; citing Immigration, New York, United States, 479563, NARA microfilm publication M1972, Southern District of New York Petitions for Naturalization, 1897-1944. Records of District Courts of the United States, 1685 - 2009, RG 21. National Archives at New York.

<sup>2</sup> "Florida Death Index, 1877-1998," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VV71-S1K> : 25 December 2014), Edward J Brinkman, 05 Mar 1980; from "Florida Death Index, 1877-1998," index, Ancestry ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) : 2004); citing vol. , certificate number 20374, Florida Department of Health, Office of Vital Records, Jacksonville.

<sup>3</sup> "United States Census, 1920," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MJBR-BXN> : accessed 30 April 2018), Maria Brinkman, Manhattan Assembly District 16, New York, New York, United States; citing ED 1121, sheet 11A, line 6, family 248, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 1214; FHL microfilm 1,821,214.

<sup>4</sup> "New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829-1940," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/24ZM-SX5> : 10 February 2018), Richard Low and Marie Thomann, 02 Jan 1929; citing Marriage, Manhattan, New York, New York, United States, New York City Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm 1,653,667.

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**Wilhelmina Brinkman** (age 17) were living with them. Richard Low supported the family as a house painter in 1930. Mary's son Eddie was working as a mail clerk.<sup>5</sup>

By 1940 **Mary Low** is a lodger in the household of **John Kuntner** at **2207 Boller Avenue**. She states she is married, but no record is found of her husband Richard Low. Mary's two children have moved away.<sup>6</sup>

In 1941 Mary's husband Richard Low filed a Declaration of Intent,<sup>7</sup> gave his address as 600 Grand Concourse, and stated Mary, his wife, is living with him. Richard is also found in 1942 at 600 Grand Concourse in The Bronx. In his WWII Draft Registration<sup>8</sup> he claims his contact is Mary Low, who is living with him. Apparently they got back together again. Richard died in July 1962 in New York.<sup>9</sup> Mary's death date is unknown. It is not known where either of them might be buried.

Mary's son **Edmund J. Brinkman** was born on December 21, 1906 in Manhattan, New York – a Christmas present for **Egmont and Maria Brinkman**. His birth name was Edmund Thomann; his biologic father, Egmont Brinkman, was already married to another woman. Edmund grew up in Manhattan, but was living in Baychester in 1930 with his mother and sister at **2075 Bassett Avenue**. He married **Julia Mary Resch** on June 21, 1933 in Manhattan.<sup>10</sup> **Julia Resch** was born on October 28, 1910 in Manhattan, and also grew up in Manhattan, the daughter of Hungarian immigrants **John Resch** and **Julia Czer**.

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<sup>5</sup> "United States Census, 1930," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/X767-L81> : accessed 30 April 2018), Mary Lowe, Bronx (Districts 751-972), Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 865, sheet 2A, line 2, family 5, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 1480; FHL microfilm 2,341,215.

<sup>6</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/KQM8-FB7> : accessed 6 June 2018), Maria Low, Assembly District 6, Bronx, New York City, Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 3-788, sheet 61A, line 2, family 11, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 2480.

<sup>7</sup> "New York, Southern District, U.S District Court Naturalization Records, 1824-1946," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/QP7X-Z42V> : 31 May 2018), Richard Low, ; citing Immigration, New York, United States, 479563, NARA microfilm publication M1972, Southern District of New York Petitions for Naturalization, 1897-1944. Records of District Courts of the United States, 1685 - 2009, RG 21. National Archives at New York.

<sup>8</sup> "United States World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/F3J4-N6B> : 8 November 2017), Richard Low, 1942; citing NARA microfilm publication M1936, M1937, M1939, M1951, M1962, M1964, M1986, M2090, and M2097 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

<sup>9</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JPHV-Z4Q> : 20 May 2014), Richard Low, Jul 1962; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, Death Master File, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

<sup>10</sup> "New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829-1940," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/24DV-KZQ> : 10 February 2018), Edward J. Brinkman and Julia Mary Resch, 21 Jun 1933; citing Marriage, Manhattan, New York, New York, United States, New York City Municipal Archives, New York; FHL microfilm 1,684,797

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Upon their marriage, Edmund and Julia bought their own house at the water's edge at 1426 Harding Park in the Bronx, New York, where they had a son, **Richard Brinkman** (1934-2005).<sup>11</sup> Edmund moved his family to Florida sometime after 1940. Edmund died March 5, 1980<sup>12</sup>; his wife Julia died 13 years later on January 14, 1993<sup>13</sup>; and their son Richard died on April 20, 2005<sup>14</sup>. All three are buried at Pine Forest Cemetery in Lake County, Florida.<sup>15</sup>

Mary's daughter **Wilhelmina Brinkman**, born around 1913 in New York, lived with her mother in Manhattan and the Bronx. She visited France in 1933, and returned home to her mother's house at **2207 Boller Avenue** in Baychester, Bronx, New York<sup>16</sup>. That was a pretty bold trip for a single woman, aged 20, to make on her own. In 1938 Wilhelmina married Frank Gross and they moved out of Baychester. There is nothing else found on Frank Gross or Wilhelmina (Brinkman) Gross.

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<sup>11</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/K3TG-59T> : accessed 2 August 2018), Edward Brinkman, Assembly District 6, Bronx, New York City, Bronx, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 3-1025, sheet 2B, line 50, family 37, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 2486.

<sup>12</sup> "Florida Death Index, 1877-1998," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VV71-S1K> : 25 December 2014), Edward J Brinkman, 05 Mar 1980; from "Florida Death Index, 1877-1998," index, Ancestry ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) : 2004); citing vol. , certificate number 20374, Florida Department of Health, Office of Vital Records, Jacksonville.

<sup>13</sup> SSDI

<sup>14</sup> SSDI

<sup>15</sup> FindAGrave

<sup>16</sup> "New York, New York Passenger and Crew Lists, 1909, 1925-1957," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/24VC-C2P> : 12 March 2018), Wilhelmina Brinkman, 1933; citing Immigration, New York, New York, United States, NARA microfilm publication T715 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).