



The Emmering Family lived at Engelswisch 29

There once was a two story building at Engelswisch 29. It was demolished in order to make way for an apartment block with several more house numbers. But in the beginning of the 1930's Aron Adolf Emmering, his wife, Franziska Rosa, nee Blumenthal, and their daughter, Ingrid, lived there up until the time they fled to Holland. This family of three had been living in a small apartment on the second floor.



An earlier picture of Engelwisch.



The present apartment block on Engelswisch
[2]

Adolf Emmering was born in Losdorp, Province of Groningen in northern Holland, on 25 August 1904. His parents were the Dutch trader Benjamin Emmering and Sara Goge, who was born in Moising, today a suburb of Lübeck. When he was four years old, his parents moved with him and his younger sister, Elena (born in 1906), to Lübeck. His youngest sister, Eva, was born in Lübeck in 1909.

Following several moves within the old city centre the family finally made their home in the

Inscriptions at the installation:

HIER WOHNTE
ARON ADOLF
EMMERING
JG. 1904
FLUCHT HOLLAND 1934
INTERNIERT
WESTERBORK
DEPORTIERT 1943
SOBIBOR
ERMORDET 9.7.1943

HIER WOHNTE
FRANZISKA ROSA
EMMERING
GEB. BLUMENTHAL
JG. 1907
FLUCHT HOLLAND 1935
INTERNIERT
WESTERBORK
DEPORTIERT 1943
SOBIBOR
ERMORDET 11.6.1943

HIER WOHNTE
INGRID EMMERING
JG. 1931
FLUCHT HOLLAND 1935
INTERNIERT
WESTERBORK
DEPORTIERT 1943
SOBIBOR
ERMORDET 11.6.1943

installation
24 May 2011

building located at St.-Annen-Straße 12, which was located kitty corner / diagonally opposite from the Synagogue. "An- und Verkauf von Kleidung, Betten, Möbel usw. B. Emmering" (B. Emmering, Buyers and Sellers of Clothing, Beds, Furniture and More) was written on the wall. The shop was located on the ground floor. Therefore, it was there in Lübeck that Aron Adolf Emmering grew up and went to school. After completing his schooling at Middle School for Boys in February 1919 he began vocational training as a salesman at the business of Isaak Frankenthal, which dealt with fur and animal hair.

It is almost certain that following the completion of his vocational training he continued working in the trade in Lübeck yet in 1924 he moved as a 20 year old to Paris as verified by some papers, which were found during renovations of a building in Amsterdam, although these documents do not reveal what motivated him to move to Paris. Apparently he was only able to find employment as a day labourer in and around Paris.

In 1926 he moved to Holland and completed his mandatory military service after which he worked in a mine in Limburg Province, Southern Netherlands before finally returning to Lübeck at the end of August 1927. Once in Lübeck he found a job as a messenger for the Lübecker "Thalia," a magazine subscription club.

He was laid off from the "Thalia" in 1929. Then in 1930 at the age of twenty-six he established his own business, dealing in second hand merchandise.



Registration of A. Emmering's business 14 April 1930 [3]

Likewise in 1930 an announcement in the Lübeck Israelite Congregation was made under the rubric "Personals - The Engagement of Miss Fränzi Blumenthal and Mr. Adolf Emmering" (Tamus 5690, Second Volume No. 6, July 1930).

Franziska Rosa Blumenthal was born in Hamburg on 30 April 1907. Her parents were the trader Martin Blumenthal, who was originally from Lübeck, and Elsa, nee Wolff, from Stargard, then Germany now Szczecinski, Poland. She was the eldest child in the family. Shortly after the birth of Fränzi the Blumenthal family moved to Lübeck, where they had an apartment as well as their retail business at Beckergrube 74. Fränzi Blumenthal thus along with her younger brother, Max Julius (born in 1908) grew up, went to school and attended religious classes at the Synagogue in Lübeck.



Aron Adolf Emmering with his daughter, Ingrid, in Lübeck around 1934

When and how Adolf Emmering and Fränzi Blumenthal met and fell in love is not known. They were married on 28 August 1930 after a short engagement for it seems haste was the motivator since their daughter, Ingrid, was born on 8 January 1931.

From 1932 on 1932 the young family was registered as living at Engelswisch 29. Their store for men's clothing was located at Marlesgrube 13. Their parents and other relatives lived in close proximity.

With the start of the National Socialist government the situation of this Jewish family was threatened. They were able to keep their own store open only for a short time.

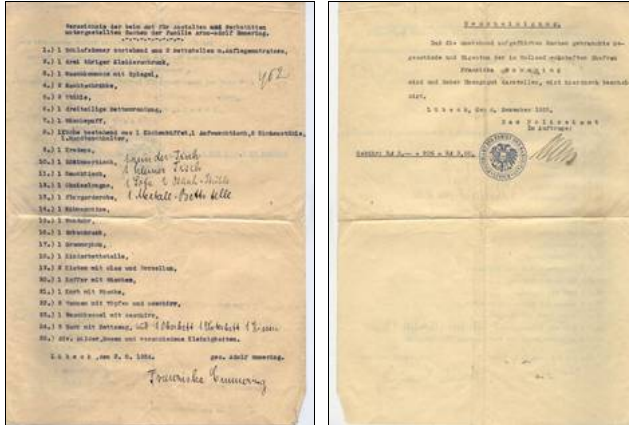
Therefore, Aron Adolf Emmering tried to support his family by becoming a traveling salesman with his leather suitcase full of notions / haberdashery, buttons, thread, yarn, elastics/rubber bands, and suspenders among other things. Yet certainly even this was a most difficult way to make a living considering how

the social climate for all Jews was becoming more and more hostile. According to a 13 June 1934 business license the Lübeck police allowed "the salesman Adolf Emmring, of Engelswisch 29 I, to sell notions / haberdashery door to door."



Erlaubnis für "ambulantes Gewerbe" (1934) [5]

At the beginning of August 1934 Aron Adolf and Franziska Emmering, along with their daughter, packed up their belongings, including the permit to sell notions / haberdashery door to door, and left Lübeck, arriving in Holland a few days later. Once in Amsterdam they registered with the authorities that they would be living at Uithoornstraat 9. Since they were Dutch citizens they had no problems leaving Germany and going to Holland to live. For the time being they put into storage their household effects in Lübeck.



An itemized list of the items of the Emmering Family, which were left in storage in Lübeck. Institute for Concrete Matter (ICM), Haarlem, Niederlande

Aron Adolf's two sisters, Elena Emmering and Eva Emmering, had left Germany earlier than their brother and were already in Holland. His father, Benjamin Emmering, had died at the beginning of September 1932. Only his mother, Sara, along with Franziska Blumenthal's extended family remained in Lübeck.

Her brother Max Julius Blumenthal sought refuge in Amsterdam at his sister and brother-in-law's after he was badly beaten up in July of 1935 by members of a branch group of the Nazis. But being a German citizen he experienced insurmountable difficulties in Holland. Without a work visa he could not get a job so when his visitor's visa expired in September of 1936 he had to return to Lübeck. He found employment with the Jacobi Company working in the warehouse. He was arrested in November of 1936. After spending three weeks in a local jail he was transferred to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp in Oranienburg, located north of Berlin, later to Dachau Concentration Camp and then Buchenwald Concentration Camp, outside of Weimar.

Franziska Rosa Emmering returned to Lübeck once again on 24 March 1938. Her mother was critically ill. Shortly after Franziska's return her mother died on 2 April 1938. On the 9th of June she returned to Amsterdam, with a heavy heart for she had to leave her father to be on his own in Lübeck. As well she was very concerned about her brother.



Picture and copy of the hand written "Martin and Else Blumenthal" on the back of the picture. Taken by Andresen, Breite Straße 41, Lübeck

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Martin Blumenthal had to leave his apartment at Beckergrube 74 after the death of his wife and lived in sublet rooms, first at Königstraße 116 in one of Rosa Taschimowitz's rooms, then on Hartengrube at the Lissauers and finally at Sophienstraße 1 with the Mansbachers before he was forced to leave Lübeck "to no known address" according to official records. On the basis of entries in the memorial book of the Bundesarchiv (National Archives) it is known that he was deported on 25 October 1941 from Hamburg to Lodz, Poland and died in the Litzmannstadt Ghetto (the German name for the Lodz Ghetto) on 25 April 1942. In the residents lists of the Lodz Ghetto one finds he was registered as having lived at Rubens Straße 2, Flat 13.

Max Julius Blumenthal could thank several Jewish organisations for their intensive efforts to procure his release from the Buchenwald Concentration Camp in the beginning of 1939. Following his release he fled to Shanghai.

Little is known about Aron Adolf, Franziska and Ingrid Emmering's lives while they resided in Amsterdam. They did move several times. Finally they dwelt at Waverstraat 91, I. Eva and Elena Emmering lived in the neighbourhood along with their uncle Markus Goge and his wife and son. Sara Emmering, his mother and Ingrid's grandmother, lived in Apeldorn in the Het Apeldoorsche Bosch, a home for mentally ill Jewish people. At first following the death of her husband in Lübeck in 1932 Sara Emmering was admitted to the Lüberker Heilanstalt (Nursing Home) Strecknitz but then in 1936 was forcibly deported from her home town to Holland as an "unwanted foreigner."



Franziska and Ingrid Emmering in Amsterdam around 1936.

It is not known when exactly Franziska, Ingrid and Aron Adolf Emmering were taken to Camp Westerbork in Holland. They left their personal papers, family photographs, and documents in Amsterdam. It is assumed they gave them to friends for safe keeping, hid them or simply left them behind. On 8 June 1943 Franziska and Aron Adolf Emmering along with their daughter, Ingrid, were deported to the Sobibor death camp in Poland. Sobibor is located in a sparsely populated forested wet land in the eastern end of the Lublin District. Mass exterminations in gas chambers began at Sobibor in May 1942. The new arrivals at the camp were immediately driven into a supposed shower room and gassed.

Aron Adolf Emmering was murdered there on 9 June 1943,

Franziska Rosa and Ingrid Emmering were murdered on 11 June 1943.

Ingrid was 12 years old, her mother 36 and her father 39.

At this point in time their relatives were no longer alive. Eva and Elena Emmering were murdered in Auschwitz on 30 September 1942 and Sara Emmering also in Auschwitz on 25 January 1943.

The single survivor of the family's relatives was Max Julius Blumenthal, Fränzi's brother. He survived the war by living in the Shanghai Ghetto and later lived in the US. However he suffered from severe health problems all his life, due to the various injuries he received while interned in the concentration camps.

The personal papers of Aron Adolf and Franziska Emmering were discovered during the renovations of a building in Amsterdam a few years ago and were entrusted to the Institute for Concrete Matter (ICM) in Haarlem, Netherlands. The art historian and author Wim de Wagt became involved in researching their trail, which led him to Lübeck. At that time Stolpersteine (Stumbling Stones) were already laid at St.-Annen-Straße 12. Thanks to cooperative efforts three Stolpersteine could be laid in memory of Ingrid, Franziska and Aron Adolf Emmering on Engelswisch. Wim de Wagt's book *Het geheugen van de kunst* (The Memory of Art) will be published in February 2013. One chapter of the book will deal with the Emmering family's history in Groningen, Lübeck and Amsterdam.


Picture Credits

[1] Museum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte der Hansestadt Lübeck

[2] Heidemarie Kugler-Weimann

[3]-[8] Institute for Concrete Matter (ICM), Haarlem, Niederlande

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- Yad Vashem, The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names
- Conversations with contemporaries of the Emmering family

Heidemarie Kugler-Weimann, 2013

Translation Glenn Sellick and Martin Harnisch, 2013