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Hidden gems: the history of Duboisdomein 30

**Maastricht University takes care of many distinctive buildings and art works that we all know. By giving them a new purpose, we preserve these icons and give them a new meaning, making them the vibrant heart of a bustling city.**

**Did you know that these buildings and art works also provide access to various special places and stories? Let yourself be surprised and join us in this series exploring the hidden gems of the university and the city of Maastricht.**

Many a Limburger used to deliver newspapers like *De Limburger* or its predecessors in their youth. All these (former) newspaper deliverers can still remember it clearly: setting off at dawn with heavy bags on your bike rack and a just as heavy bag strung over your shoulder to slip the newspapers into the letterboxes of the subscribers. And that was no easy feat, as the newspapers – especially the Saturday editions – were made from such thick paper back then that they often didn't fit inside the letterboxes.

The ‘Black Box’ or ‘Zwarte Doos’, as the building at Duboisdomein 30 is referred to colloquially, sits along the Kennedybrug in Maastricht. This building once housed the main office of *De Limburger*. The main office moved in 1993 from the centre of Maastricht, specifically Wolfstraat/Havenstraat, to the Randwyck neighbourhood. The printing presses moved with it.

In 2022, *De Limburger* moved to the town of Sittard. After a number of takeovers and other moves, the editorial staff now reside in a building on the Kennedybrug. The newspaper is printed in Belgium and Noord-Limburg.

The building ‘DUB 30’ (Duboisdomein 30) has been transformed from a commercial building to the home port of ET Pathfinder. It is now an educational building, with laboratories and a test location for the Einstein Telescope. Using gravitational waves, the Einstein Telescope will make it possible to investigate the formation and development of our universe. So, we’ll be able to go right back to the big bang!

In addition to the Einstein Telescope and the ET Pathfinder, the building also houses the Facility Services department and part of the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences. Nevertheless, the building still hides a number of elements that hark back to the time of *De Limburger* and the printing presses.