



English tour along Stumblingstones in the inner city and Wyck (90 minutes). Organised by :

Fred Grünfeld and Marij van den Bosch, founders of the Maastricht Stumblingstones Committee;
 Christianne Schreuder, guestcurator 'Stublingstones in Maastricht', and Marianne Lubrecht,
 curator Cultural Biography.

Photo stumbling stones: Inge Davis

Translation: Inge Davis, Sophie Rijnaard, Christianne Schreuder and Thom Zeguers

Centre Céramique and the Cultural Biography would like to thank all the relatives who generously shared all their stories and memories with us.

Centre Céramique has tried to locate all the rightful owners of the imagery and to guarantee the correctness of the texts.

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1. Stenenbrug 5 Léonard Salomon

A Loving Father

Léonard Salomon has a textile shop at the Grote Gracht, next to the butchery of Drielsma. He is divorced from his non-Jewish wife and lives with aunt, Carolina Haguenaer-Karels, at the Stenenbrug. His son Emile grows up at the Drielsma family, while his other son, Jackie, lives with their mother (and Léonard's former wife), Rosalie Karels. Léonard Salomon often visits the Isaack family, which owns a leather shop on the same street (Grote Gracht).

It is likely that Léonard has been active in the resistance and has spread illegal opposition papers. On suspicion of these acts, the Germans forbid him to trade in textiles any longer.

Betrayed by the NSB

Together with the Isaack family, Léonard is arrested for the first time in August 1942. They have to report at a school at the Professor Pieter Willemsstraat and are then brought to the transit camp of Westerbork. One month later, Léonard is released in order to make sure that his half-Jewish children can be left behind properly – a rare privilege which he owes to his mixed marriage. On November 11, 1942, he is arrested for the second time.

Today, it is believed that he spent some time in a Maastricht prison. A member of the NSB (the Dutch Nazi party) who lived in the Ridderstraat probably betrayed him. Son Emile saw his father until just before he was arrested for the second time. When wondering about how

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it could get as far, Emile presumes that his father never went into hiding because he could never afford to do so.

Murdered in Sobibor

After his second arrest, Léonard spends nearly 7 months in camp Westerbork. On May 3, 1943, he hears that he will be transported to the East. In the night that follows, he cannot sleep. He writes a moving letter to his sons Emile and Jackie: "Now everything is over en I will leave for an unknown world, in which I will not hear from you again." Just before the transport to Sobibor leaves, he is able to throw the postcard out of the train for Emile and Jackie: "I hope the best for you, I will keep courage and always think of you, your father will always be with you in your hearts." Léonard arrives in Sobibor on May 7 and is murdered on the same day.



2. Koestraat 12: Gerhard Soesman

Resistance fighter at Age 18

On the 9th of November, 1940, Gerhard Soesman, a Jewish student at the HBS in Maastricht Helmstraat, attends a speech of the Resistance movement at school which inspires several of his (anonymous) fellow students to send a letter to the Ortskommandant, addressing the 'Lumpen' Ortskommandant in Maastricht. This mysterious letter, in which not only the local commander, but also Hitler himself was ridiculed, was signed by "Die Organisation tötet Hitler, class 2a, 3a and 4a. The police's attempts to find the senders are all in vain. Yet, to punish all students, the school is closed for eight days.

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Betrayed by an Infiltrator

A little more than one year after the Ortskommandant receives his despised letter, Gerhard Soesman has developed into a rebel just as brave as the secret senders of the letter. On January 24, 1942, he, together with two fellow students – W. Hack and M. Hoppers – is arrested for distributing *De Vonk* (The Spark), a communist opposition magazine, in Maastricht. The boys are betrayed by Engwirda, a policeman working for the *Sicherheitspolizei* with extensive knowledge of the Communist movement due to his own experiences in the communist militia in Spain.

Soesman Remains Imprisoned

The three young criminals are transferred to the German political prison at Grote Looiersstraat, after which one of the three, M. Hoppers, is released quickly. Soesman's second companion, Hack, is bailed out by his father one year later. Only Soesman himself, then 19 years old, however, is unable to get out. After eighteen months, he is transferred to Camp Vught, from where he is deported and murdered in Auschwitz on the 21st of January in 1945, mere days before the liberation of the concentration camp.



3. Achter de Comedie 8: Servatius Ritzen

Shot at the Vrijthof

The Ritzen family lives in a street with a peculiar name: in a the backstreet of the city theatre, the Bonbonnière, they live at 'Achter de Comedie', number 2. It is a convenient location for the father of the family, Servatius Ritzen, who is supervisor and caretaker at the

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Bonbonnière until the Germans occupy Maastricht. Extremely suspicious of Servatius, SIPO leader Max Ströbel decides to occupy the ground floor of the theatre to host meetings of the Nazi party.

As time passes by, Ströbel's suspicions about Servatius turn out to be correct: the supervisor of the Bonbonnière passes on information about those meetings to the resistance and allows his house to be used as a clearing house – right under the noses of Nazi officials. Yet, though Ströbel regularly invades the theatre's basement, he never finds any incriminating evidence against Servatius.

It turns out, however, that such evidence is not needed to do harm. On September 4th, 1944, when Max Ströbel drives past the Vrijthof in a cabriolet, he notes Servatius talking to an acquaintance. Ströbel stops in front of restaurant Monopole to ask Servatius how he is doing. Before Servatius has even answered, Ströbel shoots him in the abdomen.

After a stop at the police station, Servatius is brought to the Calvary hospital, where he, according to the stories of others, spent the remaining days of his life with an orange flower in his hand. On September 14th, 1944, the day of Maastricht's liberation, Servatius dies of blood poisoning at the age of 56. During his time in the hospital he never spoke of his involvement in the resistance.

4. Wolfstraat 12, 8 en 6

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Wolfstraat 12: Familie Karels

The Sad Story of a Textile Salesman's Family

Max Karels is married to Paulien Hertz, with whom he runs a shop in textiles and sewing material at Wolfstraat 12, where the two of them live with their sons Julien (nickname Jules) and Louis Robert. Julien works as a shop assistant and Louis Robert is waste sorter. On October 2, 1942, the Karels family is arrested. Max, Paulien and Julien are all sent to Auschwitz on the 2nd of November, 1942, where all of them are murdered directly after their arrival. Only Louis Robert lives one month longer: he is deported to Auschwitz on November 16, 1943, where he is also murdered upon arrival on the 20th of February 1943.

Deportation

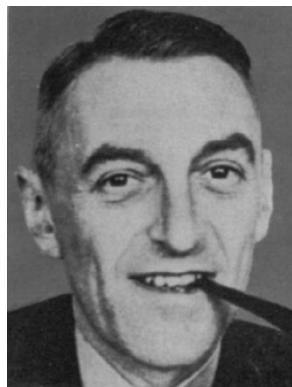
Louis Karels, Max's brother, lives at the Zakstraat, number 6. He makes a living by selling fruits and vegetables on the market. Louis is divorced from the Roman Catholic Maria van der Venne, with whom he has a son named Edmond. Though his father is arrested together with a group of Limburg Jews, Edmond escapes arrest due to the Catholic faith of his mother. He stays with her throughout the war and survives.

His father is less fortunate: on August 25, 1942, Louis arrives in Auschwitz via Westerbork. In Auschwitz he is murdered on August 31, 1942. All known information about the Karels family comes from Max and Louis's cousin, Carla Pirnay-Karels. Her parents flee with the 18-

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months-old Carla to the South of France and then to Switzerland. In 1945, the family returns to Belgium, when Carla is six years old.



Wolfstraat 8: Edmond Houtappel

A Wine Merchant Educated in Bordeaux

Edmond Houtappel, a vintner from Maastricht, and his wife Maria live at the Franciscus Romanusweg in Wyck, Maastricht. When the Germans claim their house, they move with their daughter Maddy to the family's wholesale business at Wolfstraat 8. Edmond is reserve captain in the 13th regiment infantry of the Dutch army and is supervisor of the border guards in Wahlwiller. In his military function, he photographs the terrain of the German troops. His brother in law passes these pictures on to the Belgian consul in Maastricht. "After the German invasion in the Netherlands, Edmond becomes an active member of the LO (the Dutch organization that offers help to persons in hiding) via his neighbour Giel Ummels. Houtappel aids in the search for possible shelters and provides distribution stamps," Ms. M. Frijns-Ummels – his neighbor's wife – explains later on.

More and More Persons in Hiding

The basements of the Houtappels and the Ummels family are connected to each other in order for their 'secret guests' to escape in case of emergency. By no means an unnecessary luxury, it appears: in 1944, the number of persons in hiding, assisted by the LO, has grown to approximately a thousand persons. Each month, about 20.000 Gulden (Dutch currency) is being paid as aid payments. In addition, the LO founds a special fund meant to ransom

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resistance fighters who are captured by the SIPO. This fund becomes the motivation for Ms. Zeguers-Boere's betrayals. She betrays the resistance and in return, she gets to keep the money that the resistance gathered for the freedom of its comrades. Her betrayal is unexpected: with her husband sent to Germany as a prisoner of war only four years before and a Jewish refuge in her own house, the resistance fighters considered her trustworthy.

German Parties at the Van Heylerhofflaan

Ms. Zeguers-Boere regularly organizes parties for German soldiers and prostitutes at her home on the Van Heylerhofflaan and engages in illegal trade and smuggling practices. In December 1941, she moves to Servaasklooster 37, where she is arrested under suspicion of activity on the black market. Unexpectedly, her imprisonment turns out to be anything but unfortunate. During the months she is held captive, she starts a relationship with Max Ströbel, the head of the Sicherheitspolizei (SIPO) in Maastricht. In the eyes of the resistance movement, this relationship seems an ideal cover for her activity on the black market – a cover which Ms. Zeguers-Boere is more than happy to use in her own advantage. Eventually, it becomes clear that Ms. Zeguers-Boere uses this fake cover to betray nearly all members of the resistance.

Edmond Dies in Neuengamme

As a result of Ms. Zeguers-Boere's actions, 50 people are arrested on May 9th and 10th in 1944. Among them are Edmond Houtappel, his wife Maria Houtappel and fellow resistance fighter Giel Ummels and his wife Truike, who are all imprisoned at the Minderbroedersberg. Three weeks after their arrest, Mrs. Houtappel and Mrs. Ummels are released. Their husbands, however, will not survive the betrayal of Ms. Zeguers-Boere. Giel Ummels is murdered on December 2, 1944, in concentration camp Sachsenhausen. Edmond Houtappel is murdered in concentration camp Neuengamme, on November 24, 1944.

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Wolfstraat 6: Giel Ummels

Resistance from the Butchery

When the war begins, Giel Ummels lives at Wolfstraat 6 in Maastricht, where he owns a butchery. He is married and has two young daughters: Mieke and Tonny. He starts to work as a resistance fighter in 1942, when Chaplain Joosten of the Onze-Lieve-Vrouwebasiliek (Basilica of Our Lady), who is already active in the resistance, asks him to assist with the distribution of food stamps. At a later point in the war, Giel is also asked to gather people for a raid on a German distribution office.

Food Stamps in a Doll Carriage

As a member of the LO (the Dutch organization that offers help to persons in hiding) Giel's prime task entails the collecting of distribution stamps for persons in hiding. His butchery is a shelter for Jews, as well as for Belgian and French war prisoners and French, American and British pilots. Giel aids their escape, sometimes with the help of his daughter Mieke. She would grab the allied pilots by the hand and walk them the Zusters Ursulinen or the Zusters Onder de Bogen, two female Catholic religious congregations. Mieke's doll carriage is also used to hide food stamps, which she brings to another resistance fighter, Jo Lokerman. The Ummels' butchery becomes the regular meeting place for the LO to discuss the ransom of resistance fighters.

Betrayed, Interrogated, Captured

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Due to the betrayal to the SIPO by Ms. Zeguers-Boere, 50 members of the resistance are arrested on the 9th and 10th of May 1944. Amongst them are Giel and his wife Truike (Gertruda) Meijs. The couple Ummels and their neighbour Edmond Houtappel are interrogated at the SIPO headquarters at the Wilheminasingel, after which they are imprisoned at the Minderbroedersberg. Meanwhile, Mieke and Tonny, Giel and Truike's daughters, are still at home. During the three days after their parent's arrest, they live under the supervision of German soldiers in their own home, after which they are immediately hidden by their father's colleagues of the LO.

Murdered in Sachsenhausen

After three weeks, the wives of both Giel and Edmond are released. Ms. Ummels immediately goes into hiding with her two daughters. Giel is sent to camp Vught. The resistance plans a raid on the transport near an overpass in Sittard to release him, but once again, Ms. Zeguers-Boere betrays the resistance and causes the raid to fail. From Kamp Vught, Giel is deported to the concentration camp of Oranienburg. Eventually, he is murdered in concentration camp Sachsenhausen on December 2, 1944, at age 35. His brother Mathieu, one year his senior, with whom he was arrested, is murdered at May 6, 1945, at concentration camp Neuengamme.

5. Maastrichterbrugstraat 31:



Abraham and Hannchen Löwenstein

The Six talented Daughters Löwenstein

Between 1899 and 1914, in the German village of Ahaus, Alfred and Hannchen Löwenstein bring seven children into this world: six daughters named Bertha, Martha, Else, Regina,

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Lydia, and Ruth, and one son named Max. Their only son, Max, dies at the age of two in 1911, but their six daughters remain both healthy and smart. The Löwensteins provide for their family by running a tannery and a wholesale business in leather and shoemaker materials.

Unlike most other parents at the time, Alfred and Hannchen Löwenstein value their daughters' education very highly. All daughters receive the opportunity to study whatever they want, resulting Else obtaining a PhD in chemistry and Bertha doing a secretarial course in England.

Moving to Maastricht

When the war begins, father Alfred still responds rather laconically to the warnings of some of his neighbours in Ahaus. The Löwensteins have always been very committed to the community in Ahaus, and thus Alfred assumes that his family can rely on the city for protection – an assumption that could not have been more off. In 1938, during the night of November 9 to November 10 – Kristallnacht – the family's shop is destroyed. From then onwards, all Jews are expelled and prosecuted, leading to the imprisonment of 30.000 German Jews during the weeks that follow. In response, the family decides to move to Maastricht. In the spring of 1939, daughter Bertha sells the house and the family business. She and her sisters move abroad, but their parents settle in the Maastrichterbrugstraat 31, where they live until their arrest in the summer of 1943.

Once arrested, the couple is transported from Westerbork to Sobibor, where they are murdered upon arrival on July 23rd, 1943.

Two Stumbling Stones

On the Maastrichterbrugstraat, one can find two Stumbling Stones for the Löwenstein. Though the family's history is as tragic as most other stories, the Löwenstein monument is

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quite exceptional: Alfred and Hannchen Löwenstein were the only ones who did not make it. Their six daughters survived the war.

6. Kleine Stokstraat 1

Family Wajnkowski

Harald and Lieske: A special friendship

Bernhard and Frieda Wajnkowski flee from Hamborn (Germany) to Maastricht with their son Harald. It is assumed that they were part of a group of refugees that tried to find shelter at the monastery in Amby. They eventually settle in a spacious house at the Kleine Stokstraat 1, living together with widow Johanna Os-André and her children Simon and Mieneke. On October 28, 1938, Bernhard and Frieda have a daughter: Iza.

Growing up in the Stokstraat, Harald becomes friends with Lieske Slangen, who lives several houses further. Lieske is one of the few in the Kleine Stokstraat who still remembers the Wajnkowski family. She remembers how she and Harald always sat on the porch, reading. Annie, Lieske's sister liked to play with Iza.

A Lucky 'Disease'

On August 24th, 1942, the Wajnkowski family is told to report at the school on the Professor Pieter Willemsstraat. Sources differ on what happens afterwards. According to some, the complete Wajnkowski family was transported to Westerbork immediately, but Frieda, who was pregnant at the time, and her children were allowed to go home on the same day. Others, however, claim that only Bernhard was transported to Westerbork one day later, leaving his pregnant wife and his children behind.

This second version could be confirmed by a letter, written by the Commissioner of the Maastricht Police on August 26, 1942, to the Prosecutor. The Commissioner encloses a list of **English tour along Stumblingstones in the inner city and Wyck (90 minutes). Organised by :**

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names of Maastricht Jews that were to be deported to Westerbork. The name of Sara F. Wajnkowski-Piotrkowski, Kleine Stokstraat 1, number 90 on the list, is crossed out, with a notification of the fact that the mother is ill, which could be the reason for the Wajnkowski's not to be on the train that day.

Straight after being called to the Professor Pieter Willemsstraat, Frieda and the children move to a new address: the David family, at Hoofdstraat 36 in Amby.

Transport 74 to Auschwitz

On November 12, 1942, Frieda has to report to inspector Kraay, who, though he is a member of the municipal police and assists them in making Maastricht 'Judenrein', arranges false passports and postponement of transportation because Frieda is simply too weak. Seven days after Frieda reports to Kraay, she gives birth to baby Stella, who dies on the second day of her short life.

On April 9, 1943, Frieda is arrested for the last time and, she and her two children are deported to Westerbork. On the 31st of August, 1943, they are sent to Auschwitz, where they are gassed.

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Family Os

The Tragic History of the Kleine Stokstraat, Number 1

On October 16, 1912, Salomon Os from Venlo marries the Maastricht woman Johanna André. Salomon works as a yardman, and his newfound wife is a maid, who already has a son named Mauritz. Together, Salomon and Johanna have four children: Bernard, Michael, Simon and Mary, who goes by the name of Mieneke. Their second son Michael dies at age two and in 1930 Johanna André becomes a widow. After Mauritz gets married and Bernard moves to Rotterdam, the Johanna and the remaining Os children move to a spacious house on the Kleine Stokstraat 1, where they live together with Johanna's sisters Bertha and Celine and her cousin Leneke (Celine's daughter).

A Letter from Camp Westerbork

Like so many others, also this Jewish family does not escape the war. On August 21, 1942, Bernard, who has been deported to work in Westerbork, writes a letter to his aunt Celine and his cousin Leneke, describing his life in the camp: "Yes, I find it to be very difficult to be separated from my wife and child, but we'll have to be strong either way," he concludes. In

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his letter he encloses a wedding picture from labour camp Linde in Zuidwolde, and he asks his aunt to send his regards to his mother Johanna. It remains questionable if Celine and Leneke were ever able to pass on the message as several days after writing, Johanna Bertha, Simon and Mieneke are arrested on August 25, 1942.

Escorted Past the St. Servaas Bridge

On this tragic day, twelve-year-old Pierre Lumens stands on the corner of Kleine Stokstraat and the Maastrichterbrugstraat, near the home of the Os-André family. He remembers standing there around noon when he sees how Mieneke Os, her brother Simon and one hundred of other Jews are forced to cross the St. Servaas Bridge and walk to the station.

From Maastricht to Westerbork to Cosel to Auschwitz

Soon after, Pierre Lumens finds out that it was the Dutch police itself that had initiated this parade of horror. Without any involvement of German forces, the Dutch police had demanded all Jews to gather at the Professor Pieter Willemstraat before being deported to Westerbork. Pierre remembers Mieneke looking depressed, though not crying. On August 28, Johanna, Berta, Simon and Mieneke leave from camp Westerbork to Auschwitz. The train stops in Cosel, about 80 kilometres before the train's final destination. Here, all Jewish men between 15 and 50, including Simon Os, are separated from their wives, sisters and children to be transported to various camps to carry out forced labour.

Once in Auschwitz, Johanna (57) Bertha (55) and Mieneke (16) are gassed upon arrival. Bernard is murdered in Auschwitz on February 28th, 1943, and Simon Os is killed "somewhere in Central Europe" on April 30th, 1943. On June 6th, 1943, Bernard's daughter Carolina Stella is placed on a children's transport from Vught to Westerbork, as is her mother Jeannette. Carolina Stella dies there on June 8th, 1943, at age three. Her mother Jeannette is murdered on July 16th, 1943, at the extermination camp Sobibor.

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Only Celine and Leneke escape. Both go into hiding, but are arrested on March 31st, 1944. Celine ends up in Westerbork, from where she can return to Maastricht after six months of labour.

7. Kesselkade 54



Teacher classical languages

Leo Korn was born in Rüstringen (near Oldenburg) on May 20, 1912, and worked as decorator and as teacher at a gymnasium (probably highschool), teaching classical languages such as Latin and Greek. He was murdered in Auschwitz on March 31, 1944. Emma Korn-Leeraar was born in Maastricht on June 27, 1904. Her parents were Jacob Leeraar and Anna Claessens. She had a sister named Selma Leeraar who was born on March 10, 1902, and who also died in Auschwitz on November 19, 1943. Furthermore, there was a dead born sibling that did not receive a name on May 5, 1903. Emma was murdered in Auschwitz on September 10, 1943 at the age of 39. Jacob Leeraar was born in Maastricht on May 27, 1871. He married Anna Claessens, the daughter of Joseph Claessens and Esther Croonenberg, in Maastricht on October 17, 1900. GitelKorn-Nissenfeld was born in Przdzel (Poland) on May 5, 1885. She was murdered in Auschwitz on December 15, 1942.

Children transports

Michael AwrumKorn was born in Maastricht on February 2, 1939. He was deported to camp Vught(near 's-Hertogenbosch), and later during the so-called *children transports* to the transit campWesterbork.The detainees of Vught, among them many children, left Vught on the 5th and 6th of June, 1943, to be deported to Westerbork and later to the extermination camps such as Sobibor or Auschwitz. At least 1269 children were deported during the **English tour along Stumblingstones in the inner city and Wyck (90 minutes). Organised by :**

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*children-transport*s. The children monument of Vught carries the names of the children who were either murdered in Sobibor or died in Vught. He was murdered in Auschwitz on September 10, 1943 at the age of four.

8. Wyckerbrugstraat 56 en 51



Wyckerbrugstraat 56: Ernst David Berets

Spying for the Dutch Intelligence Service

Ernst Berets is married to the German Adele, with whom he runs a grocery in Krefeld, Germany. Already in Germany, Ernst is involved in the Dutch resistance: he spies for the Dutch Consulate, providing information about the military and industrial developments in Germany.

When their grocery shop is destroyed in the Kristallnacht (November 9th/10th, 1938), Ernst and Adele flee to Venlo, where Ernst opens a library. Later on, they move to Maastricht, where Ernst expands his new business with a shop selling magazines in the Dominicanerstraat, while Adele holds a library in the front room of their house on the Wyckerbrugstraat. In Maastricht, Ernst continues his activities in the resistance. He regularly visits a café in Welkenraedt (Belgium), where he speaks with machinists to learn more about troop movements – information which (though he did not know) eventually would be passed on to the British Secret Services.

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On May 18, 1940, Ernst is arrested when he visits his mother in Amsterdam. On accusation of espionage and high treason against Germany, Ernst spends one year in custody, after which he is imprisoned in Münster and the Kingelpütz prison in Cologne – a prison notorious for its torture practices. From Kingelpütz, Ernst is eventually transferred to a prison in Berlin-Tegel. Despite his poor treatment he continues to reassure his family through the mail: "Du brauchst dich um mich keine Sorgen zu machen. Ich habe noch immer Sorgen um euch." (You don't need to worry about me. I am still worried about you.)

Show Trial in Berlin Ends in Auschwitz

When he is finally put on trial in August 1942, Ernst's Jewish background is heavily emphasized and he is sentenced to five years imprisonment with deduction of his time spent in custody. This sentence, however, is never carried out: in December 1942, Ernst is deported to Auschwitz, where he dies on January 18, 1943. Though his death certificate states his death cause was heart failure, Ernst was most likely shot around 8:00 o'clock in the morning by camp executioner Walther Quakernack.

Also Ernst's mother was killed during the war, as were seven of his siblings. The only family members who survive the war are his oldest and youngest siblings, his wife Adele and their two children.

Wyckerbrugstraat 51: Eleonore Goldschmidt-Seliger



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Eleonore was called Elly by her family. She was born in Bad Orb, Germany and later moved to Lich, where she married Moritz Godschmidt. They had two children, Gertrud and Herbert, and owned a large clothes shop. After 1938 she fled with her son Herbert and his family to Maastricht. Her husband had died a few years earlier.



9. Rechtstraat 35: Icek en Siegmund Gold

Father and Son Gold

The Polish Icek Gold (also called Izaäk) marries Rosa Kempinski in Duisburg in 1926, with whom he has two children named Jenny and Siegmund. Already six years later, in 1932, they flee to the Netherlands and move into a house on the Schoolstraat in Heer, Maastricht, where they live until 1938. In Heer, Siegmund goes to primary school. On Sundays he takes the steam train to the city centre where he takes classes at the synagogue on the Capucijnenstraat. In 1939, the Gold family moves to Rechtstraat 33, from where Icek sells textiles to markets and shops.

Separated Education for Jews

In the summer of 1941, Sigmund finishes his first year at a public secondary school at the Helmstraat when the Germans issue ordinances against the Jews and Jews are no longer allowed to follow classes with non-Jewish students. About 18 Jewish students are forced to leave the public secondary school.

Jewish Classes from Louis Gobes

In October 1940, the 13-year-old Siegmund becomes a Bar Mitzvah. In preparation for the ceremony, Siegmund practices the Parsha of the week, under supervision of cantor Louis

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Gobes. His sister Jenny remembers how, at certain sentences of the Tanach, Louis Gobes seemed somewhat uncomfortable. His face became red: "Let's skip that part, it is not that important," Jenny remembers him saying. Later, Siegmund and Jenny try to translate the part themselves, but are unable to. "What could the words 'he confessed her' have meant?"

Icek: Murdered in Auschwitz

One year after Siegmund passes his Bar Mitzvah ceremony, his father Icek is arrested when the Germans decide to randomly arrest ten Maastricht men as a form of payback for the attack on a German soldier. After spending two days in a local prison, nine of the ten arrested men are released, but when his wife and children await Icek at the train station, he does not return.

By then, their father and husband, being Jewish, has already been deported to Amersfoort, from where he eventually is transported to Westerbork and Auschwitz on July 16, 1942. He is murdered in Auschwitz on August 18, 1942.

Siegmund: Murdered in Central Europe

Siegmund faces a similar fate. In November 1942 two Dutch police officers force him to leave his home. After being transferred through the camps of Westerbork, Theresienstadt and Auschwitz, Siegmund ends up in Gross Rosen. When the Allied Forces get too close to Gross Rosen, the camp is burned down to the ground and all survivors are forced to walk to Buchenwald. Years after, their walk becomes known as one of the infamous death marches. The majority of prisoners die along the way, often due to a combination of exhaustion, hunger and disease. It is not sure if Siegmund made it to Buchenwald. The Red Cross reports that he was murdered 'somewhere in Europe' on May 2, 1945, at the age of 18, but where exactly remains unknown.

10. Alexander Battalaan 2B, 45B, 74

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Alexander Battalaan 45B: Max Salomon

Max Salomon and his Family

On May 20, 1942, ten prominent members of the Jewish community are arrested as a reprisal for the anonymous removal of the signs reading the words 'Forbidden for Jews' in the Maastricht city park. One of these ten unfortunate Jews is businessman Max Salomon.

Within a few days after their arrest, Max and two others, Eduard von Geldern and Salomon Brünn, are released as they are married to a non-Jewish women. However, as they get off the hook, multiple others are arrested in their place, among them Max's brother, Louis Salomon.

His freedom does not last long. Max Salomon and his family, including his non-Jewish wife Sophie and their sons Bernard, Manus (nickname Emile), Louis and their daughter Rosalie (nickname Roos), are arrested on the 13th of October, 1942, and deported to transition camp Westerbork. They spend eight months in Westerbork, where they also meet their brother and uncle Léonard Salomon who stays there from November 11 1942 until May 4, 1943, when he is deported to Sobibor. A month later, Max, his wife Sophie and their sons Bernard and Louis are also transported to extermination camp Sobibor, to be gassed upon arrival. Max is 45 years old. Sophie is 38 and their children, Bernard and Louise are 13 and 7.

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Only Rosalie and Manus survive. They are first deported to Auschwitz and then to Bergen Belsen. Once the war is over, both of them immigrate to Canada.



Alexander Battalaan74: Louis Salomon

Louis Salomon

Louis Salomon, his wife Yvonne Salomon-Mertens and their two children Roos and Jeanny move around all around Maastricht before they settle at the Alexander Battalaan 74. As a result, during the dawn of the war, Louis and Yvonne, who sell textiles and underwear, work from various addresses throughout the city (on the Gubbelstraat, the Statensingel and eventually the Alexander Battalaan) and on the public market in the city centre.

Jewish Resistance

Louis is very active in the Maastricht community life. He's a player of the first team of footballclub MVV, but leaves his sports activities for what they are when the war starts. He starts to work for the resistance and has contacts in Antwerp and Amsterdam. In the resistance he becomes the contact for a Belgian resistance movement: de Witte Brigade (the

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White Brigade). When Jewish people are not allowed to go to the cinema from May 1941 onwards, Louis gets 16mm sound films from Amsterdam to show at his home at the Alexander Battalaan.

Louis is with his wife Yvonne in Amsterdam when the Germans arrest 10 Jewish men as a reprisal. One of the arrested Jews is Salomon's brother Max. A day later, the Germans knock at Louis' door to pick him up. His daughters are threatened and he has to report no later than May 26, 1942, at 4 p.m. at the Sicherheitsdienst in the 'White house' on the Sint Lambertuslaan 7. His refusal could have grave consequences for the 10 arrested Jews in Amsterdam, he hears from his daughters. The resistance activities of Louis are revealed because of betrayal in Maastricht. In Amsterdam, people recommend Louis not to return to Maastricht but to go into hiding. However, Louis's fear for the lives of his wife, his children his brother but also the other captured Jews, causes him to return to Maastricht and report at the SD's 'White house'. As soon as he gets back home, however, [his wife Yvonne is kicked down the stairs](#) and Louis is imprisoned. He spends 14 days a Maastricht prison, after which he is transported to Vught and later to Amersfoort. Though, like Leonard Salomon, Louis is married to a non-Jewish woman, the charges against him are so grave that this fact does not change his fate. After his arrest, Yvonne changes the name of the textile shop into her own to continue the shop's activities and make sure that she is able to provide for her family.

Trampled to Death

In the camp in Amersfoort, Louis is caught when he offers a fellow prisoner a tomato. As a humiliating form of punishment, he is placed in a doghouse on July 2, 1942. German camp executioner Hugo Herman Wolf forces him to imitate a dog and then kicks him to death. Louis is then 42 years old. After the war ends, Hugo Herman Wolf is sentenced for life after the war by the Amsterdam court. Louis receives a posthumous resistance memorial-cross in 1981, which is now on show in the war museum in Overloon.

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Truly Loved by Their Parents

Roos, Jeanny and Yvonne live through the war. “My sister Roos and I were really loved by our parents,” says daughter Jeanny in 2016. “All I can say is that, despite the heavy suffering our family was forced to endure, it was an honour to have Louis Salomon and Yvonne Salomon-Mertens as parents – an incredibly large honour.” The days they spent on the market, selling their goods, still makes their surviving daughter Jeanny (1929) smile.



11. Memorial on the Prof. Pieter Willemsstraat



12. Stationsstraat 31: Victor Hertzdahl

A Business Man from Sittard

Victor Hertzdahl is born in Sittard on August 3, 1887. Once grown up, he becomes the director Wolf & Hertzdahl clothing company. Together with his brother Sylvain, he is responsible for the stores in Heerlen, Maastricht and Sittard as well as the company’s design studio.

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After his marriage with Marie Hertzdahl in 1919, he starts a family at Stationsstraat 31 where they live with their children, Thilly and Karel. In the late 1930s, when the atmosphere in Limburg worsens, Victor considers fleeing to America with his family. Though he has the chance, he decides to stay in Maastricht either way, primarily because he does not want to abandon the staff of his company – especially with the eye on the difficult circumstances the city is in. On May 21, 1942, Victor is arrested by the Sicherheitspolizei.

He is one of the first ten Jews to be arrested in Limburg – primarily for their wealth. Their arrest is a direct and exaggerated consequence of an earlier protest action: the removal of a sign reading "No Jews" in the Maastricht city park. Victor's family desperately tries to get him out of prison, but the Sicherheitsdienst (SD) is only willing to let Victor go if his son Karel takes his place. Victor refuses. Two months after his arrest on July 16th, 1942, he is transported from camp Amersfoort to camp Westerbork to Auschwitz. In Auschwitz, Victor is killed on the 30th of September 1942, at the age of 55.

Marie Survives Auschwitz

Victor's wife and children try to flee to Switzerland in vain. Instead, they go to Brussels, where they are betrayed. The children manage to escape and go into hiding in Smeermaas (Belgium) but Marie is deported through Camp Mechelen (the Dossin Barracks) to Auschwitz-Birkenau (II) on April 19th, 1943. Miraculously, she survives the hardships in Auschwitz and is reunited with her children Thilly and Karel after the war.

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13. Wilhelminasingel 88: Esther Kozenicki

“New Address Unknown”

All that is known about Esther Kozenicki can be accredited to her childhood friend Catrien Hein-Hardenberg, with whom Esther went to school until the Nazi’s forbid Jewish students to follow classes with non-Jewish students in 1942.

Though both her parents, Joseph Kozenicki and Neche Kozenicki-Fessel, originate from Poland, Esther Kozenicki is born in Düsseldorf. Already in her early childhood, the Nazi regime comes to power and the family flees to Maastricht and settles at the Wilheminsingel 88 in Maastricht. In Maastricht, Esther joins Catrien’s classes at the public secondary school at the Helmstraat and soon, they become friends. Catrien gets to know the Kozenicki family and remembers them as a devout Jewish family.

On August 25, 1942, the Kozenicki family is part of the first group of Jews that is obliged to report themselves. All are deported, except mother Neche, who misses this first call as she has been hospitalized. On the 4th of November, 1942, however, she is sent to Westerbork nonetheless.

“I will never return”

On the evening of August 25, Joseph, Esther and Felix report at the school at the Professor Pieter Willemsstraat. Catrien has spent the day with Esther and joins her to the gathering point at the school. By then, Esther already knows then that she will not return. They are

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deported to Westerbork. Though Joseph is a textile salesman, he works as an electrician in Westerbork. On the designated 'writing day', Esther writes Catrien from Westerbork – letters which Catrien's mother burns right after Catrien has read them. Catrien only manages to keep two of Esther's letters.

Over the mail, Esther reveals that her life in Westerbork has a great impact on her. "I have gotten completely different ideas here.. You would be surprised to hear my thoughts on things these days," she writes on July 16, 1943. Unfortunately, Catrien will never know how Esther's thoughts have changed. Quickly after the last letter, Catrien receives a change of address: 'New address unknown'. Where Esther has moved, she can only guess.

The Kozenicki family is placed on the 72th and last transport from transition camp Westerbork to extermination camp Sobibor. On July 23, 1943, the entire family is murdered – most likely immediately after they arrive.

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