

? GeoArt A #1 [CNE26] Steam Lucifer Factory "de Eem"

Placed by: TeamThoroCatchers

Placed Date: 11/09/2025

N 52° 09.116 E 005° 23.883

UTM: 31U E 664057 N 5780648

Difficulty: ★★☆☆☆

Size:  (Small)

Terrain: ★★☆☆☆

Log Counts:  2 Post Reviewer Note  2 Temporarily Disable Listing  2 Submit for Review

Long Description



CNE stands for the culture and nature event. The event took place on March 21, 2026, in Amersfoort. More information about CNE can be found at: www.cultuurennatuurevent.nl

With this event and these caches, we want to show everyone all the wonderful things Amersfoort and the surrounding area has to offer in terms of culture and nature. We hope you have lots of fun with these caches!

BvVeen, Tedonus, Pc_Queen, Flash! en TeamThoroCatchers

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Industrial heritage on the Eem

A network of businesses developed along the Eem River in the 19th century. Water, rail, and steam combined to fuel Amersfoort's industrial growth.

The former steam match factory De Eem was a factory on the river Eem, just outside the center of Amersfoort

The factory was built in 1881, opened in 1883, and decommissioned four and a half years later. Ultimately, the factory operated for just over four and a half years. According to the Chamber of Commerce report from 1883, eighty workers worked in the steam match factory. They produced 50,000 boxes of matches per week. That's 2.5 million boxes and 125 million matches per year. This may be a slight exaggeration. We also see this reflected in other company communications. For example, in the image of the factory on labels: a huge factory complex with several chimneys. Global match production in 1880 amounted to 200 million boxes. Afterward, the factory complex housed a dye factory, which operated under various names, most recently as Warner-Jenkinson until 2001. Since then, no industrial activity has taken place in the complex. The complex is the oldest surviving factory complex in Amersfoort. Today, a collective operating under the name De WAR develops creative initiatives at the intersection of culture, science, technology, and sustainability.

In 1881, Jan Barend Beuker and Adriaan van der Valk purchased a plot of land on the left bank of the Eem River, located a little further to the northwest. This land would later be called Kleine Koppel 39 (and is now Geldersestraat 6). They bought it from innkeeper Albertus Schimmel for 210 guilders.

Jan Barend Beuker (jr.) was a descendant of the Beuker family, sugar manufacturers in Amsterdam. He was born in 1859.

Beuker and Van der Valk established a steam match factory on the Eem River. The factory was designed by G.B. Salm, who had previously designed the Amersfoortsche Beijersch-Bierbrouwerij (later the Phoenix Brewery). The match factory was the first chemical industry in Amersfoort, and it was built "far from residential areas" due to the fire hazard.

Salm designed a complex in the Neo-Renaissance style. A long wall was built along the river. The entrance gate was located to the left. Directly behind the wall, to the right of the gate, a small building was erected.

This served as a laboratory. To the left of the gate, on the Geldersestraat side, was the office. This also initially served as company housing. At the rear, the office was connected by a wall to a short wing. This wing was two stories high and parallel to Geldersestraat. Perpendicular to this, at the rear of the factory site, was the actual factory: an elongated, single-story main body. The factory chimney was positioned at the rear of the complex, as much as possible within the sightline of the Kleine Koppel.

The factory began operating in 1883. It had a 25-horsepower boiler and two steam engines, each of 15 and 3 horsepower. Woodworking, in particular, was mechanized.

Although the factory itself has disappeared, this site remains a reminder of a time when small, everyday products—like matches—required a large-scale industrial process. This makes the area a significant part of Amersfoort's industrial heritage.

The Puzzle for the cache:

Answer the following questions:

- A** = The total length of the river Eem (in whole kilometers).
- B** = The year in which the Eem was widened again and bends were cut to improve navigability (take the last two digits of this year).
- C** = How many letters does the historical name of the Eem have that starts with an 'H' and ends with an 's'?
- D** = The Eem is the only river in the Netherlands that both originates and flows in the Netherlands. In which city does the Eem officially originate at the confluence of streams? Calculate the [word value](#) (A=1, B=2, etc.) of this city.

Calculate the coordinates:

The final is located at:

N 52° 09.XXX E 005° 22.YYY

XXX = (B * 10) + D - 39

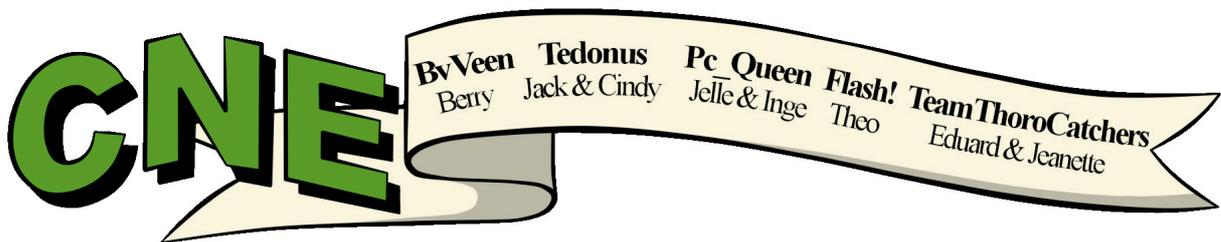
YYY = (C * B) + D + 128



The municipality of Amersfoort has given permission for this cache.
Thank you for this.

This cache is part of a larger series

For a complete list of the rest of these caches, please refer to www.cultuurennatuurevent.nl/caches-cne-2026/



Additional Waypoints

	Prefix	Lookup	Name	Coordinate
 	01		Virtual stage (Virtual Stage)	N 52° 09.756 E 005° 22.629
Note:				

Cache Attributes



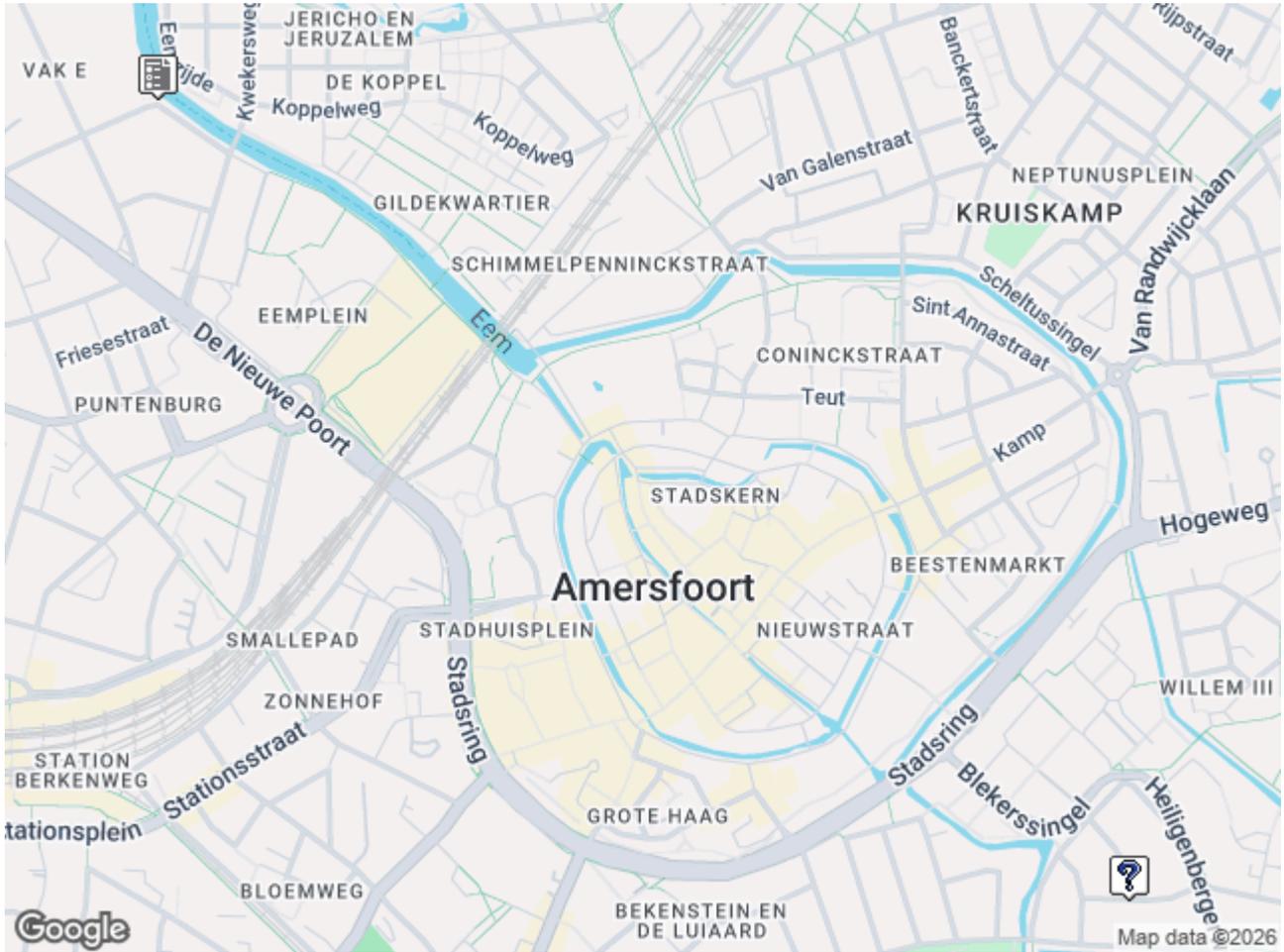
[What are Attributes?](#)

Not recommended at night, Recommended for kids, Dogs allowed, Scenic view nearby, Available 24/7, Parking nearby, Bicycles allowed, <1 km hike, Stealth required, Recommended for tourists, Geocaching.com solution checker enabled

Logs

Overview Map

[[640x480](#) | [320x240](#)]



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