

# Granby's Original Wallace Fountain is Restored



Source: M&B Métalliers



Source: www.waymarking.com

This fountain, wearing a grey coat of primer paint, was located in Isabelle Park on the corner of Rue Dufferin and Boulevard Leclerc in Granby, Québec. Pierre-Horace Boivin, Mayor of the city from 1939-1964, was travelling internationally to promote Granby. As a result of his efforts, Pierre de Gaulle, Mayor of Paris at the time, donated a Wallace fountain to the city of Granby to celebrate Granby's "French Week". It was installed in 1956.

A dedication plaque on the fountain reads: *Donated By The City Of Paris To The City Of Granby / 1956 / The First Fifty Fountains Of This Type Were Generously Given To The City Of Paris In 1872 / By The British Philanthropist Sir Richard Wallace 1818 - 1890 / To Be Placed In The Streets Of The French Capital.*

In 2019, the fountain was removed from its location and sent to Montreal for restoration. The company responsible for restoring it is M&B Métalliers. With guidance from Eau de Paris, the city water authority, and GHM, the successor company of the original foundry, this fountain was authentically restored. Clues to its past were discovered. It is believed to be one of the original Wallace fountains once found on the streets of Paris.

The new location in Granby for this Wallace fountain will be Place Jean-Lapierre and installation is scheduled to take place in the summer of 2021. In addition, for the first time since its arrival in Canada this fountain will be connected to water and able to quench the thirst as well as please the eye. A foot pedal will activate the fountain.

Thanks to Granby officials, who understand the importance of preserving and protecting this historic gift from the City of Paris, residents and visitors will be able to enjoy the beauty and significance of the fountain for generations to come.