Zurich’s Wallace Fountain Dedicated to Clean Water

In Pestalozzi Park along the Bahnhofstrasse in the heart of Zurich stands a Wallace fountain. It was placed there in 1982 to commemorate the World Convention of Water Experts, a conference held in Zurich and sponsored by the International Water Services Association.

According to the plaques in various languages on the pedestal of the fountain, the fountain and its caryatids “symbolize international cooperation in providing people everywhere with pure and salubrious water”.

The plaque also states the fountain was from Paris, 1870. This is not accurate because installation of the first Wallace fountain in Paris did not take place until 1872. In addition, markings on the fountain indicate it was manufactured in the 20th century.