

A Wallace Fountain at Parc des Bastions, Another Missing



Parc des Bastions
1205 Geneva, SWITZERLAND

This Wallace fountain is located in Parc des Bastions in the old town and protected south sector area of the old fortifications. According to the city of Geneva, it was installed in 1880 and was produced by the Val d'Osne foundry. Records indicate another Wallace fountain was installed on rue Bonivard during the 19th century.

In his 1996 book, *Fontaines de Genève*, Armand Brulhart gives a history of Geneva's fountains and an inventory of existing fountains.

“When the National Exhibition of 1896 opened, the Water Service published its *Table of Fountains* whose interest was to offer a complete vision of all the fountains existing at the end of the nineteenth century. Out of a total of 157, the fountains themselves reached the figure of 51. It was still necessary to add to them the two Wallace fountains of the Bastions and the rue Bonivard...”

The actual inventory of existing fountains noted in Brulhart's book listed only the Wallace fountain at Parc des Bastions, as the one on rue Bonivard had disappeared.

In 1947, the *Journal de Genève* mentions the Wallace fountain and the bandstand behind the Anglican Church at Place Dorcière and rue Bonivard. Extensive work was carried out at Place Dorcière in the 1950s to make way for an important station for tourist buses. It is presumed the Wallace fountain, along with the bandstand and a kiosk were removed at this time to make way for the buses. There is no record of what happened to the fountain once standing on rue Bonivard.

If anyone has additional information about the history or origin of these fountains, please share it by contacting us at admin@wallacefountains.org.