Burscheid, Germany's Wallace Fountain Arrived in 1900





1-5 Hauptstraße 51399 Burscheid GERMANY

This Wallace Fountain stood at the corner of Höhestrasse and Altenberger streets in Burscheid from around 1900 to 1965. It was given to the town by Albert Richartz-Bertrams, a manufacturer who lived in Burscheid and donated the public drinking fountain to the citizens after seeing one in Paris. It is the only Wallace Fountain in Germany. As part of the Burscheid cityscape, it stood there unscathed, even during the turmoil of the two world wars, until 1965 when at night a truck accident damaged it considerably and it had to be removed.

It fell into oblivion. Luckily a local citizen, Anita Peters, recovered the pieces and put them in her garden. When she died, her heirs gave it to the Burscheid Fruit and Garden Association which, with the help of the Burscheid Foundation and the Cologne Savings Bank, had it restored in France at GHM Sommevoire, the foundry that still manufactures these fountains.

The fountain was installed very close to its original location and reopened for the 100th anniversary of the Burscheid Fruit and Garden Association on March 7, 2003.

Source: Délégation Générale aux Relations Internationales, DGRI, Ville de Paris and Wallace Fountain - City of Burscheid

Photo: Andreas Henckels