

# Lille Restores its Wallace Fountain for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



**Place Léon Trulin,  
59800 Lille  
FRANCE**

Wallace fountains were installed in Lille as early as 1889. Thanks to the Hallez-Duhamel bequest of 1924, others were acquired from the Val d'Osne foundry, the company that owned the molds and the rights to fabricate the cast iron fountains first produced in 1872 and donated to the city of Paris by Richard Wallace.

In 2021, the City of Lille temporarily removed the only remaining Wallace Fountain from its previous location on Place de Béthune in order to restore it and repaint it from brown to the traditional dark green of the original Paris fountains. The city allowed the Anne-Cécile Viseux studio to bring it back to life. On July 1, 2022, the fountain was reinstalled in Place Léon Trulin.

The project, carried out with the help of municipal plumbers, involved restoring the fountain's water supply system to working order, with a device for managing water on demand. The fountain is now back to its original purpose: to provide free access to drinking water for all.

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Wallace fountains in 2022, the city reinstalled this remarkable piece of heritage at its new location, Place Léon Trulin, near the Lille Opera House. The fountain enhances its architectural setting and provides access and centrality to its restored function of distributing drinking water.

If anyone has additional information about the history or origin of this fountain, please share it by contacting us at [admin@wallacefountains.org](mailto:admin@wallacefountains.org).

Source: Ville de Lille

Photos : Zoom Lille, Stanislas Dendievel

