

Three Wallace Fountains Located in Rio de Janeiro



Manacas Gardens, Tijuca National Park



Square Dom Romualdo



Parque da Cidade

Manacas Gardens, Tijuca National Park
Caminho da Saudade - Alto da Boa Vista,
Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20531-290,

Square Dom Romualdo
R. Pindaré, 6-22 - Santa Cruz, Rio de Janeiro -
RJ, 23515-090

Parque da Cidade
505 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22451-240,
BRAZIL

There are three historic Wallace Fountains in Rio de Janeiro. The one in the Tijuca National Park is said to be a gift from the French government sometime in the 1880s. It is thought Auguste Glaziou, the French landscape designer and botanist who was director of parks and gardens in Rio, placed the Wallace Fountain at its current location. The fountain was repainted several times using green, grey and black paint. When the fountain was painted black, local residents referred to the caryatids as “Black Dolls”. At some point this fountain lost its dome and remained without it for decades. In 1998, an effort was made to restore the fountain. With the help of the Association for the Safeguarding and Promotion of Haut-Marnais Metallurgical Heritage in France, a new dome was fabricated and donated to the park. The fountain restored to its original beauty in 1999.

The fountain in Santa Cruz, Rio de Janeiro is also considered to be a relic of the former Empire of Brazil which ended in 1889. The area was once royal farmland and rural residences owned by the monarchical nobility. It was prestigious for its large estates. This might have been the reason for the installation of the Wallace Fountain, to serve as a supply point of drinking water for locals. It was moved from at least one previous location. Today, the fountain is found in Square Dom Romualdo.

The Wallace Fountain at Parque da Cidade probably arrived in Brazil around the same time as the other fountains, likely in the 1880s. Little information is available about this fountain.

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

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