



ANDENNE

Heritage and history



■ The Big Bear and the Little Bear (Seilles)

The sculpture of "The Big Bear and the Little Bear", a work by Louis NOEL, was installed in December 2003 on the roundabout with the RN 921 and the Rue de la Station in Seilles. This sculpture, entirely made of bronze, is 3 metres high and weighs 1.5 tonne. It was erected by the Directorate for Landscape Integration and Heritage of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (MET) and it was jointly funded by the Walloon Region (MET), the Town of Andenne and the patronage of François Van Belle. The project for this sculpture dates from 2002 and it would take a year's work to complete.

Mr Noël is also the artist who produced the sculpture of the child and his bear which can be seen since 2006 next to the kiosk of the Place des Tilleuls in Andenne.

Info: Louis Noël
Rue de Raveli 10
5580 Jemelle

D'autres brochures concernant le patrimoine et l'histoire, les musées et les découvertes ainsi que la nature et les promenades sont également disponibles à l'Office du Tourisme de la Ville d'Andenne.

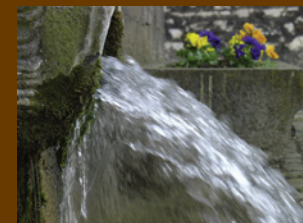


Many fountains and sculptures decorate the districts of the town: works by renowned artists or fountains used by the housewives of yesteryear ...

■ The Saint Begga fountain (Andenne)

The Saint Begga spring has always existed. The monument on top of it dates from the 17th century. It was formerly called the "fontaine aux Poussins", recalling the legend of Saint Begga and the chicks, and is situated on the Place du

Chapitre to the left of the Collegiate church near the former gate, the porte Saint-Étienne. Above the fountain, you can see a niche fitted with a grill in which a statue of the patron saint occupies a place of honour. This fountain is composed of several basins worn and eroded by the water and the rubbing of the washerwomen who were particularly reputed to pass through the Collegiate church with their dogs on their way there. If you take a look at the epitaph above the right entrance to the Collegiate church, you will moreover notice the words "LES CHIENS HORS DE LA MAISON DE DIEU" ("Dogs out of the House of God"). As a short side comment, there was a time when a guard was posted at that entrance to oblige those ladies to go the long way round.



■ The Bear fountain (Andenne)

Used by the housewives of yesteryear, the fountain is located Rue d'Horseilles in Old Andenne. It represents a bear pierced with an arrow, sculpted in bas-relief and which was discovered at the "Thier de l'Ours" to the south of Andenne cemetery which supplied most of the stones used in the building of Andenne church. A stone set in the wall bears this inscription: "CHARLES MARTEL DE PEPIN 2 FILS NATVREL EN L'AN SEPT CENT PEV PLVS ME MIST ICY A MORT CRVE





the spot where Charles Martel, natural son of Pepin II, in the year seven hundred, put me to a cruel death), recalling the feat of Charles Martel who was said to have vanquished with his bare hands a bear that was terrorising the region.

■ The Pairon fountain (Andenne)

Standing on the Place du Perron, the fountain that you can see is the third of the name. The first one was built in 1764. It was formed of eight stone basins, placed on two rows. There were three steps between each basin. The citizens living in the vicinity were disturbed by this fountain, too close to their houses. It had mainly been set up to provide for the inhabitants' water needs and to extinguish fires and it was demolished in the second half of the 19th century. A new fountain was built in 1860. That new fountain was erected a good distance away from the dwellings, but in 1909, new complaints were heard, owing to flooded cellars,

and the fountain was demolished to the sound of pickaxes and hammers. The remains were used for our local roads. Today, a more recent and much smaller fountain decorates the square. It was created and cast by Guy Forthomme, a founder in Andenne, and was inaugurated on 20 June 1992 on the occasion of the town's 1,300th anniversary.

THE WORKS BY THE CERAMIST, ARTHUR CRACO

Arthur Craco (1869-1955), was one of the main revivers of ceramic art in Belgium, fiercely determined to find a major place for it within the decorative arts. Andenne was the place, after the First World War, where he discovered the "derle" (white clay), which was a revelation for him and attached him to our town for over twenty years.

■ The Cats fountain (Andenne)

Standing at the crossroads called "des quatre coins", on the avenue Reine Elisabeth, the fontaine des chats was ordered by the pharmacist Masy in whose home Craco was lodged during his stay in Andenne. The bottom of the fountain is moreover decorated with pairs of snakes each coiled around a cup and spitting their venom into it, which recalls the caduceus (emblem) of the pharmaceutical profession. The three basins on which skeleton-like cats face each other are surmounted by six columns. On those columns, a plinth is further decorated with four couples of cats opening their mouths with one sitting on the top of the fountain.



■ The Pheasant fountain (Andenne)

This fountain stands on the Place du Chapitre to the right of the Collegiate church. Pheasants strut about on the top of the fountain. Lower down, on the edge of the single basin, frogs smugly gazed at them, croaking.

■ The Millennium Gate (Andenne)

"La Porte du Millénaire" or Millennium Gate is a work by Félix Roulin. It was installed on the Place des Tiléuls, in Andenne in October 2001. It took many months of preparation to produce this sculpture. It is in-

deed a sizeable sculpture measuring 4.30 metres high and weighing over 16 tonnes. It is composed of materials from the region including limestone from the Gore quarries in Sclayn. Twenty-four bronze figures were cast by Félix ROULIN to be integrated into this gate. The decision to purchase this work was adopted by the Municipal Council of Andenne on 17 November 2000.

Info:
Félix Roulin – ARTEFACT
Place des Combattants 2
5640 Biesmerée
www.felixroulin.com



■ La fontaine aux Chimères (Andenne)

This third work by Arthur Craco is situated in the gardens of the castle, the Château Noël, along the Avenue Roi Albert going towards Andenelle. On the edge of the basin, four chimeras (an animal composed of a lion's head, a goat's body and a snake's tail) could be seen spitting water into a broad basin. In the middle of that basin, another smaller basin was supported by four columns each surmounted by a bulldog.

