



MLAIC
Small Arms Comittee Report

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Web: <http://mlic.org/approved-makers-firearms/>

Inquiry data:

Name	Gerhard LANG
Date	29/05/2025
Email	sac@mlic.org
Discipline	Cominazzo Original event
Rep. No.	2025-03

Decision:

	Date	Approval	
		Yes	No
SAC	04/07/2025	X	
Commission			
SG			

- Bernard Collot (France) **Chairman**
- Leo Mertens (The Netherlands)
- Robert Szuppin (Austria)
- Peter Kanzler (Austria)
- Jari Janhunen (Finland)
- Balázs Nemeth (Hungary)
- José Pairaló Grabuloso (Spain)
- Damian Gamma (Switzerland)
- Mike McDaniel (USA)
- Lee Shaver (USA)
- Christian Müller (Switzerland)

counts

answer			
yes	no	no opinion	no answer
X			
X			
	X		
X			
		X	
X			
4 / 11	1 / 11	1 / 11	0 / 11

Question

By an international shooter :

Recently, I bought an original flintlock pistol which has an adjustable rear sight (see pictures). Thanks to let me know if such an adjustable rear sight is technically and historically correct and in line with MLAIC rules, so that I can shoot official championships with it.

I do have the following details:

Manufacturer: James Barber, London
Calibre: .57 Smooth bore
Marks underneath the barrel: STUBS IB STUBS
Marks on top of the barrel: Barber – plus an additional mark which cannot be identified

Concerning James Barber, Stoeckl shows the following:

Barber James, London/GB mentioned 1714-1773. In 1714 he starts an apprenticeship in his father's (Lewis BARBER) gunshop.

In 1722 he is mentioned as master gun maker. Until 1726 he works in his father's gun shop.

Then, he establishes his own gun shop near Portugal Street and he changes his name to BARBAR.

In 1742 he is mentioned as „guild master“.

From 1741 to 1762 he is Gentleman Armourer to King Georg II.

Since 1736 he is supplier of the army.

As of 1767 he is retired (excerpt from the Stoeckl)

Remarks

According to my opinion, in 1760 and especially on this (baroque) type of pistols, such adjustable rear sights did not exist.

They came into fashion only around 1800.

Starting from 1800, there are several manufacturers; such as Boutet, Le Page and others (within Europe - see also enclosed pictures of a pair of flintlock pistols by "Rasch, Braunschweig" in 1810);

who installed such sight adjustments and promoted them as "new" and as an "advantage".

Therefore, I believe that on this Barber/Barbar pistol from approx.. 1760 there was (originally) no such rear sight.

However, it looks very much original; i.e. that it could have been installed somewhere after 1800 – but still within the flintlock era.

My position is : to be accepted as an original.

Pictures attached to original inquiry**Additional pictures and remarks**