

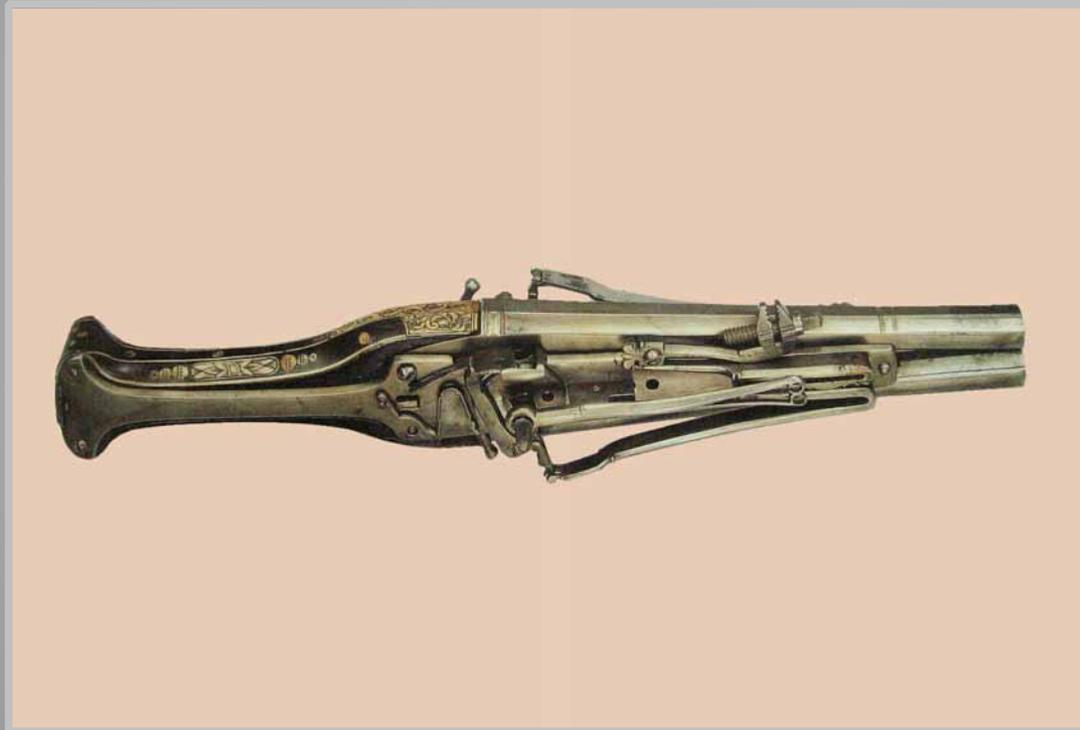
Fist Guns

1550 - 1900



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Ca. 1550: Early Double Wheel Lock Pistol

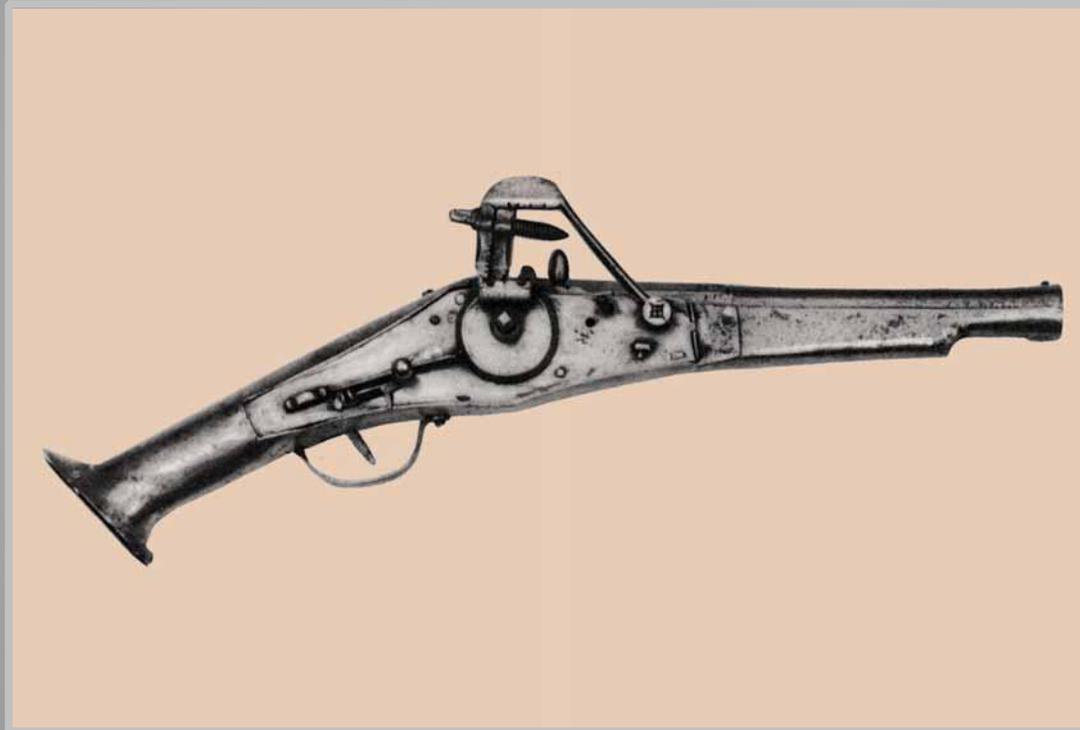


External Wheel Lock with V-shaped main spring

To fire the second barrel the pistol must be turned around its length axis

Dagger pistol handle

Ca. 1565: Military Wheel Lock Pistol, German



External Friction wheel

Security catch behind lock

Fish tail handle

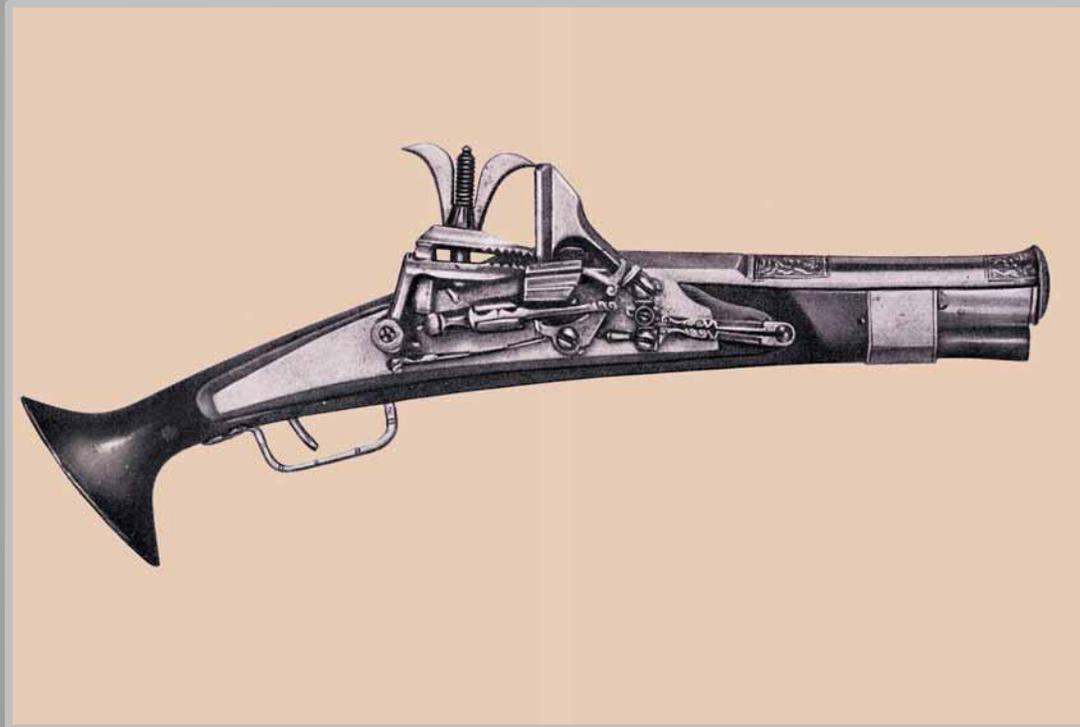
Ca. 1559: Double Wheel Lock Pistol, German



Two pistols are combined in one back to back

To fire the second barrel the pistol must be turned around its length axis

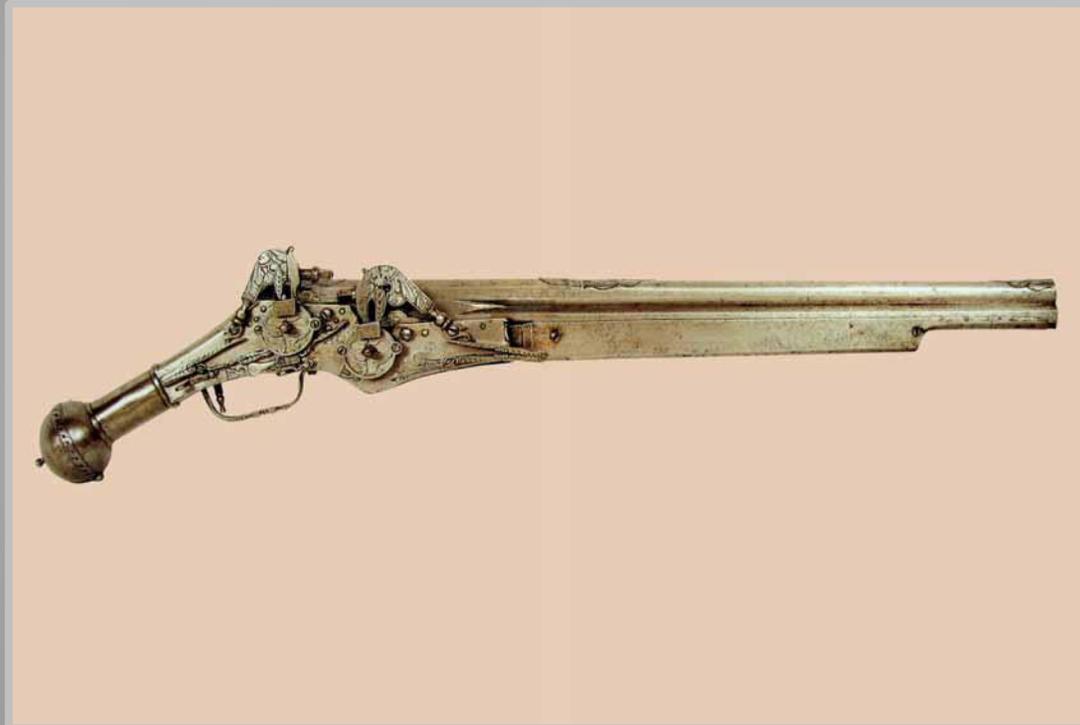
Ca. 1570: Pistol with Nürnberg Snaphance



Tower of London

A most ingenious pan cover closing design is found on the rarely preserved Nürnberg snaphaunce lock. The whole mechanism is installed on the outside of the lock plate. With a leaf spring, the pan cover is swung into the open position. After closing the pan cover, a lever holds it in the closed position. When shooting, a cam at the lower part of the cock unlocks the lever and frees the pan cover for a quick opening.

Ca. 1580: Double Wheel Lock Pistol



The lock has two independent wheel lock systems on a lock plate at the vertical distance of the two barrels lying above each other, and a horizontal distance of the distance of the two flash pans of the wheel lock.

With the two independent locks, the loads of the two independent over-under barrels were ignited.

Ca. 1590: Wheel Lock Pistol, Regensburg



The wheel lock pistol has an unusual shape with a sharply angled stock, ball knob butt and an iron barrel that has a Tromblon or Blunderbuss muzzle. The prove marks of the city of Regensburg are on the barrel. The advantage of the sharp angled shape and its trigger Operation are unclear.

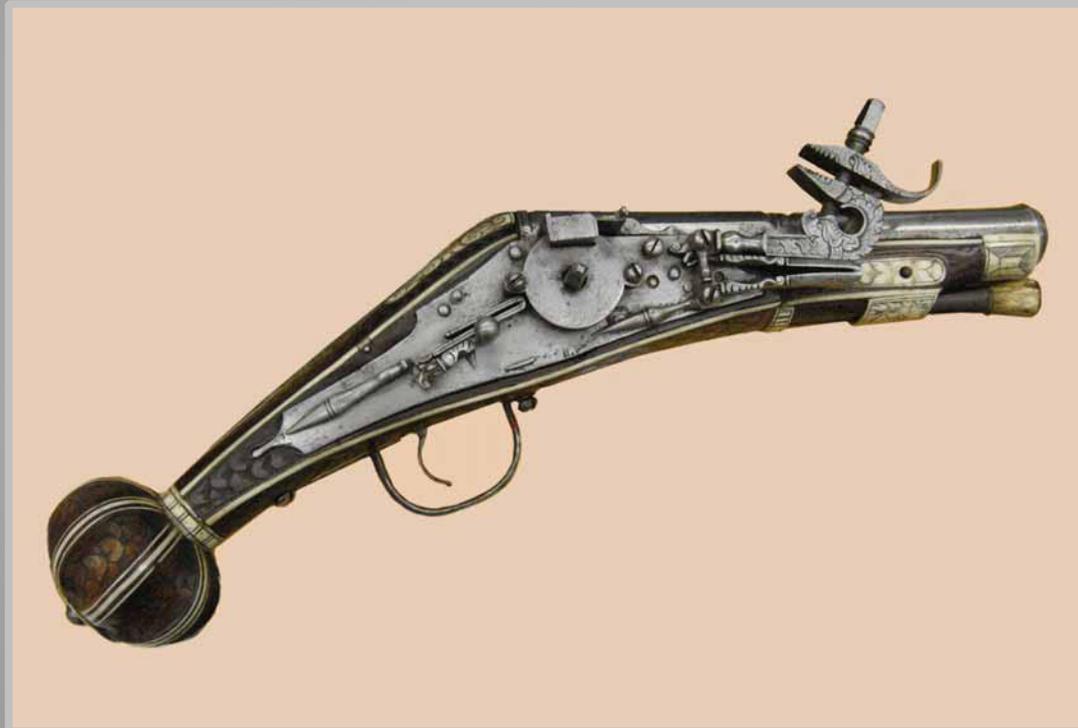
Ca. 1590: Wheel Lock Pistol with Petronel Butt



This wheel lock pistol has a stock similar to a Petronel.

It can be shot like a regular pistol or in a shoulder firing position.

Ca. 1590: Ripoll Wheel Lock Pistol



This beautifully designed wheel lock pistol has a ball knob stock and a slightly angled wheel lock without an outside wheel bearing.

The ball knob stock has the advantage that it can be easily taken out of a holster and aimed easily without fear of losing grip.

Ca. 1650: Catalan Snaphance Pistol



The Spanish presentation pistol has a Catalan snaphance lock with elaborate engravings, relief cut iron barrel and a Mascaron on the butt plate.

Ca. 1650: Military Wheel Lock Pistol, German



Wheel lock pistols were put into action by the cavalry for only a relatively short and moderately successful period.

They were presented mostly as recognition for deserving officers.

Ca. 1700: Hunting Knife Flint Lock Pistol



A flint lock is positioned on the side of a hunting knife.

The Firearm was used “to finish-off”

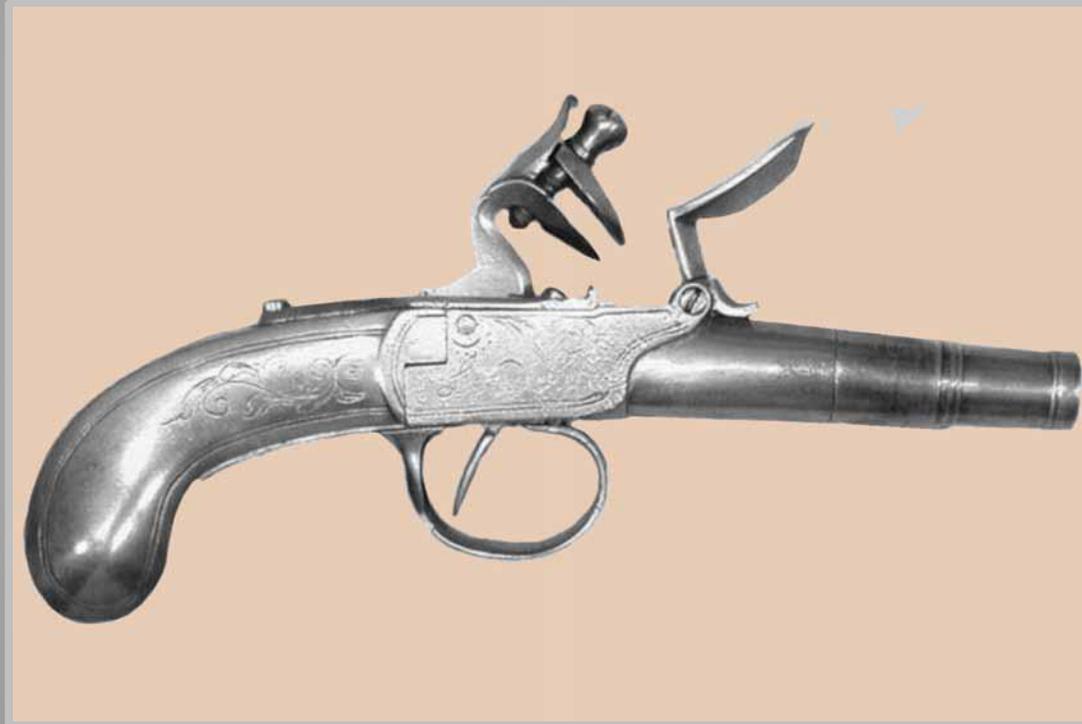
Ca. 1730: Flint Lock Pistol, France



Flintlock pistol with octagonal barrel, blending into a round middle and front part. Flint lock without tumbler bearing, meaning there is only one plain bearing supporting the hammer axis in the lock plate.

Private Collection

Ca. 1750: Flint Lock Pocket Pistol



Private Collection

This flint lock pocket pistol is made by the gunsmith, Israel Segalas of London. For easier loading, it has a detachable front barrel. The loading is done by unthreading the front end of the barrel, loading black powder and ball into the back end of the barrel, screwing front part of barrel back on, filling of the pan with priming powder, cocking the hammer and flint, closing the pan cover, and locking the pan cover by moving the trigger forward.

Ca. 1760: Highland Pistol, King George III



Pistol has typical Scottish butt

The butt is entirely made in metal and beautifully decorated

Ca. 1777: Cavalry Flint Lock Pistol, M. 1777, France



French flint lock pistol of unusual construction. The central bronze part has an integrated powder pan and is also the lockbox, into which all parts of the cock mechanism are installed. The barrel, trigger guard and the iron connecting band to the knob are attached with screws to the lockbox. The trigger mechanism, as well as the storage bore for the ramrod are part of the bronze casting.

Ca. 1780: Four Barrel Flint Lock Pistol



All four barrels are ignited at the same time with a flint lock. The pistol is often called a ducks foot pistol.

To achieve a wider scattering, the barrels are not arranged parallel.

It was used against mutineers and apparently to hunt flocks of ducks.

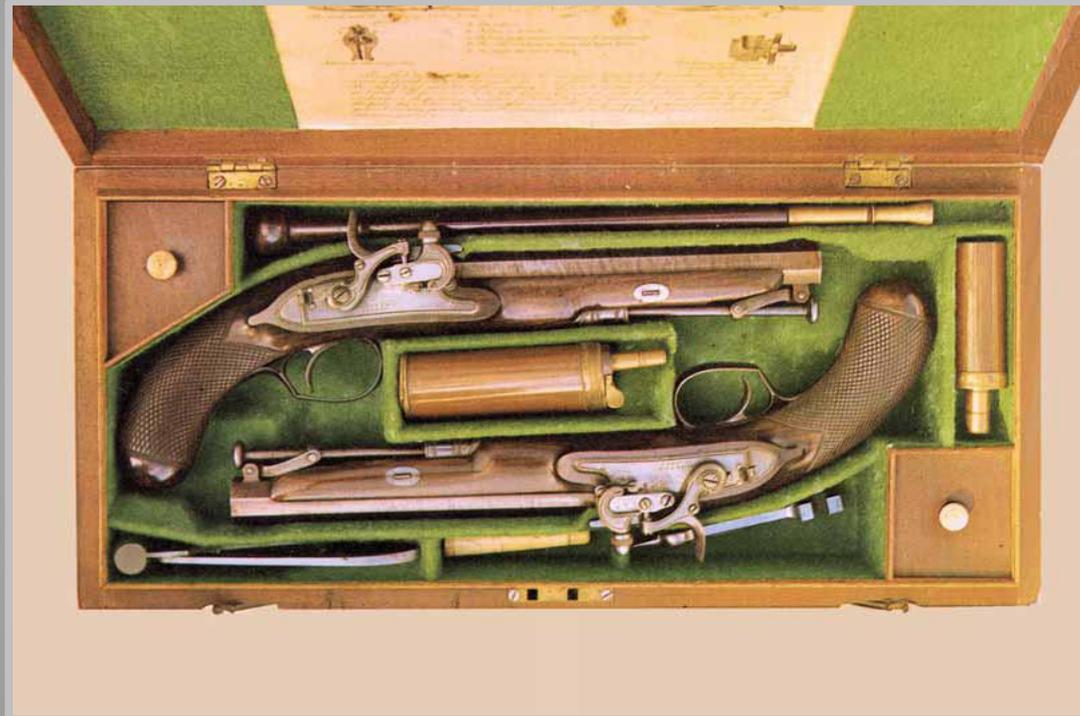
Ca. 1800: Splendor Pocket Flint Lock Pistol



The pistol was made by Pirmet at Paris

The trigger bar appears while tensioning the cock

1816: Forsyth Percussion Pistols



This pair of officer pistols are made by Forsyth.

They are equipped with the first model sliding primers

1824: Flint Lock Revolver, London



This very rare flint lock revolver was made according to a patent of the American Captain, Artemus Wheeler. It has an octagonal ribbon Damascus barrel and a five shot cylinder. This weapon represents the peak in the development of the flintlock firearms. It was designed and manufactured after there was already knowledge of more advanced percussion locks.

Ca. 1840: Percussion Pistol, Converted



The illustration shows a pistol that originally had a flint lock and was converted to a percussion lock about 1840.

Private Collection

Ca. 1860: Blunderbuss Pistol, Spain



Bronze barrel with a widening at the muzzle.

Percussion lock is transformed from a flintlock.

The pistol has been used by Naval officers.

Ca. 1873: Harmonica Pistol, A. E. Jarre



This bulky percussion pistol has 10 laterally arranged barrels. By pulling back the large cocking/trigger lever, the barrel organ is moved sideways by one barrel, and the hammer is cocked at the same time.

Ca. 1882: Protector Pistol



This five shot pistol can be held in the hand while being barely visible. The barrel is placed between the index and middle fingers, while the flat disc-like magazine lies in the palm. The thumb and the ball of the band are on the back-side of the trigger. To fire a shot, the shooter presses the handle from behind, similar to that of squeezing a lemon.

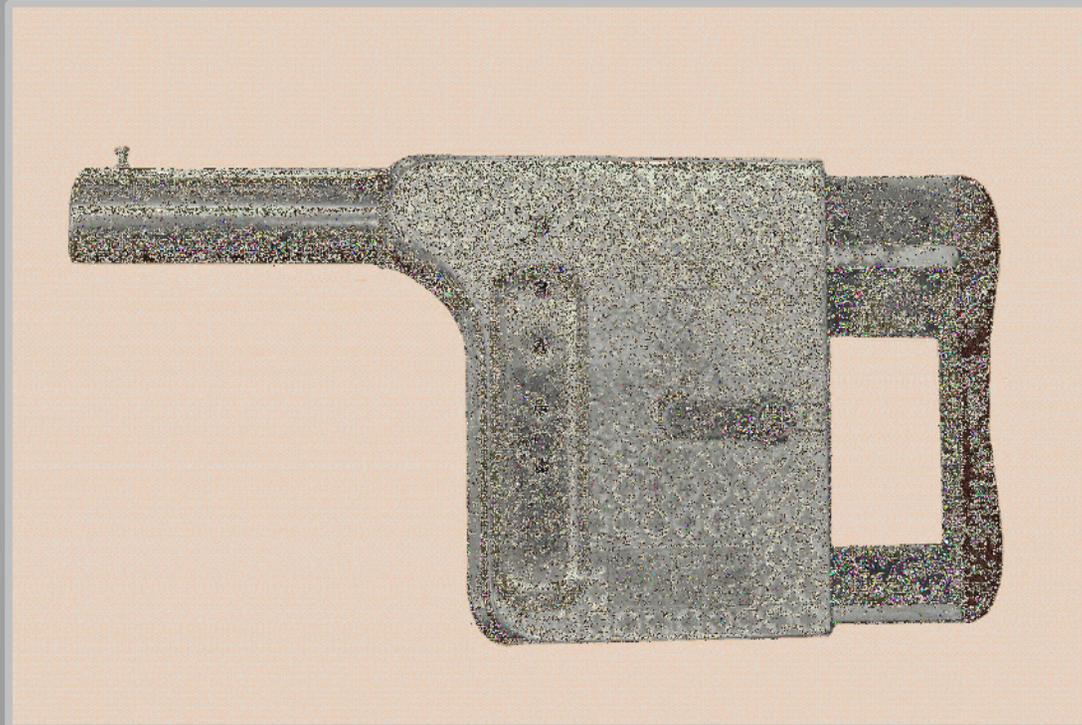
Ca. 1890: Deringer Pocket Pistol



With a length of only 118 mm this one shot flat pistol is one of the smallest pocket pistols.

Private Collection

Ca. 1895: Gaulois Pistol



This pistol is based on a French patent by P. Blachon and E. Mimard. It was manufactured by Manufacture Francaise Armes et Cycles, Saint Etienne, France.

The loading gate also serves as a case ejector.

1896: Mauser Pistol C96, German



Semiautomatic pistol with a magazine for 10 center fire cartridges with a caliber of 7.63 mm

Private Collection

Ca. 1906: Four Shot Shattuck-Unique Pistol



This elegant pocket pistol for the lady uses Flobert cartridges and has four barrels arranged in a bundle.

It was registered for patenting in 1906 by O. Mossberg, Massachusetts.

The trigger button is above the barrels at the front.

End