



Antique, Silver Butt Marker, Shooting Place Finder

Sold



REF: 28728

Height: 5 cm (2")

Width: 3 cm (1.2")

Depth: 1 cm (0.4")

## Description

Albert Barker Ltd. Silver Place Finder, Shooting Butt Marker.

An exceptional antique Edwardian English sterling silver shooting place finder or butt marker with seven pegs. The shooting place finder with plain rectangular rounded body made in the manner of a purse with ball style snap-clasps. When opened the butt holders fan out, each one numbered 1 to 7. The interior of the case retains the original gilding and both sides hallmarked 'London 1902'. One side with a 'Crown' and 'Barker's Patent Pathfinder, No. 2409' the other also with a 'Crown' and 'Albert Barker LD, 5 New Bond St., London, W'.

The numbered pegs are randomly inserted into the cartridge, number side down. Each shooter then takes their turn to draw a peg and the revealed number shows the actual shooting position (butt) that they will use for the first drive. Placefinders were very popular from the 1900's and are making a resurgence today, with many shooters looking out for good antique examples.

Thornhill's were known for their high quality goods and were founded by a Joseph Gibbs in 1734. They were originally cutlers and by the late 1830's they became cutlers to the Queen. Walter Thornhill was running the firm from around 1870 and the business was now known as Walter Thornhill & Co, to incorporate his son, Hubert Thornhill, and Albert Barker and were listed as cutlers, gold and silversmiths, jewellers and manufacturers and dealers in dressing cases travelling bags etc.. Barker left the business in 1885 and started out on his own as 'Albert Barker Ltd.'. By 1914 his specialities were listed as: gold and silver smiths' work, dressing case, bag and cabinet work. They held Royal Warrants and catered for the luxury goods market.