Early French fusil, circa 1680 to 1730, the Type ‘C’ trade gun.

French fur traders introduced the Type ‘C’ fusil to Canada, as early as 1680. It was the standard French trade gun, until replaced by the less decorated Type ‘D’ fusil, about 1730. Apparently no two Type ‘C’ fusils were exactly alike. Two styles were made: the fusil ordinaire was not decorated, and the fusil fin had engraving cast into the buttplate comb and triggerguard finials. We offer the more decorated castings, which can be finished in the plain manner by filing and polishing.

Unlike the later Type ‘D’ fusil, this early Type ‘C’ fusil has matching fancy finials on the triggerguard and buttplate.

Our precision pre-inlet fullstock is our best work. Machine carved and shaped, close inspection of our barrel channel inletting will reveal that even the “wedding band” is pre-inlet. The original has the wedding band hand filed into only on the top five flats of the barrel, not inlet.

Pre-inlet for our 20, 24 or 28 gauge, .54 rifled or .58 rifled 42” octagon-to-round barrel, our stock is made of walnut or maple. Walnut is the correct choice, to match the original. Pre-inlet for our lock, trigger, trigger plate, triggerguard, buttplate and ramrod pipes, the forend is fully shaped except for a convenient square which may be clamped in a bench vise while hand inletting.

We do not yet know the original name for this popular early fusil, made in France, for trade in North America, but it has been designated as the “Type C” fusil, by author T. M. Hamilton, in his important book entitled Colonial Frontier Guns. Many variations of French fusils are shown: #Book-CFG book, Colonial Frontier Guns, by T. M. Hamilton, soft cover only $17.50

Not too difficult to assemble, our refined stock pattern makes the Type ‘C’ fusil a good project for the hobby gun maker who has woodworking skills and simple hand tools. It takes a bit more time than a flint longrifle, due to the fancy curved shape of French finials.

Before you begin any first project, we highly recommend that you study these books, and watch a video on gun building. Our parts kits do not include step-by-step instructions. They are correct copies of original guns, and they require a good working knowledge of how these firearms function. A gun maker is both an artist and a machinist.

We gladly answer technical questions at 763-633-2500, but we cannot teach gun building over-the-phone. Refer to these manuals for general construction techniques, and step-by-step instructions:

#Book-RAL book, Recreating the American Longrifle only $40.00
#Book-ABPLbook, Art of Building the Penn. Longrifle only $22.00
#DVD-BML DVD, Building Muzzleloaders only $22.99