

On the cover:

Picture of the *Garde Meuble* inventory mark for the Riesener *Secrétaire á Abattant* (The Wallace Collection Inventory no F300) taken from the files at the Wallace Collection, Accessed 12/09.

Appendix H: Secrétaire á Abattant by Riesener Mentioned in the Garde Meuble (1775-1784)

During the years between 1775 and 1784, Riesener had his highest years of productivity for the Royal Household. While he did contribute a few items both before and after this period, there is no question that he produced at a higher rate during this period than any other. As background, Riesener, worked for a cabinetmaker, who was cabinet maker to the king (Louis XV) until Oeben's death on the 2nd of January, 1763, at which time the workshop management was handed to a Wynant Stylen. This however ended when Riesener married Oeben's widow in 1767. And in 1768 Riesner was made a master in the Parisian Guild of Cabinetmakers. In 1769, the next step in Riesener's ascendance was to complete the cylindrical desk for Louis XV, which became known as the '*Bureau du Roi*'. During this time Gilles Joubert was the cabinetmaker to the king, but passed the title over to Riesener in 1774.

During the next 10 years, Riesener was able to produce 877,130 livre of work for Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette and it was during this time that he produced so many *Secrétaire á Abattant*'s. The following table show the amount of money that was made by Riesener from the Royal family during these 10 years as well as the number of secrétaires, and other different types of writing furniture.

Table H - 1
Production Activity by Riesener for the French Royal Family
Between 1775 and 1784.

Year	Amount Paid to Riesener (Livres) ¹	Number of ...				
		Secrétaire á Abattant	Writing Tables	Roll Top Desks	Other	Total
1774	NA	10	33	1	3	47
1775	58,470	3	33	2	1	39
1776	109,803	2	34	1	1	38
1777	71,948	3	14	1	9	27
1778	14,533	8	33	1	5	47
1779	135,513	0	44	0	5	49
1780	50,998	3	19	0	4	26
1781	140,926	5	20	0	3	28
1782	13,5544	2	36	0	4	42
1783	81,369	13	102	0	10	125
1784	78,026	2	19	3	7	31

¹ P. Verlet, (Translated from German by K. Riall), *Möbel von J. H. Riesener*, P 9.

<i>Total</i>	<i>877,130</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>387</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>499</i>
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