Subject: not a curvex
Posted by JackW on Sat, 29 Nov 2014 05:22:45 GMT
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Went to the museum today to see the Cartier exhibit. Lots of impressive jewelry but I was also pleasantly surprised to see featured a number of the clocks and watches Cartier produced. There was a strong focus on the 1920-1940s; seemingly this was the hey-day of beyond opulent jewelry.

There was a number of pocket watches but also some wrist watches. At one point in the audio tour I had, it flatly declared that Cartier invented the wrist watch in 1914. Anyone that follows the vintage section of WUS may raise an eyebrow at that.

Of the handfull of wrist watches were some of the "tanks" that Cartier produced in the 1920s. Very nice and they look identical to some of the "Tanks" Gruen once advertised. Then I saw this....

Quite the curvey shape to it. I couldn't help but to think of this discussion from some time ago at the NAWCC forums LINK. The label in the case called it a tank and is from 1936. I'm curious on the construction within; is it a full size movement or as early Curvex ads show a tiny movement to accomodate the curves of the case. I've seen the Curvex Majesty and this one would match the long arcs of the case. Anyway, food for thought and discussion.

Pending contact from the lawyers, in 3....2....1.....

File Attachments

1) curvex_style.JPG, downloaded 3692 times



Subject: Re: not a curvex
Posted by Gary on Sat, 29 Nov 2014 16:07:42 GMT
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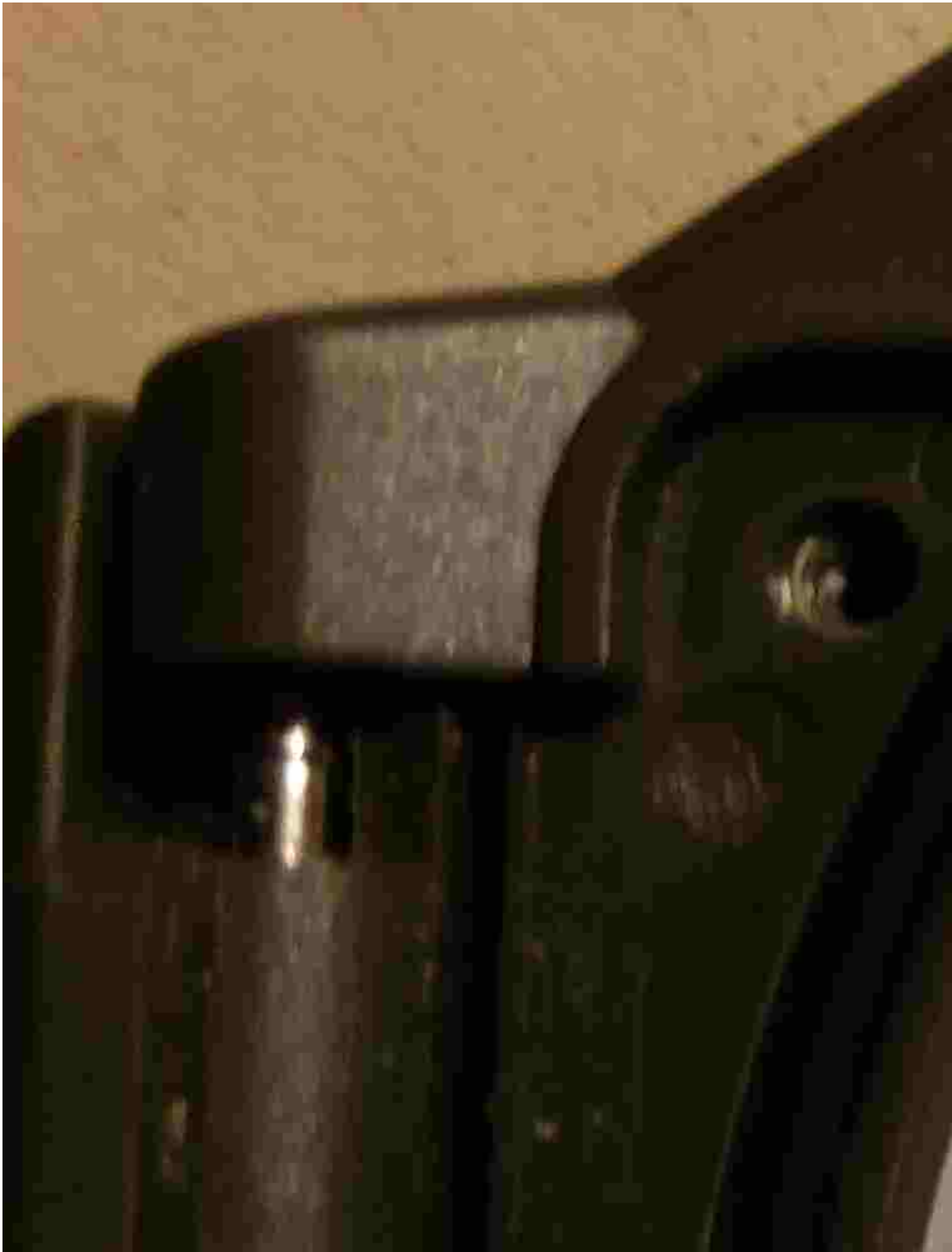
Tank you for sharing Jack! I would be surprised to see a curvy movement under there. Looks too thin to hold any structure; even a 440 like movement would have a hard time fitting that one.

Reminds me of a modern Casio solar watch I opened up the other month. I was curious to see the power supply. Popped the cased back and what the...

A woman!!!

File Attachments

1) solar.jpg, downloaded 3463 times



Subject: Re: not a curvex
Posted by Thojil on Sun, 30 Nov 2014 19:33:02 GMT
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The Cartier looks very elegant though.

By the way, Gary can you resize your image. I need a 90inch screen to see it...

Subject: Re: not a curvex
Posted by C. Hurt on Sun, 30 Nov 2014 20:42:14 GMT
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That's a Tank Americaine, and it should have a small round movement, probably 8 1/2 or 9 3/4 lignes. These are still in production today, in essentially the same form, using both quartz and automatic movements. I like them, and they have a more substantial feel than a contemporary Curvex. Quite a bit more expensive though.