

Dear Reinhold,

Thank you for the most interesting pictures of the two sundials in Hannover. I have to write a little background...

I have been to Hannover just once and I was surprised to see that there are still some monuments to the English King George I.

This King's real name was Georg Ludwig and he was born in Lower Saxony. The most important thing about him is that he was a Protestant and not a Roman Catholic. [He would not be interested in one Pope or even two Popes!]

When our Queen Anne died in 1714 she had no children but she had many many relations. Georg Ludwig was one of these relations but there were over 50 others who were closer to her.

The big problem is that these 50 others were all Roman Catholics and we have a rule that "No Roman Catholic can be the King or Queen of England!". [It is OK to be a Jew or a Muslim, so if you are thinking of applying for the job you must be careful about this matter!]

So, Georg Ludwig got the job ahead of his 50+ competitors and he was quite a good King. We call him King George of Hannover and he was King from 1714 until he died in 1727.

This period of time includes both your sundials, one seems to be 1721 and the other 1722.

There is quite a lot about John Rowley
in:

www.sundialsoc.org.uk/Bulletin/Bulletin-22iii-Lose.pdf

It is much harder to find out much about
the maker of the other sundial. I cannot
understand why it says:

Ausfg: Sieshon...

This is a strange interpretation of the name
on the dial which I am sure is J Sisson. The
engraving on the dial looks like Lisson but
I am sure it is Sisson. It is definitely not
Sieshon.

I suggest you try google.co.uk and search
on:

"J Sisson" sundial maker

You will get a few hits, mostly from sales of
his instruments.

Alas, this is not a very helpful reply!

Frank