

Vincent Bach Corp.

NYC – Mt. Vernon - Elkhart

- 1890 Vincent H. Schrottenbach is born in Baden bei Wien, Austria near Vienna (marriage cert. & draft record)
- 1904 Bach starts studying cornet under Georg Stellwagen (Bach, 1954)
- 1910 Bach earns mechanical engineering degree in Wien (Bach, 1925)
- 1914 Bach arrives in NY on the Lusitania from Liverpool, England; Sept 12th; music hall artist (immigration); he becomes the first trumpet for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. (Bach, 1925)
- 1915 Bach marries Madge Cummins in NYC in February
- 1915 In August, *Music Trade Review* reports that, “The George Birkle Co is advertising a number of recitals at its store (in Los Angeles) by Vincent Bach, the noted trumpeter. Herr Bach became an officer in the Austrian Navy and was later taken prisoner by the British. Escaping from an English prison last autumn, he made his way to this country and finally to this city. His recitals are given at Birkle’s three afternoons each week.”
- 1915 Bach next moves back to NY to play first trumpet for the Russian Diaghilev Ballet at the Metropolitan Opera. While touring in Pittsburgh, a repairman ruins his mouthpiece and starts Bach on a quest to make a better one (Bach, 1954); he declares his intention to naturalize in June (draft record)
- 1917 Bach living with wife and brother Hans (b.1893) at #508 W. 114th St. in NY; he spent two years in the Austrian navy (draft record); he serves as bandmaster in the US 306th Field Artillery Regiment (Bach, 1954)
- 1918 Bach opens shop at #11 E. 14th St., NY for making mouthpieces
- 1919 Bach moves to #204 E. 85th St., NY on April 1st (*Grove’s*) (photo 1, p2)
- 1922 Bach moves to #237 E. 41st St. and incorporates (*Grove’s*) (photo 2, p2)
- 1923 Bach becomes a US citizen (*Grove’s*)
- 1924 Bach announces his new line of trumpets based on several years of experiments; they will be available in brass, silver

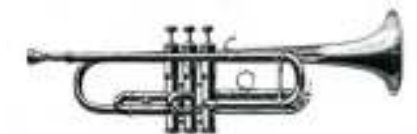
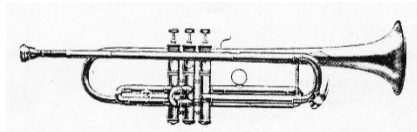


plate or gold plate (*MTR*, Oct.); brother Hans is granted patent #1,481,855 for a leather hand protector for holding trumpets and assigns it to Vincent Bach Corp.; they now have a workforce of 10

- 1925 Bach marries Esther Staab in NY after divorcing Madge; the 1925 catalog includes Stradivarius cornets (p1 photo 2) & trumpets (p1 photos 3 & 8), Apollo cornets (p1 photo 6) & trumpets (p1 photo 7), and Mercury model trumpets (p1 photo 5)
- 1928 Bach moves to #621 E. 216th St., Bronx in October (photo 3) and adds trombones; they now have a workforce of 50 (*Grove's*); serial number at about 1000; new piccolo trumpet in Eb & F is introduced (*MTR*, Oct 13)
- 1930 Bach living at #300 Sheridan Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY (census)
- 1937 Bach now living at #616 E. Lincoln Ave., Mt. Vernon
- 1951 Bach now living at #53 Heightbridge Rd., Hartsdale, NY
- 1953 Bach moves to new factory at #52 McQuesten Pkwy., Mt. Vernon (*Grove's*); serial number at about 12600
- 1958 Bach introduces the Minerva model student instruments
- 1961 Bach sells the business to H & A Selmer Co. (*Grove's*)
- 1964 Selmer moves production to an old Buescher factory at #225 E. Jackson Blvd. in Elkhart (photo 4); serial number at about 30000
- 1965 Bach retires as a consultant to Selmer
- 1967 Selmer builds a new factory for Bach production at #600 Industrial Pkwy. In Elkhart

