

Philip H. Frederick

Philadelphia, PA

- 1845 born in Neustadt, Germany on November 2nd
- 1850 possibly in Franklin, NJ (census)
- 1848 emigrated to US (1900 census)
- 1869 wife Christina Marie (Mary) emigrates and marries Philip
- 1870s possibly trained under Henry Lehnert
- 1880 instrument maker, #446 (Spring) Garden St. (dir)
- 1884 now at #339 N. 9th St. (dir)
- 1886 now at #440 N. 9th St. (dir)
- 1892 now at #438 N. 9th St., his final location (dir)
- 1894 granted patent #523,854 for metal knurling tool under the name Phillip A. H. Frederick
- 1897 Frederick, manuf. of military band inst. & importer of musical inst., strings, etc., #438 North Ninth (letterhead)
- 1900 son George (1872-after 1930) also instrument maker, #438 N. 9th St.; son Anthony (Charles Anton) (1887-1956) also at home; only two surviving children of ten; lodger Francis Holtzbauer (b.1858 in NJ) is also inst. maker (census)
- 1910 Philip & George, inst. makers, #438 N. 9th; Charles is at #2438 Jasper, instrument factory (census)
- 1913 Philip dies on September 30th; will leaves business to Mary with Charles as administrator
- 1914 now dealers & repairers; run by widow and sons George & Charles (dir)
- 1920 Charles, inst. dealer, George, musician, and Mary are all at #438 N. 9th St. (census)
- 1930 same address; Charles is owner & George is repairer
- 1933 Philip's widow Christina Marie (Mary) dies
- 1940 Charles, music store, same address (census)
- 1942 Charles, self-employed at home (WWII draft)
- 1956 Charles dies, ending any instrument business

Bottom 2 photos cornet #13,203 is a rare survivor (from internet auction); other photos from Horn-u-copia.net



Frederick Instruments:

All bell markings read “Superior 1st Class P. Frederick Maker Philada. PA.” although the style and engraving can vary.

Many of the cornets found have serial numbers in the 2000 range. Examples shown are #2103 (photo 2), #2230 (photo 3, Nick DeCarlis) and #2503 (photo 4). The earlier one is a Courtois style and the later two are Besson style. By this time he has switched to a fixed lead pipe so probably dates to the early 1900s.

Beyond this there are very few examples found. Below is cornet #13203 which looks like a copy of a Conn design from the early teens and may represent one of the last instruments built by Frederick if it's not just a stencil horn. (auction photos)



This has a fancier than normal engraving including an eagle.



The highest serial numbered cornet I could find is #P19260 which would make this a Pan American stencil horn dating to about 1921. (photo 5) This would fit with the sons being just dealers and repairers.

Photos from Horn-u-copia.net unless noted



Other instruments found are a baritone (photo 1, Horn-u-copia) and two trumpets. The first one I don't have a serial number for (photo 2) but the second is #253 below. If this one is not a stencil then it is one of the few made by Frederick. (auction photos)



His store at #438 North 9th St. was a three story brick building near Noble St. seen here in a map from 1916. This is now an empty lot in 2017.

