

Rose Band Instrument Co.

Fort Wayne, Indiana

- 1877 Louis Edward Rose is born in Bourbon, Indiana
- 1894 Louis is a musician who started working for a large band instrument factory, learning all parts of the trade (1914 article)
- 1900 Louis is working as a baker in Kosciusko (census)
- 1910 Louis opens his band instrument factory in Fort Wayne on the third floor of #1008 Calhoun St. on February 1st with one assistant and his wife; their first trombone was done by March 1st; his wife Mamie made some parts on a foot-powered lathe (1914 Ft. Wayne Gazette article); he also does instrument repairs (census); makes cornets & trombones of his own design (*MTR*, Feb 26, 1910)
- 1912 moved to a larger factory at #930 Clinton St. at the corner of Washington St. in Fort Wayne (article & city directories); map from 1919 at right shows the plating business in the basement level (#930 Clinton = #135 E. Washington)
- 1914 he now has five factory workers and makes about 15 to 20 instruments per month including the valves; he sells mostly to professionals; Louis Rose makes the trombone slides due to the exact requirements needed (news article)
- 1915 Rose Band Inst. Co., supplies & repairs (school contract)
- 1917 listed at #135 Washington Blvd. East (city directory)
- 1918 manuf. of band instruments, #936 Clinton St. (draft)
- 1919 #135 Washington Blvd. East (city directory)
- 1920 The business listing changes to manufacturing and located at #239 Pearl St., Rose Plating Works; he is still listed as a band instrument maker in the census in January
- 1921 Rose Band Instrument Co, "Rose" model brass, nickel plating done (*Ft Wayne Journal*, Sept)
- 1921-1922 ads found for Rose Plating Works, #239 Pearl St.
- 1930 Rose Plating Co. is on an industrial list for Fort Wayne; census lists Lewis as president of plating company
- 1940 Census lists Lewis as manager of plating company
- 1956 Lewis dies this year and is buried in Fort Wayne
baritone #18626 and cornet #2704 at R. (from Horn-u-copia.net)

