

Bohmann's American Musical Industry

Chicago

- 1848 Joseph Bohmann born in Markneukirchen (census)
- 1860 apprenticed to uncle Joseph in Vienna; violin making
- 1868 Joseph arrives in NYC in October (Castle Gardens)
- 1872 Joseph working at a piano factory in Chicago; parents Wenzel (1815-1880) & Anna arrive in NYC in May
- 1875 Joseph opens music store in Chicago, #213 Lincoln Ave., Bohmann's American Musical Industry (directory)
- 1880 moves to #119 North Clark St. after June census; both he and his father are listed as instrument makers (census)
- 1882 moves to #417 State St. (dir)
- 1886 making 3,000 stringed instruments per year; claims to make "The World's Greatest Musical Instrument"; one of the first mandolin & harp guitar makers in the US (ad)
- 1887 marries Mary Nagl in Chicago
- 1890 now at #308 State St. (dir)
- 1899 now at #376 W. Madison St. (dir)
- 1910 now at #1161 W. Madison St. (census)
- 1920 still at #1161 W. Madison St. (census)
- 1928 Joseph dies in Chicago

Brass instruments were not made by him and are likely German imports from Markneukirchen which had a huge brass making industry. (photos are alto horn c.1890 from internet sale)

