

J. W. York & Sons Cornet & Trumpet Model Details & Origins

This is a compilation of information on York brand cornets and trumpets from the beginning of production c.1887 to the 1970s. They are arranged by serial number with early examples using dating put together by Dr. John Swain and posted at Horn-u-copia.net and the York Loyalist website.

Section 1: Instruments up to late 1940 made in the Grand Rapids factory.

Cap & Button Style 1



Casing Style 1



Font Style 1: There may have been new dies ordered over time but the same font remained until serial 100000.



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
1	c1890								

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
534	1894	Cornet	Bb	1	1	Left Middle	1	1	York & Son
	1896	Now York & Sons							

Casing Style 2

Casing Style 3

Finger Button / Cap Style 2 w/vertical knurling



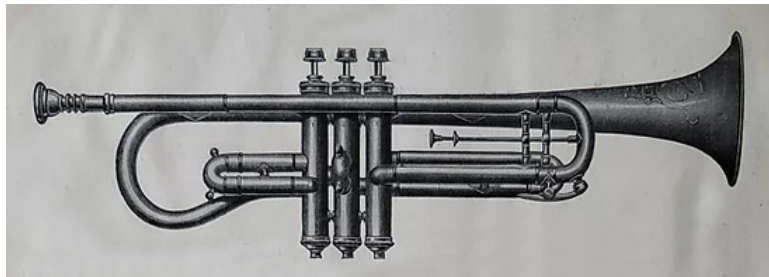
814	1896	Cornet	Bb	2	1	Left Middle	1	1	York & Sons
1978	1899	Cornet	Monarch	3	1	Right Upper	2	2	York & Sons
2112	1899	Cornet	Weldon	3	1	Right Upper	2	2	York & Sons
2628	1899	Cornet	Monarch	3	1	Right Upper	2	2	Large bore
3596	1918?	Trumpet	unknown	I have this marked as York, yet it's a Pan American design. No bell markings were saved so uncertain of authenticity.					
6885	1902	Cornet	Bb	1	?	right upper	2	2	dual water key; removable tuning shank
7852	1903	Cornet	Professional	1	1	right upper	2	2	fixed receiver; single water keys

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
8382	1903	Cornet	Monarch	3	1	right upper	2	2	dual water key; removable tuning shanks
8615	1903	Cornet	Monarch	3	1	right upper	2	2	same as 8382; serial now above valve # (below)



10340	1904	Cornet	New Model Mon.	3	no photo		2	2	
11455	1905	Cornet	Professional	3	?	right upper	2	2	single water keys; fixed receiver
13734	1906	Cornet	Professional	3	1	right upper	2	2	single wk; fixed receiver; slight bottom cap change

The first York trumpet came out around 1907 and had a smooth, one-piece valve casing (style 4) and shepherds’ crook bell.



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
14191	1907	Trumpet	Bb	4	1		2	2	Shepherds' crook
15023	1907	Trumpet	"Special Made"	4	1		2	2	Shepherds' crook
15252	1907	Trumpet	Bb	4	1	right upper	2	2	Shepherds' crook
15991	1908	Cornet	New Model Monarch	3	1	right upper	2	2	single water keys & fixed receiver matching Prof.

Finger Button / Cap Style 3 w/angled knurling and slightly taller buttons starting around 16000.



16336	1908	Cornet	Monarch	3	1	right upper	3	3	removable tuning shanks & C crook; dual wk
16982	1908	Cornet	Professional	3	1	right upper	3	3	same as 13734
20646	1909	Trumpet	Bb	4			3	3	shepherds' crook
21029	1909	Cornet	Professional	3	1	right upper	3	3	
22761	1909	Cornet	Professional	3	1	right upper	3	3	
23406	1910	Cornet	Professional	3	1	right upper	3	3	

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
23450	1910	Cornet	Monarch	3	1	right upper	3	3	dual water key; removable tuning shanks
23539	1910	Cornet	Professional	3	1	right upper	3	3	
23765	1910	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	right upper	3	3	
23909	1910	Cornet	New Mod M.	3	1	right upper	3	3	plays in C/Bb/A; fixed receiver; Z lead pipe design
24484	1910	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	right upper	3	3	
24640	1910	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	right upper	3	3	
24842	1910	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	2	1	middle left	3	3	C/Bb/A new model below



26919	1911	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	upper right	3	3	C/Bb/A
28187	1911	Cornet	Professional	3	1	upper right	3	3	
28423	1911	Cornet	New Mod. M.	3	1	upper right	3	3	

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
28446	1911	Trumpet	Bb	3			3		shepherds' crook
29001	1911	Cornet	Imp. Perfect	3			3	3	style now like Monarch
29609	1911	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	upper right	3	3	Z lead pipe
30501	1912	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
30613	1912	Trumpet	Metropolitan	3			3	3	2 nd slide forward; standard trumpet crook
31997	1912	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
32040	1912	Cornet	Perfect	3			3	3	
32325	1912	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
35295	1913	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	upper right	3	3	
36648	1913	Cornet	Perfect	3	1	upper right	3	3	bottom caps have lost the nipples
36975	1913	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
37177	1913	Cornet	Al-Tru	3	1	middle right	3	3	model patented in December 1913
39667	1914	Cornet	Couturier Wizard	3	1	upper right	3	3	uses E.A. Couturier patent
40341	1914	Cornet	Couturier Wizard	3	1	upper right	3	3	model 187 in 1916 catalog
40775	1914	Cornet	Couturier Wizard	3	1	upper right	3	3	
40782	1914	Cornet	Couturier Wizard	3	1	upper right	3	3	

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
41630	1915	Trumpet	Metropolitan 105	photo too poor					
42177	1915	Cornet	Imp. Professional	3	1	upper right	3	3	marked "Perfec-Tone" on bell
42593	1915	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	

1916 cornets were #5 Improved Professional, #43 Improved C/Bb/A, #95 Perfec-Tone, & #187 Couturier. Trumpets were #2 Eb and #105 Metropolitan w/Bb/A RV.

Trumpets changed to valve casing Style 6 with stacked rings. Cornets remained as Style 3 until between 72k and 79k.

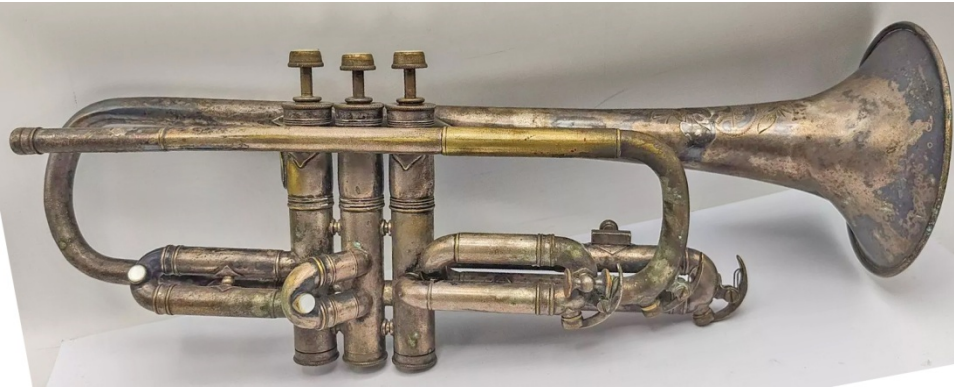


44001	1916	Trumpet	Metropolitan 105	6	?	left	3	3	
45650	1916	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
46837	1916	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	frosted silver finish w/gold bell & engraving
49550	1917	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
49593	1917	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
49963	1917	Cornet	Perfec-Tone	3	1	middle left	3	3	
51968	1918	Cornet	Professional	3	1	middle left	3	3	

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
52889	1918	Trumpet	Metropolitan 105	6	1	middle left	3	3	
53139	1918	Trumpet	Metropolitan 105	6	?	left	3	3	
54564	1919	Trumpet	Metropolitan 105	6	1	bottom left	3	3	
55606	1919	Trumpet	Metropolitan 105	6	no photos		3	3	
57299	1920	Cornet	43 in C/Bb/A	3	1	bottom left	3	3	new serial location (below left)

#67551

Unique casing style 5



58000	1920	Trumpet	Metropolitan	6	?	left	3	3	old style pull knobs; "C" TS brace now two vertical bars
59109	1920	Trumpet	Metropolitan	photo not clear					
59715	1920	Cornet	Couturier Wizard	3	1	upper right	3	3	
65142	1922	Trumpet	64	6	?	bottom left	3	3	old knobs
67551	1922	Cornet	Trumpet model	5	1	bottom left	3	3	double loop in TS; straight bell crook; pearl knobs (above)

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
72378	1923	Cornet	Trumpet model 2	3	1	bottom left	3	3	pearl knob inserts
75457	1924	Trumpet	64	6	?	bottom left	3	3	old knobs
78251	1924	Trumpet	64	6	1	bottom left	3	3	old knobs
1925 cornets were trumpet model 2 to 5 & Perfec-Tone model 6 to 8. Trumpets were small bore 60 & 62 and Metropolitan 64 with RV or 70 without. Only the Trumpet model cornet #2 and the small bore trumpet #60 had the pearl inserts in the slide pull knobs. Only the model 60 had a round pinky ring added.									
79207	1925	Trumpet	70	6	?	left	3	3	old knobs
80973	1925	Trumpet	70	6	1	bottom left	3	3	old knobs
81486	1925	Trumpet	?	6	?	left	3	3	pearl knobs; single TS sect. & LP brace; pinky ring starts
81565	1925	Trumpet	60	6	1	bottom left	3	3	pearl knobs; double TS section (below)
83146	1925	Trumpet	60	6	?	left	3	3	matches 1925 catalog #60; pearl knob inserts
85511	1926	Trumpet	60	6	1	bottom left	3	3	pearl knobs
87562	1927	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	pearl knobs
87669	1927	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	pearl knobs

81565



The 1931 catalog shows that the model 60 small bore had become the model 30, a new medium bore was the 36, and the large bore 70 had become the 40. All of these had a top 3rd slide ring with no stop rod, pinky ring, and a double tuning slide. I am showing these as 30/36/40 as there is no visible way to tell them apart. These seem to have started in 1927. The 1931 catalog also shows a new medium bore model 28 with a streamlined design and reversed third slide made popular by Conn.

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
88085	1927	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	
88110	1927	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	pearl knob inserts; 2-section TS
89173	1927	Trumpet	60	6	1	bottom left	3	3	appears to be older model 60 design
90947	1928	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	no photos		3	3	
91726	1928	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	no photos		3	3	
91891	1928	Trumpet	40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	0.468" bore; new bottom cap design (see below)

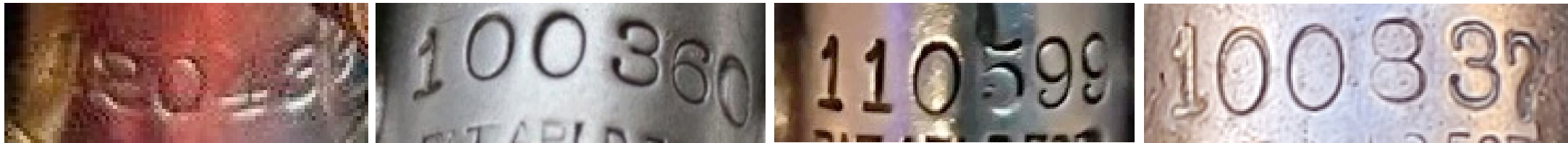
95084	1929	Cornet	?	6	no photos		3	3	extra loop in bell to left of valves (below)
Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
95325	1929	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	now with an adjustable third slide ring

Cornet 95084

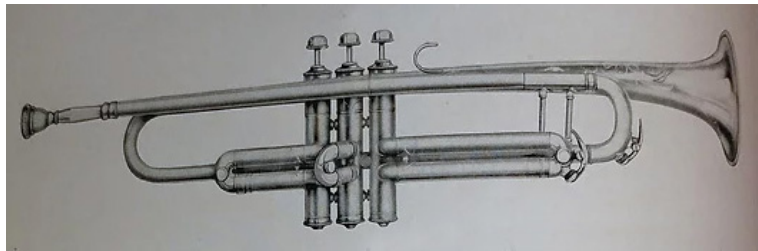


99122	1930	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	1	bottom left	3	3	“Pat. Apld. For” below serial #
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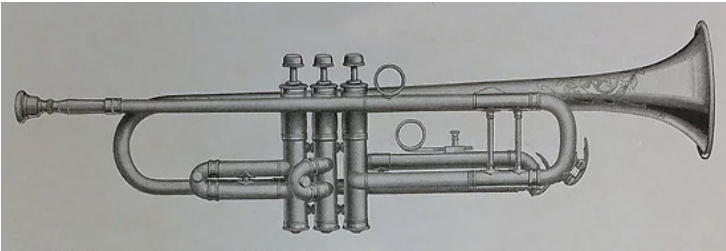
Font #2 starts at 100000 mainly with a new 2, 5, and 7.



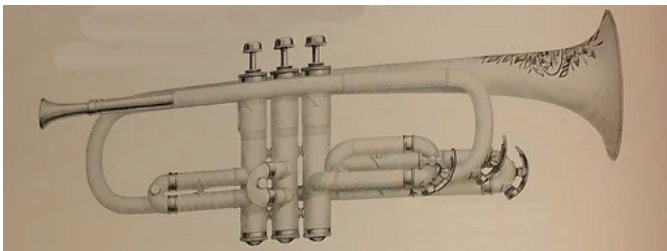
1931 model 28



model 30/36/40

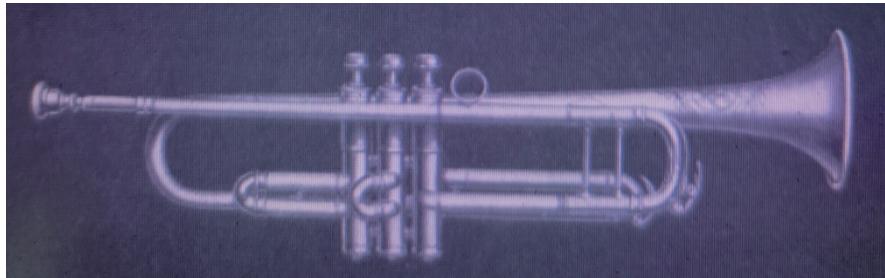


Cornet model 2

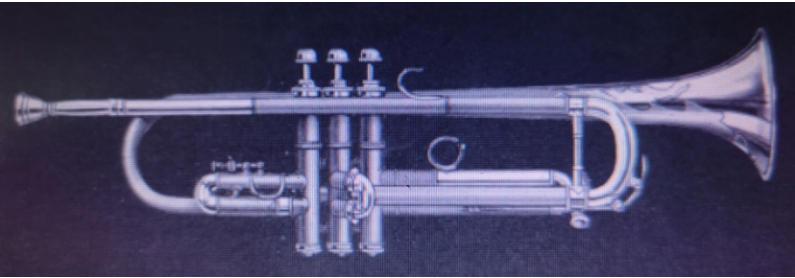


Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
100360	1931	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	2	bottom left	3	3	“Pat.Apld.For” for valve design applied for on 8/26/29? and received on 9/1/31. Adjustable third slide ring.
100837	1931	Trumpet	40	6	2		3	3	“Pat. Apld. For” (this has the 1928 patent valve guides)
101735	1932	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	no photos		3	3	
103832	1932	Trumpet	30/36/40	6	2	bottom left	3	3	“Pat Apld For”; pearl knobs
107325	1934	Trumpet	28	6	no photos		3	3	pearl knobs; reversed third slide

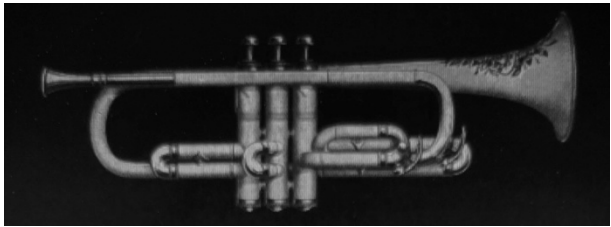
1935 model 36 Standard with regular valves; no pearl knobs



model 42 with new Feather-Touch valves



Standard Cornet #2



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
108179	`935	Cornet	2	5	2	bottom left	3	3	Pat Apld For; FT valves; pearl knob inserts [saved]
108770	1935	Trumpet	28	6	no photos		3	3	with Feather-Touch valves
109532	1936	Trumpet	Eb	photo too small for details					
110598	1936	Trumpet	42	6	2	bottom left	3	3	“Pat. Apld. For”
110693	1936	Trumpet	42	6	2	bottom left	3	3	“Pat. Apld. For” for Feather-Touch valves? (below)

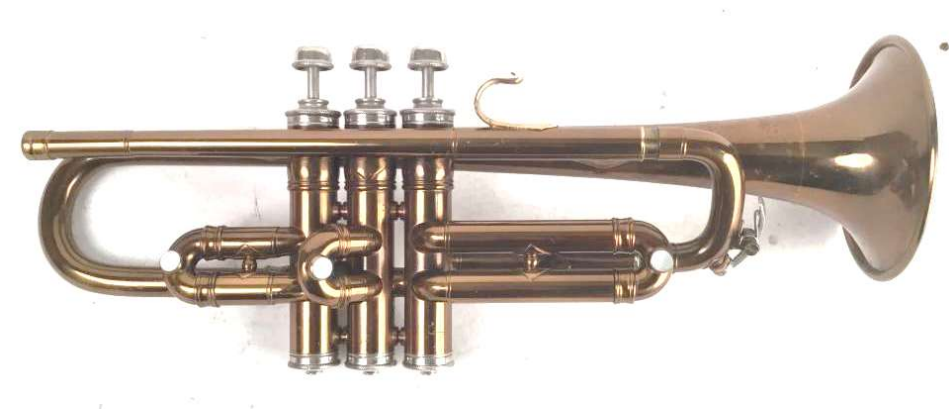


Feather-Touch Patent Apld 9/26/31, rec. 8/15/33

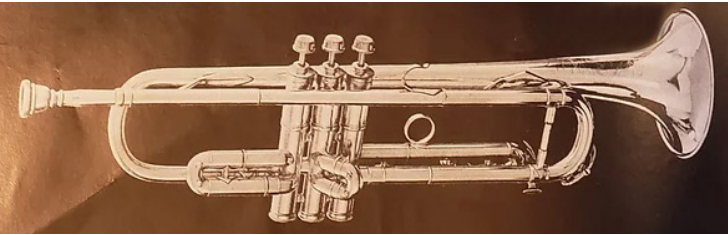
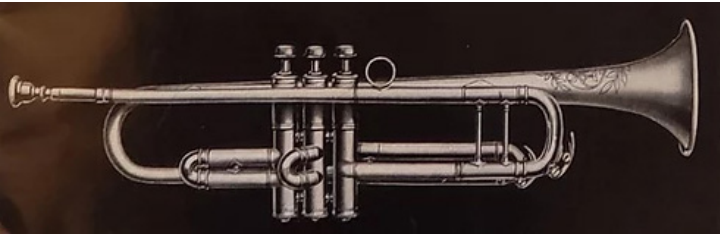
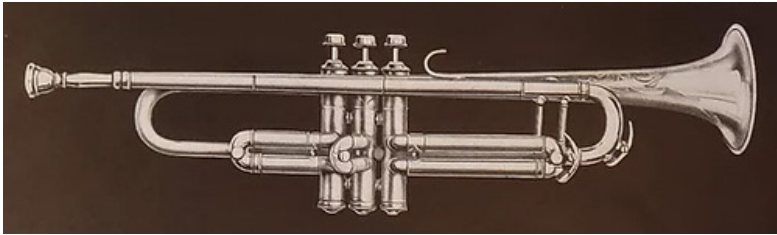
111314	1936	Trumpet	Bb	6	no photos		3	3	new pinky hook; no lead pipe braces (below)
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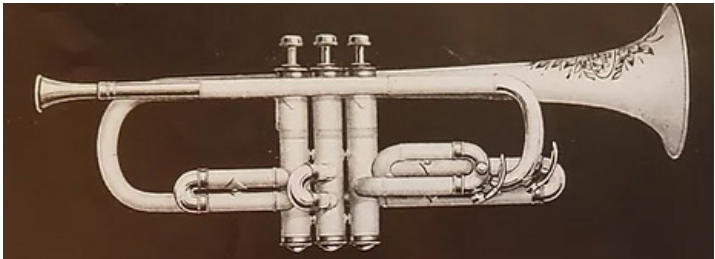
Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
111543	1937	Trumpet	28	no clear photos					
114293	1937	Trumpet	Eb	6	2	bottom left	3	3	(photo below)
114304	1937	Trumpet	Eb	6	2	bottom left	3	3	



Three trumpet models in 1939 below are 28, 36 Standard, and 42.



Four cornet models in 1939 below are #2 Standard, #14/16 Deluxe in medium or large bores, and new #N12 Artist.



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
120439	1939	Cornet	Air-Flow	4	2	bottom left	5	5	new design starting in late 1939 (below)



The Air-Flow cornet had a straight receiver brace where the trumpet version had an angled brace. The overall form was the same. These used a slightly taller finger button and valve caps unique to the Air-Flow (see photo above right).

Early bottom caps on the Air-Flow



Updated design



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
120489	1939	Cornet	Air-Flow	4					
120735	1940	Cornet	Air-Flow	4	2	bottom left	5	5	
120740	1940	Cornet	Air-Flow	4	2	bottom left	5	5	
120916	1940	Cornet	Air-Flow	4	2	bottom left	5	5	new taller bottom caps (see photo above)
121064	1940	Trumpet	Air-Flow	4			5	5	
121714	1940	Cornet	Air-Flow	4	2	bottom left	5	5	
122003	1940	Trumpet	Air-Flow	4	2	bottom left	5	5	

Section 2: Instruments after the sale to Fischer in late 1940.

1940 York had financial trouble and sold to Carl Fischer around the beginning of December. Following the war, student models were said to have been made by York and professional models by Bohm Meinl in Germany. The exception was the Master model made by Blessing. The Air-Flow model ended with the sale to Fischer.

This is an attempt to piece together the possible origins of York instruments from here to the end. Carl Fischer Musical Instruments did have relationships in the 1940s with Orsi of Milan, Italy and Blessing of Elkhart, Indiana as they were a distributor for both companies. Imported instruments would have had to been marked “Made In ...” so any example not marked but with obvious foreign design elements could have been purchased incomplete and finished at the York plant. Fischer also later purchased the Rudy Mück name with trumpets made in Germany and Italy; probable sources for many post-WWII York brass.

The examples here are listed by serial number starting with the lowest. This does not necessarily mean a chronological order.

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
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3951

c1950 Trumpet

Feather Touch Master 10

Blessing? Many details match the FTM with Blessing SA valves (below)

#3951 (serial not confirmed)

York F-T Master #143516 for comparison with Blessing Super Artist valves.

Casing Style 10



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
7090	c1955	Trumpet	Hallmark	8	3	middle left	6	6	19 th century valve design (below)

Hallmark #7090

Orsi font Style 3

Casing Style 8, concave/convex stacked rings



Cap/Button Style 6, Orsi Cornet #1840 on left; Hallmark on R Examples of Font Style 3 from Orsi instruments below. Located middle left going up.



27233 Trumpet Hallmark Orsi #9 3 middle left 6 7

Hallmark 27233 w/casing Style 9 Orsi #1840 trumpet These show the most common valve casing on Orsi brass. Valve Cap Style 7 below R. with a shorter knurled area.



Another possible maker for the Style 9 casing would be Weltklang in Markneukirchen, Germany, part of B&S. These have the same casing style as well as a common receiver and water key found on the less-expensive York models. This is receiver Style 5 discussed later in this guide. Below is a Weltklang trumpet marked “Fidelity”.

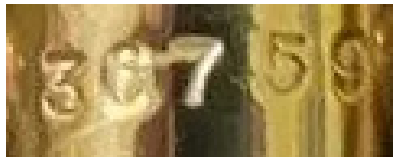
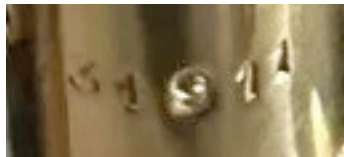


Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
36759	c1940	Trumpet	Custom	8	Bles. #2 middle left		Bles.	Bles.	Artist model stencil w/York pearl knobs & FB; flat folded bell rim w/wide NS tone ring matching York T135723

Blessing Font #2 on middle left horizontal

York trumpet 36759

36965 has top & bottom caps by Blessing and a thinner button style 6!



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
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36965	c1940	Trumpet	Custom	8	Bles #2	middle left	6	Blessing	Blessing serial # assumed for dating estimate.
37211	c1940	Trumpet	Custom	same as 36965					
37311	c1940	Trumpet	Custom	same as 36965					
38909	?	Trumpet	Grand Rapids	3	1	bottom left	3	3	G.R. brass used a different serial sequence.

Bohm Meinl (BM) Style 11 casings & serial marking found on York 75, Hallmark, Superba, Muck Citation, etc.

Button Style 7 & Cap Style 8 on trumpet 62499 by BM.



Font Style 4 – Bohm Meinl / located on middle left side going down as in the above example for 634441



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
62499	c1957	Trumpet	75	11	4	middle left	7	8	Bohm Meinl

63908	c1957	Cornet	75	11	4	middle left			Bohm Meinl; same design as Superba below
66141	c1972	Cornet	Superba	11	4	middle left	8	9	Bohm Meinl

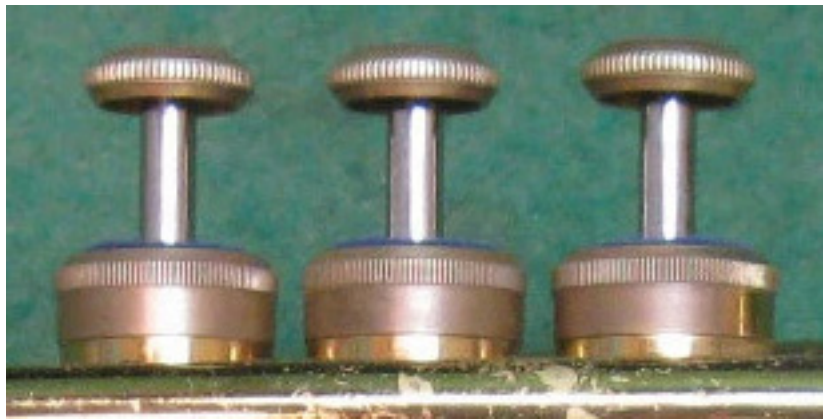
Bohm Meinl; “W. Germany” on receiver; matches model 600 Superba in 1972 catalog (below)



BM Button Style 8 & Cap Style 9 from cornet 66141.

Button/Cap Style 10

Casing Style 12



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
73273		Trumpet	Baronet	9	?	?		10	possibly Orsi

74566 (below) Trumpet Baronet 12 3 middle left 10 10 same design as 160577



Casing Style 12 (the Oreo)

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
123849	1940	Trumpet	42?	6	2	bottom left	11	11	York made?

Button/Cap Style 11



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
124081	1941	Trumpet	same as 123849						

125105 1941 Trumpet Grand Rapids 13 2 bottom left 9 3? “Grand Rapids made by York” on bell (below)

#125105

Button Style 9

Casing Style 13

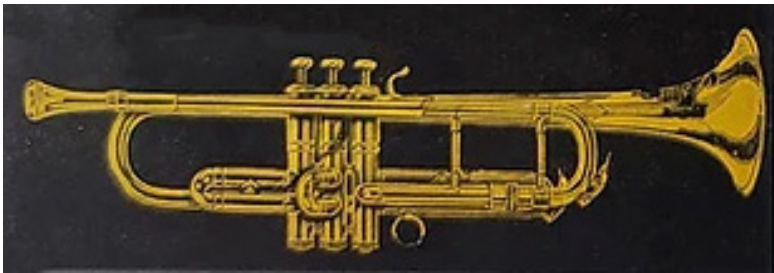


128425 1942 Cornet Custom photos too small to determine matches York 1939 #2 Standard design

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
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Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
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128957 1942 Trumpet Custom 10 reversed Blessing 11 6 tuning slide nut matches Blessing; valves match with Rudy Muck Director #164580; close match to 1952 York Standard model (below), wide flat rim fold Buttton #11 / Cap Style 6



130379 1942 Trumpet no model 10 11 6 stylized name looks like “YARK”; slide stop rod replaced the nut (below)

#130379 Font Style 5, middle left going down



130715 1942 Trumpet USA/105 10 5 middle left 11 6 matches 1952 USA model 105; wide, flat rim fold

131527 1945 Trumpet USA/105 10 ? left 11 6 receiver matches Grand Rapids #125105 above

Serial # Year Type Model Valve Casing Font Serial Location Finger B. Valve Caps Other

131717 1945 Trumpet Standard 10 5 middle left 11 6 wide, flat rim fold; matches 1952 Standard image

1952 USA model 105 from catalog #131527



133671	1945	Trumpet	Custom	10	5	middle left	11	6	same as 128957
133723	1945	Trumpet	Master	10	?	middle left	11	6	Blessing; flat rim fold w/wide NS trim ring (below)
#133723	Font Style 6 = reversed Blessing style 3 (on right below); middle left going down								



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
133952	1945	Trumpet	Custom	10	?	?			Blessing lock nut as on Super Artist
134323	1945	Trumpet	Custom	poor photos					Blessing lock nut; flat folded rim
135448	1946	Trumpet	Standard?	10	6	middle left	11	6	flat folded bell rim; matches 1952 Standard design
143488	1947	Trumpet	Feather Touch Master	14	?	Blessing; SA valves; new design with double angled tuning slide braces; regular bell rim			
143516	1947	Trumpet	Feather Touch Master	14	?				
143518	1947	Trumpet	FT Master	14	?				
143547	1947	Trumpet	FT Master	14	6	middle left	14	14	same as 143488 (see below)



Three brass valves are shown side-by-side on a wooden surface. A green sealant has been applied to the base of each valve, where it meets the wooden surface.



#147887; same casing style as Grand Rapids model but different caps (see below)



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
150852	1948	Trumpet	Baronet	9	6	middle left	9	3	valve casing design matches Blessing Artist #366723
154968	1949	Trumpet	USA	10	6	middle left	?	6	matches 1952 model 105
156045	1949	Cornet	Standard	10	6	middle left	11	6	Blessing tuning slide nut; matches 1952 Standard image



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
156058	1949	Cornet	Standard						same as 156045
158126	1949	Cornet	Grand Rapids	9	6	middle left	6	6	York made?; same caps & font as others from this period
160360	1949	Trumpet	no marking	10	6	middle left	11	6	

160577 1949 Trumpet Baronet 12 4 top left 6 6 Bohm Meinl; bottom spring valves (below)



Same casing found on some Rudy Muck 2M & 4M models.

161674	1950	Trumpet	Grand Rapids	9	?	middle left	6	6	
162113	1950	Cornet	Standard	14	?	left	11	6	Blessing SA valves
Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
167667	1951	Cornet	Grand Rapids	9	?	middle left	missing	6	
171000	1951	Trumpet	Custom?	14	?	left	14	14	Blessing slide nut and SA valves
172209	1951	Trumpet	Custom?	14	6	top left	14	14	Blessing slide nut and SA valves; change to bottom stick water keys as on Baronet 160577
173188	1951	Trumpet	Feather Touch Master	14	6	top right	14	14	no lead pipe bracing; pearl knob inserts; regular rim w/o tone ring (below)



matches 1952 catalog except angled braces are missing

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
174428	1952	Trumpet	USA	10	6	top right	11	6	
174740	1952	Trumpet	FT Master	14	6	top right	14	14	Blessing; new design w/ top 3 rd ring, no 1 st saddle
177639	1952	Trumpet	FT Master	14	6	top right	14	14	
177686	1952	Trumpet	FT Master	14	6	top right	14	14	
182330	1953	Cornet	Acme Master	small photos but looks like the Feather Touch Master; Blessing SA valves #14 w/serial top right					
Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
182914	1953	Trumpet	Hallmark Special	9	6	?	6	6	
185781	1971	Trumpet	York USA	Blessing Scholastic stencil					
188843	1954	Trumpet	Grand Rapids	12	6	top right	6	6	
189471	c1972	Trumpet	no marking	Blessing	6	middle left	match to Blessing Scholastic model; came in 76 Bicentennial Series case		
193018	1955	Cornet	Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	Blessing SA valves & tuning slide nut

193661	1955	Trumpet	Hallmark Special	12	6	top right	6	10	
194422	c1980	Trumpet	Artist	Blessing Scholastic stencil; logo matches 1980s Blessing Artist model (below)					
  									
197094	1955	Trumpet	National	12	6	top right	10	10	bottom-spring valves
199586	1955	Cornet	Baronet	12	6	top right	7	8	
201157	1960	Trumpet	Benetone	14	?	?	14	14	Fischer stencil; FT pinky hook; new in 1960 claim
201548	1956	Cornet	Super Custom 10	14	6	top right	14	14	Blessing SA style valves; stick water keys



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
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201798	1956	Trumpet	Baronet						
201822	1956	Trumpet	Baronet	12	?	top right	7	8	stick water keys
202013	1956	Trumpet	75	11	?	?	7	8	Bohm Meinl stencil; 75 th anniversary model (below left)
202321	1956	Trumpet	75	11	6	middle left	7	8	Bohm Meinl (below right)



202514	1956	Trumpet	75	11	6	middle left	7	8	B-M
Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
202616	1973	Trumpet	York USA		6	middle left	Blessing Scholastic stencil; Blessing serial #		
202811	1956	Trumpet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	see below

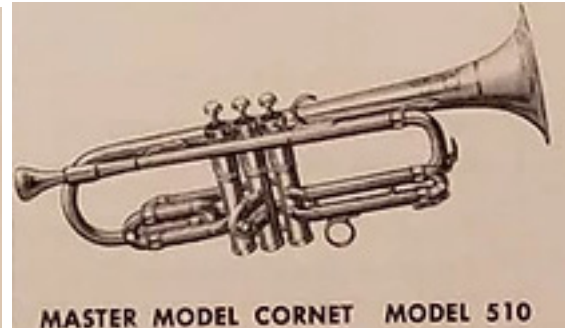
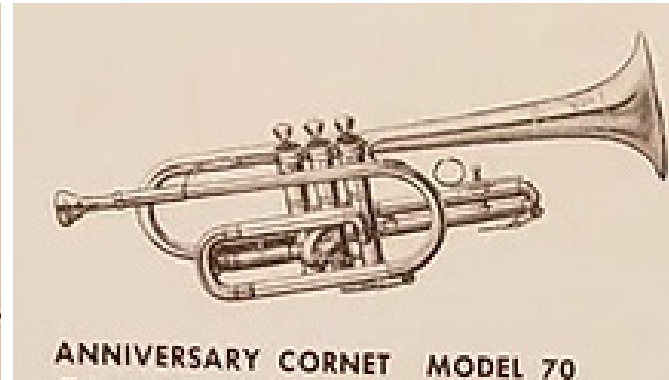
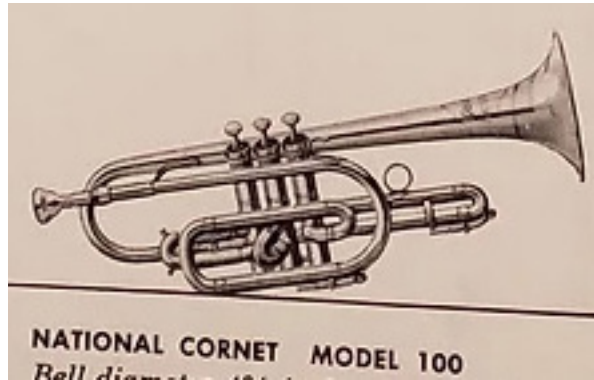


Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
202860	1956	Cornet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	
203772	1956	Cornet	75	11	6	middle left	7	8	BM
203810	1956	Cornet	ACME Standard	11	?	?	7	8	BM
204507	1956	Trumpet	Artist	photo too small					
204997	1956	Trumpet	75	11	6	middle left	7	8	BM
206002	1957	Trumpet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	same engraving as T644524 Custom Superba



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
206789	1957	Cornet	Acme Artist	11	?	?	7	8	
207200	1957	Cornet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	
208175	1957	Cornet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	
208256	1957	Trumpet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	
208340	1957	Cornet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	
208437	1957	Trumpet	Super Custom	14	6	top right	14	14	
210079	1957	Trumpet	Acme Master	photos too small					Feather-Touch valves; probably Blessing made
210084	1957	Trumpet	Acme Artist						HUC; too small to see details
210361	1957	Trumpet	75	11	6	middle left	7	8	B-M
211616	1958	Trumpet	75 Brilliant						HUC; too small to see details

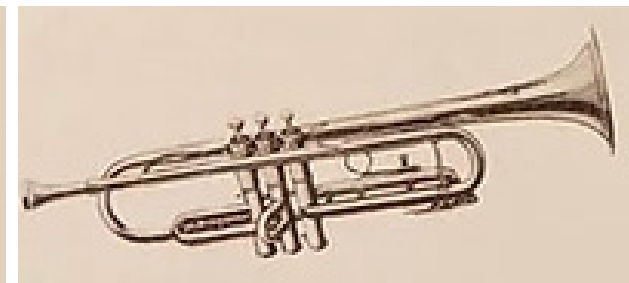
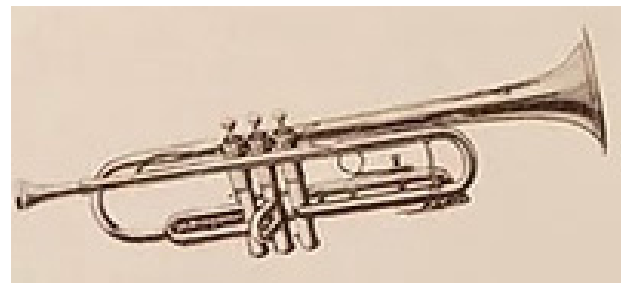
1962 Cornets & Trumpets



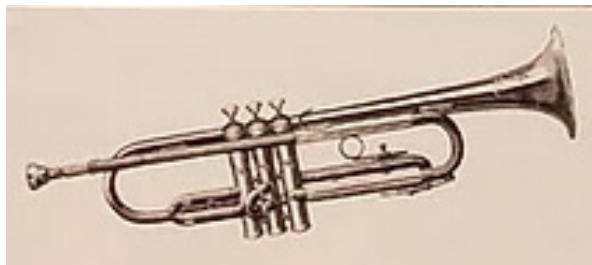
Model 105 National

Model 17 Custom

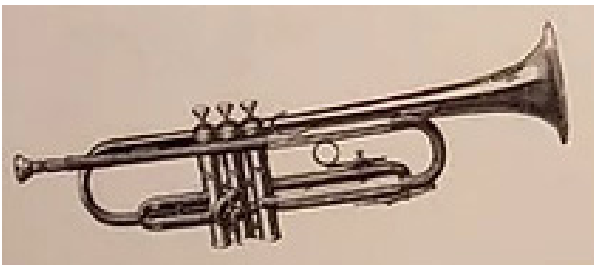
Model 18 Custom Superba



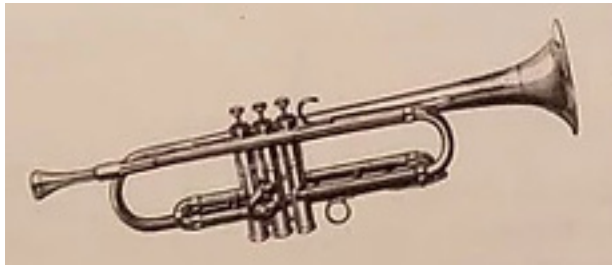
Model 75 Anniversary



Model 76 Brilliant



Model 500 Master



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
240404	1960s	Trumpet	National	15	7	middle left	7	8	blue top cap felts so possible Amati
240954	1960s	Trumpet	National	15	7	middle left	7	8	same as 240404

Casing Style 15

Font Style 7 is a close match to #4 except for the 2 having a tag at the bottom end.



241281	1963	Trumpet	Acme Standard			HUC; too small to see details			
242801	1963	Cornet	National	15	7	middle left	7	8	blue top cap felts so possible Amati
272425	1970	Trumpet				looks like Blessing Scholastic stencil			
502527	c2010	Cornet				modern “Eminance 4027”; dual slide triggers			

Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
510362	1960s	Cornet	Senator	16	8	bottom left	“Czechoslovakia”; typical Amati three ring design on casing & blue cap felts		
					Amati font Style 8		Amati casing Style 16		



512060	1960s	Cornet	Senator	17	8	Amati
521158	1960s	Trumpet	Senator	?	8	Amati; serial # at bottom on left side
587630	1960s	Trumpet	York	17	8	Amati (fat font “York” on bell matches 1962 and 1972 catalogs)
587951	1960s	Trumpet	York	17	8	Amati

Casing Style 17 by Amati below can also be found under the Musica Steyr name.



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
593850	1960s	Trumpet	York	17	8	Amati			
599720	1976?	Trumpet	York	17	8	bottom left	Amati (below)		
599729	1976	Trumpet	York	17	8	bottom left	Amati same as 599720		Case has Bi-Centennial 76 case tag



601938	c1960	Trumpet	Baronet	9	6				
615284	c1961	Trumpet	75 Brilliant	11	6	middle left	7	8	Bohm Meinl
624861	c1962	Trumpet	National	15	6	middle left	7	8	
633724	c1963	Trumpet	Super Custom	11	6	middle left	7	8	receipt sold 2/23/65
641039	c1964	Cornet	75	11	6	middle left	7	8	Bohm Meinl
644524	c1964	Trumpet	Custom Superba	11	6	middle left	7	8	B-M
644801	c1964	Trumpet	National	15	6	middle left	7	8	

645104	c1964	Trumpet	Superba	11	6	middle left	7	8	
Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
692187	c1969	Cornet	Master	EMO/Courtois style valves; “Germany” on receiver (below)					

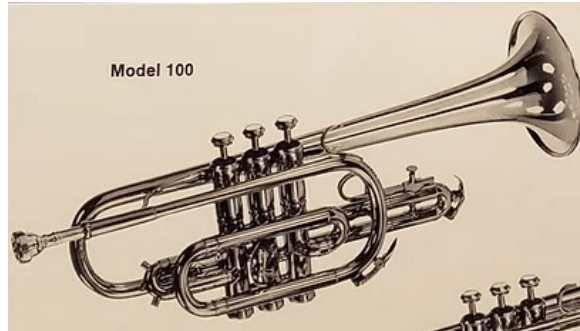


704211	c.1970	Cornet	York	15	4	middle left	7	8	B-M (below)
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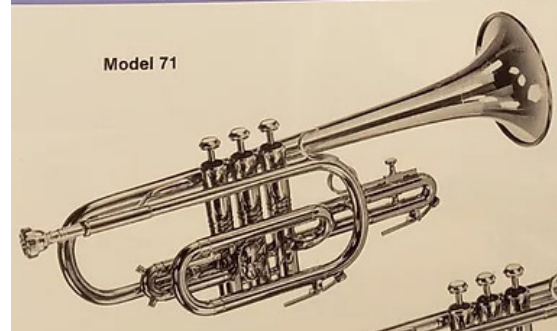


1972 Cornets & Trumpets

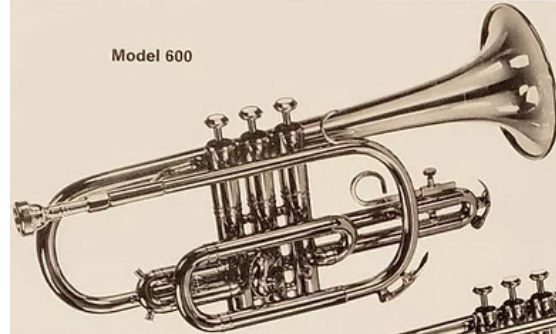
Model 100 York



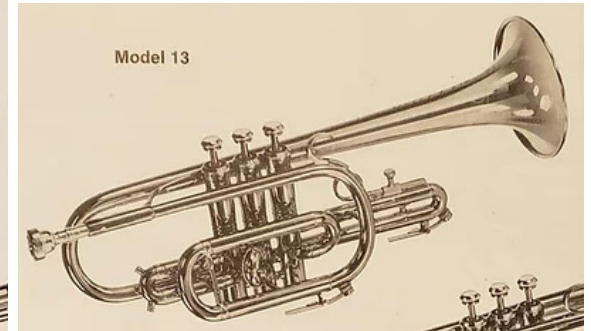
Model 71 Anniversary



Model 600 Superba



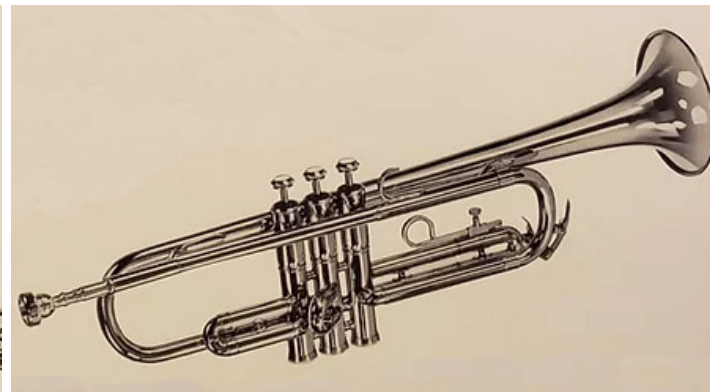
Model 13 Custom Superba



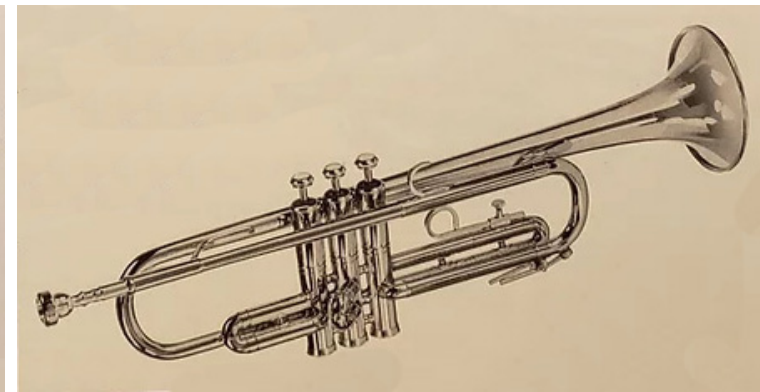
Model 510 Master



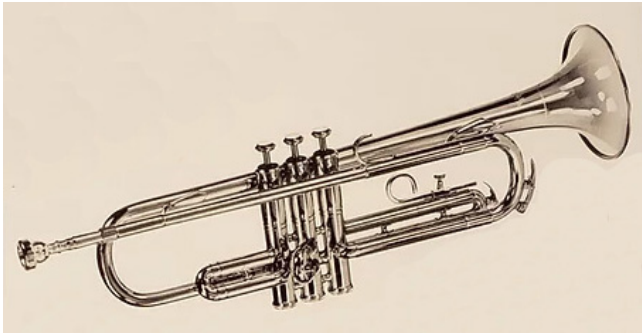
Model 105 York



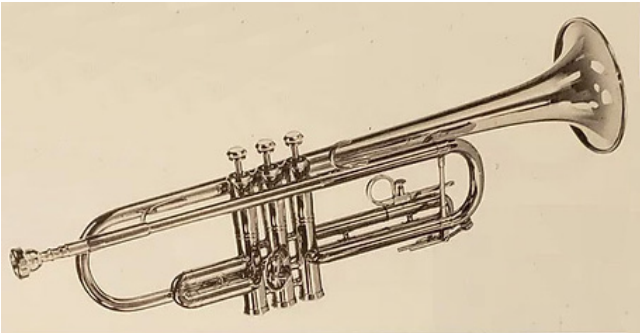
Model 76 Anniversary



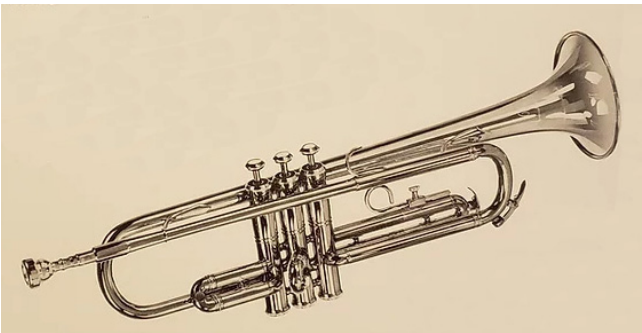
Model 605 Superba



Model 18 Custom Superba



Model 500 Master



Serial #	Year	Type	Model	Valve Casing	Font	Serial Location	Finger B.	Valve Caps	Other
701108	c1970	Trumpet	105	15	4	middle left	7	8	receiver marked "Germany"
703158	c1970	Trumpet	105	15	4	middle left	7	8	

Section 3: Other Detail Comparisons & Groupings

Receiver Styles:

Removable Tuning Shanks: These were used on cornets from the beginning up until 1910, with the Monarch model being one of the last models to still use them around serial #23500.



Style 1: Inlet rings over straight lead pipe. These were used on trumpets and cornets up until c.1940 with the changes by Fischer. They are mixed with styles 2 & 3 and may depend on the model.



Style 2: Longer receiver sleeve over the lead pipe. These can be seen in catalogs from 1916 to 1939 and are sometimes found on the higher end models. They probably ended with the Fischer changes after 1940.



Style 3: These have a long, tapered receiver sleeve and are found on the Metropolitan and later model trumpets made by York.



Style 4: This is the first receiver style to appear after the sale to Carl Fischer Musical Instruments at around serial #128000. These are found on Custom and Master models with valve casing styles 10 and 14, and always include standard front-mounted water keys. This matches the 1952 catalog image of the Standard model and the bell engraving of York uses what looks like an A with the bottom legs cut off for the O. Serial numbers are in the 128000 to 171000 range. These should date from the early 1940s to early 1950s and could be a new style created by York.



Style 5: These appear on the less expensive models like Hallmark, Baronet, USA, and Grand Rapids. Most have valve casing Style 9 and what I call stick water keys. Some also have front water keys. They are in the 145000 to 190000 serial range so should date to the post-WWII to mid-1950s era.



Style 5 receiver and water keys and the matching Style 9 valve casing are also found on this “Fidelity” trumpet by Weltklang of Markneukirchen, Germany; part of B&S.



Style 6: The fat receivers are only found on the Feather-Touch Master model cornets and trumpets in the 143000 to 178000 range dating them from post-WWII to the early 1950s. They always have valve casing Style 14 so most likely made by Blessing.



Style 7: Only found on USA model trumpet #174428 dating to the early 1950s.



Style 8: This is found on York Super Custom models with valve casing Style 14 suggesting manufacture by Blessing. Serial numbers are in the 202000 to 209000 range so likely from the mid to late 1950s and they all have the stick water keys. The second group with this receiver style are the Superba models from the 1960s with valve casing Style 11 made by Bohm Meinl of Germany. These do not have country of origin marks so were possibly made with parts from Germany and the US and assembled at York. The last group are stencils of the Blessing Scholastic model made in the 1970s after York closed their factory in 1971. These revert to the Blessing serial range of 185000 to 195000.



Style 9: There are five groups of instruments that use this receiver.



Group 1: 75th Anniversary models in the 202000-210000 range from the late 1950s using valve casing 11 by Bohm Meinl and the stick water keys. The 1962 and 1972 catalogs shows the 75 model with stick water keys, yet the illustrations are of poor quality so it's hard to tell about the receivers.

Group 2: Possibly late 1950s "York" models with valve casing 17 and font to match Amati. The water keys use a square stock and are unique to this grouping. These have Amati serial numbers in the 587000 to 599000 range.



Group 3: ACME and National models in the 240000 to 242000 range with valve style 15 and font 7 by Bohm Meinl. These all use the stick water keys and should date to the 1960s if these still use the York serial sequence.

Group 4: These are National and 75 Brilliante models with valve casing 11 and font 6 with stick water keys.

Group 5: These have serial numbers in the 640000 to 700000 range with either National or York on the bells. They all have Style 15 valve casings, yet the earlier ones use font 6 and stick water keys while those in the 700k range have Bohm Meinl font 4 and front water keys. If the two letter prefix is the year of manufacture then this fits with the 70 prefix being made fully in Germany as the above example from #701108 is marked.

Style 10: This is found on National cornet #624993 and on more modern instruments sold by Boosey & Hawkes after their purchase in 1976.



Style 11: This is an elongated version of Style 8 as seen in the 1972 catalog below for the model T500 Master trumpet. Below is Master #65227 courtesy of collector Dave Gibson and made by Bohm Meinl.



Section 4: Conclusions

- 1. York instruments up through 1940 and the sale to Fischer appear to be all York made and have few changes in design details. These have serial numbers up to 124000 including the Air-Flow models; of which the patent was not sold to Fischer.**
- 2. New valve casing styles show up right after the sale to Fischer in late 1940, so either he had York change the styling or at least outsourced the valves to another maker or makers. At this time, many different styles of valves, caps, finger buttons, and receivers start showing up, making everything quite confusing. York Custom models appear to be made by Blessing with their serial font and range of 36k to 38k, yet these do not appear in the 1939 catalog so would have to be dated later. Carl Fischer was also the national dealer for Blessing at this time so it would make sense that they could control things and try to bring economic recovery to York.**
- 3. Serial numbers after WWII appear to remain the same style regardless of the model or possible source, making it possible that even if York imported parts from makers associated with Fischer such as Orsi in Milan or Bohm Meinl in Germany, they would have done the final assembly and serial marking at York. This would account for the lack of a country of origin marking for imports, which was a Federal law. If the law was only for complete instruments ready to sell, then they could have purchased them unfinished and completed work in Grand Rapids.**

One indicator of assembly at York would be the stick water keys shown above. These appear around serial 160000 in the late 1940s and are found first on Hallmark and Baronet models then later on National, Grand Rapids, Master, Super Custom, and 75 models, regardless of valve casing styles. They appear in the 1962 catalog on Custom, Custom Superba, 75, 75 Brilliante, and National models then again in 1972 on the Custom Superba and 75 models. Their appearance in the 1972 catalog would suggest that they used imported German parts all along.
- 4. Bohm Meinl parts appear to have started in the late 1940s and Amati by the late 1950s or 1960s. Many of these later ones are either using their own serial number sequence or a new one started by York. The original York sequence seems to end around 242000 in the early 1960s. At the same time, examples found switch to a six-digit serial number that could be a two-number prefix representing the year made. These match other German imports found under many other names such as Rudy Muck (also owned by Fischer). Valve casing style 11 found on the 75 and Superba models match Muck Citation trumpets from the late 1950s and 1960s.**

5. Some Rudy Muck models in the 1950s were being made in Italy; most likely by Orsi since Fischer was a dealer for that brand. It would fit that Fischer used them to make some York models as well or at least some parts. It must have been galling for US factory workers to see imports from former Axis countries now replacing some of the models they could have made.
6. The York name was sold in 1970 and the factory closed in 1971. All instruments after this would have been imported.
7. York was sold to Boosey & Hawkes in 1976 which may have changed the source again.
8. York was sold to Buffet-Crampon in 2006 and instruments are said to have been made by Schreiber & Keilwerth in Germany until they ended production in 2010.