

Bohmann's American Musical Industry

Chicago

- 1848 Joseph Bohmann is 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 a 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 Joseph marries Mary Nagl in Chicago.
- 1890 Store now at #308 State St (dir).
- 1899 Store now at #376 W. Madison St (dir).
- 1910 Home at #1161 W. Madison St (census).
- 1920 Home 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).

