

# William Frank Co. Surviving Brass Instruments

Chicago & Barrington, Illinois / 1909-1956

<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Description</u>
	There is very little to go on to develop this serial number list. More examples with sales receipts and catalogs showing available models are needed to bring this anywhere close to accurate. Updated 4/3/2024.			
	1909	William Frank starts developing his business while working for Holton.		
	1910	William Frank is listed as the vice-president of Holton in the census. His brother Jesse is a foreman.		
?	1911	Start of production for William Frank in Chicago at #542 S. Dearborn St. This date is based on an article in the January 1926 edition of <i>Music Trade Review</i> claiming production for 15 years.		
10000?	1915	Frank incorporated as the National Band Inst. Co in July, then changed the name to Wm. Frank Co in December ( <i>Music Trade Review</i> ).		
10046	1916	Cornet	The National	Wm Frank Co; extra loop in bell behind valves [saved]
10073	1916	Trombone	National	angled banner logo; Chicago
0	1917	Reset to zero with the drop of the National model and new Excelsior?		
11	1917	Trombone	Excelsior	Wm Frank Co [saved]
75	1918			
150	1919	Frank moves to 2029 Clybourn Ave.		
	1919	The army orders a large number of G bugles.		
1	1919?	Bugle		1 valve; Wm Frank Co.
34	1919?	Bugle		1 valve; G/D
681	1919?	Bugle		1 valve; Chicago
250	1920			
350	1921			

475	1922			
600	1923			
720	1923	Cornet		
800	1924			
878	1924	Trumpet	Excelsior	
922	1924	Mellophone	Excelsior	
1000	1925			
1150	1926			
1154	1926	Trombone		Wm Frank Co; Chicago
1200	1926			
1272	1926	Trumpet		double TS brace; "JC Andrae II 1951" added later
1350	1927			
1468	1927	Baritone	Excelsior	
1489	1927	Trumpet	New Era	Wm Frank Co Chicago
1500	1928			
1567	1928	Trumpet	Bb/A	3 <sup>rd</sup> slide ring
1672	1928	Trumpet	The Classic	
1700	1929			
1822	1929	Flugel	Excelsior	Bb; Chicago; new model in Jan 1930 [HUC]
1890	1929	Trumpet	Excelsior	Chicago [saved]
1900	1930			
2010	1930	Trombone	Excelsior	Chicago
2153	1930	Trumpet	New Era	

2322	1930	Trumpet	New Era	Chicago
2366	1930	Trumpet	Excelsior	
2432	1930	Trumpet	Excelsior	[saved]
2438	1930	Trumpet	Intruscala	
2482	1930	Trumpet	Excelsior	
2500	1931			
2500	1931	Trumpet	American Prep	
2520	1931	Tuba	Eb	
2560	1931	Trumpet	Excelsior	Bb/A
2684	1931	Trombone	Tenor	HP/LP
2815	1931	Trumpet	Classic	1 <sup>st</sup> slide saddle [HUC, could be #8815]
2818	1931	Baritone	Tempertone	[saved]
2942	1931	Sousaphone	Excelsior	
3022	1931	Cornet	Bb	double loop in bell behind valves [saved]
3048	1931	Cornet	Paramount Artist	appears to be a Cavalier stencil
3100	1932			
3199	1932	Trumpet	Excelsior	Bb [Meacham]
3273	1932	Cornet	Paramount Artist	
3280	1932	Cornet	Paramount Artist	
3345	1932	Trumpet	New Era	
3445	1932	Trumpet	Excelsior	
?	1932	Cornet	New Era	looks like early American Prep design
3511	1932	Trumpet		

3570	1932	Mellophone	Paramount	
3588	1932	Trumpet	Classic	
3692	1932	Trumpet	Excelsior	Chicago [HUC]
3693	1932	Trumpet	New Era	[saved]
3700	1933			
3972	1933	Trumpet		Chicago
4101	1933	Trombone	American Prep	eagle logo; Chicago [HUC]
4138	1933	Cornet	Bel Canto	Chicago
4145	1933	Cornet	Excelsior	Z lead pipe
4200	1934			
4263	1934	Cornet	New Era	not marked with Frank name
4291	1934	Trumpet		
4359	1934	Cornet		Bb/A loop past valves
4380	1934	Cornet	American Prep	double loop in bell after valves; long model cornet; Chicago
4521	1934	Trumpet	Classic	
4537	1934	Trumpet	Paramount	
4544	1934	Cornet	American Prep	double loop in bell behind valves; long model
4618	1934	Alto	Tempertone	bell forward
4672	1934	Trumpet	Paramount	
4685	1934	Trumpet	Paramount	1930s streamlined design
4811	1934	Trumpet		
4840	1934	Trombone	Tempertone	
4857	1934	Euphonium	Double Bell	4th valve on side

4875	1934	Trumpet	Intruscala	
4880	1934	Cornet		double loop in bell [HUC]
4941	1934	Sousaphone		Eb; bell up "raincatcher" [HUC]
5100	1935			
5125	1935	Cornet	American Prep	
5141	1935	Trumpet	Paramount	
5148	1935	Trombone	Paramount	
5173	1935	Cornet	New Era	16" long; American Prep design [HUC]
5183	1935	Cornet	New Era	Bb/A; Holton New Proportion design
5281	1935	Cornet	American Prep	Chicago
5312	1935	Trumpet	Intruscala	
5371	1935	Trombone	Excelsior	angled banner logo [HUC]
5403	1935	Cornet	Intruscala	
5442	1935	Trumpet	Intruscala	[saved]
5467	1935	Trombone	American Prep Jr	Chicago [HUC]
5472	1935	Trombone	New Era	no Frank or location on bell [HUC]
5501	1935	Trumpet	Bel Canto	
5536	1935	Trumpet	The Classic	Bb/A RV; made for Dorn & Kerschner, Newark, NJ
5609	1935	Trumpet	American Prep	Chicago
5675	1935	Mellophone	Paramount Artist	Eb; Chicago [HUC]
5677	1935	Trumpet	The Classic	
5720	1935	Trumpet	The Classic	for Dorn & Kirshner, Newark, NJ
5762	1935	Trumpet	New Era	Chicago

5798	1935	Cornet	Intruscala	
5868	1935	Cornet	New Era	
5874	1935	Trumpet	Intruscala	
5893	1935	Trumpet	Intruscala	[T Meade]
6000	1936			
6066	1936	Trumpet	Excelsior	
6110	1936	Trombone	American Prep	eagle logo; Chicago [HUC]
6187	1936	Trumpet	New Era	
6234	1936	Cornet	New Era	
6285	1936	Cornet	American Prep	
6382	1936	Trumpet	The Classic	
6421	1936	Cornet	Tempertone	[saved]
6424	1936	Cornet	American Prep	
6466	1936	Trombone	Tempertone	Chicago; octagon counter-weight
6531	1936	Cornet	New Era	
6540	1936	Trumpet	Tempertone	
6594	1936	Cornet	Paramount Artist Bb	
6800	1937			
6848	1937	Trumpet	The Classic	1st slide saddle; angled engraving; Chicago
7161	1937	Trumpet	The Classic	4.5" bell; Bb/A stop rod; gold plate [Meacham]
7266	1937	Cornet	Americana	no Frank name; American Prep model stencil
7329	1937	Trumpet	Paramount	
7383	1937	Mellophone	Excelsior	

7500	1938			
7557	1938	Baritone	Classic	Chicago; 11" bell [HUC]
7610	1938	Cornet	Classic	
7709	1938	Trumpet		
7718	1938	Trumpet	Paramount	
7880	1938	Trumpet		
7901	1938	Trumpet	The Classic	Bb; 4.5" bell; forward 2nd slide; 0.468" bore [Patton 2023]
7953	1938	Alto	Excelsior	Eb; 19.5" bell [HUC]
8080	1938	Trumpet	Excelsior	satin silver finish [ebay]
8109	1938	Cornet	Paramount Artist	
8149	1938	Cornet	Custom Made	Wm Frank Co Chicago
8343	1938	Trumpet	Excelsior	
8400	1939			
8495	1939	Sousaphone	Classic	Eb; banner logo; Chicago [HUC]
8518	1939	Cornet	Tempertone	
8525	1939	Cornet	Tempertone	
8740	1939	Euphonium	Paramount Artist	
8892	1939	Mellophone	Excelsior	
8958	1939	Cornet	Excelsior	
8989	1939	Cornet	Tempertone	1st slide saddle; "WIDE" on valve spring towers
9235	1939	Trumpet	Paramount	
9298	1939	Trumpet	American Standard	[Raftery]
9300	1940	Selling the Classic, Excelsior, and Student models. They have a new Excelsior Fluegelhorn for sale.		

9355	1940	Trumpet	American Prep	4.5" bell
9631	1940	Trumpet	Excelsior	Chicago; shield logo
9646	1940	Trumpet	The Classic	Chicago
9659	1940	Trumpet	Paramount	[saved photos]
9706	1940	Trumpet	The Classic	Bb
9953	1940	Fluegelhorn	Excelsior	Bb; 5.375" bell; 19" long [Meacham]
9976	1940	Trumpet	American Prep	
10016	1940	Trumpet	Frank	
10059	1940	Trumpet	Frank	Chicago
10111	1940	Trumpet	Bb/A	0.460" bore; 4.425" bell
10144	1940	Cornet	Frank	
10200	1941			
10231	1941	Trumpet	no model	0.462"; horseshoe bottom third ring [Ayick]
10234	1941	Trumpet	Classic	[T Meade]
10241	1941	Trumpet		[Ayick]
10295	1941	Trumpet		
10895	1941	Cornet	Bb	shepherd's crook bell
10949	1941	Trumpet	Standard?	bottom 3 <sup>rd</sup> ring [HUC]
11000	1942			
11004	1942	Trumpet	Artist	
11046	1942	Trumpet		Chicago
11080	1942	Trumpet		bottom 3 <sup>rd</sup> ring; possible Pedler valves & pinky ring
11100	1942	Trumpet	Biltmore	0.438" bore



11181	1942	Cornet		shepherd's crook bell
11190	1942	Trumpet		Chicago
11195	1942	Trumpet		
11245	1942	Trumpet		Chicago; matches Pedler valves and pinky hook
11305	1942	Cornet	Artist	Chicago; Pedler-type valve casings
11320	1942	Cornet	Artist	shepherd's crook bell
11333	1942	Trumpet	Artist	0.460" bore [ebay]
11362	1942	Trumpet		
11382	1942	Trumpet	Artist	
11466	1942	Cornet		
11503	1942	Trumpet	Artist	Chicago [saved]
11518	1942	Trumpet		
11527	1942	Trumpet		
11792	1942	Cornet	Artist	Chicago; Pedler style valve casings

1943-1945 break for WWII military production. The Barrington factory is built in 1943 and may have been done for military contracts.

11800	1945	Some production shifts to the Barrington factory.		
11815	1945	Trumpet	Artist	Chicago [saved]
11842	1945	Cornet	Biltmore	Barrington; Am Prep design
11863	1945	Trumpet	Artist	Chicago; Pedler style valves
11879	1945	Cornet		3 <sup>rd</sup> slide ring; TS in rear [HUC]
11888	1945	Trumpet	Artist	Pedler style valves & PR; Chicago
11892	1945	Trumpet	Artist	lake scene in engraving; "WIDE" on spring towers

11900	1945	Trumpet	Artist	
11934	1945	Cornet	Artist	Chicago
12xxx	1945	Trumpet	Artist	
12037	1945	Cornet	Artist	shepherd's crook bell; lake scene on bell
12100	1946			
12223	1946	Trumpet		
12307	1946	Trumpet		Chicago
6990	?	Bugle	G-D	1 PV; could be 0669 serial; Barrington [saved]
1162	?	Trombone		Barrington [S. Oshrin collection]
12402	1946	Cornet		Barrington
12415	1946	Trumpet	Artist	Chicago; Pedler style valves [saved]
12500	1947			
12573	1947	Euphonium		3 vlv; Barrington [HUC]
12601	1947	Trumpet	Frank	
12625	1947	Trumpet	Frank	Chicago
12633	1947	Trumpet	?	
12726	1947	Trumpet		appears to be Pedler valves & pinky ring
12876	1947	Trumpet		
12900	1948			
12955	1948	Trumpet		Chicago
13031	1948	Trumpet		
13039	1948	Trumpet	Bb	Chicago; Pedler valves & pinky ring [saved]
13064	1948	Trumpet		

13137	1948	Trumpet	Bb	large Frank; Pedler style valves; Chicago
13200	1949			
13263	1949	Trumpet		
13321	1949	Cornet	Bb	Large Frank logo; Chicago; Pedler style valves
13347	1949	Cornet	Bb	TS in rear; Barrington; Pedler style valves [HUC]
13500	1950			
13539	1948	Cornet	Bb	tuning slide in rear
13658	1949	Trumpet		
13731	1949	Trumpet		
13884	1949	Cornet	Bb	large Frank; Chicago; "WIDE" valve mark
13900	1951	Sold Classic (\$104.20), Standard (\$83.30), and American Prep (\$58.50) trumpets.		
13900	1951	Trumpet	Classic	0.465" bore, Chicago
14154	1951	Trumpet	Classic	
14200	1952			
14408	1952	Trumpet	?	Pedler style valves & PR
14416	1952	Trumpet		
14424	1952	Trumpet		Chicago; Pedler style valves; 0.460"; 4-9/16" bell
<b>14431</b>	<b>1952</b>	<b>Trumpet</b>	<b>Classic</b>	Chicago; 0.460"; 4-5/8" bell; came with 1951 ad for Classic model as their premier; "In every detail, the master creation of a master workman." [saved]
14437	1952	Trumpet	Classic	
14456	1952	Trumpet	Classic	Chicago; "WIDE" on valves [saved]
14550	1953			

14702	1953	Trumpet		looks like Pedler valves and pinky hook
14713	1953	Trumpet		
14788	1953	Cornet	Frank	Chicago
14798	1953	Cornet	Frank	Chicago
14872	1953	Cornet	Frank	
14899	1953	Trumpet	Frank	Barrington; Pedler style valves; top 3rd ring
14900	1954	All production shifts to Barrington at this time.		
14901	1954	Trumpet	Frank	Pedler style valve casings and pinky hook
14909	1954	Cornet	Frank	
14930	1954	Trumpet		Barrington
14936	1954	Trumpet		Barrington
14948	1954	Cornet		Barrington
14990	1954	Cornet		Barrington
15012	1954	Trumpet		
15034	1954	Trumpet	Classic	horseshoe 3 <sup>rd</sup> slide ring [ebay]
15086	1954	Trumpet		
15160	1954	Trumpet	Classic	0.462"; 4-9/16" bell; 19" long; Barrington [Patton]
15300	1955			
15600	1956			
15600	1956	Trumpet	Classic	Barrington
17xxx	1956	Trombone	American Prep	Wm Frank Co; Barrington
	1956	Frank closes		

1934 Start of American Prep line of student-grade instruments with 100K range serial numbers.

100222	1934	Trumpet	American Prep	Chicago
100999	1935	Cornet	Am Prep	Chicago [HUC]
101222		Cornet	Am Prep	
101333		Cornet	Am Prep	“Sherwood Standard” stencil
101564	1937	Trumpet	Am Prep	[T Meade]
101680	1937	Trumpet	Am Prep	
101746	1937	Trumpet	Am Prep	Chicago
101749		Trumpet	Am Prep	
102013	1938	Trumpet	Am Prep	Chicago
102204		Cornet	Am Prep	
102252		Trumpet	Am Prep	Chicago
102275	1938	Trumpet	Am Prep	Chicago
102279		Trumpet	Am Prep	Chicago
102661	1939	Cornet	Am Prep	
102712		Cornet	Am Prep	Chicago
102715		Trumpet	Am Prep	
103016	1940	Trumpet	Am Prep	
103289		Cornet	Am Prep	
103556	1941	Trumpet	Am Prep	
103715		Cornet	Am Prep	Chicago
103736		Cornet	Am Prep	Chicago
103927	1942	Trumpet	Am Prep	Chicago

1945 Frank moves to the new Barrington plant.

104069	1945	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
104404	1945	Cornet	Am Prep	"Slingerland Serenatta" stencil
104595	1945	Mellophone	Am Prep	Barrington
105085		Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
105756		Cornet	Am Prep	
105974	1946	Cornet	Am Prep	Barrington
106000	1947	Trumpet	Am Prep	
106020		Cornet	Am Prep	Chicago
106361		Cornet	Am Prep	Barrington
106586	1948	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
106694		Cornet	Sherwood Standard	looks like American Prep model
107066		Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
107142		Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
107375	1949	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
107460		Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
107480		Trumpet	Am Prep	[HUC]
108030	1950	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington [saved]
108080	1950	Cornet	Am Prep	Barrington
108226		Cornet	Am Prep	[T Meade]
108291	1950	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
108956	1951	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
109155	1951	Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington

109483		Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington
110122		Trumpet	Am Prep	
110253	1952	Cornet	Am Prep	
110418		Trumpet	Am Prep	Barrington [T. Meade]
110951	1953	Trumpet	Am Prep	
111000		Trumpet	Biltmore	Barrington [saved]
111334	1954	Trumpet	Biltmore	Barrington [saved]
111584	1954	Cornet	Biltmore	
111842	1954	Cornet	Biltmore	Barrington
111881		Cornet	Biltmore	Barrington; Am Prep design [HUC]
111918		Cornet	Biltmore	Barrington
112150	1955	Trumpet	Biltmore	0.462" bore; 4-9/16" bell; Barrington [Patton]
176725	1956	Cornet	Biltmore	an unlikely jump in serial number
194032	1956	Trumpet	Biltmore	new design implies stencil [saved]

1956 The company is dissolved and the equipment is sold to Schilke.

208956		Trumpet	Am Prep	
348766		Trumpet	Biltmore	USA

**Utona models:** registered trademark by Frank in 1931 and first used in 1928

2849		Trumpet	Utona Deluxe	
57xx		Saxophone	Utona De Luxe	Martin stencil
28639	1941	Cornet	Utona	"Utona Student Model Chicago"; Ohio BICo stencil
70497	1928	Trumpet	Utona	Pan American stencil

**Other Items:**

41177      1950      Alto Sax      Frank      Elkhart BICo 20A stencil [saved for logo comparison]