

Standard Band Instrument Co.

Boston, Massachusetts

- 1884 The Standard Band Instrument Company is formed by Thompson & Odell when they purchase the Quinby Brothers factory at #62 Sudbury St (dir).
- 1900 The Vega Company moves to #62 Sudbury with SBIC. Vega means "Star" (dir).
- 1902 A fire on the 4th floor of the five-story brick building at #56-70 Sudbury, occupied by the Vega Co. and the Standard Band Inst. Co., ruined everything (MTR, June).
- 1905 The Vega Co. buys Thompson & Odell (NLI).
- 1909 The Vega Co. buys SBIC (NLI).
- 1915 Vega owner Nelson is granted patent #1,165,278 for a cornet design on December 21.
- 1917 Vega & SBIC move to #155 Columbus Ave (dir). This move seems to end the cornet production and the SBIC name is dropped. The highest SBIC serial number is around 6000, with a design matching the 1915 patent (photos). The Standard name lives on as a Vega model.
- 1922 SBIC is still listed with Vega at #155 Columbus (dir).
- 1936 Vega is said to produce about 1,000 trumpets per year and about 40% of their sales are brass instruments; 60% is fretted instruments (Ayers).
- 1970 Vega is purchased by Martin Guitar for their banjos with no brass production at this time.

Photos are from Horn-u-copia.net & auction sales.

