

We have located a little information via web-based research, but, unfortunately, our collections failed to shed much additional light on the Harry B. Jay Company. We have few resources which cover the early 20th century and found no listings in those that do cover that period.

Harry Jay was a resident of Kalamazoo, Michigan at the time his first patent was filed in August of 1906, (granted in June 1907) but by the time his October 31, 1910 patent application was filed, (granted in September 1911) he was a resident of Chicago. While searches of the Illinois Secretary of State's Certified List of Foreign and Domestic Corporations and the historic Chicago Tribune archives failed to yield information about Jay's company, we did locate an obituary for Michael Edward Sokorski. According to this article, Sokorski owned the H. B. Jay Company from 1924 – 1966. The company was described as a musical merchandise supply firm.

Apparently Harry Jay was manufacturing instruments in Chicago from around 1910 through the early 1920's. But, we cannot find definitive dates for the precise time period when they manufactured these musical instruments. We have no catalogs of any kind in our department and could find no web-based listing for such catalogs.

We are attaching an extensive list of web-based resources where you can continue your research. Other possible options include the Chicago History Museum (www.chicagohs.org), the Newberry Library (www.newberry.org) and the Smithsonian Institution (www.smithsonian.org).

Good luck with your research.

<http://www.google.com/patents?vid=USPAT1003049&id=TXdWAAAEB&pg=PP1&dq=1003049&output=html>

<http://www.google.com/patents?vid=USPAT856642&id=B7Y-AAAEB&pg=PP1&dq=856642&output=html>

<http://abel.hive.no/trumpet/>

<http://abel.hive.no/oj/musikk/trompet/playerhorn/>

<http://abel.hive.no/trumpet/tpin/cornet.html>

<http://www.horn-u-copia.net/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl?board=Jay>

<http://www.horn-u-copia.net/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl>

<http://www.historicbrass.org/>

<http://www.vintagecornets.com/>

<http://www.vintagecornets.com/html/whatsnew.html>

[Dead links as of 11-2019 - DC

<http://www.brasszone.com/c408.htm>

<http://www.horn-u-copia.net/cgi-bin/yabb2/YaBB.pl?num=1172248803>

<http://music.duke.edu/about/lip.php>

<http://music.duke.edu/about/paintings.php>

<http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/fiske/french.htm>

http://en.allexperts.com/q/Antique-Musical-Instruments-2370/index_11.htm

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