



## Bassoon, C

### Date

1805 ca.

### Primary Maker

George Catlin

### Description

Dark-stained maple (*Acer saccharum*) in 4 sections: wing, butt, long, and bell joints. Brass ferrules and keywork. 4 keys with flat covers, of which 3 have a "Hartford spade" shape, mounted in saddles. Flat key springs attached to keys. Brass bocal. George Catlin (1778-1852) was one of the first important American makers of woodwinds in the early 19th century, working in Hartford, Connecticut, from about 1799 until at least 1813 (he later moved to Philadelphia). Catlin was one of the few American makers of oboes and bassoons, and influenced many woodwind makers of the next generation, such as John Meacham, Jr. (1785-1844). Among the more unusual instruments mentioned in his advertisements were tenoroons, tenor clarinets, and clarions (bassoon-shaped bass clarinets). The bassoons and bass clarinets from his Hartford period were unusual accomplishments for a maker in the United States at that time. Catlin also made a wide variety of instruments including string instruments, harpsichords, pianos and organs.

### Dimensions

Wing joint: 477 mm Boot joint: 428 mm Bass joint: 483 mm Bell: 298 mm (excluding tenons)