

Basic Detail Report



Clarinet, C (composite)

Date

1830-1837 ca.

Primary Maker

Asa Hopkins

Description

5 sections: barrel, top joint, middle joint, bottom joint, bell. Simple system, English style; 5 brass keys with flat, square covers, mounted in rings and lower stock bulge, with flat springs attached to keys; boxwood body; ivory ferrules; cranked F-sharp/C-sharp key; darkwood (cocus?) mouthpiece with long tenon and grooves for string ligature. Both natives of Litchfield, Asa Hopkins (1779-1838) and Jabez McCall Camp (1811-1890), are among the earliest American woodwind instrument makers. Hopkins was first trained as a clockmaker, a trade he practiced between 1810 and 1825. After that, he sold his clockmaking business and established a large water-powered woodwind instrument workshop on the Naugatuck River, in the area of Litchfield that came to be called "Fluteville." Camp apprenticed with Hopkins and became a partner of the workshop in 1832. In June 1837, apparently because of Hopkins's deteriorating health, Camp became the general partner, and for two years, all instruments bore his stamp. The Camp firm sold the majority of its stock in 1839 to Firth & Hall of New York.

Dimensions

Overall length (from tip of mouthpiece to bottom of bell): 594 mm (1.6 mm gap between mouthpiece and barrel, 1.1 mm gap between top and middle joints) Overall length (from tip of barrel to bottom of bell): seized, previous measurement 530 mm Barrel: 52.9 mm Upper joint: 163 mm Middle joint: 92 mm Bottom joint: 111 mm Bell: 104.5 mm Bore at top of top joint: 13.4 mm Bore at bottom of top joint: 13.0 mm Bore at bottom of middle joint: 13.4 mm Bore at bottom of bottom joint: 17.1 mm