

Subject: Cornish Piano and Organ Company
From: John DeMajo <jdemajo@demajo.net>
Date: 8/14/2012 6:14 PM
To: mahellyn@aol.com

Cornish Piano and Organ Company, of Washington, NJ. was founded in 1879. It burned to the ground in 1922 and never recovered. So the Ursuline organ would have been made within that time frame. They were a strictly mail order house that sold directly to the end user through a catalog, and there were no local dealers selling the instruments. Foot operated vacuum type reed organs came late in the 19th Century. Previous organs from the 1700's were positive pressure devices, but positive pressure proved to be less well regulated, for foot operation, than vacuum. I think that the organ should be considered an important historical piece for Ursuline, especially if it was used in the Industrial Canal area "second Convent." The Pilcher that is in the old St. Mary's Italian Church in the French Quarter, was also purchase for that same convent and school. so I would think that this pump organ was probably in one of the classrooms, or was used for small gatherings of the nuns or students, since the Pilcher would have been the instrument in use in the main chapel. The Ursuline schools usually had a chapel configuration where the nuns were on one branch of an "L" shaped room, screen barrier separated from the students, because there was at least a partial cloister in effect for them at that time.

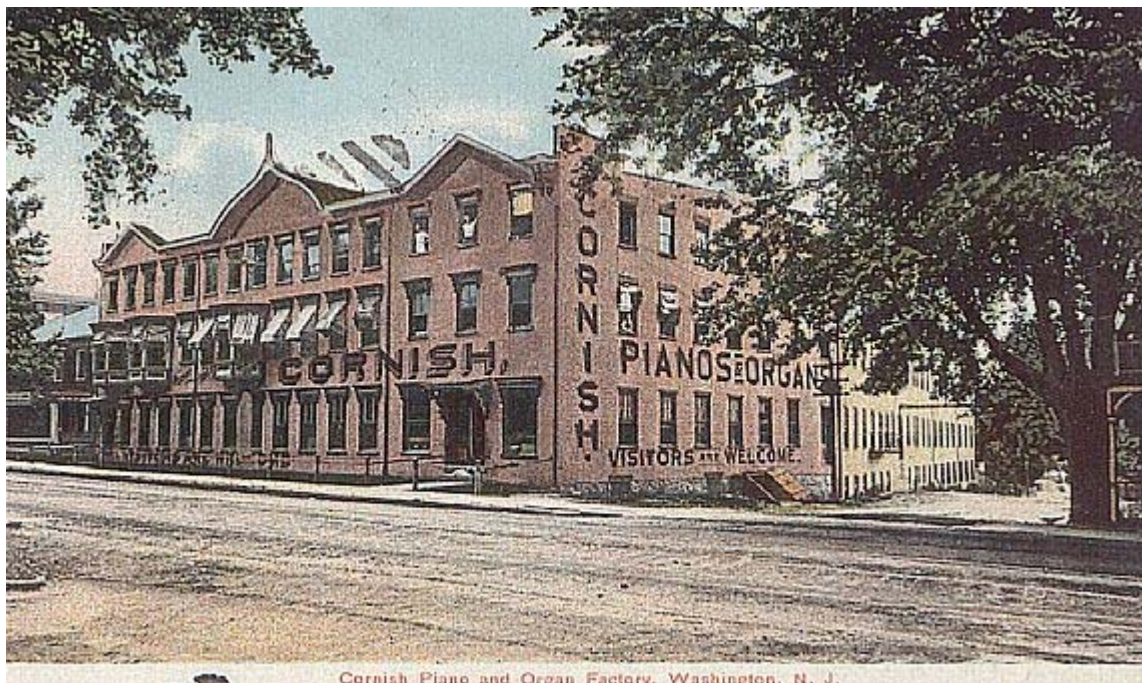
Here are some old photos and info from the Washington, NJ. historic site about Cornish:

150 Belvidere Ave

The Cornish Mansion

The Cornish Family was perhaps the most powerful family in Washington, as well as Warren County. Joseph Cornish started the Cornish Organ Company near the present-day location of Warren Lumber. The Cornish Company quickly outgrew its building on Belvidere Ave and a new one was built on the corner of S. Lincoln and W. Washington Ave.





Cornish Piano and Organ Factory, Washington, N. J.



Here is a link to EBAY's page on Cornish Organs to give you an idea of what they are selling for.

Cornish co. Pump Organ circa 1890



Sat, 08/28/2010 - 4:05pm -- [BrendaOregon](#)

Beautiful, ornate parlor organ with the original mirror. Needs a few minor repairs.

Category:

Music and Music Instruments

Condition:

Good

Medium:

walnut wood

Distinguishing marks:

Cornish company, Washington, NJ pat. 1890

Date Period:

1890 to 1898

Size and dimensions of this item:

66" tall, 41" wide, 23" deep

Weight:

a lot

History:

bought in 1898 in Arkansas, traveled by covered wagon to Silent Springs, OK in 1907,, traveled by train to Grand Junction, CO in 1914 where it was used by a teacher in her class,1980 came to Grants Pass, Oregon. I bought it from the original family.

Price Paid (If known):

For Sale?:

No

eBay Auction Link:

Tags:

[cornish pump organ reed organ](#)

