

# DATABASE OF HISTORIC ALPHORNS

Welcome to this project to create a public access record of historic alphorns where we can browse, enjoy, explore, share and hopefully make contact with other owners or keepers.

The information submitted on this form will be added to an open access database of historic alphorns. You can type in the right-hand column. Please fill in as much detail about the instrument as possible. It is likely that some questions can't be answered and some are not relevant - that's no problem: just leave the boxes empty. We'd just like to collate the information that is known. There is a section for photos at the end.

If you want to register details of a number of historic alphorns, please fill in a separate form for each one.

What is a historic alphorn? If you think it should be in this database, then let's have it in.

Boxes with an asterisk must be completed, others may be left blank when not needed.



## **YOUR DETAILS** These details will only be revealed with your permission (see later)

*Name	
*Address	
*Phone number	
*Email	

## **ORIGIN OF THE INSTRUMENT**

Maker's name if known	
If the maker is not shown, do you have any thoughts about who might have made it? If so, please say who, and why you think it might be this person	
Serial number if present	
Date made if known	
If the exact date is not known and you'd like to give an approximate date or decade, please do so, and explain why you think it might be that	
Text on maker's plate if present, or elsewhere	

## **OWNERSHIP / PROVENANCE / LOCATION**

Does this instrument belong to you? (yes / no)	
If no, who does it belong to?	
When did this instrument arrive at its present location if known?	
List of former owners with dates if known	

Current location of instrument

At personal address given above (yes / no)	
Location if not personal address given above	
If the instrument is in a museum or collection, please give its ID or reference / catalogue information	

If the instrument is in a museum or collection, can it be handled or played? Please choose one of the following:

Can be borrowed and played / can be played in the museum or place of storage / can be handled but not blown / cannot be touched / other please describe	
---	--

**INSTRUMENT SPECIFICATION**

Key (tonality) if known	
Alternative keys	
Please describe other options and how an alternative length is obtained, e.g. with a separate top section or an additional inserted piece	
Please state whether this looks like an original feature or a later addition	
Number of sections in main key as specified above excluding separate mouthpiece	
Has the instrument been altered from how it was originally made? If so, please describe	
Internal width at bell end excluding any substantial rim flare in mm	
Maximum external bell width in mm	
Shortest internal length, without separate mouthpiece in mm (thread string through, mark exit points, measure string)	

**OTHER INSTRUMENT DETAIL**

<b>Section joints:</b> screw / push / none / other please describe	
<b>Material used at joints:</b> full metal sleeve / metal rings on wood / wood alone / cork / other please describe	
If metal, probable type of metal	
<b>Foot:</b> does it have a foot (yes / no)	
<b>Mouthpiece:</b> integrated / not integrated	
<b>Binding:</b> fully bound / shaft bound but bell not bound / cane hoops / metal hoops / other please describe	
<b>Bell decoration:</b> none / painted / carved / carved and painted / other please describe	
Artist if known	

**CONDITION OF INSTRUMENT** Please choose from the following:

<p>Excellent condition - perfect or near-perfect / good condition - playable but some cosmetic wear / poor condition but playable / poor condition - cannot be played / repaired and now good / repaired but still not playable / don't know / other please describe</p>	
<p>Description of damage or repairs</p>	
<p>Any other interesting features</p>	

**PHOTOS OF THE ALPHORN**

<p><b>Instrument ID.</b> To ensure that instrument photos will be linked to the correct form, please create a reference ID for this instrument, e.g. mine might be Jones Oberli 1</p>	
---	--

Please send a set of JPG photos similar to the examples shown below, so that instrument details can be easily compared. Please label all images with the instrument ID, and a short description as given here. You can supply more than one photo of the joints if they are different, text, interesting features, damage or repairs etc.

**Sample photos.**

<p>Full instrument</p> 				
<p>Side view of bell</p> 	<p>Top view of bell</p> 	<p>Joint</p> 	<p>Mouthpiece socket</p> 	
<p>Foot</p> 	<p>Maker's plate or other text</p> 	<p>Interesting features</p> 	<p>Damage or repairs</p>	

## EXISTING DOCUMENTATION

Is there any written material about the instrument, e.g. in a museum catalogue, or a book, or a bill of sale? Please describe what there is and where it can be found. If there is a relevant book or other text about the maker, please give details here. You can send over JPG scans if you like, labelled with the instrument ID.	
---	--

## ABOUT THIS SUBMISSION

**Sharing personal data.** Please choose one of the following:

I am happy for my contact details to be visible on the public access database	
I am happy for my contact details to be visible to others registered on this database only	
I am happy for Frances to give my contact details to others on this database on individual request	
I do not wish my contact details to be shared without my specific prior permission	

**Date of submission of form\*** ..... **Number of photos to be sent\*** .....

**Signature\*** (can be typed) .....

**How to make changes:** if you would like to change anything or add new information after your form is submitted, just send me an email on frances@AmazingAlphorn.com with the new information.

**Where to view the whole database:** (although the contact details are withheld for those who have opted not to share their personal information) [www.AmazingAlphorn.com/HistoricAlphornDatabase](http://www.AmazingAlphorn.com/HistoricAlphornDatabase)

**How to contact another owner / custodian whose details are withheld:** send me an email and I will write to the other person to request contact.

**Want to register another historic instrument:** please fill in new form.

**Do you know of others?** If you know anyone else who has / knows of / has access to a historic alphorn, do tell them about this project and send them a blank form. The form is available in English, German, French or Italian.

**Want to comment on this form:** any suggestions or improvements gratefully received: just send me an email.

Thank you very much for your contribution to this project. I know that the community of alphorn enthusiasts will find this information interesting. Do get in touch with other contributors if you like.

Please send this form and your photos as attachments to frances@AmazingAlphorn.com  
or Dr Frances Jones, 48 Lakeside, Earley, READING, Berkshire, RG6 7PQ, UK

Frances Jones  
frances@AmazingAlphorn.com  
[www.AmazingAlphorn.com](http://www.AmazingAlphorn.com)

June 2024

