

GLENN CLIFFE BAINUM (1888-1974) PAPERS, 1888-1974

Series 19/3/7

Boxes 1- 9 (including 2 dropfront boxes, 1 ledger box, and 1 shoebox)

Biography

Glenn Cliffe “Rusty” Bainum was born on January 6, 1888 in Olney, Illinois, the son of Osci J. Bainum, a teacher and administrator, and Ida Elizabeth Cliffe Bainum. His involvement in band began at the early age of ten as a trombone and upright alto horn player in the Paxton Silver Cornet Band.

Bainum began his college studies in English and engineering science at the University of Illinois, taking a year off before his graduation in 1913 to teach those subjects in Piper City, Momence, and Melvin, Illinois. While a student at the University of Illinois, Bainum played in the band. A. A. Harding, the bandleader, took special notice of Bainum and appointed him first percussionist and bass drummer. Later he named Bainum his first assistant conductor with the Illinois bands. When he graduated in 1913, Bainum taught at West Aurora (Illinois) High School, and after a year there, began serving as Director of Music at Southern Illinois Normal University. He held this position from 1914 to 1922 except for two years during World War I when he served as an officer in the U.S. Army Infantry.

In June 1915, Bainum married Manta Putcamp. Their son, Glenn Jr., was born on July 10, 1933. Glenn and Manta Bainum remained married until her death in November 1962.

From 1922 to 1924, Bainum worked toward completing a B.A. in music at the University of Illinois and then moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to be Director of the Music Programs for Grand Rapids’ public schools and junior colleges. In Grand Rapids, Bainum worked under John Beattie, who came to the Northwestern University School of Music to teach in 1925.

At the urging of Peter Christian Lutkin, Dean of the NU Music School, Bainum followed Beattie’s path from Grand Rapids to Evanston in 1926 and became a Professor of Music, Director of Bands, and Director of the men’s and women’s glee clubs at Northwestern. By 1928, Bainum had turned Northwestern’s 13-member band into an organization boasting more than 100 members and still growing. He taught classes in conducting, band-arranging, instrumentation, and band techniques. Bainum also conducted the orchestra for the WAA-Mu Show (NU’s annual student-written musical production) every year until his retirement.

In addition to his duties at Northwestern, Bainum held many other significant positions in his field and contributed greatly to the musical life of Chicago. Bainum may be best known for his innovative use of charts to teach band members to maneuver in formation on the marching field. It was in 1936, on the field with the All-College Band (which performed at football games at Soldier Field and later became known as the All-Star Band), that Bainum first put into action his idea of band marching at night in elaborate formations that were illuminated by electric lights worn or carried by the musicians.

Bainum’s work with the All-College Band, the North Shore Music Festival, concerts in Grant Park and other Chicago parks, and his various other guest appearances brought him much

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acclaim, and was as integral to his career as his work at Northwestern. He was Frederick Stock's Associate Conductor in the North Shore Music Festival, Conductor of the Grant Park Symphonic Band and Conductor of weekly radio programs on Chicago's WMAQ. From 1942 to 1945, Bainum was Chief of the Overseas Music Branch of Special Services for the U.S. Army. In this post, he was responsible for all music in the European theatre of operations.

In 1953, after 27 years at Northwestern, Bainum retired from the University. Far from having an idle retirement, he soon found himself busy as a guest conductor. From the summer music camp at Interlochen, Michigan, to the New Jersey all-state band, Bainum taught and conducted groups, ranging from grade school to professional in age and abilities, in all 50 states. He also continued to arrange and transcribe music for bands.

During his career Bainum served as president, secretary, and treasurer of the American Bandmasters Association and in 1971 was named honorary life president of that organization. Over the years, Bainum worked with many of the "greats" of the band world, including John Philip Sousa, Edwin Franko Goldman, Arthur Pryor, A. A. Harding, Frank Simon, Henry Fillmore, and Karl King.

Cliffe Bainum died in Evanston on October 4, 1974 at the age of 86.

As a bandleader and as a person, Bainum was warmly regarded by his students and colleagues. John Paynter, Bainum's assistant during his career and his successor at Northwestern, fondly remarked of Bainum that "the secret was his uncanny capacity for saying just the right thing in such a uniquely original way that, punctuated with the warm intensity of his sparkling eyes and possessing smile, you just knew he meant every word of it. ...He had the capacity for making everyone he met feel a little bigger, to know a little more happiness, to love with more fullness. Glenn Cliffe Bainum truly fulfilled his purpose on this earth."

Description of the Series

The Glenn Cliffe Bainum Papers fill nine boxes and span Bainum's life, with the bulk of the papers dating between the 1930s and the 1960s. Most of the materials in this collection consist of correspondence, records and photographs from Bainum's professional life after he arrived at Northwestern. He kept detailed scrapbooks, especially in his early years at Northwestern, of programs and newspaper clippings relating to many of his activities. Information about nearly all of his major career activities is documented in his papers.

The Papers are divided into eight subseries: Biographical, Correspondence, Northwestern University School of Music, Other Organizations, General, Sheet Music, Photographs, Recordings and Movies.

The extensive **Biographical** files include information of both an official and a more personal nature. Bainum's career is well documented in the extensive newspaper clippings, which range

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from the beginning of his career at Northwestern until his death, and the programs from many of the concerts he conducted. Bainum's marriage certificate and a 1958 season pass to the Chicago Cubs are some of the personal items in this section. Materials relating to Bainum's wife, Manta, and father, O. J., are also included in this part of the collection.

Correspondence, arranged chronologically, dates between the late 1940s to Bainum's 80th birthday in 1968. The warm and personal nature of many of these letters offers a glimpse at Bainum's personality and the regard that was felt for him by his professional contacts and friends. One file contains correspondence between Bainum and the firm of Boosey and Hawkes, publishers of some of his band arrangements, as well as a royalty statement and contracts from other publishers.

Most of the materials related to the **Northwestern School of Music** are administrative in nature, consisting of specific information about programming, formations, and the band's trips for away-game performances. Also included is information about the Summer Session concerts on Deering Field, which Bainum initiated, and which were a favored tradition at Northwestern for many years.

The quantity and quality of the work Bainum did for **Other Organizations** beyond Northwestern is documented in files arranged alphabetically by the name of the organization (North Shore Music Festival, All-Star Band, etc.). Guest-appearance folders are arranged alphabetically by venue. Within folders, materials are arranged chronologically. See also the Clippings folders in Box 1.

A few other **General** materials include various marching band charts and a notebook Bainum kept early in his career.

A dropfront box holds printed **Sheet Music** that was either arranged or transcribed for band by Bainum. Among the titles are "Sirens" by Debussy, Verdi's "Credo" from *Otello*, and a piece called "Irish Rhapsody" that he arranged for a harp ensemble. One piece, a march entitled "Rusty," was composed by Albert I. Ciná and dedicated to "Rusty" Bainum.

The **Photographs** included in this collection represent a wide range of dates and performance groups. Among them are pictures taken during Summer Session concerts in the 1930s, photographs of the All-Star Band, and pictures taken near the end of Bainum's career, when he was guest conducting school groups and summer festivals. Also in this box are two oversized scores of Bainum's concert band arrangement of the Forest Scene from Glière's Third Symphony.

A number of reel-to-reel **Recordings** of Northwestern University concerts are included in one box of the collection, and **Movies** of marching band performances and Bainum's home fill the final box.

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Provenance: These papers were transferred to the University Archives by Don Roberts of the Music Library, on July 7, 2000 as Accession No. 00-210.

Restrictions: None.

Separations: Approximately one and a half cubic feet of extraneous materials and duplicates were separated from this collection and discarded.

A Souvenir Book from the 1952 WAA-Mu Show was added to the Archives' WAA-Mu files. Several items were transferred to the University Archives' Artifacts Collection, including plaques and awards (also, Bainum's conducting baton, an ordnance shell inscribed "Major Glenn C. Bainum," a pair of bronzed baby shoe bookends, and a monogrammed briefcase).

Plaques and awards transferred to University Archives' Artifacts Collection:

- Mid-West National Band Clinic (1957)
- American Bandmaster's Association (1965)
- Niles West High School (IL) (1967)
- University of Colorado: Honorary Ban Member (1968)
- American School Band Directors Association: Edwin Franko Goldman Award for outstanding contribution to the advancement of school bands (Feb. 14, 1971)
- University of Notre Dame: Saint Cecilia Award (1973)

About 26 photographs from Interlochen Music Camp, that did not include Glenn Cliffe Bainum, were donated to the Interlochen Archives.

Processor: Sarah Rose; July 2003

Reformatted by: Rachel C. Teuer; July 12, 2004.

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Container List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
BIOGRAPHICAL			
1	1	Biographical	1888-1974
	2	Obituaries	1974
	3	Manta Bainum – personal	1894-1962
	4	O. J. Bainum	1966
	5	Awards and Certificates	1953-1965
	6	Newspaper Clippings	1934-1936
	7	Newspaper Clippings	n.d.
	8	Press Releases	1952-1978
	9	Calendars	1957-58, 1963
	10	Programs	1914-1959
CORRESPONDENCE			
	11	General	1949-1950
	12	General	1950-1960
	13	Publications	1961, n.d.
2	1	80th Birthday	1968
NORTHWESTERN SCHOOL OF MUSIC			
	2	Band and Glee Clubs	1930-1935
	3	Band Budget	1925-1928
	4	Band Bulletins	1936-1942
	5	Band Calendars	1951-1965
	6	Band Emblems	1926-1942
	7	Band Instrument Inventory	1936-1937
	8	Band Newspaper Clippings	
	9	Band Roster	1926-1942
	10	Michigan Trips	1934-1941
	11	Minneapolis Trip	1941
	12	Notre Dame Trips	1939, 1941
	13	Ohio Trips	1939, 1941
	14	Wisconsin Trips	1937, 1940
	15	Summer Session Concerts	1931-1932
OTHER ORGANIZATIONS			
	16	All-College Band	1936-1937
	17	All-College Band	1938-1939
	18	All-Star Band	1941

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3	1	All-Star Band	1942
	2	All-Star Band	1947
	3	All-Star Band	1936-1949
	4	Guest Appearances – All-State Festivals	1959-1963
	5	Guest Appearances – Bemedji Summer Band Clinic	1953-1969
	6	Guest Appearances – Marshall, MI to Rochelle, IL	1957-1963
	7	Guest Appearances – St. Louis, MO to Zion, IL	1957-1963
	8	Guest Appearances – Univ. of WI Summer Music Clinic	1960
4	1	Guest Appearances – Summer Programs	1958-1963
	2	Mid-West National Band Clinic	1957-1962
	3	North Shore Music Festival	1930-1931
	4	Park Concerts	1935-1937
	5	Park Concerts	1936-1938
	6	Park Concerts	1938-1941
5	1	Park Concerts	1941-1942
	2	Park Concerts – Repertoire List	1935-1942
	3	Philadelphia Music Festival	1948
	4	American Bandmasters Association	1966, 1971
GENERAL			
	5	Marching Band Charts	n.d.
	6	Notebook	n.d.
	7	<i>Sinfonia Songs</i>	1948
SHEET MUSIC			
6 (Dropfront)			n.d.
	1	“A Birthday” by R. Huntington Woodman, arr. G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	2	“Ballatella” from <i>Pagliacci</i> by R. Leoncavallo, arr. G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	3	“Credo” from <i>Otello</i> by Verdi, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	4	“Irish Rhapsody” by Victor Herbert, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	5	“Moon-Marketing” by Powell Weaver, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	6	“Rusty” by Albert I. Ciná	n.d.
	7	<i>Nocturnes No. III</i> , “Sirens” by Debussy, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.

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6	8	“Spiritual” from Symphony No. 5 ½ by Don Gillis, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	9	“Summer Evening” by Zoltán Kodály, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.
	10	Excerpts from Symphony No.8 by Gustav Mahler, arr. by G.C. Bainum	n.d.
	11	“The Three Trumpeters” by G. Agostini, arr. by G. C. Bainum	1939
	12	“Washington Grays” by Gratulla, arr. by G. C. Bainum	n.d.
7 (Dropfront)		Photographs and oversize scores	n.d.
8 (Ledger)		Reel-to-Reel Tape Recordings	1964, 1968, n.d.
9 (Shoebox)		Movies	n.d.