TABLE OF CONTENTS

Description of the papers . . . . . . . . . 3
Description of series . . . . . . . . . 5

INVENTORY

Series 1: Genealogical information . . . . . . . . . 8

Series 2: Sheet Music

Sub-series A: Voice and piano . . . . . . . . . 9
Sub-Series B: Instrumental and piano . . . . . . . 10
Sub-Series C: Piano solo . . . . . . . . . . . 10
DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

Accn. no.: 2005/2/24
Shelf location: A3A 1,2
Extent: 0.25 linear feet

Biographical Sketch

Ida Clara Bostelmann Cobb (1894–1979) was a piano teacher and composer. Her father, John C. Bostelmann (1857–1935), was a German-born lawyer, violinist, and violin maker. He immigrated to the US as a child in 1863, settling with his family in New Jersey. In 1880, he married Adelie Monroe Glover (1858–1943). Ida, the seventh of their eight children (only six of whom lived to adulthood), was born on May 23, 1894, in Corning, NY.

Ida studied music at the Corning Conservatory of Music, a school founded by her father in 1898. She continued her training at the Institute of Musical Art (now Juilliard School), graduating in 1916. Her teachers included Betsy Culp, Goetschius, Horatio Parker, and Rubin Goldmark. Unfortunately, an injury prevented her from achieving her dream of becoming a concert pianist, but after discovering her love of teaching children, her ambitions turned to composition. In 1931, she married fellow composer and musician Thomas Scribner Cobb (1907–1951); the couple settled in New York City. Ida was an avid composer particularly of piano compositions and children’s music, including beginning piano solos; she published hundreds of works during her lifetime, including 87 children’s compositions, 2 short operas, about 30 songs, a handful of instrumental pieces, and numerous works for solo piano.

Ida Bostelmann Cobb died July 1, 1979, in New York, New York, survived by her two children (Joan Cobb Hopkins and Edward Scribner Cobb, III) and four grandchildren (Christopher and Pamela Hopkins; Theodore and Joshua Cobb).

Provenance

These papers were the gift of Margaret G. Cobb, received in February 24, 2005.

Margaret G. Cobb (née Margaret Hoffman Gallatin) (b. September 16, 1907, East Hampton, New York; d. March 24, 2010, New York, New York) was a lifelong Francophile and Debussy scholar. She enjoyed a long, 35-year career as an editor at McGraw Hill, during which time she contributed to the Larousse French/English dictionary as an editorial consultant. In 1972, she left editing to become head the newly founded Centre de Documentation Claude Debussy, then in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, the composer's birthplace. Before her retirement in 1976, she established the center’s core collections, gathering an extensive body of primary source material.

Margaret Cobb died on March 24, 2010, having been predeceased by her spouse Clement Biddle Penrose Cobb (1900–1955).

**Scope and Content**

The collection is comprised of research material, namely genealogical documents, related to Ida Bostelmann (Cobb) and 59 items of sheet music composed by Ida Bostelmann, including both published imprints and reproductions of published music. Vocal music and instrumental music, the latter primarily for solo piano, are represented in the collection.

**Restrictions and Use**

Use of these papers is restricted to research purposes. In regards to any reproduction of any of the contents, the provisions of the United States Copyright Law (1976) and its revisions do apply. The written permission of the Depositor must be obtained for citation and for photocopying.

**Associations**

Additional compositions by Ida Bostelmann are held in the US Sheet Music Collection (2 items, both of which are also contained in the present collection; see Sub-group I, Series 5A) and the archive of the Birch Tree Group, Ltd. (1 unique item). Moreover, her *Two Songs for ‘Cello and Piano* (New York: Mercury, [c1965]) is available in Sibley’s circulating collection.

Numerous contemporaneous vocal and instrumental compositions are contained within RTWSC’s popular sheet music collections. Of particular relevance is Sub-group I, Series 5 (music published after 1890) of the aforementioned US Sheet Music Collection. The Hazel Munger Burke Collection, James W. Phillips Collection, Betty K. Ryan Collection, and Charlotte Stafford Collection also contain published vocal and instrumental music from the early twentieth century, thus overlapping with Ida Bostelmann’s output. The archives of the Birch Tree Group, Ltd., contain several imprints of beginning piano music and piano methods.
Margaret G. Cobb also donated a small collection of papers containing photocopies of correspondence (1958-1965, 1970, 1971) between French musicologist Marcel Dietschy (1915-1981) and English musicologist Edward Lockspeiser (1905-1973). This collection was received by the library in 2002.
DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

The Margaret Cobb Papers have been divided into two series, which are further divided into the sub-series outlined below.

**Series 1: Genealogical information**

This series is comprised of various genealogical documents pertaining to Ida Bostelmann’s ancestry. The materials include correspondence from genealogists regarding Bostelmann ancestors in Germany (presumably related to John C. Bostelmann); a memoir written by Ida Bostelmann’s mother, Addie Monroe Glover; and a biographical sketch of John C. Bostelmann, written by William Cummings.

**Series 2: Sheet Music**

This series consists of sheet music, both published imprints and reproductions, composed by Ida Bostelmann. The music is arranged into three sub-series according to genre. Within each sub-series, the individual items are arranged alphabetically by title.

*Sub-Series A: Voice and piano*

*Sub-Series B: Instrumental and piano*

*Sub-Series C: Piano solo*
STORIES TOLD IN MUSIC
for Young Piano Students
by Ida Bostelmann

EDUCATIONAL PIANO SERIES
NO. 65 — Toys (A Recitation)
66 — A Long Journey (A Keyboard Study)
67 — Playing the 'Cello
68 — The Clock Strikes Four
(A Forearm Staccato Study)
69 — Dolly, Good-Night
70 — An April Morning (Learning the Trill)
71 — Russian Soldiers (A Little March for the Piano)
72 — In the Woods (A Study in Three Rythms)
73 — A Song of the Old Wind-Mill
74 — Two Gypsies Singing
75 — The Murmuring Brook
76 — A Cackling Hen (A Forearm Staccato Study)
77 — The Highlanders' Parade
(A Study in Grace Notes)

Price 30c net (each Number)

Front cover of "An April Morning," for solo piano (New York: Belwin, 1928). From Margaret Cobb Collection, Box 1, Folder 8.
INVENTORY

Series 1: Genealogical Information

Box 1

Folder 1  Reproduction of photographs. One page containing 6 photos including some of Corning, NY and John C. Bostelmann, city judge of Corning, founder of the Corning Conservatory of Music and father of Ida Bostelmann Cobb.

Folder 2  Genealogical research

Letter (unofficial translation).
From: Johann Krizsantis, Lower Saxony Central State Archives
To: Eaton & Noble
July 1, 1999.
2 article extracts enclosed:

Letter.
From: Jens Th. Kaufmann, genealogist.
To: Sharon Eaton.
November 11, 1999.
Includes 2 enclosures:
List of Bostelmann ancestors compiled by Kaufmann from microfilm records of the City of Hannover (housed in the Lutheran Church Archive, Hannover).
Photocopy of printed church records from Garrisons-Kirchenbuch Hannover. 1816-1867: 56.


Series 2: Sheet Music

Box 1 [cont.]

Folder 5  Inventory List. Includes title of piece, quantity and whether it is an original or a reproduction. Typescript; 2 pages.
Sub-Series A: Voice and piano

Box 1 [cont.]

Folder 6


When Nancy Greenall was very young. Lyric by Franklin P. Adams. G. Schirmer, Inc., 1927. Reproduction.

Sub-series B: Instrumental and piano

Box 1 [cont.]


Sub-Series C: Solo piano

Box 1 [cont.]


The five c’s go traveling (teaching the registers). New York: Belwin Inc., 1928.


In the woods. New York: Belwin Inc., 1928. Two copies.


Six concert pieces for piano. Reproduction.

_N.B. Title page includes brief biography of Ida Bostelmann. 1 page._


Tango Edwin Kalmus, Inc., 1930.


Viennese Waltz No. 3. Edwin Kalmus, Inc., 1929.


