

Bix Box Resources

Background:

In 1971 a band from New Jersey came to Davenport, Iowa to play music at Beiderbecke's grave in Oakdale Cemetery as a tribute on the fortieth anniversary of Bix's death. They renamed themselves the Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Band. A Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society formed in 1972 and began planning a music festival in Beiderbecke's honor, which was first held in July 1972.

The Davenport Public Library created the "Beiderbecke Room" in early 1972. Library employees recall the room was on the south side of the main floor, where in 2007 a new handicap accessible unisex restroom was installed. Currently research has not located evidence of when the room was dismantled and items were relocated to Special Collections. Perhaps something is in the DPL archives.

With such an interest in Beiderbecke, the variety of materials donated to the SC Center eventually needed organization, and a Bix Box was developed. With so many folks handling the materials, it was determined copies of the items should be made and placed in a binder. The binder was cataloged so patrons, volunteers and staff could utilize it rather than risk the integrity of the original items.

Binder catalog number: **SC 781.65 BIX**

PHOTOGRAPHS –

Plan to scan and document each image to post on the UMVDIA website. Entered into Procite photo database - collection level.

Oversize photograph; 20 x 30"; color; print of
Bix mural by Loren Shaw Helige

Stored in west center flat file, "Accessions – Oversize Photographs" drawer

History of mural:

Idea suggested to Davenport City Council Committee of the Whole in June 1988 by local artists Mike Brannon and Horen Shaw

Painted by Loren Shaw (now Loren Shaw Helige)

Took from July to December 1988; over 1000 hours

Painted on side of city parking ramp located at 2nd and Perry Streets in Davenport
360 feet long; 25 feet high

Bix and the music to *Davenport Blues*

\$5000 from Rejuvenate Davenport

\$4000 from City of Davenport

\$6500 from Private Donations

Parking Ramp was destroyed in _2002?_

Framed / hanging on R-S SC Center wall as of 2007

Copies of original images were professionally created September 2007 in order to allow preservation of the originals. No negatives were created -

only exact duplicate prints to use in frames. Only the images that had been framed were duplicated at this time.

Original prints (unless otherwise noted) are located in flat archive box on compact shelving, Range 42 Sec 1. Many of these originally hung in the Beiderbecke Room of the Davenport Public Library, opened in 1972.

Original photographs:

- 1 Bix's Rhythm Jugglers, casual
- 2 Bix's Rhythm Jugglers, playing instruments
- 3 Wolverine Orchestra-formal pose, seated
- 4 Goldkette Orchestra-standing by bus
- 5 Jean Goldkette Orchestra New England Tour-sitting on vehicle
- 6 Wolverine Orchestra – standing and holding banner, instruments in front on floor
- 7 Tyler School graduation class
- 8a Bixie March 10, 1908 age five (original card backing for image 8a)
- 8b Bix standing on bench wearing sailor suit and hat
- 9 Bix with young woman – postcard's stampbox dates 1905-06
(originally the woman was thought to be his mother-but not)
- 10 Mr. & Mrs. Bismark Herman Beiderbecke, Charles, Mary Louise, Bix on father's lap
- 11 Summer 1911 – Bix as a child on mule or donkey
- 12 Bix's house 1934 Grand Avenue, Davenport
- 13 The Old Gold-Paul Whiteman Special – real photo postcard
- 14 Whiteman at Beiderbecke tombstone 1940
- 15, 16, 17 newsclippings - laminated
- 18 Tombstones of Bix and parents - setting wreath
- 19 Musicians playing at gravesite
- 20 Crowd and bus at gravesite
- 21 Cornet close up with 1934 Grand Avenue in background (original & dup)
- 22 1920 March by Hostetler - of high school group dressed for play
- 23 snapshot group of 7
- 24 21 people in group portrait by Christmas tree
- 25 group of youngsters outdoors
- 26a 1908 June group of 12 youngsters outside with residence in background
- 26b 1908 June group of youngsters and two adult females posed outside a building
- 27 rows of young men wearing white shirts and bow ties and dark jackets
- 28 street sign Beiderbecke Drive and Main St.
- 29 photocopy of older Bix /mustache-laminated

- 30 photocopy of older Bix /mustache with cornet-laminated
 31 photocopy of younger Bix with cornet-laminated
 32 Agatha "Aggie" Beiderbecke - by Allen Photography studio,
 Davenport - donated by Victor Petersen
- copy from 1920 June BLACKHAWK yearbook (from Bob McCue,
 Davenport School Museum)

Acc.#2006-06 8x10 print; color

Seven men playing at Beiderbecke gravesite, Oakdale Cemetery [1996]
 Donated by George Robinson. See Accession database for details.

DUPLICATE PRINTS – stored in flat archive box Rg.42 Sec.1

1	Wolverine Orchestra	8 x 10	B/w	
2	Bix's Rhythm Jugglers – label from frame visible	8 x 10	B/w	
2	Bix's Rhythm Jugglers	8 x 10	B/w	
3	Wolverine Orchestra	8 x 10	B/w	Digitized March 2004
3	Wolverine Orchestra	4 x 5	Sepia	2 copies
9	Bix and unidentified woman	5 x 7	B/w	Possible id of woman in book
11	Bix on donkey or mule	5 x 7	B/w	
11	Bix on donkey or mule	8 x 10	B/w	Printed 2002
12	1934 Grand Avenue	5 x 7	B/w	
21	Cornet close up with 1934 Grand Avenue in the background	11 x 14	B/w	Filed with originals because of size
25	Group of youngsters outdoors	5 x 7	Sepia	Enlargement
26 a&b	2 small prints on same page of youngsters	5 x 7	sepia	

NEGATIVES

Stored with VM89 negatives on compact shelving

35 mm for image numbers 5, 6, 11, 22, 23

4 x 5" for image numbers 1, 3, 9, 24

note: #3 has 1 b/w neg and 3 sepia negs

2 ¼ x 2 ¾ " for image numbers 1, 2, 8b, 10, 11, 12

**added December 2010

Copy negatives purchased from the Putnam Museum of Beiderbecke family with Bix sitting on his father's lap and of Bix Beiderbecke as a child, wearing a sailor suit. These are printed and framed, hanging in SC.

UMVDIA

X 484	Disc 51	ca 1905 Bix as very young child
X 600	Disc 34	ca 1905 Emma Beiderbecke – ??
VM89-002131	Disc 31	Residence of Charles Beiderbecke

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FRAMED AND HANGING ON WALLS OF SC

[10/2007]

Complete set of Bix Fest posters 1973-1998 [and 1999-2004 in drawer].

Framed LP record: Mississippi Mud- Fox Trot. Paul Whiteman and his orchestra featuring Bix Beiderbecke. RCA Victor 25366-B.

Plaque from Downbeat Hall of Fame

Leon (Bix) Beiderbecke elected by international jazz critics
Fall 1962

1973 Festival Poster-originally in AMF (Audio, Music, Film Room) of DPL

Painting of residence 1934 Grand Avenue, Davenport, Iowa
by Barbara Dockery [1979]

FOLDERS in Bix Box

Acquisitions of Bix Material for Library Correspondence 1960-1980

All photocopies - ?? location of originals-perhaps with DPL Archives?

Bix Docs

Original Program: Concert---Vaudeville

May 28, 1920

Grand Opera House

Musical Organizations of Davenport High School

Donated by Wayne Rohlf– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Original: typed letter from R. G. V. (Ralph) Venables of Surrey, England to Mr. (Wayne H.) Rohlf regarding Bix lore. Dated Feb. 26th with no year.

Refers to "last month's *Down Beat*" article by Mr. Rohlf

– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Original: typed letter from R. G. V. (Ralph) Venables of Surrey, England to Mr. (Wayne H.) Rohlf regarding Bix. Dated May 26, 1942.

– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Original: typed letter from Ralph (R. G. V. Venables) of Surrey, England to Wayne (Wayne H. Rohlf) and short clipping from August 8, 1942 on anniversary of Beiderbecke's death.

- originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Original: typed letter from witnesses Julie McDonald, Agnes Palmer, and Lucile Mauget regarding the "authentic origin of the Bix Beiderbecke memorial". No date.

Perhaps this refers to the 1953 efforts described in news clipping found in *Times*, March 4, 1953

Photocopy: Criminal Docket E, District Court of Iowa, #4188, page 108
Copied from microfilm in SC

Copies: (3) L. B. Beiderbecke – Funeral Assessment account no. 10
44th Street Hotel
New York City

Business: cornet, piano

Dated 1929, 1930, 1931

Shows debits and credits quarterly

Possibly musicians' union?

- originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Photocopy: Beiderbecke's union membership in Detroit, Michigan

Signed document regarding transfer of union dues

Dates 1924, 1925, 1926

Donated December 1979 by Bix Clements, Detroit

Original: typed card containing information about Bix's cornet, a 1930's "New Wonder Model" Corn cornet.

Original Program "The Sound of Bix" Concert at the Mark of the Quad Cities October 12, 1996

Original Invitation - Acquisition of Bix's horn by

Robert and Eva Christiansen [After several years they donated the horn to the Putnam Museum]

Letter from Harold Oerman to Jean describing Oerman's personal experiences with Bix Beiderbecke; typed with signature

Dated February 22, 1973

Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival Programs

1972, 1973, 1975, 1976 (2), 1977, 1978
1997, 1999
2003, 2004, 2005

Bixiana [1972 - 1978?]

newsletter of Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society

Miscellaneous Promotional Items-Ephemera

Lapel Buttons – originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

1	1997 DPL Porch Party	3"	
4	Bix Lives	Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society	2"
1	Bix Lives	BBM Society	1 ½ "

Bumper stickers "BIX LIVES" – originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Navy blue with white letters (7)

Red with white letters (1)

1974 Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Society Membership card– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Video box cover for Avati film: *Bix – An Interpretation of a Legend*

1990– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Jacket Cover for book *Remembering Bix: A memoir of the Jazz Age* by Ralph Berton– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Davenport Public Library Bix Birthday Bash ephemera 1995, 1997

Bix Beiderbecke Material – [1970's?] original list of books, articles, newsclippings, recordings, etc.

See Procite newspaper database for bibliography of local clippings

See SC Vertical File for clippings from other sources

See Prairie Cat – online catalog for current holdings

*****LP's are shadowed on public side** because there is no equipment to play them on, plus damage may result. LP's are available on the staff side of the catalog. **Stored in Compact Shelving Range 38, Sec 5.**

Clippings – originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room:

All by R. G. V. Venables

Published in: *The Melody Maker* (England)

March 11, 1939	"Memorial to Bix"	(original)
August 5, 1939	"Bixology"	(original)
August 9, 1941	"He Died Ten Years Ago"	(original)

Published in: *Challenge* (England)
December 20, 1941 (original)

Pamphlet – WMUB Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) – originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Bix: A Biographical Radio Series produced by Miami University Radio through a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting

Bix: A Biographical Radio Series audio cassette tapes – originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Audio Cassette Tapes available for patron use are currently located in SC media cabinet -2 photocopied booklets (found in SC Vertical Clipping File) are in Bix Box, Miscellaneous folder. Contain same basic information as the pamphlet in the binder. Tape recorders and headphones available in key closet or with oral history materials in compact shelving. Original Audio tapes are Acc. #2001-23

Sheet Music

Bix Beiderbecke's Modern Piano Suite - original cataloged SC Closed Stacks

Robbins Music Corporation, New York
Copyrighted 1929, 1930, 1931

Contents: In a Mist
Candlelights
Flashes
In the Dark

– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room
Donated by Wayne Rohlf

Ode to Bix – photocopy; no original is in the possession of DPL
Piano solo by Earl A. Rohlf
– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Davenport Blues- original cataloged SC Closed Stacks
Piano composition by Bix Beiderbecke

Ballad for Bix – by Amy Lee

Poem– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room

Metronome – *Modern Music and its Makers* (Nov. 1938) original magazine and photocopy

Bix with cornet on cover
"Bixology" pages 16 - 20
– originally in DPL Beiderbecke Room
Donated by Wayne Rohlf

Smithsonian (July 1997) photocopy of magazine article

Page 118+
"Bix: The story of a young man and his horn"
by Fred Turner

Davenport High School *The Bulletin* - original

June 1914
Volume 4, Number 9
Graduate C. Burnette Beiderbecke – nothing about Bix
No information on donor or why in Bix Box
*This item was cataloged and should be found with
yearbooks in SC Closed Stacks

Accessions pertaining to Beiderbecke:

2007-04 Bix Box – See Binder on Shelf **SC 781.65 BIX**

2001-23 Original Cassettes of Miami University Program – Use copies in SC media cabinet. Tape recorders in key closet or in compact shelving, oral history area. Please have patrons use headphones.

2006-06 Photograph Range 42 Sec. 2 – copy in Binder
Group of musicians playing at Oakdale Cemetery [1996]

2007-14 Beiderbecke & Miller Wholesale Grocers, building
architectural drawings by Frederick Claussen on compact disc;
list of drawings available in finding aids folder