

ADINE BRADLEY

An Interview by Wanda McDonough

Wanda McDonough Oral History Project

Tape No. 19

September 21, 1992

Salt Lake City, Utah

Archives
Diocese of Salt Lake City
27 C Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84103

ORAL/TAPED HISTORY INTERVIEW

Interviewee: Adine Bradley St. Joseph's Villa SLC
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Interviewer: Wanda Mc Donough
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Interview: 9/21/92 St. Joseph's Villa S.L.C.
 Date Place

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Adine B Bradley 9/21/92
 Signature Date

WM: An interview made September 21st, 1992, at St. Joseph's Villa. The interviewer is Wanda McDonough. Adine, you start by telling us where you were born, who your parents were, where they were born, what nationality, and what they did for a living.

AB: I was born in Bingham Canyon, Utah. And my father was Harry Bradley, and my mother was Hattie _____.

WM: What did they do for a living, work in the mines?

AB: My father at that time was working in the Telegraph Mine, but later on he had his own business, the Citizens' Coal & Supply Company, in the lower part of the canyon. And my mother was an actress, and they were divorced, my father and mother.

WM: Your mother was an actress in Utah? Did she play at the old Salt Lake Theater, by any chance?

AB: No, no. She was in stock companies.

WM: Your mother was an actress who played in stock companies. And she was at St. Mary's?

AB: For two years when it first opened, St. Mary's Academy. St. Mary's of the Wasatch.

WM: So they sent you to St. Mary's.

AB: Yes. When they were divorced, Momma asked my father to send me to St. Mary's. He had custody of me.

WM: Your mother was Catholic, your father was not?

AB: No Catholics in the family.

WM: Neither one. When did you join the Catholic Church?

AB: When I was a teenager. And Bishop Glass was my godfather.

WM: Were you still in Bingham then?

AB: No. I was at St. Mary's from the time I was three years old until I graduated.

WM: Oh, you went all through. I'd forgotten it was a boarding school at the same time.

AB: It was old St. Mary's Academy, now St. Mary's of the Wasatch. It's over on Second West.

WM: And where did you get your complete education?

AB: At St. Mary's, and then I went back to Notre Dame to study music right here. St. Mary's and Notre Dame.

WM: And how could you afford to go to Notre Dame? Did your family send you?

AB: My father always took care of me.

WM: Your father could pay for it. I'm always interested in what people did during the Depression. Do you remember?

AB: It wasn't a depression at that time.

WM: No, but there was later. Do you remember anything about it?

AB: I tell you, I'm no good at years, and I know it. But I imagine at that time, when I was little, there must have been a depression of some kind because at St. Mary's every day for lunch the sisters _____ on the west side they had a big kitchen there. And they had a whole line of people coming for a bowl of soup, and they each got a bowl of soup. But it was always men. I never saw any women. Well, up in the infirmary, if I looked down, I just didn't see women; it was always men. But they each got a roll and a bowl of soup. No, not a roll each one. I think it was just the soup.

And that must have been-- I, at that time, must have been just about six years old. So I imagine it was at that time. See, I was born in 1896. I was about six years old. I was in the infirmary alone because I was quite ill.

WM: And how long were you at Notre Dame in Indiana?

AB: Oh, I just went back for the summer for study, in those days with the violin. And the teacher came down from Chicago to give me lessons.

WM: Who encouraged you to go into music? Your mother?

AB: Well, my father. If I wanted to take music, my father would tell the sisters I wanted to take music. So that's the way it was.

WM: You just thought you would like to.

AB: Well, I didn't think about it much. My father loved music, and he knew my mother was a musician. So he probably said, "Give her piano lessons."

WM: Well, then you wouldn't remember anything about the church in Bingham because you never did go to the church in Bingham, right?

AB: Oh, I did later on. I know it was up Carr Fork. I'd go there after I left St. Mary's. And I lived in Bingham for a while. And I'd go to church up there at Carr Fork.

WM: Do you remember who the priest was?

AB: No, I don't. I can see him, but I can't think of his name. He was an old German priest. But then we had different priests that came out to say Mass there. I was a Catholic then. But before that I didn't go to that church.

WM: But I read that you gave music lessons. Do you remember that?

AB: Oh, I rode horseback all over the mountains in Bingham and gave piano and violin lessons. I used to ride my horse up to Copperton, and then go over into the (Butterfield) canyon and down into Lark. I taught in Lark.

WM: I know where Lark is.

AB: That was to the foot of Butterfield Canyon.

WM: Did you have many students up there?

AB: Well, I taught all day. I'd have violin and piano students. I'd ride my horse up and stop at different places until I got to the top. I gave lessons to the daughter of the one that owned the hotel. For that I had my lunch.

WM: Oh!

AB: And then I started down again.

WM: Now when did you join the Catholic Church? What were the circumstances?

AB: Oh, I guess I was--I must have been close to 18. Bishop Glass was my godfather. He baptized me.

WM: At the cathedral?

AB: No, he baptized me over at St. Mary's. I was confirmed the same day and First Communion, all the same day, out at St. Mary's Academy.

WM: Where was that located?

AB: It was between Second and Third West, between-- I mean, it was on Second West between Second and Third South. I tell you there's an old Safeway there. There's a big Safeway there where St. Mary's used to be. And on this side it was that red building that's always been there, that belonged to the Basques. It's still there.

AB: Do you know Salt Lake at all?

WM: Oh, yes! I drive along Second West every day.

AB: Well, it's right where that big Safeway is down--a big place, and then a whole Safeway, the academy. Between Second and Third South on Second West.

WM: And when did you start playing the organ, organizing choirs, and tell us about all that work at the cathedral.

AB: Ethel Hogan Hansen was the organist. But she couldn't always come to the rehearsals. So I started rehearsing over in the cottage. That was with the nuns, the old place right on C Street behind the cathedral, east of the cathedral. I played for the rehearsals at night. So I didn't play the organ for a long time after that. And then I had to substitute for Ethel,

WM: Who was bishop then, do you remember? Was it still Bishop Glass?

AB: Bishop Glass.

WM: And let's see, the choirs. Now, did you organize some choirs, lead some choirs?

AB: I had nothing to do with organizing the choirs.

WM: But I saw a picture of you in Bernice's book leading the choir.

AB: I know I played the organ, but I had nothing to do with the-- Margaret Sullivan was the director. And at one time Bishop Hunt was the director of the choir, at first. And then Margaret Sullivan, and then Brother James.

WM: Did you play for Bishop Hunt, too?

AB: Yes, but Ethel was playing most of the time. I was just-- When she couldn't come, I would substitute.

WM: Well, your name is invariably connected with music at the

cathedral.

AB: Well, I know. But that wasn't-- I didn't start playing the organ there until-- During Ethel's time, they would know, I substituted for her for rehearsals. But then later on I did rehearse at the cathedral. Then pretty soon all the rehearsals were in the cathedral.

WM: Now tell us about the symphony. I know you played in the Utah Symphony. Now, when did you take up all these different instruments? You started with the piano and the violin.

AB: And then I played the viola in the orchestra, the last orchestra that was held at the Salt Lake tabernacle. And then I went into harp--I was playing cellist with the symphony. And then when they needed a harp, I started. I hadn't taken that at St. Mary's, but I understood it because they had a harp. So there was no problem with my piano.

WM: You didn't have to go back to a music school and study the harp?

AB: No, it was St. Mary's, not Notre Dame. St. Mary's-Notre Dame. But it's right across there--about a mile from Notre Dame.

WM: Now, you've given harp lessons. You've taught the harp to people. About the young man who plays the harp in the symphony now.

AB: He was one of my students.

WM: You taught Conrad Nelson?

AB: When he was 12.

WM: Do you remember any of the priests you worked with at the cathedral--Monsignor Stoffel?

AB: Monsignor Stauffel, yes. I knew nearly all the priests.

WM: And you worked while Bishop Hunt was there?

AB: Yes.

WM: Bishop Federal?

AB: I played when Bishop Hunt died. I played the organ for the requiem.

WM: Oh, how nice. I hear you still play the organ down here at the Villa.

AB: If they need me, I do.

WM: Good. Do they need you once in a while?

AB: Well, sometimes. I think I played last Christmas or something. I kind of forget.

WM: Do you go in and practice? Do they let you practice?

AB: I can if I want. But I don't too much.

WM: Did you work under Bishop Federal at all at the cathedral?

AB: Yes. He was at the affair that we had at the University Club. I have a picture, a nice picture, of Bishop Federal at that affair.

WM: Oh, yes. That's right. And how about Bishop Wiegand? Had you retired before he came?

AB: Well, I knew him. But by that time I was playing up at Fort Douglas--I'd finished playing High Mass--and I went to Fort Douglas for eight years. I was playing up there.

WM: I know that chapel up there. It's a lovely little chapel. I didn't know you had been up there. Now, I understand also that you played at some of the theaters downtown.

AB: Yes, I did. I played at the American Theater with a 30-piece orchestra for the old silent movies. And I did play for a while, just substituting, at Paramount, but not regular. Mostly American Theater.

WM: Did you ever have a chance to play the Tabernacle organ, the great big organ?

AB: Yes, and I took lessons. My teacher had me sit up there one day and try it. But it was overwhelming.

WM: Have you been active in any organizations at the cathedral besides the music?

AB: No, I haven't been. I played when the Altar Society would have their Mass. And the different ones would have Mass, I always would accompany. I'd always play for their singing of Benediction.

WM: You belonged to the Altar Society at the cathedral?

AB: I always played for them, but I wasn't a member.

WM: You did come once or twice--I remember--to that when they had the 331 Club for older people? I remembered meeting you then.

WM: Do you remember any of those people? One is Blanche McKay. You knew Blanche.

AB: Oh, of course. Blanche came up to see me just before she died, and she was feeling so miserable. But, you know, I think she died just right after that. She was feeling so miserable when she came to see me.

WM: I talked to Blanche, well, about a year before she died. She said the doctor wanted her to go into a rest home, and she said, "Never! I will not do it. I'm going to live alone."

AB: She was so miserable.

WM: And let's see, who else used to come? Did you know the Fagans, Mr. and Mrs. Fagan? They used to come to the 331 Club.

AB: Oh, yes. Yes, I knew them. They were very active.

WM: And the Fennels? You knew Mrs. Fennel?

AB: Oh, very well. And we used to see her in the hospital.

WM: She's here, is she?

AB: Fennel, John and Mary. I think John and Maria.

WM: I know you know Bernice Mooney. She's the one that sent me out here.

AB: She's a lovely person. Is her mother's name Julia?

WM: She had a sister Julia who was a nun.

AB: That may be the Julia. No, I knew the Mooneys. I'm mixed up a little bit on which one. But I knew the Mooneys very well. See, my son--my sons were about the same age as theirs.

WM: You remember any of the members who were in the choir at the time that you played for them?

AB: Yes. There was Larry Brennan and Art Allen. And Thayer Catrow, you know Thayer, Judy's husband. Judy--she's in the hospital; she's a nurse.

There were so many. And I'll tell you somebody I heard from not long ago was Paul Murphy's wife, Mary. She was in the choir. Paul died, and this was his widow, Mary Murphy. What a lovely person she is.

WM: I met Mary. Do you know--? Isn't Suzanne Weiss her sister?

AB: Who?

WM: Suzanne Weiss.

AB: The name is familiar.

WM: Did she have a sister Suzanne?

AB: She might have had.

WM: Suzanne works out at the Guadalupe Educational Center. I think she said she was Mary's sister.

AB: I see. It's funny. What troubles me is I see faces, but I never bothered-- They were in the choir. And I'd see them.

WM: You see the faces, but you can't put names on them.

AB: But Art Allen and Larry Brennan were special because they sang at the funerals.

WM: Did you, by any chance, play at Bishop Hunt's funeral.

AB: Oh, yes. I knew Bishop Hunt. I played for his funeral.

WM: How about Bishop Glass?

AB: Bishop Glass was my godfather.

WM: You played at his funeral?

AB: No, he had died in California.

WM: Oh, he did? Let's see, wasn't there another one in between there? Bishop Kearney?

AB: Oh, yes. I knew him. I'm sorry he didn't stay longer. We loved him very much. But he went back to Rochester.

WM: Do you remember--did he die in Utah?

AB: He didn't die that I know of.

WM: I don't know. The only one I know is buried here for sure is

Bishop Scanlan and Bishop Hunt.

- AB: Bishop Scanlan was the first bishop when I arrived at St. Mary's. And I went to his-- He died when I was about 12 years old, and we all went up to the funeral. And the roads were still not paved. We all walked up. We had veils on, and we paraded up from St. Mary's Academy. And everybody could-- they were quite amused at all these people coming along who wore white veils.
- WM: How many were in St. Mary's Academy? Do you have any idea?
- AB: I don't know. See, they had day pupils, too. I was a boarder.
- WM: And did you sing yourself?
- AB: Oh, no. Oh, no. I have no voice. My mother was the singer.
- WM: Well, back to Bishop Hunt's funeral? Did you walk from the academy up to the cathedral?
- AB: Now, you're speaking of South Temple's hill? It was just up, but it wasn't paved.
- WM: But it was just one level?
- AB: Not when Bishop Scanlan died.
- WM: Okay.
- AB: Because I remember we walked up the street. In fact, I think in Bernice's book-- No, in some book I saw, maybe it was Bernice's, showing a picture of the dirt roads. Once my teacher for organ asked me to go. And I'd taken one lesson only with a Hammond because that's an electronic organ. And I had never played one. And so I took one lesson from somebody named Peterson. But the other times I stayed with Alex Shriner. He'd come up and he loved to teach in the cathedral. He'd come up and give me lessons there. But Bernice just thought I had one lesson, and that was with Peterson. But I just had him come to show me how to use a Hammond because that's an electronic thing, and I wasn't used to it.
- WM: Do you remember who your violin--way back in the beginning-- who your violin teacher or your piano teacher were?
- AB: Sister Margaret Mary was my first. Then I had another one-- he came down from Chicago and gave lessons when I was back at Notre Dame. The name has skipped me. But he was a fine violinist.

WM: And piano? Do you remember your piano?

AB: I didn't study piano back then, just violin.

WM: And we talked about the harp, didn't we?

AB: Art Schwinn. Maybe it was Charles. I don't know. But Schwinn is the last name. And then there were the singers I told you: Larry Brennan and Art Allen and Thayer Catrow. And of the women--

WM: I was going to say, didn't you have any women?

AB: Yes, we did. Some are still in the church choir, still in the cathedral choir.

WM: Mary O'Carroll, did she sing cathedral?

AB: Oh, Mary had a nice voice. Mary wasn't in our choir, but I played for her at St. Ambrose. I think she sang at St. Ambros

WM: You played all around besides the cathedral.

AB: I've played so many places.

WM: Practically all of the parishes.

AB: Yes.

WM: Practically all of them, I imagine. How about the west side of town? Did you ever have anything to do down there?

AB: I was at St. Patrick's. I played for funerals over there. St. Patrick's.

WM: I was married in St. Patrick's.

AB: Were you at St. Patrick's? Because that's a lovely church.

WM: You haven't been over to Guadalupe?

AB: Then I played over there, too.

WM: Well then, did you belong to any organizations in the city, any civic organizations? Do any volunteer work anyplace?

AB: No, I'm sorry to say, I didn't really.

WM: Didn't have much time, really.

AB: No. I belonged just to the Catholic Women's League. I was not a club person really. And the Altar Society and the 331 Club.

WM: But you didn't belong to any organizations, women's organizations, outside the church?

AB: No. Well, the Organists' Guild. That's all the organists, and it's called the Organists' Guild. I belonged to that.

WM: For a long time?

AB: Oh, quite a few years.

WM: Is that just Salt Lake City organists?

AB: Well, they are all over the world. But the Guild was here in Salt Lake.

WM: You had the Salt Lake Guild. What sort of things did they do?

AB: Well, they had meetings. I have pictures of them. The other day I was looking at some. All the organists belong to the Guild. It was all organists--AGO, American Guild of Organists.

WM: Yes. That sounds right. You still belong?

AB: Well, there's no-- No, I don't try to, I can't--

WM: Your vacations were spent in Bingham then.

AB: Yes, though most of the time I'd go back to Iowa to visit my grandparents in Adair.

WM: And how did you go back there then in those days?

AB: On the train.

WM: You went on the train. I still go back on the train.

AB: I like the train. I do. Yes.

WM: That was in the old steam engine days.

AB: Oh, yeah. Then the Pullmans in those days. I loved the Pullmans.

WM: You went on the Pullman. Now, what did you do in Iowa? What could you do in a little country town in Iowa? Just like any

of us did at Grandma's?

AB: Well, I had a cousin that had a little pony. And he had two wheels on a board across, and we'd go ride and play all over. Every one of my cousins had a little pony. Didn't any new cousin come along--I had eight cousins--and each one had a pony. So that was-- Some of them were little ponies, some were Shetland. Some were long and large.

WM: Do you still go back to Iowa occasionally?

AB: There's no reason to go back; I have no one there now. Well, I mean my father had six brothers. There were six with my father. And one sister. And all of them, they stayed back. They were farmers. One was in Omaha, but he wasn't a farmer. But my father was--he liked the West, so he didn't stay back there.

WM: Well, I think you're getting tired. And we've been a whole hour. So I'm going to leave. Thank you for speaking with me.

[End of Interview]

