

Tombigbee Waltz

The musical score for "Tombigbee Waltz" is written in G Major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed letter 'A' above a G chord. The second staff features a first ending bracket over the final three measures, with chords C, D7, and G indicated. The third staff has a second ending bracket over the first three measures, with chords C, D7, and G, followed by a boxed letter 'B' above a G chord. The fourth staff contains chords C, G, and D7. The fifth staff includes a first ending bracket over the first three measures (chords C, D7, G) and a second ending bracket over the last three measures (chords C, D7, G).

"Tombigbee Waltz", also known as "Gum Tree Canoe" and "Tom Big Bee River" is an American old-time waltz in G Major. The parts are played AB (Mathiesen): AA'BB' (Phillips, Lamancusa).

The Tombigbee River flows from northeastern Mississippi into the Alabama River.

A song version, "Tom Big Bee River", attributed to S.S. Steele, was printed in **Heart Songs - Melodies of Days Gone By** which was published in 1909, although the tune is much older. The lyrics printed there are definitely from the minstrel tradition.

The final three measures bring to mind the old German song "*Du, du liegst mir im Herzen*".

It was printed in Mathiesen's **Waltz Book I** (1992), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Music, vol. 2** (1995) and Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021).

It was recorded by Tom Sauber, Brad Leftwich and Alice Gerard on **Been There Still** (appears as "Gum Tree Canoe"), James Bryan on **Lookout Blues** (1983), Indian Creek Delta Boys (1976) and Dan Gellert.