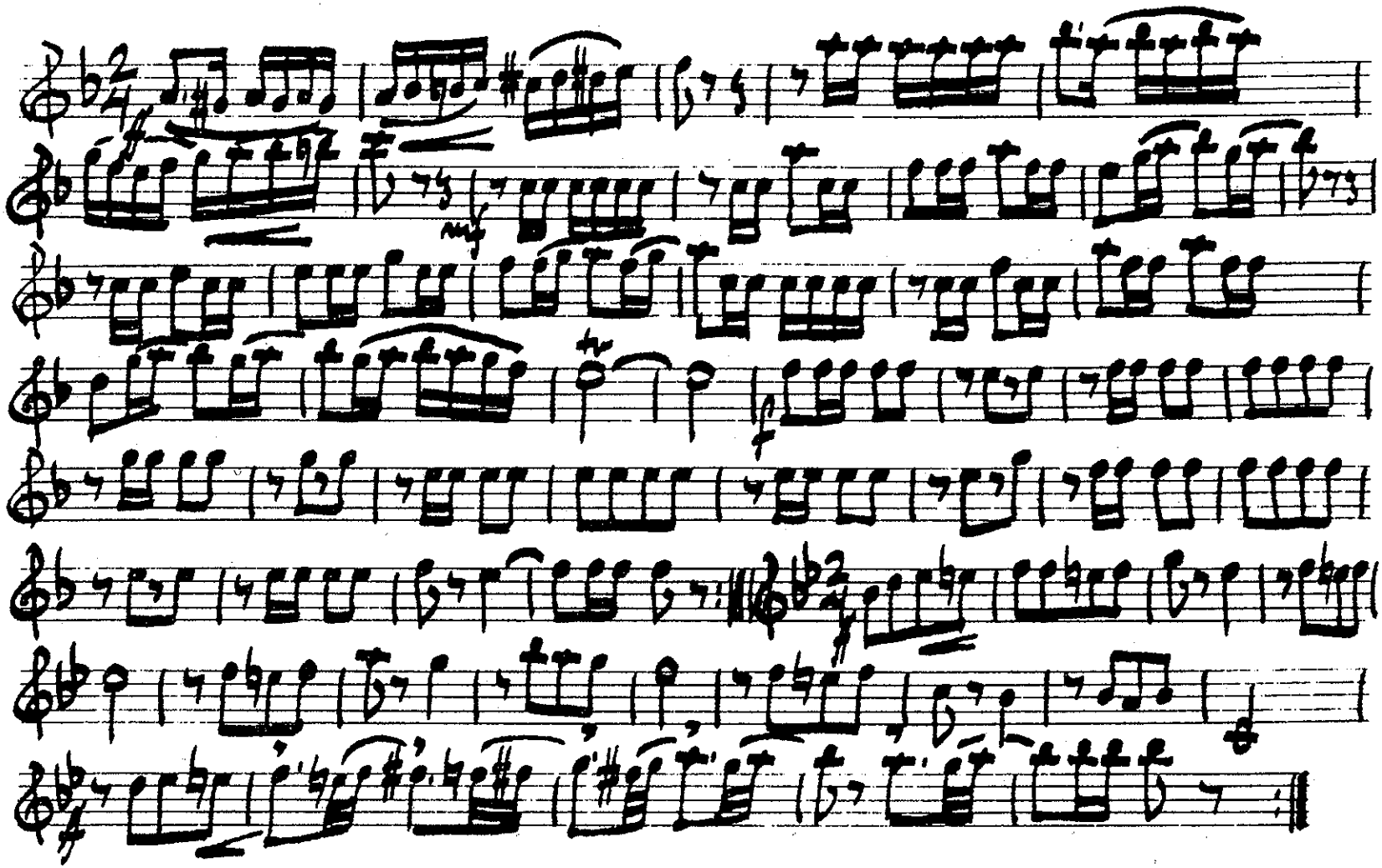
Kansas City Quickstep

C. Dalbey

Solo B♭ Cornet



C.W. DALBEY

C. W. DALBEY.

Clarence W. Dalbey was born on April 23, 1859, in the state of Iowa. He spent most of his life in Des Moines with his wife Lottie and daughter Doris.

From 1902 through 1904 he achieved national recognition by directing the famous Iowa State Military Band. During his tenure, a number of famous musicians played under his baton, including C.L. Barnhouse, Dick Platt, and Thornton Boyer. Des Moines-based cornetist and bandmaster T. Fred Henry also played for C.W. Dalbey.

The ***Heritage Encyclopedia of Band Music*** credits Dalbey with over 100 compositions, including marches, rags, overtures, and various other works. He is perhaps best known for "The Blue and Grey Patrol" (1896).

Dalbey published most of his own works, but he moved his business often as he constantly worked to achieve some measure of success. A touching aspect of Dalbey's life is revealed by the frequency of these moves:

Dalbey and Roff: Kansas City, Missouri, 1884-1885
Dalbey and Roff: Council Bluffs, Iowa, 1885 and 1896-1897
Dalbey Music Company: Chicago, 1898
Dalbey Music Company: Frankfort, Indiana, 1899
Dalbey Music Company: Des Moines, Iowa, 1900-1902, 1904-1906, and 1909
Berry-Dalbey: Evidently this firm came into existence after Dalbey's widow and daughter gave up the business; its publications show no dates.

In 1909, apparently from the strain of managing all these assorted businesses in addition to his composing, playing, and directing activities, Dalbey suffered a mental collapse and was committed to the Iowa State Mental Hospital in Clarinda. He eventually died there on March 30, 1912.

The venerable Major George Landers was a close friend of Dalbey's. At the time of Dalbey's collapse, Landers was the director of the 55th Infantry Band of the Iowa National Guard. He often brought his band to the hospital for their summer programs and honored Dalbey by playing his compositions while the composer was in the audience. When Dalbey was bedridden, the band would play by the window to his room. At Dalbey's funeral, Landers' band played many of Dalbey's favorites.

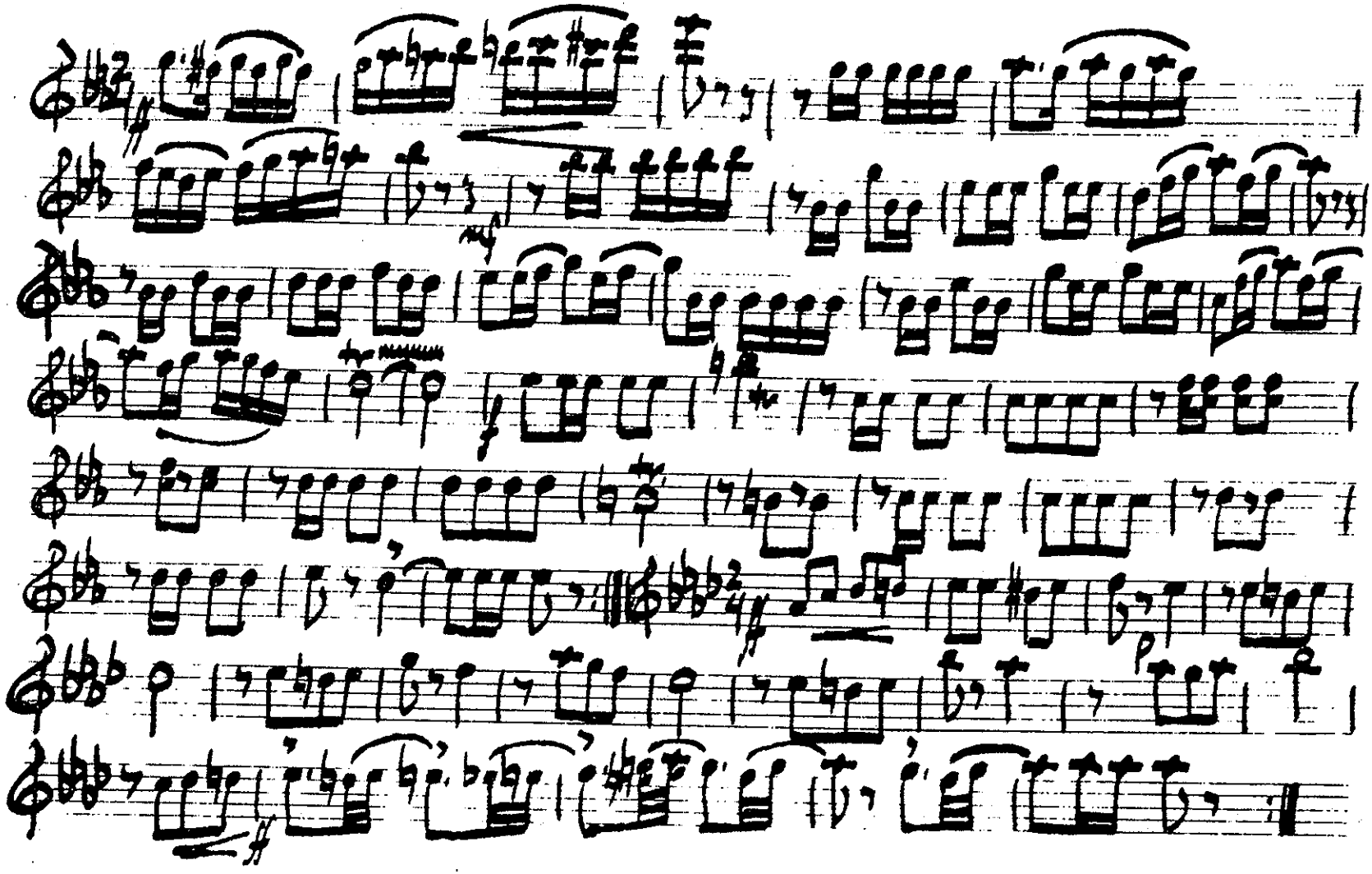
After Dalbey's death, his wife Lottie managed the business until 1916. His daughter managed it until 1917 and then dissolved it.

Biography by William R. Baker

Photo courtesy of Loras John Schissel
Music Division, Library of Congress
Contributed by Jay Kahn

Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

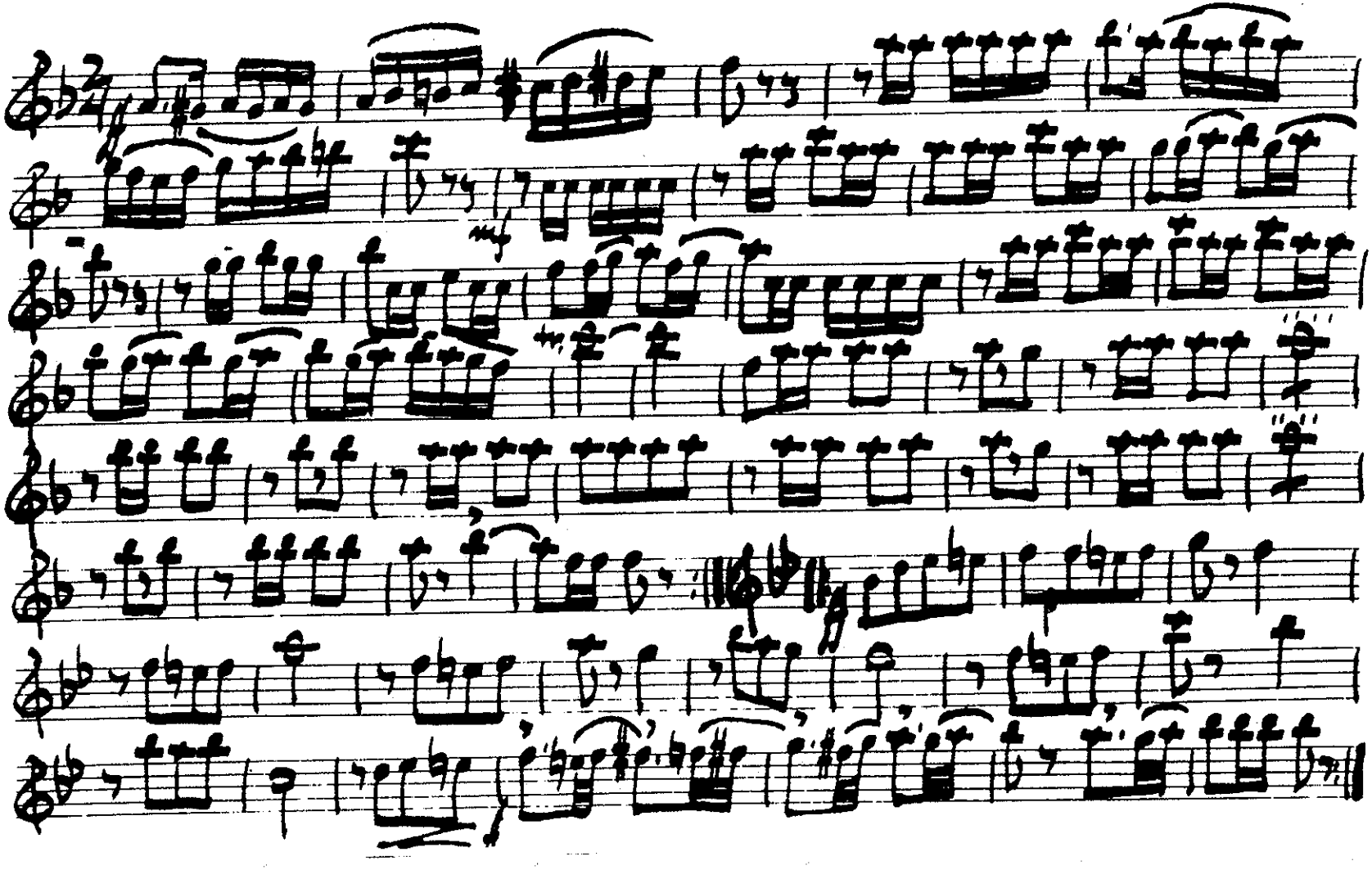
C Piccolo



Kansas City Quickstep

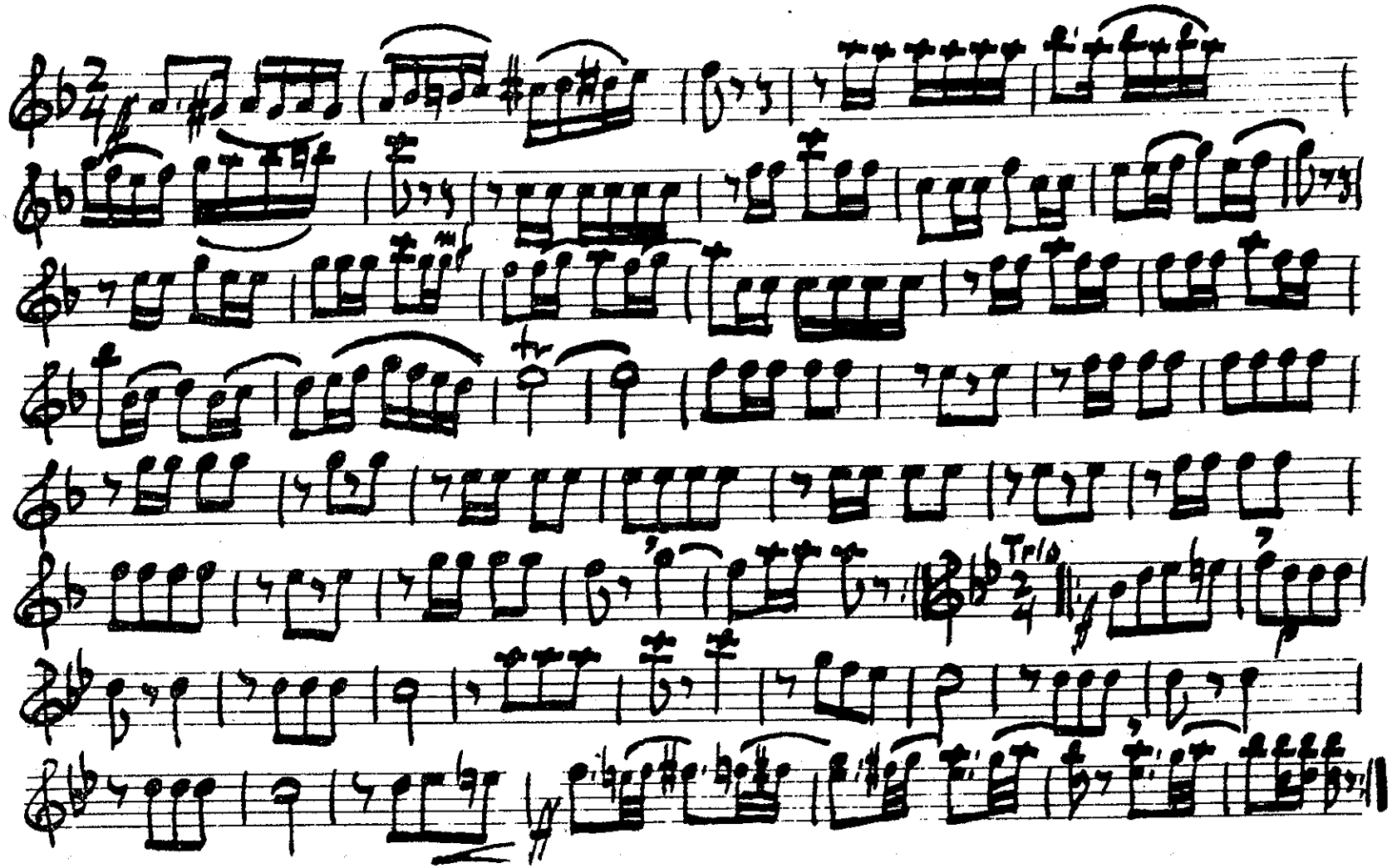
C. Dalbey

1st B♭ CLARINET



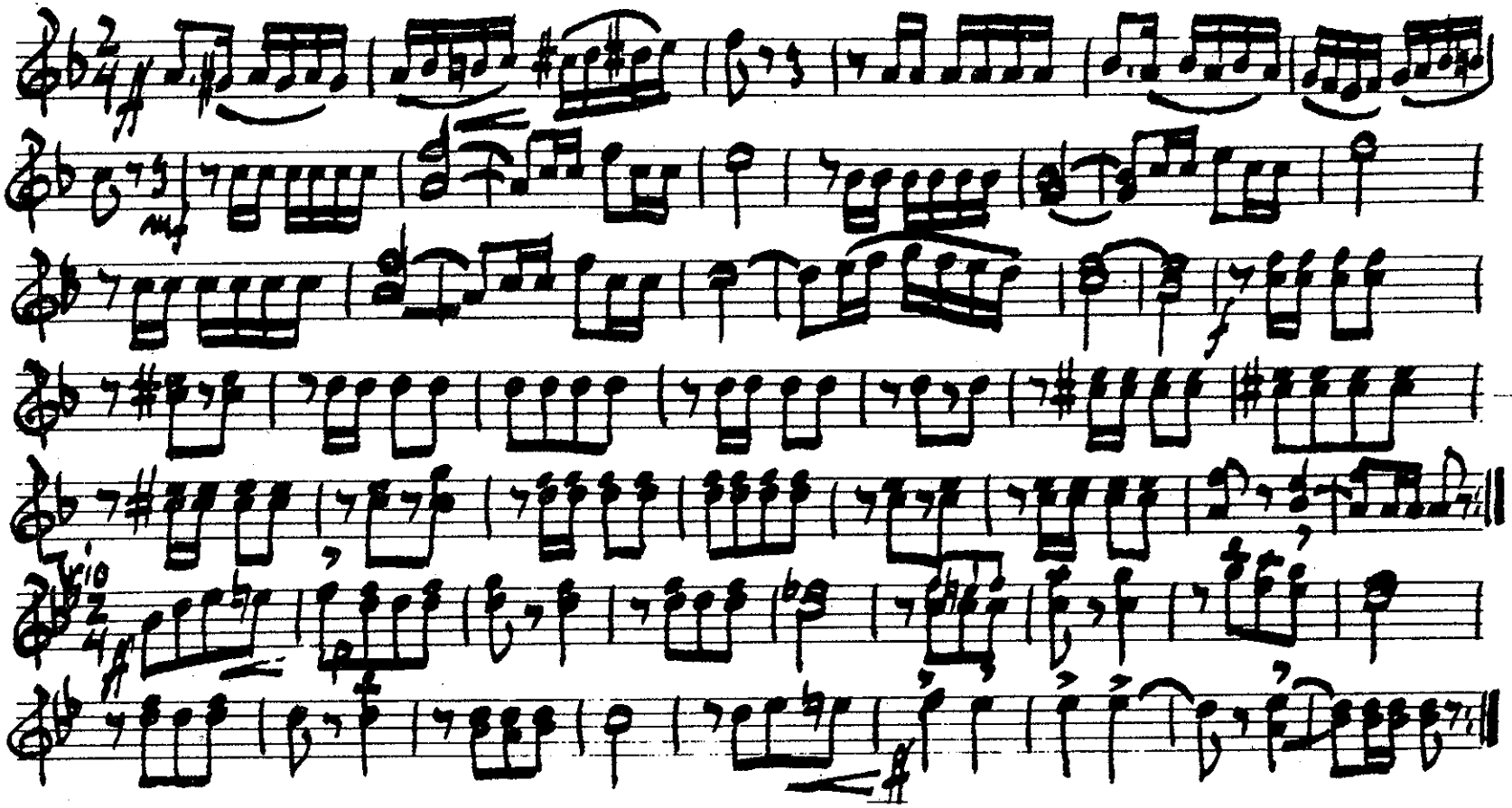
Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

2ND + 3RD B♭ CLARINET



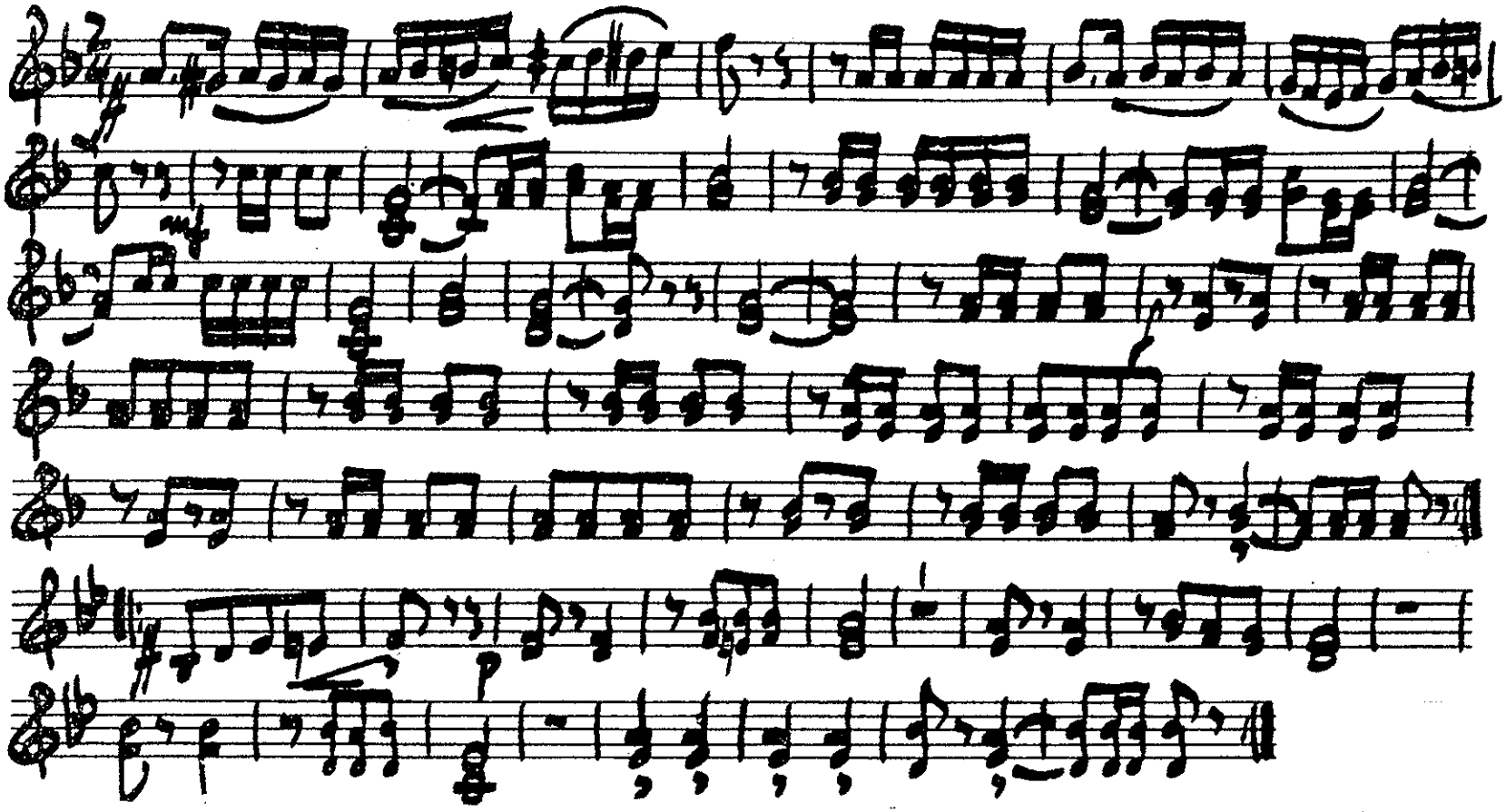
Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

1ST B♭ CORNET



Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

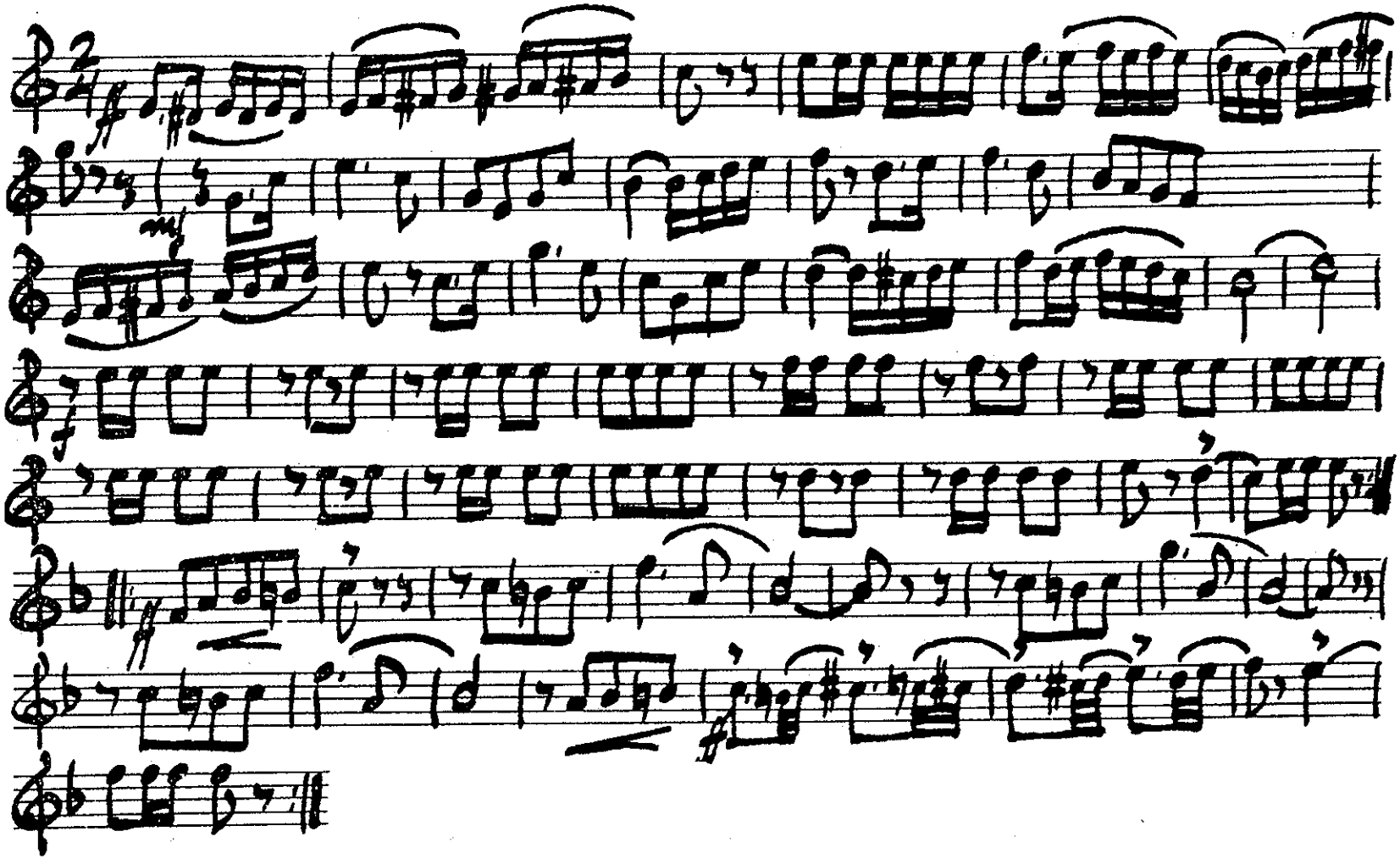
2ND + 3RD B♭ CORNETS KANSAS CITY QUICKSTEP C. DALBEY



Kansas City Quickstep

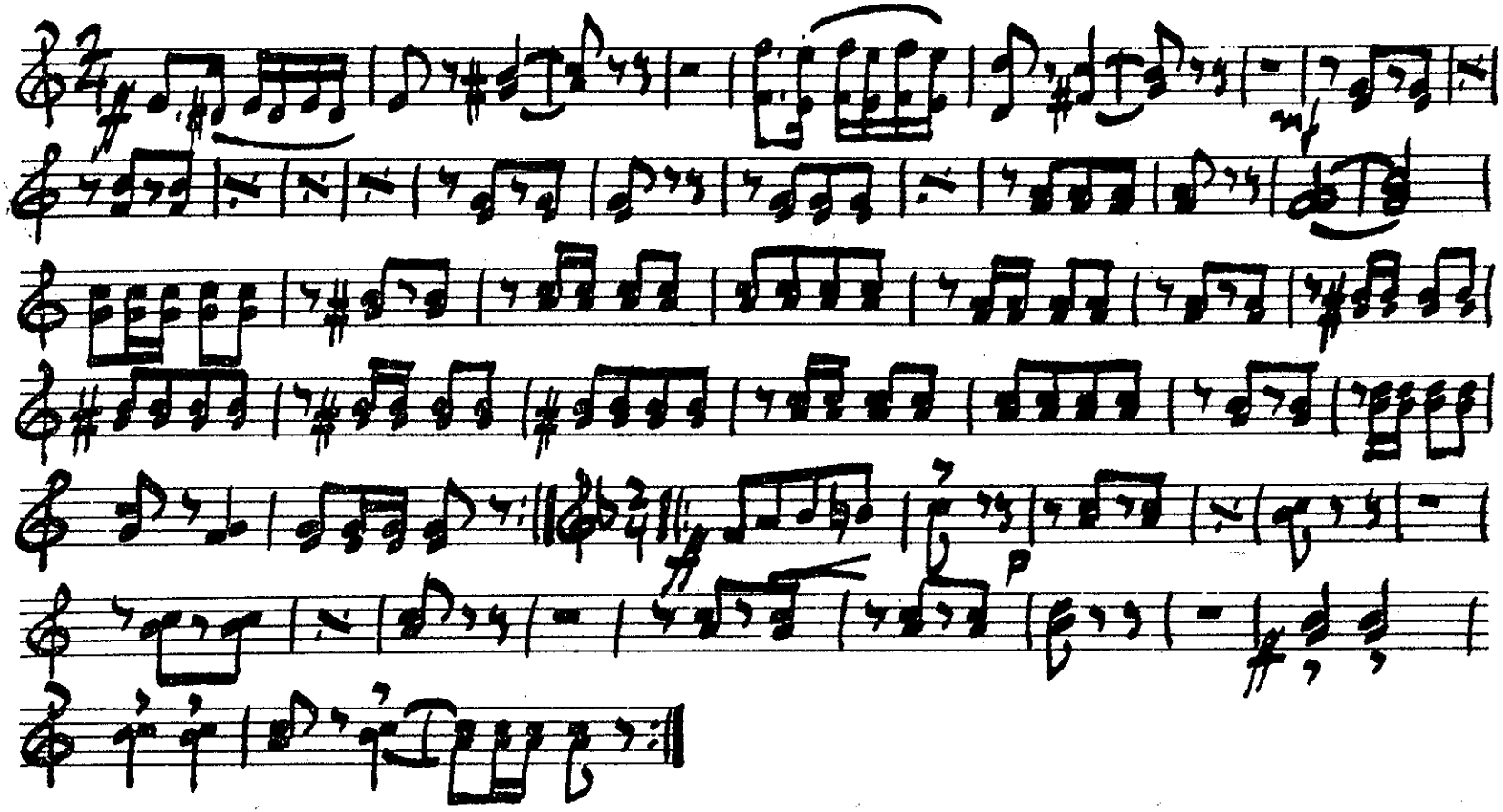
C. Dalbey

1st E♭ Horn



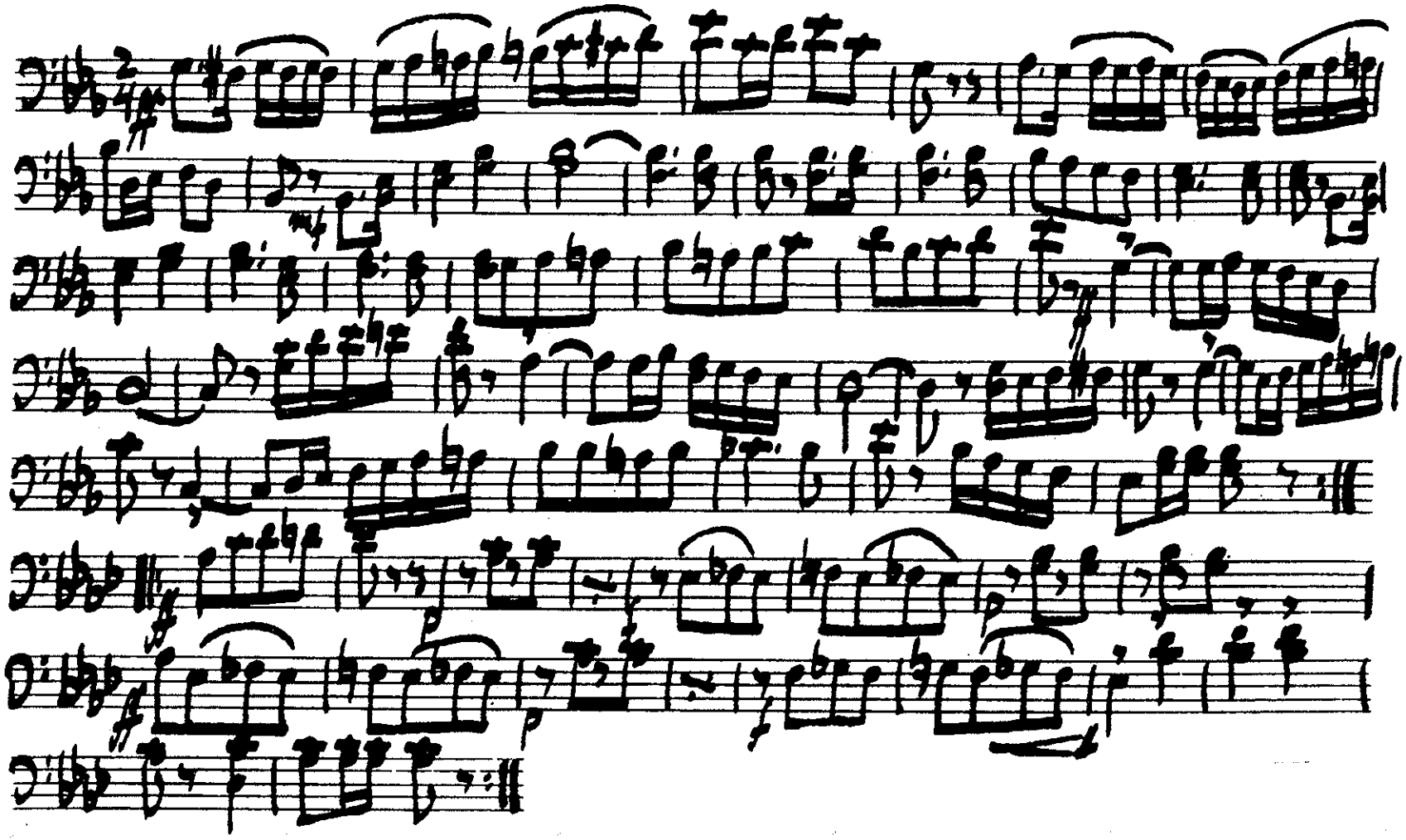
Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

2ND + 3RD Eb HORN



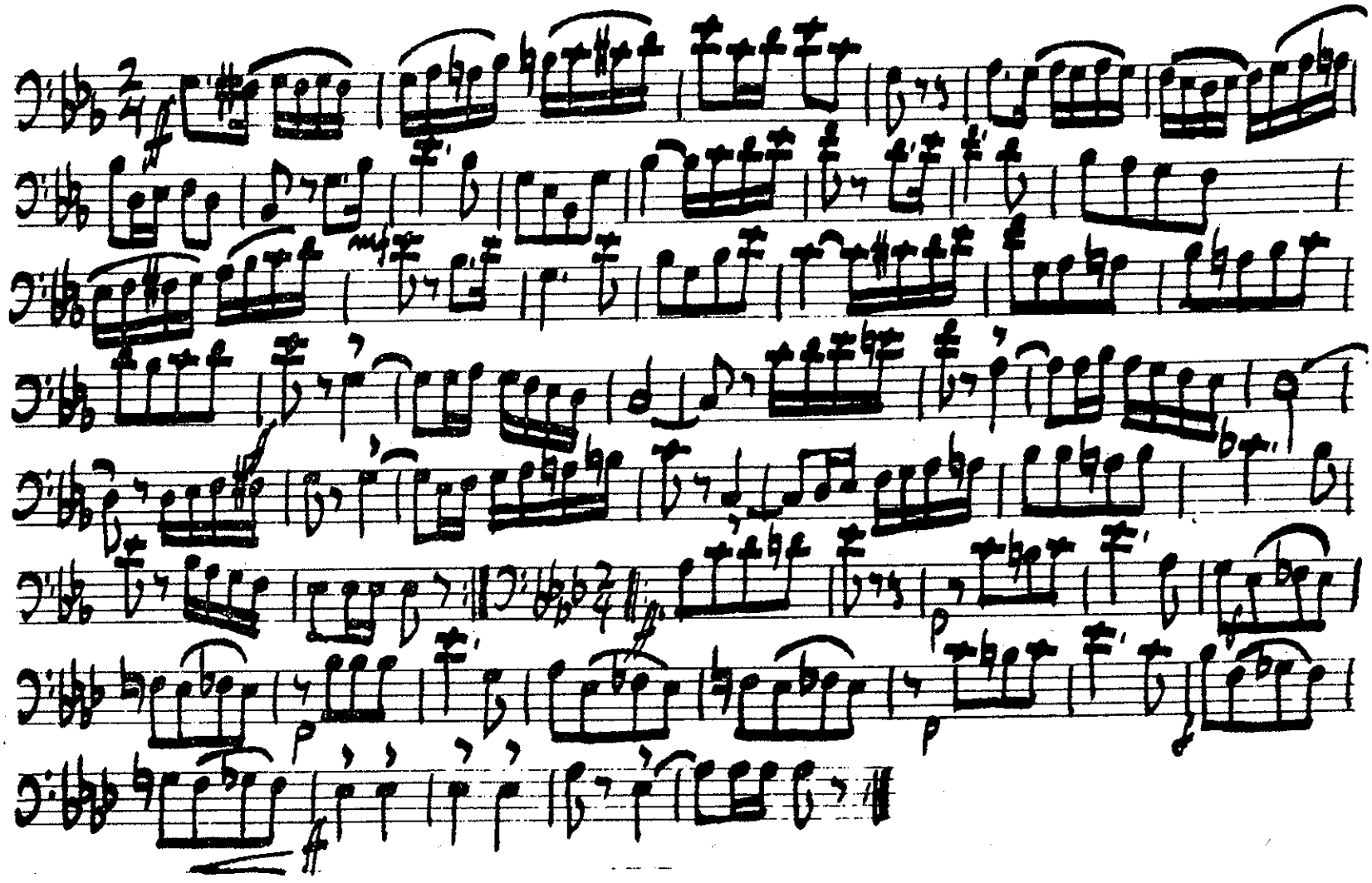
Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

1ST + 2ND TROMBONES



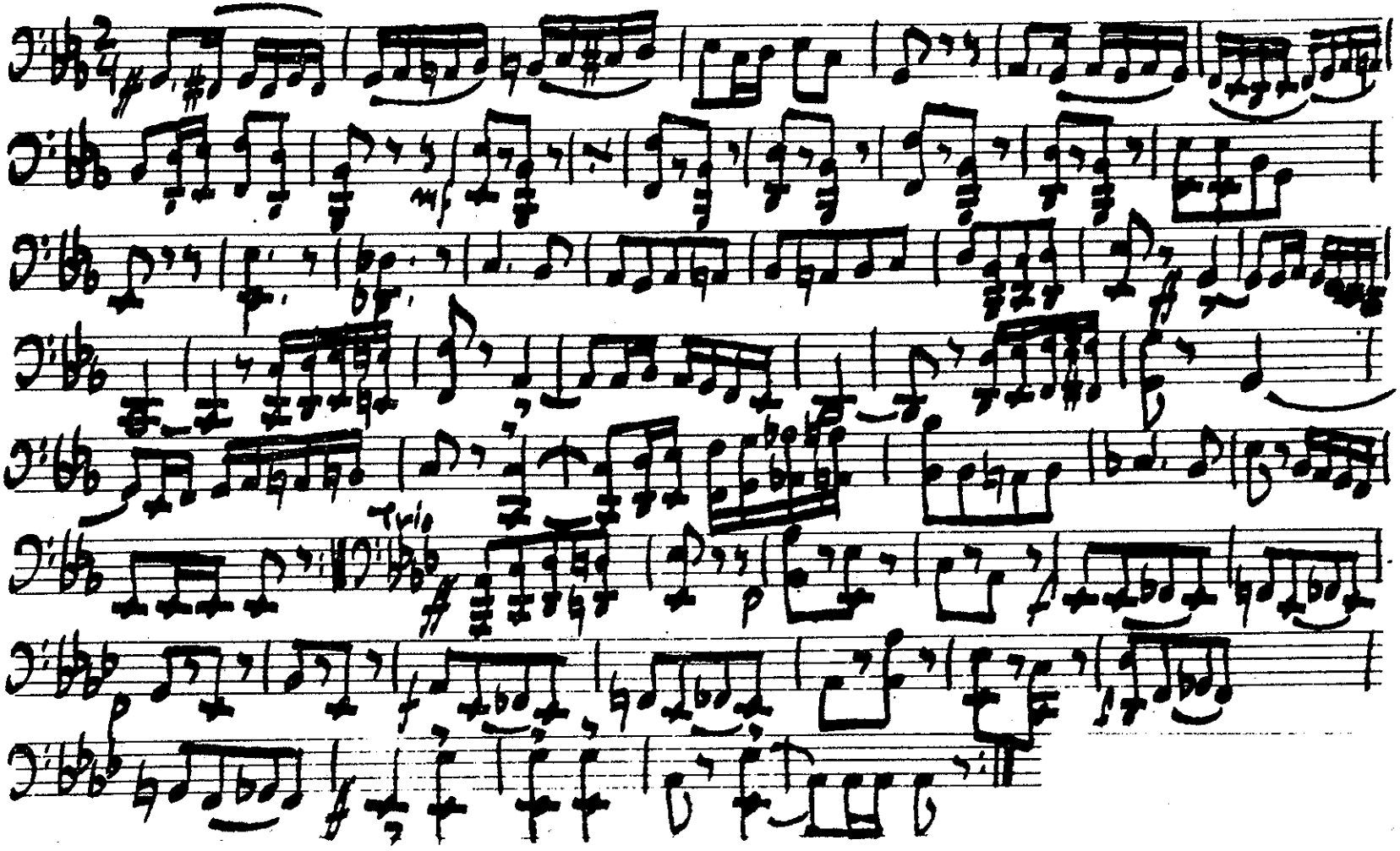
Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

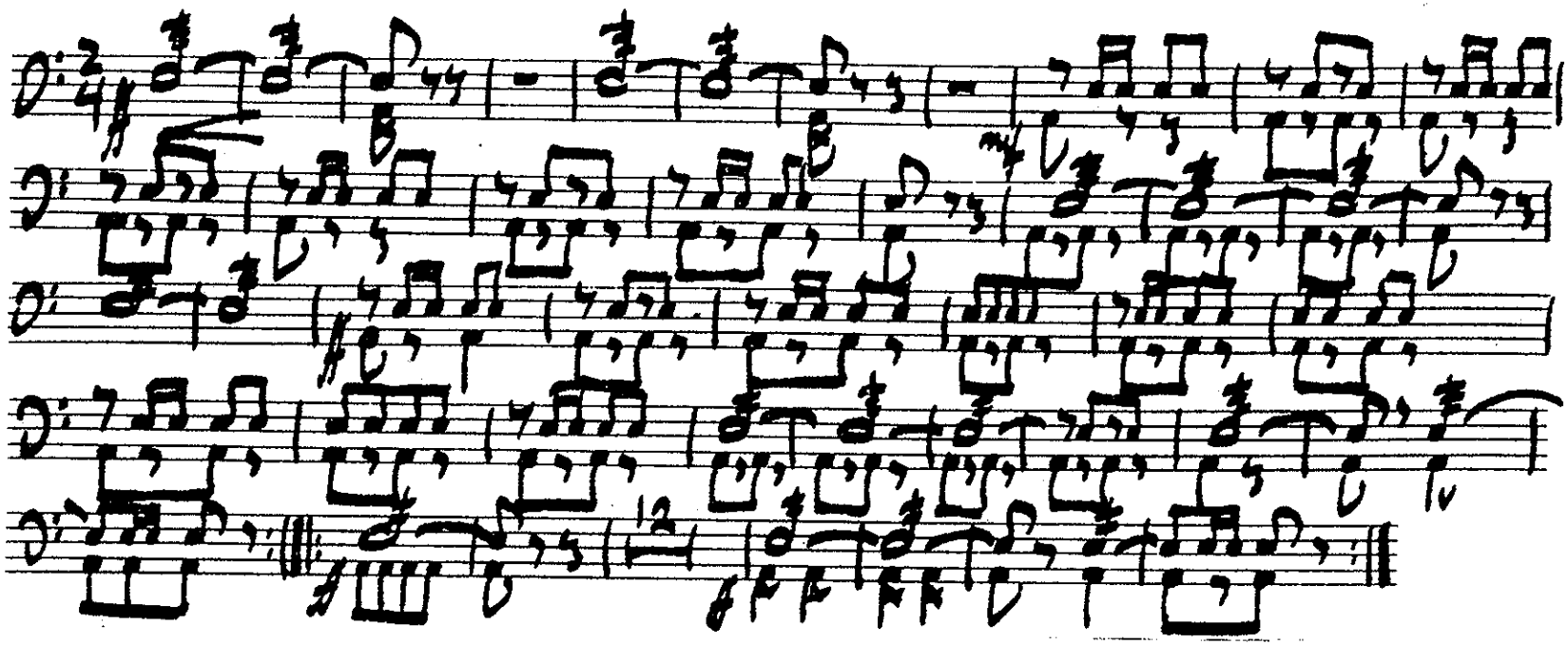
EUPHONIUM



Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

TUBAS



Kansas City Quickstep C. Dalbey

DRUMS KANSAS CITY QUICKSTEP C. DALBEY