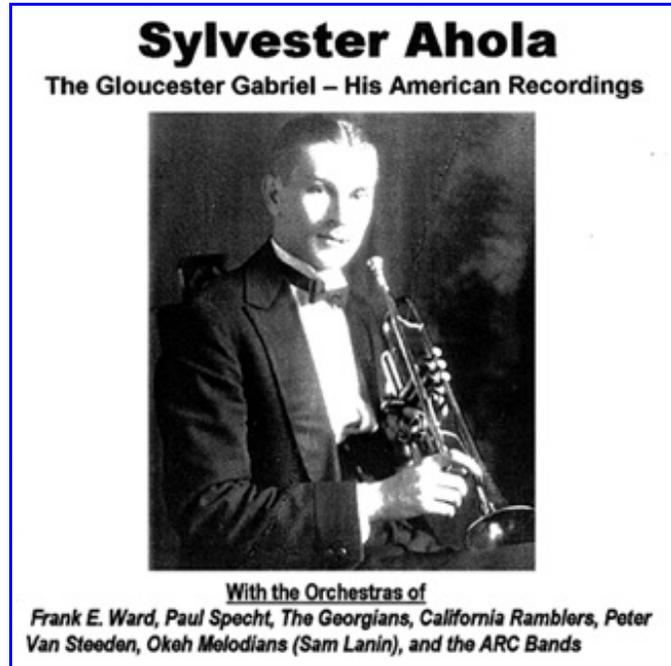


**Sylvester (Ves) Ahola W1PU \*1905-1995\*** Biography sequence by Dick Hill. “Hooley as Mr. Ahola had picked up along the way as a nickname, has played the trumpet on two thousand records and been part of fifty orchestras and jazz bands. This comprehensive study charts his role as one of the great musicians during a unique period in American musical culture – from the growth of jazz through the Depression to the development of commercial radio.”

After a classical training, Ahola’s prolific recording career among the top bands of the age, in both America and England, was a tribute to the skill and mastery of his chosen instrument. His career as a first rate studio musician found him equally at ease with classical trumpet solos, light orchestral music, popular dance band tunes and in groups accompanying such great singers as Paul Robeson and Sophie Tucker.

He was also responsible, in no small way for the establishing a style of “hot” jazz flavored playing among emerging British dance bands. His however, is a story of anonymity.



This bibliography is intended to help restore his name to its proper place in both American and British musical history. The author recalls Ahola’s incredible memory of events, anecdotes about musicians, band leaders and recording studios and a lifelong passion for amateur radio. With a comprehensive discography of all his known recordings and many photographs.

Credit Dick Hill books. Hill has a BA in fine arts, Brighton College of Art; Post Grad Art in Education University of Manchester. Has made several regular visits to the Ahola home. His hard copy book 239 pages -Sylvester Ahola, the Gloucester Gabriel.

Ves as our VIP was known, “The Gloucester Gabriel” enjoyed CW and traffic phone nets. QSL via K8CX Ham Gallery. We reviewed several thousand first district QSL cards in the K8CX collection and found Ves’ unique card. His recordings are still available. We are in hope that Ahola eventually gets the recognition he richly deserves. The VIP book and our tribute is a small start.