



William C. Mellor

ARCHIVE PROVENANCE REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS CENTERED ON THE LIFE AND CAREER OF RENOWNED CINEMATOGRAPHER AND TWO-TIME ACADEMY AWARD WINNER WILLIAM C. MELLOR. OVER A DISTINGUISHED CAREER SPANNING MORE THAN 35 YEARS, MELLOR PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN SHAPING THE GOLDEN AGE OF HOLLYWOOD. HIS WORK TOOK HIM ACROSS A DIVERSE CINEMATIC LANDSCAPE, COLLABORATING WITH MANY OF THE INDUSTRY'S LEADING PRODUCTION STUDIOS, INCLUDING MGM, PARAMOUNT, 20TH CENTURY FOX, WARNER BROS., AND UNIVERSAL.

THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER, MELLOR ACCUMULATED A VAST COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS, LETTERS, & AND OTHER FILM-RELATED EPHEMERA—PERSONAL MEMENTOS THAT CAPTURED HIS EXPERIENCES BEHIND THE SCENES. THESE ITEMS WERE ENTRUSTED TO HIS SISTER, DOROTHY MELLOR, WHO METICULOUSLY COMPILED THEM INTO A SERIES OF SCRAPBOOKS DOCUMENTING HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS. BY THE TIME OF MELLOR'S PASSING IN 1965, DOROTHY HAD COMPLETED A TOTAL OF SEVEN LARGE VOLUMES, WITH THE FINAL BOOK CONCLUDING WITH *THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD*, MELLOR'S LAST FILM.

PASSED DOWN THROUGH FIVE GENERATIONS, THESE SCRAPBOOKS NOW RESIDE WITH MELLOR'S GREAT-GRANDNEPHEW, JASON HOWATT.

THIS DOCUMENT SERVES A DUAL PURPOSE:

1. IT ESTABLISHES A CLEAR AND VERIFIABLE LINEAGE FROM WILLIAM C. MELLOR TO JASON HOWATT.

2. IT CERTIFIES THE AUTHENTICITY AND PROVENANCE OF THE COLLECTION, ENSURING ITS HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE IS PRESERVED.

THESE ITEMS REPRESENT NOT ONLY A PERSONAL ARCHIVE OF MELLOR'S LEGACY BUT ALSO A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO FILM HISTORY, OFFERING AN INTIMATE GLIMPSE INTO THE CAREER OF ONE OF HOLLYWOOD'S MOST CELEBRATED CINEMATOGRAPHERS.

LINEAGE OVERVIEW: THE FOLLOWING TABLE OUTLINES THE DIRECT GENEALOGICAL LINE CONNECTING WILLIAM C. MELLOR TO CURRENT HEIRS.:

NAME	GENERATION	RELATION TO MELLOR	BIRTH	DEATH	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION
WILLIAM C. MELLOR	SELF	SELF	1903	1963	ACADEMY / CENSUS RECORDS
DOROTHY MELLOR (HOLLISTER) (BUNKER)	SISTER	SISTER	1898	1975	FAMILY / ,CENSUS RECORDS
ELIZABETH "BETTE" HOLLISTER (HOWATT) (FLETCHER)	NIECE	DAUGHTER OF DOROTHY MELLOR	1919	1991	FAMILY / CENSUS RECORDS
WILLIAM HOWATT	GRAND NEPHEW	SON OF ELIZABETH HOLLISTER	1949	2000	FAMILY / BIRTH / DEATH RECORDS
JASON HOWATT	GREAT-GRAND NEPHEW	SON OF WILLIAM HOWATT	1981	N/A	KINSHIP / PEDIGREE REPORTS

INHERITANCE PATH:THE PERSONAL ITEMS BELONGING TO MELLOR WERE PASSED DOWN THROUGH FAMILY LINES, ULTIMATELY COMING INTO THE POSSESSION OF JASON HOWATT. THIS INHERITANCE REFLECTS AN UNBROKEN CHAIN OF CUSTODY, PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY OF THESE ARTIFACTS.

- **INITIAL OWNERSHIP:** WILLIAM C. MELLOR (POSSESSED DURING HIS LIFETIME).
 - **INTERMEDIATE TRANSFERS:** INHERITED BY DOROTHY MELLOR, INHERITED BY ELIZABETH HOLLISTER, INHERITED BY WILLIAM HOWATT, INHERITED BY JASON HOWATT.
 - **CURRENT OWNERSHIP:** JASON HOWATT, THROUGH FAMILIAL INHERITANCE
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ITEMS CERTIFIED: THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE CERTIFIED AS PART OF THE INHERITED COLLECTION:

1. **LETTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE:** APPROXIMATELY 70 LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS FROM PROMINENT HOLLYWOOD FIGURES, INCLUDING: EXECUTIVES, PRODUCERS, AND PERFORMERS.
2. **PHOTOGRAPHS:** DIVERSE RANGE OF ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHIC FORMATS, SUCH AS: GLAMOUR SHOTS, PRODUCTION STILLs, GROUP ENSEMBLES, AND BEHIND-THE-SCENES IMAGES. PHOTOGRAPHS PRINTS REPRESENT VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES INCLUDING SILVER GELATIN AND PLATINUM. COLLECTION CONSTITUTES SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS FROM HOLLYWOOD'S GOLDEN ERA AND MELLOR'S LONG CAREER IN THE INDUSTRY.
3. **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:** TWO ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION CERTIFICATE PLAQUES
4. **EPHEMERA:** VARIOUS HOLLYWOOD RELATED MEMORABILIA INCLUDING TICKETS TO SEVERAL ACADEMY AWARD CEREMONIES, AND OTHER PREMIERE EVENTS.

****THE PROCEEDING TABLE PROVIDES DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF ITEMS BELONGING TO WILLIAM C. MELLOR. ANY REFERENCES TO SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS OR PERIODS IN TIME ARE BASED ON AVAILABLE RESEARCH. CONDITION GRADES ARE BASED ON RECOGNIZED COLLECTIBLE STANDARDS, REFLECTING WEAR, DISCOLORATION, AND OTHER AGE-RELATED FACTORS. GRADING IS SUBJECTIVE. ****

ITEM TITLE	DESCRIPTION	CONDITION
ACADEMY AWARD CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION *WON OSCAR*	BEST BLACK & WHITE CINEMATOGRAPHY FOR: "A PLACE IN THE SUN"-1951-PLAQUE MOUNTED (MELLOR WENT ON TO WIN THE OSCAR FOR THIS CATEGORY)	NEAR-MINT
ACADEMY AWARD CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION *POSTHUMOUS*	BEST COLOR CINEMATOGRAPHY FOR: "THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD"-1965-PLAQUE MOUNTED (MELLOR DIED ON SET DURING THE FILMING OF MOVIE, AWARD IS PRESENTED ALONGSIDE LOYAL GRIGGS)	NEAR-MINT
ACADEMY AWARD PROGRAM & TICKET-STUB 1952	MELLOR'S PROGRAM AND USED TICKET FROM ACADEMY AWARD CEREMONY-NOMINATED AND WON FOR BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY BLACK & WHITE FOR "A PLACE IN THE SUN"	FAIR,
ACADEMY AWARD TICKET 1958	MELLOR'S FULL TICKET TO 1958 AWARD CEREMONY-NOMINATED FOR BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY FOR PEYTON'S PLACE.	VERY GOOD, LIGHT CREASING
ACADEMY AWARD TICKET 1960	MELLOR'S FULL TICKET FROM ACADEMY AWARD CEREMONY-NOMINATED AND WON BY MELLOR FOR BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY BLACK & WHITE FOR "DIARY OF ANNE FRANK".	NEAR-MINT

BOARD OF GOVERNORS BALL TICKET 1958 OSCARS	MELLOR'S TICKET FROM ACADEMY AWARD BOARD OF GOVERNORS BALL.	NEAR-MINT
LOVE IN THE AFTERNOON VOINQUEL GROUP PHOTOGRAPH	ORIGINAL RAYMOND VAINQUEL PHOTOGRAPH-SILVER GELATIN-ENTIRE CAST (HEPBURN, COOPER, WILDER, MELLOR)	NEAR-MINT
50+ ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHS	8X10 ORIGINAL SILVER GELATIN AND PLATINUM PRINTS FROM VARIOUS HOLLYWOOD PRODUCTIONS. INCLUDES GROUP ENSEMBLES, PRODUCTION/SET STILLS	VERY -GOOD TO NEAR-MINT
6 SIGNED ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHS	LARGE FORMAT 11X4 GLAMOUR SHOTS OF: BARBARA STANWYCK, BING CROSBY, GEORGE STEVENS, MAURICE CHEVALIER. 8X10: ARNES & WEAVER FROM GUNSMOKE, SPENCER TRACY.	FAIR TO EXCELLENT
30+ SIGNED "HOLLYWOOD" LETTERS	HAND-SIGNED LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS FROM NOTABLE HOLLYWOOD FIGURES, INCLUDING, DARRYL ZANUCK, JOAN CRAWFORD, SYDNEY SHELDON, DORE SCHARY, WALTER F. WANGER, GEORGE STEVENS, EDGAR J. MANNIX, GEORGE BURNS, ETC.	GOOD TO NEAR MINT
PARIS EPHEMERA	MELLOR'S PARIS TRAVEL PASSPORT TO WORK ON "LOVE IN THE AFTERNOON". TELEGRAM FROM HEPBURN, "THANK YOU FOR MAKING ARIANE BEAUTIFUL, LOVE AUDREY."	FAIR-GOOD
FILM PRODUCTION EPHEMERA	VARIOUS PRODUCTION PACKETS AND INFORMATIONAL PROMOTIONAL ITEMS FOR SEVERAL FILMS: MAKE WAY FOR TOMORROW, WESTWARD THE WOMEN, PEYTON PLACE, ETC.,	VERY GOOD TO EXCELLENT
STERLING ORNATE JEWELRY BOX DOROTHY LAMOUR	VINTAGE ORNATE 12X4 STERLING SILVER JEWELRY BOX WITH INSCRIPTION, "TO BILL & ROS FROM DOROTHY LAMOUR"	EXCELLENT

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION: THE PROVENANCE OF THESE ITEMS ARE SUPPORTED BY:

1. **MELLOR KINSHIP REPORT:** GENERATED BY PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGY TOOLS AND VERIFIED LINEAGE RECORDS (ATTACHED).
2. **HOWATT GRAPHICAL PEDIGREE:** DETAILED GENEALOGICAL NARRATIVE (ATTACHED).
3. **HISTORICAL RECORDS:** COPIES OF RELEVANT CENSUS RECORDS, OBITUARIES, AND OTHER SUPPORTING MATERIALS

ATTACHMENTS:

1. HOWATT GRAPHICAL PEDIGREE
2. CENSUS RECORDS
3. DEATH RECORDS
4. PHOTO VERIFICATION OF SCRAPBOOKS

DEATH RECORDS:

William C. Mellor 🌟

BIRTH 29 Jun 1903
Missouri, USA

DEATH 30 Apr 1963 (aged 59)
Hollywood, Los Angeles County, California, USA

BURIAL [Forest Lawn Memorial Park](#)
Glendale, Los Angeles County, California, USA 📍 [Add to Map](#)

PLOT Great Mausoleum, Holly Terrace, Corridor of Hope, Sanctuary of Shelter, Crypt 12089

MEMORIAL ID 85466822 · [View Source](#)

Dorothy Mellor Bunker

BIRTH 29 Mar 1898

DEATH 17 Oct 1976 (aged 78)

BURIAL [Forest Lawn Memorial Park](#)
Glendale, Los Angeles County, California, USA 📍 [Add to Map](#)

PLOT Sanct. of Understanding, FM, Lot 0, Space 22788

MEMORIAL ID 85358259 · [View Source](#)

Bette Jane *Hollister* Fletcher

BIRTH 28 Feb 1919
Missouri, USA

DEATH 23 Apr 1991 (aged 72)
Orange County, California, USA

BURIAL [Pacific View Memorial Park](#)
Corona del Mar, Orange County, California, USA 📍 [Add to Map](#)

PLOT Magnolia Court, #206

MEMORIAL ID 191683771 · [View Source](#)

William Carl Howatt

BIRTH 08 December 1949

DEATH 01 November 2000 (aged 50)
Huntington Beach, Orange County, California, USA

BURIAL Cremated
Newport Beach, Orange County, California, USA

PLOT The Wedge, "At Sea", Newport Beach, Orange County, California, USA

MEMORIAL ID None

PHOTO VERIFICATION OF SCRAPBOOKS:



UNSWORN DECLARATION: I, JASON HOWATT, DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THAT THE FOREGOING INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS PROVENANCE AND KINSHIP REPORT IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

EXECUTED ON: JANUARY 7, 2025

LOCATION: GEORGETOWN, TEXAS

SIGNATURE:

JASON HOWATT

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DOCUMENT PROTECTION & OWNERSHIP LEDGER

THE RECORDS AND ASSOCIATED DETAILS OF THE WILLIAM C. MELLOR ARCHIVE ARE **SECURED WITH A UNIQUE PIN**, GRANTING AUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THE WILLIAM C. MELLOR VERIFICATION PORTAL. WITHIN THIS PORTAL, COLLECTORS CAN REVIEW AND **DOWNLOAD THE MASTER COPY OF THE MELLOR ARCHIVE PROVENANCE REPORT, AS WELL AS CONTRIBUTE TO THE COLLECTION NOTES AND OWNERSHIP RECORDS.**

THE MELLOR FAMILY RESPECTFULLY ASKS THAT COLLECTORS UPDATE THE LEDGER AS NECESSARY, HONORING THE LEGACY OF PRESERVING FILM HISTORY—A PASSION SHARED BY BOTH WILLIAM AND HIS SISTER, DOROTHY.

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY DOWNLOAD OR REVIEW THE **REFERENCE COPY** OF THE REPORT, WHERE FAMILY NAMES AND OTHER SENSITIVE INFORMATION HAVE BEEN OMITTED. THE **MASTER COPY**, WHICH REMAINS THE **OFFICIAL DOCUMENT FOR AUTHENTICATION PURPOSES, SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED ALONGSIDE THE COLLECTION DURING OWNERSHIP CHANGES.** THE **MASTER COPY** CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY THE HOLOGRAM AFFIXED TO THE BOTTOM RIGHT CORNER.

IN THE EVENT THE MASTER COPY IS LOST BY ANY CURRENT OR PREVIOUS HOLDER OF THE COLLECTION, IT CAN ONLY BE REISSUED BY THE DESIGNATED ARCHIVE STEWARD, JASON HOWATT. FOR REPLACEMENT REQUESTS OR ANY INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT: JASONHOWATT@GMAIL.COM.

[HTTPS://WILLIAMCMELLOR.GITHUB.IO/VERIFICATION/](https://williamcmellor.github.io/verification/)

PIN: WCM062903

