



William C. Mellor

Heritage & Provenance Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: THIS 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	SISTER	SISTER	1898	1975	FAMILY / CENSUS RECORDS
ELIZABETH HOLLISTER	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:** FROM DOROTHY MELLOR TO ELIZABETH HOLLISTER, TO WILLIAM HOWATT, AND FINALLY TO 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*	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	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, STAINING FROM HANDLING (OUTSIDE OF PROGRAM)
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 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 VOINQUEL 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 DORE SCHARY, DARRY, ZANUCK, JOAN CRAWFORD, 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

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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ATTACHMENTS:

1. HOWATT GRAPHICAL PEDIGREE
2. MELLOR KINSHIP LIST
3. CENSUS RECORDS
4. DEATH RECORDS
5. PHOTO VERIFICATION OF SCRAPBOOKS

HOWATT GRAPHICAL PEDIGREE:



MELLOR KINSHIP LIST:

Relative	Relationship
Combs, Gail	Spouse of grandnephew
Fletcher, Howard Crosby Jr	Spouse of niece
Hollister, Elizabeth	Niece
Hollister, Joseph	Spouse of sister
Howatt, Jason	Great grandnephew
Howatt, Joshua	Great grandnephew
Howatt, Randy	Grandnephew
Howatt, Thomas	Spouse of niece
Howatt, William	Grandnephew
Kerr, Rena	Spouse
Mellor, Clarence E.	Spouse of mother
Mellor, Dorothy	Sister
Mellor, Matilda Emma	Mother
Mellor, William C.	Self

MELLOR 1940 CENSUS RECORDS:

<p>This image shows a 1940 US Census record for Robert Mellor and his family. The record includes columns for name, sex, age, relationship to head, place of birth, occupation, industry, and employment status. The family listed includes Robert, Bette, Dorothy, and several children.</p>		<p>This image shows a 1940 US Census record for Charles and Dorothy Fletcher. The record includes columns for name, sex, age, relationship to head, place of birth, occupation, industry, and employment status. The family listed includes Charles, Dorothy, and their children.</p>	
<p>This image shows a 1940 US Census record for George and Dorothy Mellor. The record includes columns for name, sex, age, relationship to head, place of birth, occupation, industry, and employment status. The family listed includes George, Dorothy, and their children.</p>			
<p>This image shows a 1940 US Census record for William Carl Howatt. The record includes columns for name, sex, age, relationship to head, place of birth, occupation, industry, and employment status. The individual listed is William Carl Howatt.</p>			
<p>This image shows a 1940 US Census record for Dorothy Mellor Bunker. The record includes columns for name, sex, age, relationship to head, place of birth, occupation, industry, and employment status. The individual listed is Dorothy Mellor Bunker.</p>			
<p>This image shows a 1940 US Census record for Bette Jane Hollister Fletcher. The record includes columns for name, sex, age, relationship to head, place of birth, occupation, industry, and employment status. The individual listed is Bette Jane Hollister Fletcher.</p>			

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Citation:

"California, United States records," images, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9MT-VWZK?view=index : Jan 10, 2025), image 143 of 581; United States. National Archives and Records Administration.

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9MT-VWZK?view=index>

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
	Glenelde, 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:



DOCUMENT PROTECTION: THE MELLOR HERITAGE AND PROVENANCE REPORT IS SAFEGUARDED THROUGH CRYPTOGRAPHIC HASHING, ENSURING ITS AUTHENTICITY AND PROTECTION AGAINST TAMPERING. EACH DOCUMENT IS ASSIGNED A UNIQUE SHA-256 HASH, WHICH IS PERMANENTLY RECORDED FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES. USERS CAN UPLOAD THEIR COPY OF THE REPORT TO THIS SITE ([HTTPS://WILLIAMCMELLOR.GITHUB.IO/VERIFICATION/#RECORDS](https://williamcmellor.github.io/verification/#records)), WHERE IT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY HASHED AND COMPARED AGAINST THE OFFICIAL STORED HASH. IF THE HASHES MATCH, THE DOCUMENT IS CONFIRMED AS AUTHENTIC AND UNALTERED. THIS VERIFICATION PROCESS GUARANTEES THAT THE PROVENANCE OF WILLIAM C. MELLOR'S LEGACY REMAINS INTACT AND SECURE.