

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT 1 – COPYRIGHT REGISTRATION

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Cine-GT.1804: Copyright, Legal Issues, and Policy

Instructor: Greg Cram

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Part 1

“Preserving the Home Movies of Bill Stamets” is an as of yet unpublished essay detailing the author’s preservation work on the Bill Stamets film collection during the summer of 2016 at the Chicago Film Archives (CFA) in Chicago, IL. Shahed Dowlatshahi is the sole author and creator of all material contained within the work, none of which are based on any other work. The tasks detailed in the essay were accomplished by the author, as well as the archives’ staff, from May 2016 to July 2016. The essay itself was started in August 2016 and finalized in September 2016. The final work is 1024 words long and will be published and accessible to the public on the CFA’s internet blog in October 2016. The author currently retains all rights to the work.

The work is a descriptive essay on the processes of inventorying, inspecting, rehousing, and digitizing the home movies of Chicago-based filmmaker, Bill Stamets, who had donated his personal films to the CFA in 2012. The essay also touches on the filmmaker’s use of camera placement and movement and the effects these techniques might have on an audience when the films are played back with no sound. Some background is provided on why the films had to be digitized without sound due to the lack of the equipment required to digitize their magnetic soundtracks. The work also contains two paragraphs about the history of the Bill Stamets collection and how the CFA came to acquire, store, and eventually decide to preserve them.

The essay was originated and completed with the use of a word-processing software on a personal computer and stored in PDF and DOCX formats on the author’s personal computer. The purpose of the essay was to encapsulate the author’s experience as an intern at the CFA, and to contribute to the documentation of the ongoing work of film archives in home movie and amateur film preservation.

Part 2

Screenshots of the “Review Submission” screen were uploaded separately as JPEG files to NYU Classes.

Part 3

As registered with the Copyright Office, the title of the feature-length motion picture “The Elephant Man,” is “The Elephant man/ a Brooksfilms Production; produced by Jonathan Sanger; directed by David Lynch.” It was registered on October 2, 1981 with registration number PA0000094239. The copyright claimant on the registration was Brooksfilms, Ltd. and the author of the new materials, which were “screenplay, some musical compositions, and other literary & cinematographic materials” was Brooksfilms, Ltd. as an employer for hire.