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# Mississippi to Africa

*A Journey of Discovery*

**Melvin J. Collier**

Mississippi to Africa captures Collier's fourteen-year journey in excavating the buried history of his maternal grandmother's family—a journey that took him back seven generations, from northern Mississippi to the Piedmont hills of South Carolina, and even back to a specific people and region in West Africa where his ancestry undoubtedly began. Trekking the paths of his ancestors and their displaced relatives before Emancipation (1863), this emotion-filled journey traversed down an intricate paper trail of federal, state, and local records; other public records; and oral histories. It is presented in a narrative style to inspire, entice, and propel readers into the fascinating world of genealogy and historical discoveries. Collier also uncovered the ways in which his ancestors ingeniously retained aspects of their African heritage. DNA technology confirmed his research findings and verified ancestral ties. Mississippi to Africa is not just a how-to book to trace family histories. It's not just another story about the history of an African-American family. Rather, it's simply a unique story that chronicles a history-uncovering journey that unearthed captivating and heart-breaking discoveries and surprising connections. The author shares the many "roots-digging" tips and techniques that he gained along the way. 2008, 6x9, paper, index, 298 pp.

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