

Triomphe and Trocadéro. This impressive residential building was transformed into a luxury hotel during the 1920s and took on the name of its famous first guest, Lord Baltimore. The distinctive Parisian charm of the establishment was an invitation to relax, sheltered from the hustle and bustle of the capital and catered to the most sophisticated and respected who's who for more than 80 years.

Isabella married her first husband, Felice "Happy" Ippolito, who was one of the fathers of the Italian Nuclear Energy Industry. To him she bore one daughter, Signorina Angelica Ippolito who would later gain fame in her own right as one of Italy's most famous actresses. Isabella later divorced, then remarried for a short while, before marrying a third time. The final marriage was to Sig. Eduardo de Filippo to whom she was married to for over 50 years.

Classically *or formally* educated in law, philosophy and medicine, most knew her as one of Italy's most famous dramatists, play-writes, author and long time friend of Sir Laurence Olivier. Her most well known early work was done in collaboration with one of Italy's most famous directors and actors, Sig. Vittorio (Victor) de Sica. She worked with him closely on the production of the world acclaimed film; Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (1963.)

Her later public as well as private life were often a topic of discussion, few however knew that one of her earlier passions included a certain English Expatriate Poet named Alexander Ronald Smith for who she would eventually leave her first husband, Felice Ippolito. She was then married shortly thereafter to A.R. Smith. Besides Smith's interests in poetry and the lovely Signorina Qurrantotti he was an avid fan of fine sports cars.

Just four years after World War II, A.R. Smith convinced his new wife, Isabella to order this new Maserati Sports Car. While the car may have been for Smith, it was invoiced and registered under Isabella's name. A.R. Smith was not an Italian resident and not keen on paying the purchase price, registration expenses or taxes on such a machine.

Until recently the details of how and why Isabella purchased this particular Maserati have not been known. Three separate incidents have provided and given great insight into the unique story of this car, how it came to be and the intentions of the original family that ordered and purchased the car.

On March 14th, 2006, a letter was received from Signor Corrado Bellabarba in Italy. Sig. Bellabarba was researching an Alfa Romeo 6c2500 competition car also owned by the Quarantotti / Ippolito family. Sig. Bellabarba had come across documents relating to Smith's ownership of the car under the Ippolito name and was aware that the family had also acquired this Specific Maserati. In a chance meeting nearly 60 years later between the car and the relative of a former family friend provided some very useful insight into the circumstances surrounding the car's construction and purchase.

Sometime in early 1949 A.R. Smith became aware that Maserati intended to make available an "up-rated" version of the production A6-1500. Smith had interests in acquiring the car, as he wished to race it in a variety of different Italian National and continental events that were quickly becoming popular sport. He was especially keen on the possibility of obtaining a suitable car for the 24 Hours of Le Mans. Shortly after taking delivery of the Maserati, Isabella and Smith parted company forever. The car stayed with Isabella for just over a year, but was used rarely. She soon