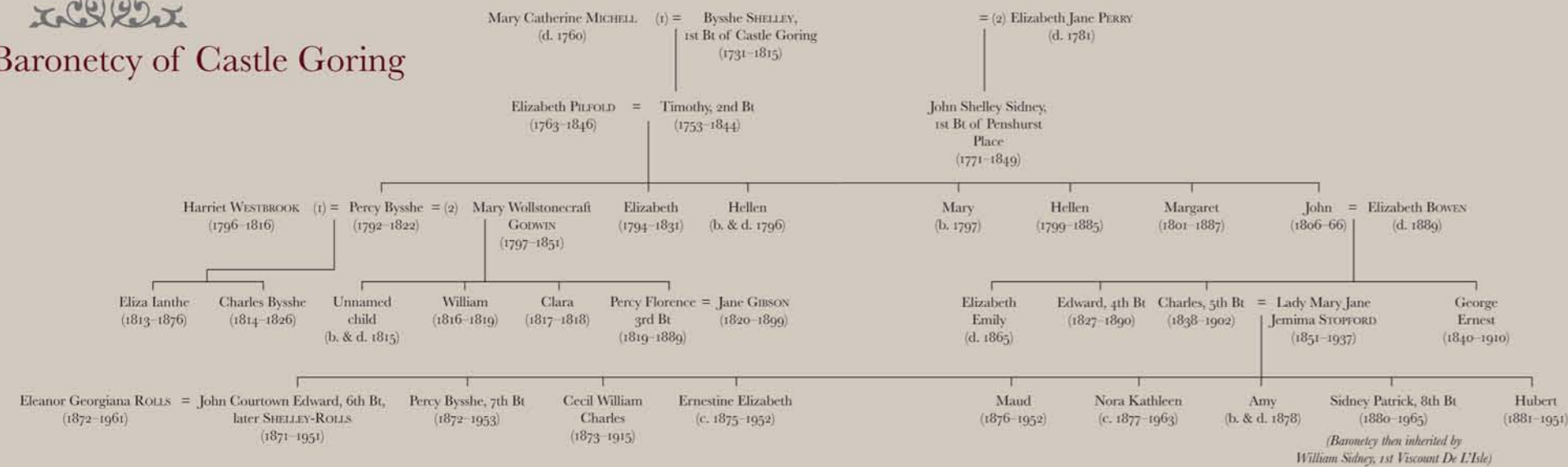
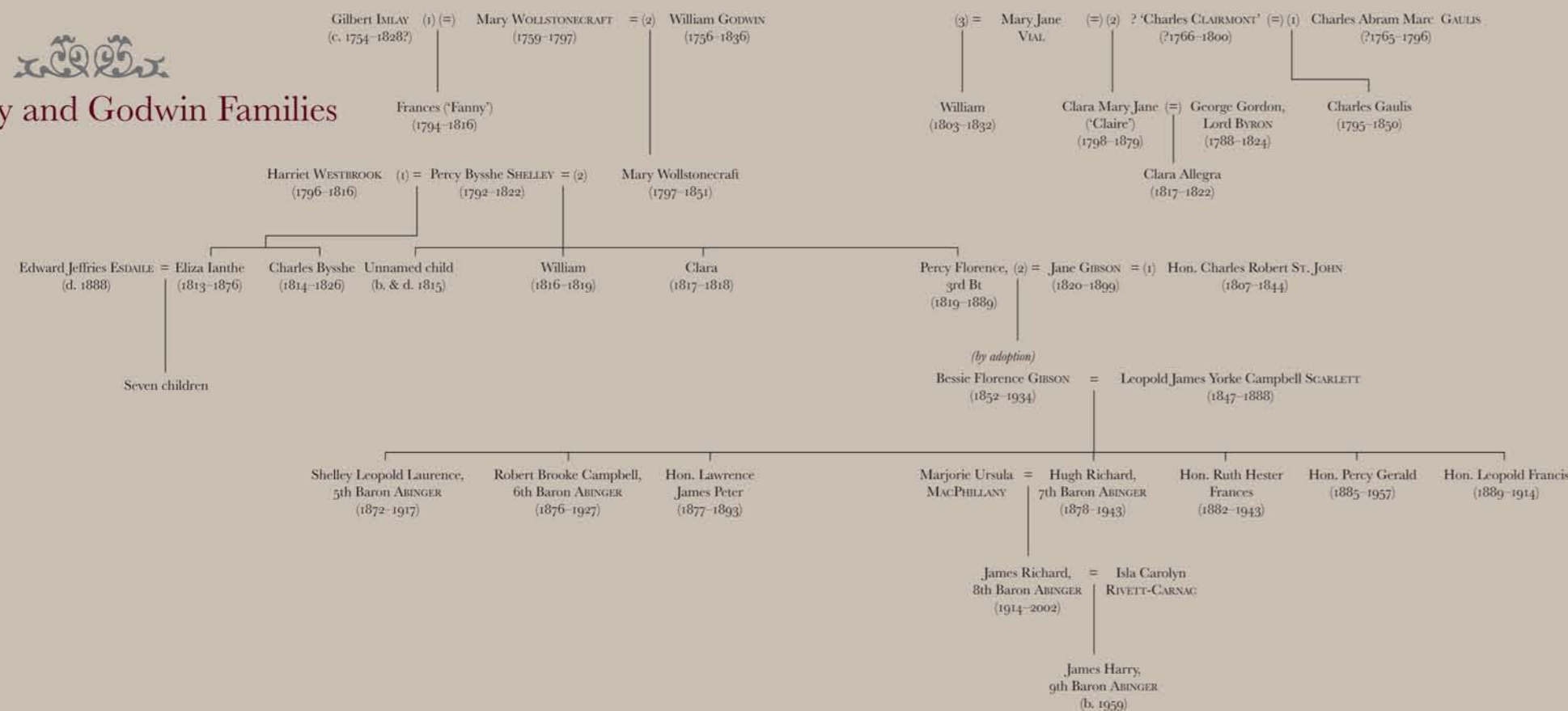


The Shelley Baronetcy of Castle Goring



The Shelley and Godwin Families



Talks to accompany the exhibition
13.00–13.30 in Convocation House, Bodleian Library, Old Schools Quadrangle, Oxford

Admission free

- Thursday 27 January
Dr Ann Wroe
The Economist
Shelley and Night
- Friday 4 February
Professor Michael O'Neill
Professor of English & Director (Arts & Humanities)
in the Institute of Advanced Study (Durham University)
Shelley's Defences of Poetry
- Thursday 10 February
Dr David O'Shaughnessy
Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in English (University of Warwick)
Godwin, Shelley, and the 'free communication of intellect'
- Wednesday 16 February
Mr Stephen Hebron
Curator, *Shelley's Ghost*
Displaying Shelley
- Tuesday 22 February
Dr Mark Philp
University Lecturer in Politics & Fellow & Tutor in Politics (Oriol College)
Becoming the Monster? William Godwin and the Shelleys
- Monday 28 February
Dr Michael Rossington
Senior Lecturer in Romantic Literature (Newcastle University)
Shelley and Italy

Online exhibition: <http://shelleysghost.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>

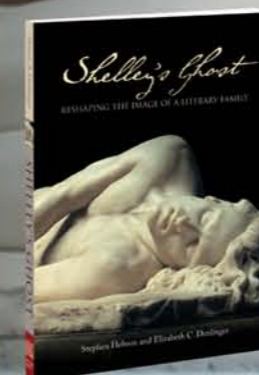
Shelley's Ghost

RESHAPING THE IMAGE OF A LITERARY FAMILY

3–23 December 2010
4 January–27 March 2011
Bodleian Library, Oxford



Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk



... This is a beautifully illustrated work that all admirers of the Shelleys, Godwin and the Romantics more generally will wish to own.
Michael O'Neill, Durham University

Paperback £19.99
from the **Bodleian Shop** and
www.bodleianbookshop.co.uk




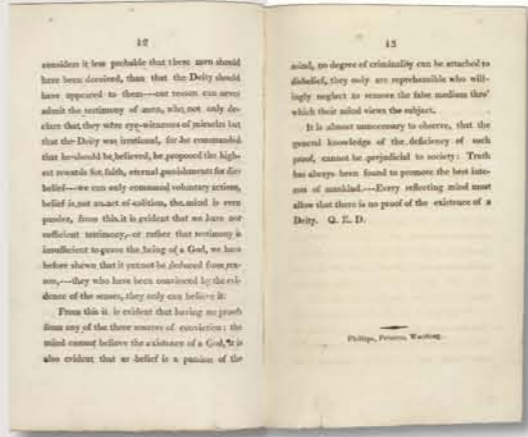











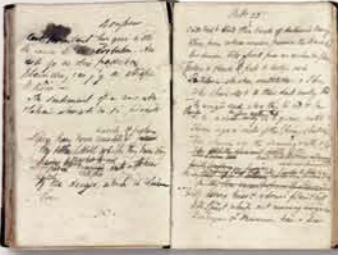
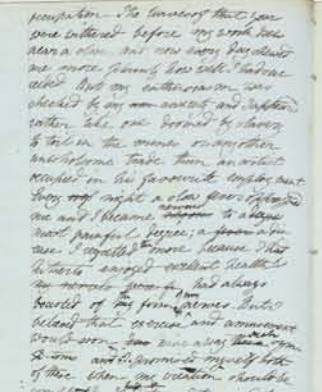
This exhibition tells the story of a remarkable literary family: William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft, their daughter Mary, and Mary's husband Percy Bysshe Shelley.

In the course of their lives each of these writers accumulated an archive of letters and literary papers. After their deaths, surviving family members pored over their manuscripts, publishing some and withholding others in an attempt to promote their achievements and shape their reputations.

The manuscripts were also preserved as tangible reminders of past lives. The Shelleys' son and daughter-in-law, Sir Percy and Lady Shelley, housed them in a special 'Shelley Sanctum' alongside treasured family relics such as portraits, personal possessions and locks of hair. Only a favoured few were allowed into the Sanctum, or granted access to the precious papers.

Long after their deaths, memories of William Godwin, Mary Wollstonecraft, Percy Bysshe Shelley and Mary Shelley remained vivid. It was Shelley's presence, above all, that haunted the imagination like a ghost. Mary Shelley remembered him...

'with a clearness that mocks reality, interfering even by its force with the functions of life'.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| <p>1791</p> <p>First meeting of Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin.</p>  | <p>1792</p> <p>Birth of Percy Bysshe Shelley.</p>  | <p>1796</p> <p>Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin become lovers.</p> | <p>1797</p> <p>Marriage of Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin. Birth of their daughter Mary, and death of Mary Wollstonecraft shortly afterwards.</p> | <p>1798</p> <p>Godwin publishes a memoir of Mary Wollstonecraft and an edition of her posthumous works.</p> | <p>1810</p> <p>Shelley enters University College, Oxford.</p>  | <p>1811</p> <p>Shelley publishes <i>The Necessity of Atheism</i> and is expelled from Oxford University. Soon afterwards he marries Harriet Westbrook.</p>  | <p>1812</p> <p>Shelley meets William Godwin.</p> | <p>1814</p> <p>Shelley elopes with Mary Godwin. They tour the Continent (accompanied by Claire Clairmont, Mary's step-sister).</p>  | <p>1816</p> <p>Shelley, Mary Shelley, Claire Clairmont and Lord Byron spend the summer by Lake Geneva. Mary conceives of <i>Frankenstein</i>.</p> <p>Suicide of Harriet Shelley. Shelley and Mary marry.</p>  | <p>1818</p> <p>Shelley and Mary leave England for Italy.</p> <p>Death of their daughter Clara, aged one.</p>  | <p>1819</p> <p>Death of Shelley's and Mary's son William, aged three-and-a-half.</p> <p>Birth of their son Percy Florence.</p>  | <p>1822</p> <p>Death of Claire Clairmont's and Lord Byron's daughter, Allegra, aged five.</p> <p>Shelley drowns off the Italian coast.</p>  |
| <p>1823</p> <p>Mary Shelley returns to England with Percy Florence.</p> <p>A year later she publishes an edition of Shelley's posthumous works, withdrawn after Shelley's father Sir Timothy objects.</p> | <p>1836</p> <p>Death of William Godwin. Mary Shelley agrees to write his biography (never completed).</p>  | <p>1839</p> <p>Mary Shelley publishes editions of Shelley's poetical works and prose.</p> | <p>1844</p> <p>Death of Sir Timothy Shelley. Percy Florence inherits the baronetcy.</p>  | <p>1848</p> <p>Sir Percy Shelley marries Jane St. John (née Gibson).</p>  | <p>1851</p> <p>Death of Mary Shelley. Sir Percy and Lady Shelley live at Boscombe Manor, near Bournemouth, where Lady Shelley creates a 'Sanctum' of the family manuscripts and relics.</p>  | <p>1882</p> <p>Sir Percy and Lady Shelley privately print transcripts of the Shelley manuscripts as <i>Shelley and Mary</i>.</p>  | <p>1889</p> <p>Death of Sir Percy Shelley.</p>  | <p>1893</p> <p>Lady Shelley opens the Shelley Memorial, University College, Oxford. She gives one third of the family archive to the Bodleian Library, but forbids access to the correspondence until 1922. Selected items are put on public display in the Library.</p> | <p>1899</p> <p>Death of Lady Shelley. Bequeaths second third of the family archive to her husband's cousin John Shelley (later Sir John Shelley-Rolls). The final third she bequeaths to her two eldest grandsons (by adoption), Shelley Scarlett and Robert Scarlett, later the 5th and 6th Barons Abinger.</p>  | <p>1946</p> <p>Sir John Shelley-Rolls gives the Bodleian the majority of his Shelley papers (including many of the poet's notebooks). The remainder reaches the Bodleian by his bequest after the death of his wife in 1961.</p> | <p>1974</p> <p>The 8th Baron Abinger deposits his collection on loan at the Bodleian Library, in batches from 1974 to 1993.</p>  | <p>2004</p> <p>The Bodleian Library purchases the final part of the family archive (including the journals of Godwin and Mary Shelley, and the manuscripts of <i>Frankenstein</i>) from the 9th Baron Abinger.</p> |