

# University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections

## Finding Aid - Reg Innell Collection of Shelleyana (RBSC- ARC-1839)

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# Reg Innell Collection of Shelleyana

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## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of British Columbia Library Rare Books and Special Collections
<b>Title:</b>	Reg Innell Collection of Shelleyana
<b>Reference code:</b>	RBSC-ARC-1839
<b>Date:</b>	[1825]-[2018], predominant 1953-1989 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	14 cm textual records 1 photograph album (24 b&w photographs) 1 medallion
<b>Dates of creation, revision and deletion:</b>	Finding aid produced by Catherine Hall, June 2022.
<b>Note [generalNote]:</b>	Includes the following photograph album RBSC-ARC-1839-PH-01 (24 b&w photographs) and medallion RBSC-ARC-1839-AR-01.

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Reginald “Reg” George Innell was born in Rainham, Essex, England, on March 13, 1925. At age eight, his mother, Jessie Alice Innell, died and at age twelve, his father Joseph Innell, a laborer, also died. Forced to leave school by age fourteen, Innell worked at various jobs and later developed a keen interest in photography. During World War II, Innell joined the British Army and after the war returned to the United Kingdom, working as a freelance photographer. In 1958, Innell emigrated to Canada, becoming a Canadian citizen in 1989.

From 1960 until he retired in 1990, Innell worked as a photojournalist for the Toronto Star Newspaper. Innell won awards for his photography, including the National Newspaper Award for best feature photograph and the “Great Moments in Photography” award from Life Magazine.

When not working, Innell spent most of his time in bookstores and would eventually build a collection of over 5,000 books. From the very beginning, Innell’s main collection focus was on the English Romantic poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley. His collection of Shelley materials eventually comprised over 1,200 books, including several rare first editions. He also collected the works of individuals associated with Shelley’s life, including Leigh Hunt, Lord Byron, John Keats, Thomas Love Peacock, Edward Trelawny, William Goodwin, Mary Wollstonecraft and Mary Shelley.

In the 1960s, Innell travelled to Mexico, up the Amazon, then to North Africa and Egypt where he photographed architectural monuments as well as ordinary people, in various environments and at various stages of their life. In later years, he would take several trips to Italy, Ireland, Wales and the US, especially to photograph the homes, graves, and memorials of some of his favorite authors, such as W. B. Yeats, Dylan Thomas, D. H. Lawrence, William Morris, Thomas Hardy and Percy Bysshe Shelley.

Innell died on February 1, 2018, at the age of 92, in Toronto, Ontario.

## Custodial history

Materials were collected by Reg Innell from various sources.

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## Scope and content

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The Reg Innell Collection of Shelleyana consists of ephemera related to Percy Bysshe Shelley, one of the major English Romantic poets, collected over many years. Materials include scrapbooks, a photograph album, prints, newspaper clippings, postcards, letters and a medallion bearing Shelley's image.

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## Notes

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### Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on contents of the collection.

### Immediate source of acquisition

The collection was acquired by UBC from Innell's estate in 2019.

### Arrangement

The collection was arranged by the archivist generally in the order in which the materials were received.

### Related material

The Reg Innell Collection of Shelleyana books can be found in the UBC library catalogue.  
<https://webcat.library.ubc.ca/vwebv/search?searchArg=Reg%20Innell%20Collection%20of%20Shelleyana.&searchCode=NAME&searchType=4>

### Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** published

## Access points

- Shelley, Percy Bysshe (subject)
- Arts and culture (subject)

## Series descriptions

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
RBSC-ARC-1839-01-01	File - [Scrapbook] Photos of Shelley's Residences, England & Italy plus postcards.	[before 2018]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-01-02	File - Percy Bysshe Shelley	[after Oct. 1895]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-01	File - [Photograph Album] Newick & Llandrindod Wells	1904		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-01-PH-01	Item - Photograph Album			
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-02	File - Newspaper articles - re: P.B. Shelley (1 of 4)	1930 - 1995, predominant 1953-1989		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-03	File - Newspaper articles - re: P.B. Shelley (2 of 4)	1930 - 1995, predominant 1953-1989		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-04	File - Newspaper articles - re: P.B. Shelley (3 of 4)	1930 - 1995, predominant 1953-1989		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-05	File - Newspaper articles - re: P.B. Shelley (4 of 4)	1930 - 1995, predominant 1953-1989		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-06	File - Percy Bysshe Shelley [postcard]	[before 2018]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-07	File - Bibliography of Shelleyana Collection	[before 2018]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-08	File - [Scrapbook] Postcards & letters, etc. (1 of 3)	[1965 - 1970s]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-09	File - [Scrapbook] Postcards & letters, etc. (2 of 3)	[1965 - 1970s]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-10	File - [Scrapbook] Postcards & letters, etc. (3 of 3)	[1965 - 1970s]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-11	File - Shelley medallion	[before 2018]		
RBSC-ARC-1839-02-11-AR-01	Item - Shelley medallion			