

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

Theresa M. Kelley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

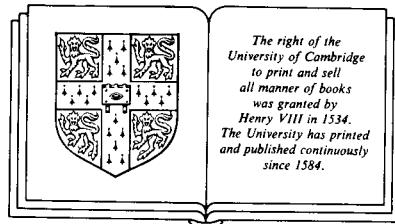
Wordsworth's revisionary aesthetics

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics
Theresa M. Kelley
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

THERESA M. KELLEY

*Associate Professor of English
The University of Texas at San Antonio*



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

*Cambridge
New York New Rochelle Melbourne Sydney*

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics
Theresa M. Kelley
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521131575

© Cambridge University Press 1988

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1988
This digitally printed version 2010

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Kelley, Theresa M.
Wordsworth's revisionary aesthetics / Theresa M. Kelley.

p. cm.

Bibliography.

Includes index.

ISBN 0 521 34398 4

1. Wordsworth, William, 1770–1850 – Aesthetics.
2. Wordsworth, William, 1770–1850 – Criticism and interpretation.
3. Aesthetics, British – 19th century.

I. Title.

PR5892.A34K44 1988

821'.7 – dc19 87-18771 CIP

ISBN 978-0-521-34398-5 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-13157-5 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or
accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in
this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is,
or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics
Theresa M. Kelley
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

For Thomas
and in memory of my mother
Theresa Marie Kelley

Contents

<i>List of plates</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xiii
1 Introduction	I
2 Archeologies	13
<i>A Guide through the District of the Lakes</i>	14
“The Sublime and the Beautiful”	23
3 The scene of aesthetic instruction	43
“Prospectus” for <i>The Recluse</i>	44
<i>The Prelude, I</i>	49
“Lines composed a few miles above Tintern Abbey”	57
4 Revolution and the egotistical sublime	63
The Salisbury Plain Poems	65
<i>The Borderers</i>	72
5 Revisionary aesthetics in <i>The Prelude</i>	91
“St. Paul’s” and <i>The Excursion</i>	132
6 The aesthetics of containment	137
<i>Concerning the Convention of Cintra</i>	138
<i>Reply to ‘Mathetes’</i>	141
<i>The Pedlar and The Ruined Cottage</i>	143
<i>Benjamin the Waggoner</i>	145
<i>The White Doe of Rylstone</i>	150
<i>1815 Poems</i>	156

Contents

7	“Family of Floods”	170
	“Composed at Cora Linn in Sight of Wallace’s Tower”	172
	“The Jungfrau and the Fall of the Rhine near Schaffhausen”	173
	“To the Torrent at Devil’s Bridge”	186
8	Conclusion: aesthetics and poetic language	193
	<i>Preface to Lyrical Ballads</i>	195
	<i>Essays upon Epitaphs</i>	197
	<i>1815 Preface to Poems</i>	201
	<i>Appendix: Matters of chronology: “The Sublime and the Beautiful”</i>	206
	<i>Notes</i>	209
	<i>Index</i>	243

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

Theresa M. Kelley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Plates

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| 1 | James Clarke. <i>Penrith Beacon</i> . In <i>A Survey of the Lakes</i> ,
2nd edn (London, 1789). | page 121 |
| 2 | S. Alken. <i>Falls of the Rhine</i> . 1787. In William Coxe,
<i>Travels in Switzerland</i> (London, 1796). | 175 |
| 3 | C. von Mechel. <i>La Cataracte du Rhin près de Schaffhouse
au moment du lever du soleil</i> and <i>La Cataracte du Rhin
près de Schaffhouse au clair de la Lune</i> . 1797. | 177 |
| 4 | Philippe-Jacques de Loutherbourg. <i>Falls of the Rhine</i> .
1788. | 178 |
| 5 | J. M. W. Turner. <i>Falls of the Rhine near Schaffhausen</i> .
1806. | 180 |

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

Theresa M. Kelley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank several friends and teachers who have read part or all of this book at various stages. Dewey R. Faulkner offered encouragement and specific suggestions as I began. Stephen Parrish and Thomas A. Baylis continued to read as I wrote. Jean H. Hagstrum, who directed my dissertation on another topic, gave this book the same unwavering support throughout. During two summer seminars of the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1979 and 1982, the directors and fellow participants read earlier versions of several chapters. Ronald Paulson, who directed the first seminar, and Anne Mellor, who directed the second, have continued to support my work far beyond the limits of each seminar. Others read individual chapters or queried major issues: Elizabeth Napier, Kathleen Nicholson, Alan Liu, Stephen L. Carr, Marshall Brown, Gene W. Ruoff, Susan J. Wolfson, Cynthia Chase, Reeve Parker, Mary Jacobus, and Alan Bewell. Peter J. Manning has read most of this book more than once. On this and other occasions, I have learned much from his generous critical practice. Janann Stark and Joyce M. Hyde prepared the typescript with intelligence and great good will. I am grateful to The Society for the Humanities at Cornell University and its Director, Jonathan Culler, for a year-long fellowship during which I finished this book and worked on another. Jonathan Culler and the staff of the Society graciously encouraged both projects. Elizabeth Dipple read the entire typescript and offered timely advice as I prepared it for publication.

I would also like to thank Mauricio Gonzalez and Timothy Summa, who are responsible for most of the photographic reproductions used in this book. For valuable support and research materials I am grateful to the National Endowment for the Humanities, The University of Texas at San Antonio, Cornell University Library, the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, the Humanities Research Center

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

Theresa M. Kelley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

at The University of Texas at Austin, Yale University Library, Yale Center for British Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Library of Congress. I also thank Kevin Taylor, Caroline Drake, and Linda Matthews of Cambridge University Press for their patient and thorough preparation of this book for publication.

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

Theresa M. Kelley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Abbreviations used in text and notes

B	<i>The Borderers</i> . Ed. Robert Osborn. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982.
CEY	Reed, Mark L. <i>Wordsworth: The Chronology of the Early Years, 1770–1799</i> . Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1967.
CMY	Reed, Mark L. <i>Wordsworth: The Chronology of the Middle Years, 1800–1815</i> . Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1975.
EY	<i>The Letters of William and Dorothy Wordsworth: The Early Years, 1787–1805</i> . Ed. Ernest de Selincourt. 2d edn, rev. Chester L. Shaver. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1967.
Fourteen-Book Prel.	<i>The Fourteen-Book Prelude</i> . Ed. W. J. B. Owen. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985.
Guide	Wordsworth, William. <i>A Guide through the District of the Lakes</i> . In vol. 2, <i>Prose</i> (see below).
HG	<i>Home at Grasmere</i> . Ed. Beth Darlington. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1977.
MY, 1	<i>The Letters of William and Dorothy Wordsworth: The Middle Years, 1806–20</i> . Ed. Ernest de Selincourt, 2 vols. 2nd edn: Part 1, 1806–11, rev. Mary Moorman. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1969.
LY, 1	<i>The Letters of William and Dorothy Wordsworth: The Later Years, 1821–28</i> . Ed. Ernest de Selincourt. 2nd edn, rev. Alan G. Hill. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1978.
P. Bord. Poems, 1807	<i>Preface to The Borderers</i> . (see above.) <i>Poems, in Two Volumes, and Other Poems, 1800–1807</i> . Ed. Jared Curtis. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983.

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-13157-5 - Wordsworth's Revisionary Aesthetics

Theresa M. Kelley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Abbreviations used in text and notes

<i>Prose</i>	<i>The Prose Works of William Wordsworth.</i> Eds. W.J.B. Owen and Jane W. Smyser. 3 vols. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1974.
<i>Prel.</i>	<i>The Prelude, 1799, 1805, 1850.</i> Eds. Jonathan Wordsworth, M.H. Abrams, and Stephen Gill. New York: W.W. Norton, 1979.
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Prelude.</i> Eds. Ernest de Selincourt and Helen Darbishire. 2nd edn, rev. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1959.
<i>Prel. 1798</i>	<i>The Prelude, 1798–99.</i> Ed. Stephen Parrish. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1977.
<i>PW</i>	<i>The Poetical Works of William Wordsworth.</i> Eds. Ernest de Selincourt and Helen Darbishire. 5 vols. 2nd edn. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1949.
<i>RC</i>	<i>The Ruined Cottage and the Pedlar.</i> Ed. James Butler. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1979.