

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

EMPIRE AND MEMORY

The memory of the Roman Republic exercised a powerful influence on several generations of Romans who lived under its political and cultural successor, the Principate or Empire. *Empire and Memory* explores how (and why) that memory manifested itself over the course of the early Principate. Making use of the close relationship between *memoria* and *historia* in Roman thought and drawing on modern studies of historical memory, this book offers case-studies of major imperial authors from the reign of Tiberius to that of Trajan (AD 14–117). The memory evident in literature is linked to that imprinted on Rome's urban landscape, with special attention paid to the Forum of Augustus and the Forum of Trajan, both of which are particularly suggestive reminders of the transition from a time when the memory of the Republic was highly valued and celebrated to one when its grip had begun to loosen.

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in
Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

ROMAN LITERATURE AND ITS CONTEXTS

Empire and Memory

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

ROMAN LITERATURE AND ITS CONTEXTS

Series editors:

Denis Feeney and Stephen Hinds

This series promotes approaches to Roman literature which are open to dialogue with current work in other areas of the classics, and in the humanities at large. The pursuit of contacts with cognate fields such as social history, anthropology, history of thought, linguistics and literary theory is in the best traditions of classical scholarship: the study of Roman literature, no less than Greek, has much to gain from engaging with these other contexts and intellectual traditions. The series offers a forum in which readers of Latin texts can sharpen their readings by placing them in broader and better-defined contexts, and in which other classicists and humanists can explore the general or particular implications of their work for readers of Latin texts. The books all constitute original and innovative research and are envisaged as suggestive essays whose aim is to stimulate debate.

Other books in the series

Joseph Farrell, *Latin language and Latin culture: from ancient to modern times*

A. M. Keith, *Engendering Rome: women in Latin epic*

William Fitzgerald, *Slavery and the Roman literary imagination*

Stephen Hinds, *Allusion and intertext: dynamics of appropriation in Roman poetry*

Denis Feeney, *Literature and religion at Rome: cultures, contexts, and beliefs*

Catharine Edwards, *Writing Rome: textual approaches to the city*

Duncan F. Kennedy, *The arts of love: five studies in the discourse of Roman love elegy*

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in
Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Charles Martindale, *Redeeming the text: Latin poetry and the hermeneutics
of reception*

Philip Hardie, *The epic successors of Virgil: a study in the dynamics of a
tradition*

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in
Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Empire and Memory

The Representation of the Roman Republic
in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

*Professor of Classics
University of Washington*



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

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

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521

© Cambridge University Press 2005

This book 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 2005

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

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

ISBN-13 978-0-521-83622-7 hardback

ISBN-10 0-521-83622-0 hardback

ISBN-13 978-0-521-54480-1 paperback

ISBN-10 0-521-54480-7 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 book, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in
Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Como me duele el olvido . . .

– *Fher Olvera*

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in
Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

	<i>List of illustrations</i>	page xii
	<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xiii
1	<i>Historia/memoria</i>	i
2	<i>Res publica Tiberiana</i>	28
3	“Caesar, now be still”	67
4	Rome’s new past	102
5	Remembering Rome	132
	<i>Bibliography</i>	160
	<i>Index of passages discussed</i>	170
	<i>General index</i>	174

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Illustrations

- Fig. 1 Plan of the Imperial Fora. Revised drawing by J. E. Packer (2001), fig. 3, after an original by I. Gismondi in A. M. Colini (1933), ‘Notiziario di scavi, scoperte e studi in intorno alle antichità di Roma e del Lazio 1931–1932–1933’, *BullCom* 61: 256, pl. A. Used with J. E. Packer’s permission. 136
- Fig. 2 Ground plan of the Forum of Augustus, with sculptural program. From Zanker (1990), fig. 149. Used with permission, University of Michigan Press. 137
- Fig. 3 Reconstruction of a statue of a *summus vir*, with *titulus* and *elogium*, in the gallery of the Forum of Augustus. From Degrassi (1937), 4, reprinted in Zanker (1990), fig. 164. Used with permission, University of Michigan Press. 141

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgments

I remember quite clearly the moment I decided to write this book. On a damp evening in the early June of 1998 I had the pleasure of walking through Rome's Campus Martius with Alessandro Barchiesi. For a classicist, perhaps no other quarter in Rome is so rich in history and memory, and as our discussion turned to precisely that topic and my own growing interest in it, Alessandro asked, "Have you read *Halbwachs*?" I had not, I replied . . . but I would. Appropriately, somewhere between the Mausoleum of Augustus and the Theater of Pompey, I became persuaded that a study of how the Roman Republic was memorialized in early imperial literature and culture would be useful, especially in light of recent interest in the intersections of history and memory. The topic, however, is a large one, and it has not been my aim to discuss in this book all of the many ways in which the Roman Republic is represented in or affects imperial culture. Much has by necessity been omitted. In keeping with the aim of books in this series, I have focused on a few representative texts and sites in order to describe what I see to be fundamental tendencies and changes as well as to propose a constructive way to think about early imperial culture. Profound thanks are due to the many individuals who contributed to the ideas in this book. I must first and foremost express my deep gratitude to the series editors, Stephen Hinds and Denis Feeney. Both have been indefatigable in their support for this project, and indefatigably patient. I have recorded specific debts to them here and there throughout the text, but their assistance has been more substantial than those notes will suggest. Sandra Joshel, my colleague in the University of Washington Department of History, gave generously

Cambridge University Press

0521836220 - Empire and Memory: The Representation of the Roman Republic in Imperial Culture

Alain M. Gowing

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

of her time and considerable expertise; readings and discussions with her over the course of more than one summer were indispensable toward helping me refine my thoughts on how and why memory mattered to the Romans. Alessandro Barchiesi and my colleague Catherine Connors kindly read and astutely commented on a draft of the manuscript. Parts of the book were presented, in various stages of completion, at several institutions (New York University, the University of Washington, the University of Calgary, Harvard, Princeton, and Stanford). I am grateful for those opportunities and for the helpful discussions they generated. I have benefited as well from numerous conversations with a variety of individuals, in particular Joy Connolly, Larry Bliquez, Ruby Blondell, Jim Clauss, Dan Harmon, John Webster, and John Chesley. I owe special thanks to the participants of my interdisciplinary graduate seminar on this subject, sponsored by the University of Washington's Center for the Humanities in 1997; to the members of the Center's 2003–4 Society of Scholars, especially my colleagues Sarah Stroup and Robert Stacey, who both read and provided wise advice on a draft of the first chapter; and to the students of several Classical Seminars in Rome, who invariably help me see Rome and its monuments with fresh eyes. And finally, heartfelt thanks go to my wife Anne and son Benjamin for teaching me, in ways books can never do, the value of memory.