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Aaron M. Seider

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## MEMORY IN VERGIL'S *AENEID*

Tracing the path from Troy's destruction to Rome's foundation, the *Aeneid* explores the transition between past and future. As the Trojans struggle to found a new city and the narrator sings of his audience's often painful history, memory becomes intertwined with a crucial leitmotif: the challenge of being part of a group that survives violence and destruction only to face the daunting task of remembering what was lost. This book offers a new reading of the *Aeneid* that engages with critical work on memory, and questions the prevailing view that Aeneas must forget his disastrous history in order to escape from a cycle of loss. Considering crucial scenes such as Aeneas' reconstruction of Celaeno's prophecy and his slaying of Turnus, this book demonstrates that memory in the *Aeneid* is a reconstructive and dynamic process, one that offers a social and narrative mechanism for integrating a traumatic past with an uncertain future.

AARON M. SEIDER is Assistant Professor of Classics at the College of the Holy Cross.

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CAMBRIDGE  
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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

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

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781107031807](http://www.cambridge.org/9781107031807)

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First published 2013

Printed in the United Kingdom by CPI Group Ltd, Croydon CRO 4YY

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

*Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

Seider, Aaron M., 1980–

Memory in Vergil's Aeneid : creating the past / by Aaron M. Seider.  
pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-03180-7 (hardback)

1. Virgil. Aeneis. 2. Memory in literature. 3. Epic poetry, Latin – History and criticism. I. Title.  
PA6825.S47 2013  
873'.01 – dc23 2013009532

ISBN 978-1-107-03180-7 Hardback

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*To ERIN, Noah, and Lailah*

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[More information](#)*Acknowledgements*

I was fortunate to benefit from the support and generosity of many people while researching and writing this book. This work began as an idea for my dissertation at the University of Chicago, and I am very grateful to the members of my committee, Shadi Bartsch, Ralph Johnson, Michèle Lowrie, and David Wray, for their critiques and encouragement as it progressed from one draft to another. A particular debt of gratitude is owed to my chair, Shadi, who saw this project through from its proposal in fall 2007 to its defense in fall 2010 and then continued to offer invaluable guidance all the way through to its publication. As a graduate student at Chicago I also benefited from discussion with many other faculty members, including Cliff Ando, Liz Asmis, Helma Dik, Chris Faraone, Jonathan Hall, Sarah Nooter, Mark Payne, and Peter White, as well as with my fellow students, Nick Houlahan, Tobias Joho, and Alex Lee. I also thank those involved with running the Rhetoric and Poetics Workshop at Chicago, a venue where I enjoyed delivering several talks to an engaged and receptive audience.

During my last year of work on the dissertation, I was fortunate to receive a *Memoria Romana* International Doctoral Fellowship, an award that offered financial assistance along with the splendid opportunity to discuss topics related to Roman memory at an October 2010 colloquium. I gained much from my conversations with the other fellowship recipients, Susan Blevins, Lauren Donovan Ginsberg, Lucy Jones, Sebastian Modrow, Shreyaa Patel, Maggie Popkin, Emmanuelle Raymond, and Stefano Rebeggiani, as well as Anna Anguissola, Reinhold Gleis, and Wolfgang Polleichtner, who also participated in our meetings. I am especially grateful to Emmanuelle, who, along with her insightful feedback on my ideas, generously shared her own work on memory in the *Aeneid*. My greatest thanks in regard to the *Memoria Romana* project go to Karl Galinsky. Not only did he organize and oversee our meeting in Rome as well as many other aspects of the project, but he has been unstintingly generous with his time and advice, beginning with his support of my application

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to the fellowship and extending through to his feedback on later drafts of the book and assistance with the process of publication. In fact, the publication of this book is supported by a generous subvention from the *Memoria Romana* project, for which I am deeply grateful.

As the dissertation was being revised into a book, I began teaching at the College of the Holy Cross. Since that time, I have enjoyed being a member of a Classics department marked by its collegiality and vibrancy. My colleagues, in spite of their numerous commitments both inside and outside the classroom, have always been generous with their support and advice. I am particularly grateful to Tom Martin and Mary Ebbott, who, in their roles as successive department chairs, encouraged me to bring my own research interests into the classroom and allowed me to develop courses that did just that, and to Tim Joseph, who was kind enough to discuss many aspects of this book with me as it went through its final stages before publication. Outside of the Classics department, I thank Mark Freeman, who generously took time to discuss his own rich work on memory with me. I gladly acknowledge my Holy Cross students as well, who have heartily engaged with many of the ideas about memory and the *Aeneid* contained in this book.

In addition to all those mentioned above, I have also profited from the comments and suggestions of many others. Audiences at two meetings of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South (2009 and 2010) offered feedback on talks related to this book. Antonia Syson sent drafts of her work on the *Aeneid* along with feedback on this project, and Richard Tarrant was kind enough to share his commentary on *Aeneid* 12 with me before its publication. Two of my professors from my undergraduate days at Brown University, Joe Pucci and Michael Putnam, have offered their unstinting support and encouragement. Lastly, I am deeply grateful to the Press's anonymous readers for their extensive and thoughtful feedback on the book. The work has been vastly improved by their critiques, and the same can be said for the suggestions of all others named above. All errors and deficiencies that remain in the work are, of course, my responsibility. In regard to the book's production, I offer my gratitude to my editors at Cambridge, Laura Morris and Elizabeth Hanlon, who shepherded my book through the entire publication process with pleasant efficiency.

Last, but certainly not least, I thank my family, who has encouraged me throughout my study of the Classics. My parents have always supported my interest in this topic, even going so far as to read and comment on chapters of the dissertation and entire drafts of the book. Just as the dissertation was moving through its final stages, my wife and I welcomed our son Noah

*Acknowledgements*

into the world, and, as the book was coming to an end, we were fortunate enough to see our family grow once more, as our daughter Lailah was born. Both children have been wonderful companions for late-night revisions. My deepest and most heartfelt debt of gratitude goes to my wife, Erin. She has read and discussed this work with me time and time again, offering her wonderful blend of insightful commentary, hearty encouragement, and charming humor. This book is dedicated to her and to our two children.