
TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>List of illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>List of permissions</i>	xiv
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xv
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xvii
Introduction	
An authorial credo	1
How my past became foreign	2
Finding the foreign country	3
Frequenting the foreign country	5
Themes and structure	8
	15
PART I WANTING THE PAST	
Introduction	23
1 Nostalgia: dreams and nightmares	
Nostalgia far and near	31
Looking back to Europe	39
Medical homesickness	42
Sentimental longing to retro irony	46
	49
2 Time travelling	
Goals in the revisited past	55
Explaining the past; Searching for the Golden Age; Self-aggrandizement; Changing the past	63
Risks of revisiting the past	72
The past disappoints; Inability to cope with the past; Problems of returning to the present; Endangering the temporal fabric	
3 Benefits and burdens of the past	
Benefits	80
Familiarity; Guidance; Communion; Affirmation; Identity; Possession; Enhancement; Escape	82
Valued attributes	110
Antiquity; Continuity; Accretion; Sequence; Termination	

Threats and evils	128
The grievous past; The stifling past; The menacing past	
PART II DISPUTING THE PAST	
Introduction	145
4 Ancients vs. Moderns: tradition and innovation	147
The Renaissance and the Classical heritage	152
Distance; Imitation and emulation; Revival as creation	
From <i>La querelle</i> to the Enlightenment	163
Decay of nature; Effects of printing; The new science; Science vs. Art	
Victorian Britain	172
Innovation and retrospection; Medievalism and neoclassicism; Dismay at thralldom to the past; Whig history: reusing the past	
American Founding Fathers and sons	184
Autonomy and generational freedom; The eternal youth of America; The useless and crippling past; Ambivalence; Nostalgia for Old World antiquity; The debt to the Founding Fathers; Centennial comforts of the colonial past	
5 The look of age: aversion	206
The organic analogy	211
Antipathy to age in humans and other beings	213
The decay of the world and its features	226
The superiority of youthful nations	230
Rejection of age and wear in artefacts	232
6 The look of age: affection	241
Old things should look old	247
Decay demonstrates and secures antiquity	254
The beauty of patina	259
Varieties and implications of aesthetic decay	268
Ideas evoked by decay	275
PART III KNOWING THE PAST	
Introduction	289
Reifying the chimerical past	293
7 Memory	303
Habit, recall, memento, reverie	305
Personal and shared	310

Table of contents		vii
Confirmability		315
Forgetting		318
Revising		320
Memory, memoir, and identity		324
8 History		333
History is less than the past		336
History is more than the past		340
Confirmability		343
Western and other histories		351
Chronology and narrative		353
Past vs. present: emergence of the foreign country		358
History, fiction, and faction		367
History and memory		378
9 Relics		383
Perceiving the tangible past		386
Virtues and defects of reliquary knowledge		389
Interconnections		398
Artefacts as metaphors in history and memory		401
Changing routes to the past		404
PART IV REMAKING THE PAST		
Introduction		411
10 Saving the past: preservation and replication		413
Preservation		413
Identifying, displaying, protecting		429
Removal		440
Copying and replicating		448
11 Replacing the past: restoration and re-enactment		464
Restoration		465
Restorative cycles in human and terrestrial history; Restoration in the arts;		
Recovering nature		
Re-enactment		477
Varieties of replay; Enduring the past's authentic hardships;		
'Period rush' vs. rectifying the past		
Conclusion		494

12 Improving the past	497
Fabricated pasts	499
Possessive and partisan pasts	502
Altering past scene and substance	514
Adaptations; Additions; Commemorations	
Aggrandizing and abridging	534
The past embellished and amplified; The past concealed and expurgated;	
The errant past deplored and displayed	
Anachronizing the past	554
Antiquating; Modernizing; Conflation	
Acceptability	576
Epilogue: The past in the present	585
The omnipresent past	586
The eviscerated past	588
The past made present	594
The past held to blame	598
Accepting the past	603
Collective responsibility for the past	604
<i>Select bibliography</i>	611
<i>Index</i>	639