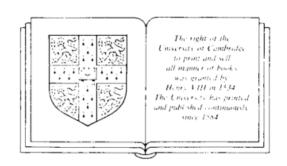
## THE PAST IS A FOREIGN COUNTRY

DAVID LOWENTHAL



## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge London New York New Rochelle Melbourne Sydney



List of illustrations Introduction		page	x xv			
P	PART I: WANTING THE PAST					
I	RELIVING THE PAST: DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES		3			
	Nostalgia		4			
	Repossessing the Past		13			
	Goals in the Revisited Past		21			
	Explaining the past; Searching for the golden age; Self-aggrandizement;					
	Changing the past					
	Risks of Revisiting the Past		28			
	The past disappoints; Inability to cope with the past; Problems of returning to					
	the present; Endangering the temporal fabric					
	(a) (b) (c)					
2	BENEFITS AND BURDENS OF THE PAST	*	35			
	Benefits	, · · .	36			
	Familiarity; Reaffirmation and validation; Identity; Guidance; Enrichment; Escap	oe .				
	Valued Attributes		52			
	Antiquity; Continuity; Termination; Sequence					
	Threats and Evils		63			
	Tradition and Innovation		69			
3	ANCIENTS VS. MODERNS		74			
	The Renaissance and the Classical Heritage		75			
	Distance; Imitation and emulation; Revival as creation					
	From the 'Querelle' to the Enlightenment		87			
	Decay of nature; Effects of printing; The new science; Sciences vs. arts					
	Victorian Britain		96			

viii Contents

	American Founding Fathers and Sons Autonomy and generational freedom; The youth of America; A-historical uniqueness; The useless and crippling past; Ambivalence; Nostalgia for Old World antiquity; The debt to the Founding Fathers; Centennial comforts of the Colonial past	105
4	THE LOOK OF AGE  Distaste for Age  The organic analogy; Aversion to age in humans; The decay of the world and its features; The superiority of youthful nations; Rejection of age and wear in artifacts	125 127 148
	Appreciating the Look of Age Old things should look old; Decay demonstrates and secures antiquity; The beauty of patina; Varieties of aesthetic decay; Ideas evoked by decay	
P	ART II: KNOWING THE PAST	
5	HOW WE KNOW THE PAST	185
	The Past as Experienced and Believed	187
	Memory Personal and collective; Memory and identity; Confirmability; Types of memory; Forgetting; Revising	193
	History History and memory; History is less than the past; History is more than the past; Chronology and narrative; History, fiction, and faction; Past and present	210
	Relics	238
	Perceiving the tangible past; Defects and virtues of reliquary knowledge Interconnections Artifacts as metaphors in history and memory; Changing routes to the past	249
P	ART III: CHANGING THE PAST	
6	Altering Relics	263 265
	Identifying; Displaying; Protecting; Reconstituting; Moving; Readapting Adding to relics Duplicates; Re-enactments; Copies; Emulations; Commemorations	290
	Why We Change the Past  Awareness of alteration; Motives for changing the past; Consequences of changing	324
	the past	

Contents	1X
7 CREATIVE ANACHRONISM	363
Death and Endurance of the Past	364
Pasts We Have Lost	369
Tradition; The past as example; The ideal past; Imitation	; Communion;
Rumination	
Consequences of the Lost Past	376
Preservation	384
Scope; Origins and motives; Losses and gains	
Pasts We Have Gained	407
Conclusion	410
Bibliography and citation index	413
General index	