

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910784436103321
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Titolo	History and memory in the Carolingian world // Rosamond McKitterick [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2004
ISBN	1-107-14716-6 1-280-54028-1 0-511-21466-9 0-511-21645-9 0-511-21108-2 0-511-31525-2 0-511-61700-3 0-511-21285-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xvi, 337 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	940.1
Soggetti	Historiography - Europe - History - To 1500 History - Philosophy - History - To 1500 Carolingians - Historiography Europe History 476-1492 Historiography France History To 987 Historiography
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; Preface; Acknowledgements; Abbreviations; 1 Introduction: History and memory in the Carolingian world; 2 Carolingian history books; 3 Paul the Deacon's <i>Historia langobardorum</i> and the Franks; 4 The Carolingians on their past; 5 Politics and history; 6 Kingship and the writing of history; 7 Social memory, commemoration and the book; 8 History and memory in early medieval Bavaria; 9 The reading of history at Lorsch and St Amand; 10 Texts, authority and the history of the church; 11 Christianity as history 12 Conclusion: History and its audiences in the Carolingian world Bibliography; Index of manuscripts; General index

## Sommario/riassunto

The writing and reading of history in the early Middle Ages form the key themes of this 2004 book. The primary focus is on the remarkable manifestations of historical writing in relation to historical memory in the Frankish kingdoms of the eighth and ninth centuries. It considers the audiences for history in the Frankish kingdoms, the recording of memory in new genres including narrative histories, cartularies and Libri memoriales, and thus particular perceptions of the Frankish and Christian past. It analyses both original manuscript material and key historical texts from the Carolingian period, a remarkably creative period in the history of European culture. Presentations of the past developed in this period were crucial in forming an historical understanding of the Greco-Roman and Judaeo-Christian past and, in subsequent centuries, of early medieval Europe. They also played an extraordinarily influential role in the formation of political ideologies and senses of identity within Europe.

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