

DIGITIZED IMAGES OF THE LOST SERVIUS MANUSCRIPT METZ 292

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INTRODUCTION

The codex numbered 292 in the collection of the Bibliothèque Municipale of Metz is a significant witness of one of the two important strains of transmission of Servius' commentary on Vergil. This codex is known under the siglum J and may be dated to the third quarter of the ninth century. Since the codex itself was destroyed during World War II, the photographs acquired by the Harvard Servius project in the 1930s are now the only record of its readings. Many of these photographs were in the possession of Charles E. Murgia, Professor Emeritus of Classics at the University of California, Berkeley, at the time of his death in 2013. They therefore came into the custody of the Berkeley Department of Classics along with the rest of Murgia's scholarly materials and books.

Murgia had worked on and off throughout his career on an edition of the Servian commentaries on *Aeneid*, Books 9-12, which was left unfinished at his death. This was intended to appear as a publication of the Society for Classical Studies (formerly the American Philological Association), whose Publications Division had taken over sponsorship of the Servius volumes that were in progress. Murgia's portion of the edition is now being brought to completion by Robert Kaster of Princeton University.

Because of the unique importance of the photographs of Metz 292, it was decided to produce digital images for placement in an open-access repository. For more details about accessing the images, see the last section of this document.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT

There is no adequate palaeographic and codicological description of Metz 292. The codex appeared in the catalogue entitled *Catalogue général des manuscrits des bibliothèques publiques des départements. Tome V. Metz — Verdun — Charleville*, Paris 1879. The entry for this codex, as for most of the Metz manuscripts, was actually composed in 1841 by Jules Quicherat. The following are extracts from the description on pp. 125-126 of that catalogue:

292. Grand in-quarto épais sur vélin. (Recueil.) — 1° Tractatus incerti auctoris de grammatica. — 2° M. Servii Honorati commentarii super Georgicis et Aeneide. — X^e siècle.

...

2° Commence par ces mots: "Nam, ut supra diximus, nomina numinibus ex officiis constat imposita, verbi causa ut ab occasione Deus occator dicatur, a sarritione sarritor, a stercoratione sterculinus, etc." commentaire qui se rapporte aux premiers vers des Géorgiques. Le commentaire sur les Géorgiques n'est pas complet. Celui de l'Énéide commence par les mots: "Memorem Junonis ob iram: constat multa in auctoribus inveniri, etc." Il se termine dans le XII^e livre par les mots: "Pervolat, per magnas aedes

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volat, nam more suo verbo dedit detractam nomini praepositionem. Vacuis magnis et vacua atria lustrat sau . . . Nec conferri . . .”

The manuscript is mentioned very briefly by G. Thilo in the preface to the standard full edition of Servius (*Servii Grammatici qui feruntur in Vergilii carmina commentarii* I [Leipzig 1881], p. xc) and in the article of J. J. H. Savage (“The Manuscripts of Servius’ Commentary on Virgil,” *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, 45 (1934) 157-204, here 170; Savage did not see this codex). There is a brief description in E. K. Rand et al., *Servianorum in Vergilii carmina commentariorum editionis Harvardianae volumen II* (Lancaster 1946), p. viii:

J Metensis Bibl. Publ. 292, Arnulphianus, fol. 235 membr., mens. 217 X 142 mm. constat, quorum octo recentiores sunt. K autem codicis quasi gemellus est, sed integer paene, quia commentarium Servianum minime adulteratum in Georgica et in Aeneidos I 4–XII 474 continet. Exaratus hic est saeculo nono in Gallia septentrionali a pluribus librariis.

In Murgia’s *Prolegomena to Servius 5: The Manuscripts* [University of California Publications: Classical Studies, vol. 11 (1975)], the affiliations of Metz 292 are established on the basis of readings collated from the photographs (pp. 75-77 and *passim*). On p. 75 n. 72 he comments about the scripts used:

J is *Metensis Bibl. Publ. 292* (*saec.* IX), written in Caroline minuscule, with lemmas usually in rustic capitals (δ ’s lemmas, like L’s, were in uncials). Sometimes J’s lemmas are in minuscule with only the first initial a capital: so (224r) in *Aen.* XI 457 *Piscosoue*–(232r) in *Aen.* XII 116 *Campum ad certamen*, and (233v) in *Aen.* XII 206 *Ut sceptrum hoc*–XII 480 *nec conferre*, after which J perishes. These changes in style in J do not seem to correspond to any change in text, or to be due to any other reason detectable from J.

In a brief discussion under “Servius, manuscripts of” in *The Virgil Encyclopedia*, ed. Richard F. Thomas and Jan M. Ziolkowski (Chichester 2014), 1154-57, Murgia summarized its position as follows (p. 1154):

The closest to complete of the pure descendants of δ is J (Metz 292), a codex dating from the third quarter of the ninth century. This codex descends independently of L from δ , but through at least one lost intermediary (ϵ). J perishes after its quire 34, thereby lacking *A.* 12.480 *manum*-end. Because the codex itself perished during World War II, we are dependent on photos made in the 1930s. Unfortunately, some pages seem to have never been photographed..., and there its witness is lost.

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THE IMAGES

The black-and-white photographs were scanned as TIFF images at 300dpi by UC Berkeley graduate student Elizabeth Wueste, who also named the images by comparison of the text to the standard edition. The format of the filenames is illustrated by this example: **Metz292_108v_Aen3.19-34.tif** is an image of folio 108 verso, containing commentary on *Aeneid*, Book 3, lines 19 through 34.

There are 175 images, about 71MB each in size. These represent all the photographs that were found in Murgia's research materials at his death and cover comments on *Aen.* 1.4-3.515 (folios 75r-121v) and *Aen.* 4.696-5.570 (folios 130v-138r) and *Aen.* 9.297-12.450 (folios 199r-235v, but with several rectos missing). In his *Prolegomena* (p. 77), Murgia recorded which folios the photographer skipped in the part of the manuscript relevant to *Aen.* 9-12:

Missing photos and the portions of commentary lost in Metz 232	
206r	<i>Aen.</i> 10.285 (424.22 nam)–327 (428.14 secunda)
207r	<i>Aen.</i> 10.359 (431.7 mare)–397 (434.10 modo)
208r	<i>Aen.</i> 10.444 (438.4 est)–472 (440.25 rerum)
212r	<i>Aen.</i> 10.706 (461.20 nesciebatur)–751 (465.4 per-)
213r	<i>Aen.</i> 10.788 (467.26 ut)–830 (470.13 MAGNI DEX-)
214r	<i>Aen.</i> 10.862 (472.22 lae/tatus)–908 (475.24 sequuntur)
216r	<i>Aen.</i> 11.65 (484.13 pingua/que)–92 (487.21 lingua)
219r	<i>Aen.</i> 11.239 (503.9 Euboicis)–253 (507.13 est)
220r	<i>Aen.</i> 11.262 (509.16 Herculem)–268 (511.15 in/sidiis)

Photographs of additional pages (covering *Georgics* and the middle books of *Aeneid*) exist, but are in the custody of others. It is hoped that they will at some time be made similarly available.

ACCESSING THE IMAGES

The images are available to all at the Shared Shelf Commons (a division of ArtStor):

<http://www.sscommons.org>

Enter “ServiusMetz292” in the Search field with the setting All Collections