FOUNDATION MYTHS

Shepherd Faustulus bringing Romulus and Remus to his Wife

Nicolas Mignard

1654

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THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS

Attic Black Figure Amphora
ca. 510BC.
The Mykonos Pithos
c. 670 BC

Mykonos Archaeological Museum
(2240)

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People & Places:

Aeneas
Latinus
Lavinia
Ascanius
Lavinium
Turnus
Rutulians
Alba Longa
More People & Places:

- Numitor
- Amulius
- Rhea Silvia
- Romulus
- Remus
- Faustulus
- Larentia

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Altar of Mars, Venus, and Silvanus from Ostia
- AD 124
- Palazzo Massimo alle Terme, Rome
Poseidon’s prophecy:

“[Aeneas] is destined to survive. Yes, so the generation of Dardanus will not perish, Obliterated without an heir, without a trace…

Now [Zeus] has come to hate the generation of Priam, And now Aeneas will rule the men of Troy in power – His sons’ sons and the sons born in future years.”
But the author of the history of the priestesses at Argos and of what happened in the days of each of them (i.e. Hellanicus of Lesbos, mid-5th c. BC) says that Aeneas came into Italy from the land of the Molossians with Odysseus and became the founder of the city, which he named after Romê, one of the Trojan women. He says that this woman, growing weary with wandering, stirred up the other Trojan women and together with them set fire to the ships. And Damastes of Sigeum (ca. 400 BC) and some others agree with him.
Wall painting from Pompeii, 1\textsuperscript{st} c. AD

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Federico Barocci
Aeneas’ Flight from Troy, 1596
Galleria Borghese, Rome
Gianlorenzo Bernini
Aeneas, Anchises, and Ascanius
1618-19
Galleria Borghese, Rome

Image courtesy of Hemant Bedekar on flickr. License CC BY.
Bronze wolf from Rome, 6th c. BC?

Image courtesy of Ken and Nyetta on flickr. License CC BY NC.
In the same year (296 BC) the curule aediles Gnaeus and Quintus Ogulnius put several moneylenders on trial and, when their property was confiscated, used the share which came to the public treasury to provide bronze thresholds for the Capitol and silver vessels for the three tables in the shrine of Jupiter. They also set up a statue of Jupiter in a four-horse chariot on the roof, and at the fig-tree of Romulus and Remus a statue group showing the infant founders of the city being suckled by the wolf.
The Origin Stories

Romulus and Remus
• An invention of the 6th c. BC?

Aeneas
• An invention of the 3rd c. BC?