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Historiography of Rome and Its Empire

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Reconfiguring the Imperial Past

*Narrative Patterns and Historical Interpretation
in Herodian's History of the Empire*

By

Chrysanthos S. Chrysanthou



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This book is printed on acid-free paper and produced in a sustainable manner.

To my wife, Emmanouela



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Historiography of Rome and Its Empire Series

Carsten H. Lange and Jesper M. Madsen

The *Historiography of Rome and Its Empire* series aims to gather innovative and outstanding contributions that identify debates and trends, and in order to help provide a better understanding of ancient historiography, as well as how to approach Roman history and historiography. The series welcomes proposals that look at both Roman and Greek writers as well as manuscripts which focus on individual writers, or individuals in the same tradition. It is timely and valuable to bring these trends and historical sources together in the series, focusing mainly on the Republican period and the Principate, as well as the Later Roman Empire.

Historical writing about Rome in both Latin and Greek forms an integrated topic. There are two strands in ancient writing about the Romans and their empire: (a) the Romans' own tradition of histories of the deeds of the Roman people at home and at war, and (b) Greek historical responses, some developing their own models (Polybius, Josephus) and the others building on what both the Roman historians and earlier Greeks had written (Dionysius, Appian, Cassius Dio). Whereas older scholarship tended to privilege a small group of 'great historians' (the likes of Sallust, Livy, Tacitus), recent work has rightly brought out the diversity of the traditions and recognized that even 'minor' writers are worth exploring not just as sources, but for their own concerns and reinterpretation of their material, as well as their place within the tradition. The study of these historiographical traditions is essential as a counterbalance to the outmoded traditional use of ancient authors as a handy resource, with scholars looking at isolated sections of their structure. This fragmentary use of the ancient evidence makes us forget to reflect on their work in its textual and contextual entirety.

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Chrysanthos S. Chrysanthou
Heidelberg, December 2021

Texts, Translations, and Abbreviations

For the text of Herodian's *History* I have consulted the Teubner edition by Lucarini (2005). References to Cassius Dio are from the edition of Boissevain (1895–1931), with the 'reformed' numeration of Boissevain, which Cary (1914–1927) also used, followed by the 'traditional' numeration in brackets. For the translation of Dio's text I use that of Cary's Loeb edition. In chapter four, for the text of the Pseudo-Aristotelian *Physiognomonica* I use the edition of Förster (1893), as it is slightly emended and printed in Swain (2007c). For the text of Polemo's *de Physiognomonica*, I use the edition of Hoyland (2007), while for the texts of the anonymous Latin handbook *de Physiognomonica* and Adamantius' *Physiognomonica* I use the editions of Repath (2007a) and Repath (2007b), which are light adaptations of Förster (1893). For the Greek and Latin texts of other authors I use the standard editions. Translations of ancient texts are based on or adopted from those of the Loeb Classical Library editions. For Herodian's *History*, in particular, I use that of Whittaker's edition (1969/70), adapted at some points, together with that of Echols (1961).

For abbreviations of names of ancient authors and titles of works, I adopt those of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary* (third edition), in some cases supplemented by those in LSJ. Abbreviations of titles of journals follow those of *L'Année Philologique*. LSJ refers to H.G. Liddell & R. Scott (1940). *A Greek-English Lexicon*⁹, rev. by H. Stuart Jones. Oxford.