

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
Edited by Roland Mayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

CAMBRIDGE GREEK AND LATIN CLASSICS

---

GENERAL EDITORS

P. E. EASTERLING

*Regius Professor Emeritus of Greek, University of Cambridge*

PHILIP HARDIE

*Senior Research Fellow, Trinity College, Cambridge*

RICHARD HUNTER

*Regius Professor of Greek, University of Cambridge*

E. J. KENNEY

*Kennedy Professor Emeritus of Latin, University of Cambridge*

S. P. OAKLEY

*Kennedy Professor of Latin, University of Cambridge*

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
Edited by Roland Mayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
Edited by Roland Mayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

HORACE  
ODES  
BOOK I

EDITED BY  
ROLAND MAYER  
*Professor of Classics, King's College London*



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press  
 978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
 Edited by Roland Mayer  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

**CAMBRIDGE**  
**UNIVERSITY PRESS**

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.  
 It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of  
 education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521671019](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521671019)

© Roland Mayer 2012

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
 and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
 no reproduction of any part may take place without the written  
 permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2012  
 4th printing 2014

Printed in the United Kingdom by Clays, St Ives plc.

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*  
 Horace.

[Carmina. Liber 1. English]

Odes, book I / Horace ; edited by Roland Mayer.

p. cm. – (Cambridge Greek and Latin classics)

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

ISBN 978-0-521-85473-3 (hardback)

1. Horace – Translations into English. 2. Odes, Latin – Translations into English.

3. Rome – Poetry. I. Mayer, Roland, 1947– II. Title.

PA6395.M39 2012

874'.01 – dc23 2012002646

ISBN 978-0-521-85473-3 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-67101-9 Paperback

---

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or  
 accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to  
 in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such  
 websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

---

Cambridge University Press  
 978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
 Edited by Roland Mayer  
 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

## CONTENTS

---

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	viii
Introduction	1
1 Lyric impulse and lyric challenge	1
2 Technical challenges of lyric	5
A. <i>Metre</i>	5
B. <i>Linguistic register and style</i>	9
C. <i>Word order and placement</i>	10
3 The architecture of the Ode	12
A. <i>Linear progression</i>	13
B. <i>Situation and response</i>	13
C. <i>The parts of the Ode</i>	15
4 The arrangement of the book	17
5 Dates of composition and publication	19
6 Transmission of the text and the tradition of comment	19
7 Interpretation: a note	20
Q HORATI FLACCI CARMINVM LIBER PRIMVS	21
Commentary	51
<i>Bibliography</i>	228
<i>Indexes</i>	240

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
Edited by Roland Mayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-85473-3 - Horace: Odes: Book I  
Edited by Roland Mayer  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

## PREFACE

---

The date of the informal commissioning of this commentary is easy for me to recover, since 6 July 2004 was when the Horatian Society held its annual dinner in the Old Hall of Lincoln's Inn, London. It also happened that the editorial board of this series had met earlier that afternoon, and decided that one title the series needed was Horace's first book of odes. Our Society's then President, Ted Kenney, showed some art in snaring his commentator. Pre-dinner drinks on a summer evening under the shade of plane trees, views over perfect lawns to flower borders and fine brick buildings naturally lower one's resistance, especially when a good dinner with good friends is in prospect. It was at some point during these convivial proceedings that Ted proposed that I should undertake the present work. Oiled as I was, and able to deny him nothing anyway, I naturally assented. Only the next day did the enormity of that assent become evident, but as Reason began to totter back to her throne, the enormity was reduced to a more manageable scale. As an undergraduate I had read Nisbet and Hubbard's indispensable commentary shortly after its appearance, but in later years, using it as a university teacher, I often wondered what I can have made of it, since it was clearly not designed with me in mind. The basic aim of the present commentary is to provide the student reader with the sort of information that will facilitate the construe of the text. Beyond that, guidance is provided for an appreciation of Horace's craft, his use of language, metre, and his construction of his poems. Interpretation of each poem posed a rather more difficult issue, about which something has been said at the end of the Introduction.

Over the years assistance with queries on many matters has been cheerfully and authoritatively provided by friends and colleagues. My especial thanks are owed to E. L. Bowie, G. D'Alessio, A. Dyck, N. Holzberg (especially for his bibliographical information), J. North, D. W. Rathbone, M. L. West, W. Wootton, and two MA groups who vetted portions of the commentary at various draft stages. Mr N. Bryant Kirkland drew my attention to Heaney's poem based on *Carm.* 24.

April 2011

R.G.M.

## ABBREVIATIONS

Bo Index	Bo, D., <i>Q. Horati Flacci Opera</i> , vol. III <i>De Horati poetico eloquio</i> (Turin, 1960)
Bo Lexicon	Bo, D., <i>Lexicon Horatianum</i> , 2 vols. (Hildesheim 1965–6)
CAH	Bowman, A. K., E. Champlin, and A. Lintott, eds., <i>The Cambridge ancient history</i> , 2nd edn. Volume x <i>The Augustan empire, 43 BC–AD 69</i> (Cambridge 1995)
CIL	<i>Corpus inscriptionum Latinarum</i> (Berlin 1863–)
CLE	Buecheler, F. and E. Lommatzsch, eds., <i>Carmina Latina epigraphica</i> (Leipzig 1895–1926)
D–S	Daremberg, C., and E. Saglio, eds., <i>Dictionnaire des antiquités grecques et romaines d'après les textes et les monuments</i> (Paris 1877–1919)
E–J	Ehrenberg, V., and A. H. M. Jones, <i>Documents illustrating the reigns of Augustus and Tiberius</i> , 2nd edn (Oxford 1976)
EO	Mariotti, S., ed., <i>Orazio: Enciclopedia oraziana</i> (Rome 1996–8)
FLP	Courtney, E., <i>The fragmentary Latin poets</i> , 2nd edn (Oxford 2003)
G–L	Gildersleeve, B. L., and G. Lodge, <i>Gildersleeve's Latin grammar</i> , 3rd edn (London 1895)
GEP	Gerber, D. E., ed., trans., <i>Greek elegiac poetry</i> (Loeb classical library 258) (Cambridge, Mass., and London 1999)
GIP	Gerber, D. E., ed., trans., <i>Greek iambic poetry</i> (Loeb classical library 259) (Cambridge, Mass., and London 1999)
GL	Campbell, D. A., ed., trans., <i>Greek lyric</i> (Loeb classical library 142, 143, 461, 476, 144; 5 vols.) (Cambridge, Mass., and London 1982–93)
GLK	Keil, H., ed., <i>Grammatici Latini</i> (Leipzig 1857–80)
GP	Gow, A. S. F., and D. L. Page, eds., <i>The Greek Anthology II: The Garland of Philip</i> (Cambridge 1968)
HE	Gow, A. S. F., and D. L. Page, eds., <i>The Greek Anthology I: Hellenistic epigrams</i> (Cambridge 1968)
H–S	Hofmann, J. B., and A. Szantyr, <i>Lateinische Syntax und Stilistik</i> (Munich 1965)
K–H	Kießling, A. and R. Heinze, <i>Q. Horatius Flaccus Oden und Epoden</i> , 10th edn (Berlin 1960)
K–S	Kühner, R., and C. Stegmann, <i>Ausführliche Grammatik der lateinischen Sprache, II Satzlehre</i> . 2 vols. 5th edn rev. by A. Thierfelder (Hanover 1976)
LIMC	<i>Lexicon iconographicum mythologiae classicae</i> (Zurich 1981–97)
LTUR	Steinby, E. M., ed., <i>Lexicon topographicum urbis Romae</i> (Rome 1993–2000)



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ix

N–H	Nisbet, R. G. M. and M. Hubbard, <i>A commentary on Horace: Odes Book I</i> (Oxford 1970)
N–H	Nisbet, R. G. M. and M. Hubbard, <i>A commentary on Horace: Odes Book II</i> (Oxford 1978)
NLS	Woodcock, E. C., <i>A new Latin syntax</i> (London 1959, repr. 1985)
NP	Cancik, H. and H. Schneider, eds., <i>Der neue Pauly: Enzyklopädie der Antike</i> (Stuttgart, 1996–2003) (the English edn, <i>Brill's New Pauly</i> , may be consulted, but the translations sometimes distort the original)
N–R	Nisbet, R. G. M. and N. Rudd, <i>A commentary on Horace: Odes Book III</i> (Oxford 2004)
N–W	Neue, F., and C. Wagener, <i>Formenlehre der lateinischen Sprache</i> , 3rd edn (Berlin 1892–1905)
OCD	Hornblower, S., and A. Spawforth, eds., <i>The Oxford classical dictionary</i> , 3rd edn rev. (Oxford 2003)
OLD	Glare, P. et al., eds., <i>Oxford Latin dictionary</i> (Oxford 1968–82)
RE	Pauly, A., G. Wissowa, and W. Kroll, eds., <i>Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> (Stuttgart 1893–1980)
Roby	Roby, H. J., <i>A grammar of the Latin language</i> , 2 vols. (London 1871–4)
Roscher	Roscher, W. H., ed., <i>Ausführliches Lexicon der griechischen und römischen Mythologie</i> (Leipzig 1884–1937)
TLL	<i>Thesaurus linguae Latinae</i> (Stuttgart, Munich, and Leipzig 1900–)