

Cambridge Studies in Oral and Literate Culture

ORAL TRADITION AND WRITTEN RECORD IN CLASSICAL ATHENS



Cambridge Studies in Oral and Literate Culture

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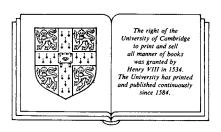
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ORAL TRADITION AND WRITTEN RECORD IN CLASSICAL ATHENS

ROSALIND THOMAS

LECTURER IN ANCIENT HISTORY, ROYAL HOLLOWAY AND BEDFORD NEW COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



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To my parents



These are the researches of Herodotus of Halicarnassus, which he publishes in the hope that the memory of what men have done should not be destroyed by time, and that the great and wonderful actions of the Greeks and Barbarians should not lose their due fame. Herodotus Bk I, Prologue

ἀμνάμονες δὲ βροτοί Pindar, Isthmian VII 13



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To help those unfamiliar with Greek history to orient themselves among the many historical events – not to mention the shifting spectrum of oral traditions – referred to in the course of this book, I have included a chronological table of Greek history at the end. This will also indicate the relative dating of the Greek historians and poets who are relevant to the discussion.

London R. T.



AJA

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ABBREVIATIONS

AJPAmerican Journal of Philology Anc. Soc. Ancient Society APFJ. K. Davies, Athenian Propertied Families, 600-300 *B.C.* (Oxford 1971) The African Past Speaks: Essays on Oral Tradition and APS History (ed. J. C. Miller, Folkstone 1980) Mitteilungen des deutschen archäologischen Instituts: Ath. Mitt. Athenische Abteilung Atthis F. Jacoby, Atthis. The Local Chronicles of Ancient Athens (Oxford 1949) Bulletin de correspondance hellénique BCHCambridge Ancient History CAHClassical Journal CJCPhClassical Philology Classical Quarterly CQCRClassical Review CWClassical Weekly FDFouilles de Delphes FGHF. Jacoby, Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker (Berlin and Leiden, 1923-58) GRGreece and Rome GRBS Greek, Roman, and Byzantine Studies A. W. Gomme, Historical Commentary on Thucydides, HCTin five vols.; vols. Iv and v completed by A. Andrewes and K. J. Dover (Oxford 1945-81) Harvard Studies in Classical Philology **HSCP** Inscriptiones Graecae (Berlin 1873-) IGJournal of Hellenic Studies **JHS** JRSJournal of Roman Studies LCMLiverpool Classical Monthly LSAG L. H. Jeffery, The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece (Oxford 1961) (Rev. ed. A. W. Johnston, 1990)

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MDAI(R)

ML

xii



Abbreviations xiii

Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century

B.C. (Oxford 1969) (Repr. with addenda 1988)

Mnemos. Mnemosyne

Mus. Helv. Museum Helveticum

OGIS Orientis Graecae Inscriptiones Selectae 1-11 (ed. W.

Dittenberger, Leipzig 1903-5)

Par. Pass. La Parola del Passato

PCPS Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society
PMG D. L. Page, Poetae Melici Graeci (Oxford 1962)
RE Pauly-Wissowa-Kroll, Real-Encyclopädie der classis-

chen Altertumswissenschaft (Stuttgart 1894-)

REG Revue des Études grecques

Rev. de Phil. Revue de philologie, de littérature et d'histoire ancienne

Rh. M. Rheinisches Museum für Philologie

SGDI Sammlung der griechischen Dialekt-Inschriften 1–1V (ed.

H. Collitz, Göttingen 1884-1915)

SEG Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum

Syll.³ Sylloge Inscriptionum Graecarum 1–1V³ (ed. W. Ditten-

berger et al., Leipzig 1915-24)

Symbol. Osl. Symbolae Osloenses

TAPA Transactions of the American Philological Association
Tod M. N. Tod, A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions

(Oxford 1948)

Vansina OTH J. Vansina, Oral Tradition as History (London and

Nairobi 1985)

YCS Yale Classical Studies

ZPE Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik