Mid-fifth-century Athens saw the development of the Athenian empire, the radicalization of Athenian democracy through the empowerment of poorer citizens, the adornment of the city through a massive and expensive building program, the production of classical Athenian tragedy, the assembly of intellectuals offering novel approaches to philosophical and scientific issues, and the end of the Spartan-Athenian alliance against Persia and the beginning of open hostilities between the two greatest powers of ancient Greece. The Athenian statesman Pericles fostered where he did not initiate these events and “Periclean Athens” has represented for many the height of classical Athenian history. Although it is no longer fashionable to view Periclean Athens as a social or cultural paradigm, study of the history, society, art, and literature of mid-fifth-century Athens remains central to any understanding of Greek history. This Companion volume reveals the political, religious, economic, social, artistic, literary, intellectual, and military infrastructure that made the Age of Pericles possible. Previous volumes on subjects directly relevant to mid-fifth-century Athens (including the Cambridge Companions to Early Greek Philosophy and Greek Tragedy) have permitted an approach here that focuses on the historical factors that undergirded, characterized, and threatened Periclean Athens.

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The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Pericles

Edited by Loren J. Samons II

Boston University
To my students
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ABBREVIATIONS

ABSA Annual of the British School at Athens
AC L’Antiquité classique
AHB Ancient History Bulletin
AJA American Journal of Archaeology
AJAH American Journal of Ancient History
AJP American Journal of Philology
AP Athenaios Politeia (Constitution of the Athenians), attributed to Aristotle
BICS Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies
CA Classical Antiquity (formerly California Studies in Classical Antiquity)
CJ Classical Journal
CP Classical Philology
Abbreviations

CQ Classical Quarterly
CR Classical Review
FGrHist F. Jacoby et al., *Die Fragmente der griechischen Historiker* (Berlin and Leiden: Brill, 1923–).
Fornara C. W. Fornara, ed. and trans., *From Archaic Times to the End of the Peloponnesian War*, second edition (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983); references are to item numbers.
G&R Greece & Rome
GRBS Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies
Harding P. Harding, ed. and trans., *From the End of the Peloponnesian War to the Battle of Ipsus* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985); references are to item numbers.
HSCP Harvard Studies in Classical Philology
IG Inscriptiones Graecae
JdI Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts
JHS Journal of Hellenic Studies
PAPh Proceedings of the American Philosophical Association
PP La Parola del passato
SEG Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum (1923–).
TAPA Transactions and Proceedings of the American Philological Association
Abbreviations


TrGF  *Tragicorum Graecorum Fragmenta* (Göttingen, 1971–).

YCS  *Yale Classical Studies*

Like the best companions, this volume neither asks nor answers all questions. It seeks to provoke as much as to inform, to stimulate the reader to further inquiry rather than to put matters to rest. Mid-fifth-century Athens generates as much interest and contention as any era in history, and scholars of the period operate within a long and fruitful tradition of bitter disputes. The contributors, although they share a belief in the importance of the Age of Pericles, often differ in their general conceptions of the period or on points of detail. A volume without discord would hardly do justice to a period as rife with intellectual and political battles as with those on land and sea.

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My wife Jamie deserves more thanks than I can offer in these pages.
MAP 1A. Greece and western Asia Minor
MAP 2. Attica, the Peloponnese, and central Greece