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978-1-107-01256-1 - Ancient Libraries

Edited by Jason König, Katerina Oikonomopoulou and Greg Woolf

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Ancient Libraries

The circulation of books was the motor of classical civilisation. But books were both expensive and rare, and so libraries – private and public, royal and civic – played key roles in articulating intellectual life. This collection, written by an international team of scholars, presents a fundamental reassessment of how ancient libraries came into being, how they were organised and how they were used. Drawing on papyrology and archaeology, and on accounts written by those who read and wrote in them, it presents new research on reading cultures, on book collecting and on the origins of monumental library buildings. Many of the traditional stories told about ancient libraries are challenged. Few were really enormous, none was designed as a research centre and occasional conflagrations do not explain the loss of most ancient texts. But the central place of libraries in Greco-Roman culture emerges more clearly than ever.

JASON KÖNIG is Senior Lecturer in Greek at the University of St Andrews. He works broadly on the Greek literature and culture of the Roman Empire. He is author of *Athletics and Literature in the Roman Empire* (2005) and *Saints and Symposiasts: The Literature of Food and the Symposium in Greco-Roman and Early Christian Culture* (2012), and editor, jointly with Tim Whitmarsh, of *Ordering Knowledge in the Roman Empire* (2007).

KATERINA OIKONOMOPOULOU is a postdoctoral research fellow for the programme 'Medicine of the Mind, Philosophy of the Body – Discourses of Health and Well-Being in the Ancient World' at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. She is co-editor, with Frieda Klotz, of *The Philosopher's Banquet: Plutarch's 'Table Talk' in the Intellectual Culture of the Roman Empire* (2011).

GREG WOOLF is Professor of Ancient History at the University of St Andrews. His books include *Becoming Roman: The Origins of Provincial Civilization in Gaul* (1998); *Et tu Brute: The Murder of Julius Caesar and Political Assassination* (2006); *Tales of the Barbarians: Ethnography and Empire in the Roman West* (2011); and *Rome: An Empire's Story* (2012). He has also edited volumes on literacy, on the city of Rome and on Roman religion, and has published widely on ancient history and Roman archaeology.

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Notes on contributors

MICHAEL AFFLECK is a PhD student in Classics at the University of Queensland, investigating the development of Roman libraries in the late Republic and early Empire, particularly as reflected in the use made of libraries, both public and private, by Roman writers, taking Pliny the Elder as the main example. He is also a librarian with 15 years' experience in academic and other libraries.

EWEN BOWIE was Praelector in Classics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, from 1965 to 2007, and successively University Lecturer, Reader, and Professor of Classical Languages and Literature in the University of Oxford. He is now an Emeritus Fellow of Corpus Christi College. He has published articles on early Greek elegiac, iambic, and lyric poetry; on Aristophanes; on Hellenistic poetry; and on many aspects of Greek literature and culture in the context of the Roman Empire from the first century BC to the third century AD, including Plutarch and the Greek novels. He recently edited (jointly with Jas Elsner) a collection of papers on *Philostratus* (Cambridge, 2009) and (jointly with Lucia Athanassaki) a collection of papers entitled *Archaic and Classical Choral Song* (2011). He is currently completing a commentary on Longus' *Daphnis and Chloe* for Cambridge University Press.

GAËLLE COQUEUGNIOT is a researcher at the Institut de recherche sur l'architecture antique, Lyon. She taught at the Université Lyon II and at University College, London. Her research primarily concerns the administration and architecture of the Hellenistic Aegean, through the study of ancient archives and administrative centres. She is also assistant director of the excavations at the Graeco-Roman site of Dura-Europos (Syria). Her publications include several articles on the organization of Graeco-Roman archives and libraries, and on the agora and sanctuaries of Dura-Europos. She is also the editor with P. Leriche and S. de Pontbriand of *Europos-Doura Varia* 1 (2012).

T. KEITH DIX is Associate Professor in the Department of Classics at the University of Georgia. He has published articles on ancient libraries and literacy, Virgil, Ovid, Aristophanes, Athenian history, and epigraphy. He

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is the author with Carl Anderson of 'Beware the Ides of March: Rome in 44 BCE', a classroom game (in development) in the Reacting to the Past pedagogy.

MICHAEL W. HANDIS is Associate Professor and Associate Librarian for Collection Management at the Mina Rees Library, The Graduate and University Center, City University of New York. His research interests include ancient and Byzantine history, ancient libraries, and political history. He has articles published in the *WESS Newsletter* (2009) and *Collection Building* (2007), and entries in *Milestone Documents in American History* (2008); the *Scribner Encyclopedia of American Lives* (2005); and the *Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History in America* (2004). In 2011, he delivered a paper to the Library Association of the City University of New York on his research in ancient libraries. He is currently on sabbatical researching the library of Pantainos in Athens, Greece.

ANNETTE HARDER is Professor of Ancient Greek Language and Literature at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. She has written on Greek tragedy and published a number of mythographic papyri, but her main field of interest is Hellenistic poetry. She has published various articles on this subject, organises the biennial Groningen Workshops on Hellenistic Poetry, and has edited several volumes of the series *Hellenistica Groningana*. She has also published a Dutch translation of a selection of Callimachus' poetry and an edition with introduction and commentary of Callimachus' *Aetia*.

MYRTO HATZIMICHALI is Lecturer in Classics at the University of Cambridge. Her research interests centre on intellectual and cultural history, especially on the ways in which literary and philosophical texts were transmitted, received, and professionally studied in the Hellenistic and early Imperial periods. She is the author of *Potamo of Alexandria and the Emergence of Eclecticism in Late Hellenistic Philosophy* (Cambridge, 2011), and has contributed chapters to volumes on the philosopher Antiochus of Ascalon and on Hellenistic poetry, as well as to the forthcoming *Encyclopaedism from Antiquity to the Renaissance* (eds. König and Woolf).

DANIEL HOGG is Head of Classics at Cranleigh School, Surrey. His main research interests lie in Greek and Roman historiography of the late Republic and early Empire. He wrote his D.Phil. dissertation on the relationship between speech and action in the *Antiquitates Romanae* of Dionysius of Halicarnassus. He has published variously on Dionysius, on aspects of early Roman history, and on the intellectual history of the ancient world. He completed his D.Phil. at the University of Oxford in 2009, and has held

teaching and postdoctoral research positions at Oxford, St Andrews and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich.

GEORGE W. HOUSTON is Professor of Classics Emeritus at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research interests include Latin literature, Latin epigraphy, Roman technology, and libraries and book collections in the Roman world. He has published extensively on ancient libraries, including papers on the personnel of public libraries (*TAPA* 2002), public libraries in the city of Rome (*MEFRA* 2006; with T. Keith Dix), and book collections in Egypt (in *Ancient Literacies*, edited by W. Johnson and H. Parker, 2009). He is currently at work on a book-length study of the contents and management of book collections in the Roman world.

CHRISTIAN JACOB is Directeur de recherche at the CNRS and Directeur d'études at the Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris. His main research area is scholarly practices and traditions in the ancient world. Among other topics, he focused on Alexandrian literary and scientific culture, on Athenaeus of Naucratis, and on Greek geography and cartography. He is also interested in comparatism and interdisciplinary approaches to the history of knowledge and literate cultures and has edited various collections of essays on the history of libraries, on textual canonicity, and scholarship. His main current project is the *Lieux de savoir* series (two volumes already published, 2007 and 2011).

WILLIAM A. JOHNSON, Professor of Classical Studies at Duke University, works broadly in the cultural history of Greece and Rome. He has lectured and published on Plato, Hesiod, Herodotus, Cicero, Pliny (both Elder and Younger), Gellius, Lucian, and on a variety of topics relating to books and readers, both ancient and modern. Recent work has focused on establishing deep contextualization for specific ancient reading communities, with particular attention to the relationship between literary texts and social structure. His books include *Readers and Reading Culture in the High Empire, a Study of Elite Reading Communities* (2010), *Ancient Literacies* (with Holt Parker, 2009), and *Bookrolls and Scribes in Oxyrhynchus* (Toronto, 2004). Forthcoming are two edited volumes: *The Essential Herodotus and Thucydides* and (with Daniel Richter) *The Oxford Handbook to the Second Sophistic*.

JASON KÖNIG is Senior Lecturer in Greek at the University of St Andrews. His publications include *Athletics and Literature in the Roman Empire* (Cambridge, 2005), *Ordering Knowledge in the Roman Empire* (Cambridge, 2007) (jointly edited with Tim Whitmarsh), and *Greek Literature in the Roman*

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Empire (2010). His most recent book is *Saints and Symposiasts: The Literature of Food and the Symposium in Greco-Roman and Early-Christian Culture* (Cambridge, 2012).

VICTOR M. MARTÍNEZ is a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Classics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was awarded his doctorate in Art History from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2009. His research concerns the reception of Greek myth and images in pre-Roman Italy and intersections between pottery and the Roman economy. His publications include 'Terracotta sculpture and objects' in *Palatine East Excavations*, vol. II (forthcoming) and 'Western Roman Amphorae' in *Palatine East Excavations*, vol. III (in preparation). His current book project is tentatively entitled, *Networks of Intoxication: the Case of Late Roman Wines from Italy, ca. 250–700 CE*, which takes a network approach to understanding the ceramic evidence for the Italian wine industry during the declining years of the Roman Empire.

RICHARD NEUDECKER is Researcher at the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut in Rome and teaches Classical Archaeology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität of Munich. His publications on *Die Skulpturen-ausstattung römischer Villen in Italien* (1988) and *Die Pracht der Latrine. Zum Wandel öffentlicher Bedürfnisanstalten in der kaiserzeitlichen Stadt* (1994) fall within a wider research interest in the cultural history of Roman Imperial times; with Paul Zanker he edited *Lebenswelten. Bilder und Räume in der römischen Stadt der Kaiserzeit* (2005).

MATTHEW NICHOLLS is Lecturer in the Department of Classics at the University of Reading. His research concerns cultural, intellectual, and architectural history at Rome and in the provinces of the Empire. He is particularly interested in ancient public libraries, on which he is writing a book, and has published numerous articles on the subject. These include pieces in the *Journal of Roman Studies* (2011) and *Greece & Rome* (2010) on the implications for library history of the newly discovered *Peri Alupias* of Galen. He is also interested in digital architectural modelling as a way of exploring ancient cities and buildings.

KATERINA OIKONOMOPOULOU is Lecturer (elect) in Classics at the University of Patras, Greece. She completed a D.Phil. in Classics at the University of Oxford, and from 2007 to 2010 she was Postdoctoral Research Fellow for the Leverhulme project 'Science and Empire in the Roman World' at the University of St Andrews. She is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her publications include *The*

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Philosopher's Banquet: Plutarch's Table Talk in the Intellectual Culture of the Roman Empire (co-edited with Frieda Klotz, 2011).

DAVID PETRAIN is Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Vanderbilt University. His research focuses on interactions between Greek and Roman literary traditions, and on cross-fertilizations between the communicative strategies of verbal and visual art. His publications have treated Roman elegy, Hellenistic epigram, and the narrative structures of visual storytelling in the ancient world. He is the co-editor, with Jan Kwapisz and Mikolaj Szymanski, of *The Muse at Play: Riddles and Wordplay in Greek and Latin Poetry* (2012). His monograph, *Homer in Stone: The Tabulae Iliacae in their Roman Context*, is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

PASQUALE MASSIMO PINTO is Researcher and Lecturer in Classical Philology at the University of Bari, Italy. His research interests concern the Athenian culture of the fourth century BC, the Attic orators (textual and biographical tradition), papyrology, and the history of classical studies. He is the author of *Per la storia del testo di Isocrate* (2003) and *Medea Norsa – Harold Idris Bell. Carteggio 1926–1949* (2005). His latest publications include: 'P. Kellis III Gr. 95 and Evagoras I', *ZPE* (2009); 'Monumenti d'autore e storie di testi', *Philologus* (2010); and 'Constantinos Simonidis in the Genadijus Library', *The New Griffon* (2011). He is one of the editors of a new edition of Isocrates (forthcoming).

ELEANOR ROBSON is Reader in Ancient Middle Eastern Science at the University of Cambridge and the British Institute for the Study of Iraq's Chair of Council. Her research focuses on the socio-political contexts of intellectual activity in ancient Mesopotamia and the online edition of cuneiform texts. She has published widely on topics from Babylonian mathematics to Sumerian literature to the ethics of postwar cultural heritage. She is the author of *Mathematics in Ancient Iraq: A Social History* (2008, winner of the History of Science Society's Pfizer Prize, 2011), co-editor with Karen Radner of *The Oxford Handbook of Cuneiform Culture* (2011), and director of the AHRC-funded research project, 'The Geography of Knowledge in Assyria and Babylonia, 700–200 BC' (2007–12). With Steve Tinney and Niek Veldhuis, she runs the Open Richly Annotated Cuneiform Corpus (oracc.org).

KIM RYHOLT is Associate Professor of Egyptology at the University of Copenhagen. He is the director of the Center for Canon and Identity Formation (University of Copenhagen Programme of Excellence) and the Papyrus Carlsberg Collection. His research interests include political history,

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propaganda, literature, and libraries. He has published extensively on literature in the demotic script and the Tebtunis temple library, including several monographs. He is currently editing (with G. Barjamovic) and contributing to a volume entitled *Libraries before Alexandria*, which presents an historical account of libraries in Egypt, Mesopotamia and Anatolia from c. 2600 BC to AD 300.

MEGAN FINN SENSENEY earned her Master of Science in Library and Information Science in 2008 and is currently pursuing a Certificate of Advanced Study in Digital Libraries at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she also serves as Project Coordinator for Research Services. Her research interests include library history, special collections, and digital humanities. She has previously published an article on the topic of ancient libraries in the *International Journal of the Book*, entitled 'The Book as Performance: Written Works, Theater, and Repositories in Classical Antiquity' (2010).

PIER LUIGI TUCCI is Assistant Professor of Roman Art and Architecture in the Department of History of Art, Johns Hopkins University. He has also held posts at the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa, the Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici in Naples, and Royal Holloway, University of London and Exeter University in the UK. His research interests cross the boundaries between Classics and archaeology and include Late Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance. He has published several papers on various ancient monuments in Rome, as well as on Renaissance architecture and antiquarianism – he is the author of *Laurentius Manlius. La riscoperta dell'antica Roma, la nuova Roma di Sisto IV* (2001). He is currently finishing a book on the *Templum Pacis* and working on the final publication of his research on the Capitoline Hill.

FABIO TUTRONE is a Research Fellow in Latin literature at the University of Palermo (Italy), where he also obtained his PhD in Greek and Latin Philology and Culture in 2009. He works on different themes related to ancient literature, science, and philosophy, but in particular the study of animal representations and man–animal relationships in Roman culture. He has published several papers on Lucretius and his cultural background, as well as on literary topics of ethical and anthropological interest (education, violence, technical knowledge, and man's relationship to nature). His contributions include a major book on animals in Latin literature, *Filosofi e animali in Roma antica. Modelli di animalità e umanità in Lucrezio e Seneca* (2012).

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GREG WOOLF is Professor of Ancient History at the University of St Andrews. His research concerns the cultural history of the Roman Empire. He has published on literacy, on monumentality, on the ancient economy, and most recently on religious history. His books include *Becoming Roman: the origins of provincial civilization in Gaul* (1998) and *Tales of the Barbarians: ethnography and imperialism in the Roman West* (2011). He is also the editor with Alan Bowman of *Literacy and Power in the Ancient World* (1994); with Catharine Edwards of *Rome the Cosmopolis* (2003); and with Jason König of *Encyclopaedism from Antiquity to the Renaissance* (forthcoming) which derives from the same project as this volume.

ALEXEI V. ZADOROJNYI studied Classics in Moscow and in Oxford; he received his PhD from the University of Exeter in 1999. He is currently Senior Lecturer in Classics at the University of Liverpool. His research interests include intellectual history under the Empire, Greco-Roman literary criticism, intertextuality, and paratextual ‘writtenness’; to date he has been exploring these themes mainly, but not exclusively, through Plutarch. He is co-editing (with Fran Titchener) the *Cambridge Companion to Plutarch*.

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Acknowledgments

From the first organisation of the Ancient Libraries Conference, held at the University of St Andrews in September 2008, through the editing of this book, we have become very conscious of how many scholars have been thinking about ancient libraries for much longer than we have. We are grateful too for the contributions of all the participants, but perhaps it is not invidious to single out for special thanks Keith Dix, George Houston, Christian Jacob, William Johnson, and Matthew Nicholls who have been generous with advice and tolerant of our meanderings around the stacks that are so familiar to them. We are also very glad to acknowledge the support of our colleagues in the School of Classics at St Andrews, in particular of Joseph Howley, then studying with us and now at Columbia University, and of Margaret Goudie who organised the original conference with the same cheerful efficiency she has organised so many others. The staff of the University Library at St Andrews, of the Sackler and Bodleian Libraries in Oxford, and of the Joint Library of the Hellenic and Roman Societies have been a constant support. Michael Sharp and his colleagues at the Press have helped us transform a conversation into a book. We close with gratitude to the Leverhulme Trust, the generosity of which has made all this possible.

List of abbreviations

ANRW	Temporini, H. and W. Haase (eds.) (1972–) <i>Aufstieg und Niedergang der Römischen Welt</i> , 88 vols. to date. Berlin and New York.
BNP	Cancik, H., H. Schneider and M. Landfester (eds.) (1996–) <i>Brill’s New Pauly: Encyclopaedia of the Ancient World</i> (English transl. managing editors: C. F. Salazar and F. G. Gentry), 20 vols. Leiden.
CAD	Gelb, J. <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1956–) <i>The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago</i> , 20 vols. to date. Chicago, IL. Downloadable from http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/cad/ .
CAG	<i>Commentaria in Aristotelem Graeca</i> (1882–1902). Berlin.
CAH	Edwards, I. E. S. <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1970–2000) <i>The Cambridge Ancient History</i> , 14 vols. Cambridge.
CIG	Boeckhuis, A. (1827–77) <i>Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum</i> , 4 vols. Berlin.
CIL	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> (1896–). Berlin.
CMG	<i>Corpus Medicorum Graecorum</i> (1915–). Leipzig and Berlin.
DNP	Cancik, H. and H. Schneider (eds.) (1996–) <i>Der Neue Pauly</i> , 20 vols. Stuttgart and Weimar.
FIRA	Riccobono, S. (1941) <i>Fontes Iuris Romanae Antejustiniani</i> , 3 vols. Florence.
IG	<i>Inscriptiones Graecae</i> (1913–) 2nd edn. Berlin.
IGR	Cagnat, R. <i>et al.</i> (1906–28) <i>Inscriptiones Graecae ad res Romanas pertinentes</i> . Paris.
IK Smyrna	Petzl, G. (1982–7) <i>Die Inschriften von Smyrna</i> (Inschriften griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien 23), 2 vols. Bonn.
ILS	Dessau, H. (1892–1916) <i>Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae</i> , 5 vols. Berlin.
IvE	H. Wankel, R. Merkelbach, <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1979–84) <i>Inschriften von Ephesos</i> , 8 vols. Bonn.
IvP	Fränkel, M. (1890–5) <i>Inschriften von Pergamon</i> , 2 vols. Berlin.

Kühn	Kühn, G. C. (ed.) (1821–33) <i>Galenī Opera Omnia</i> . Leipzig.
LIMC	<i>Fondation pour le Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> (ed.) (1981–99) <i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> , 8 vols. Zurich-Munich.
LTUR	Steinby, E.M. (ed.) (1993–2000) <i>Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae</i> . Rome.
NSA	<i>Notizie degli scavi di antichità</i> .
OGIS	W. Dittenberg (ed.) (1905) <i>Orientis Graeci Inscriptiones Selectae</i> . Leipzig.
ORF	Malcovati, H. (1976–9) <i>Oratorum Romanorum Fragmenta</i> 4th edn., 2 vols. Milan.
PIR	Groag, E. <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1933–) <i>Prosopographia Imperii Romani</i> , 2nd edn. Berlin.
RAC	F. J. Dölger <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1950–) <i>Reallexicon für Antike und Christentum</i> , 24 vols. to date. Stuttgart.
RE	A. Pauly and H. Wissowa (eds.) (1839–80) <i>Paulys Realencyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> , 84 vols. Stuttgart.
RIA	M. P. Streck <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1932–) <i>Reallexikon der Assyriologie und Vorderasiatischen Archäologie</i> , 12 vols. to date. Berlin.
SAA	S. Parpola <i>et al.</i> (eds.) (1987–) <i>The State Archives of Assyria</i> , 18 vols. to date, Helsinki. Online at http://oracc.org/saao .
SEG	<i>Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum</i> (1923–). Leiden.
TLL	<i>Thesaurus Linguae Latinae</i> (1900–). Leipzig.

Journal abbreviations not in *L'année philologique*:

<i>RendLinc</i>	<i>Rendiconti della Reale Accademia dei Lincei</i> .
<i>SL&I</i>	<i>Studi Latini e Italiani</i> .

Papyrological collections are cited according to the abbreviations listed in *The Checklist of Editions of Greek, Latin, Demotic and Coptic Papyri, Ostraka and Tablets* edited by John F. Oates, Oakville, CT; Oxford: Oxbow for American Society of Papyrologists, 5th edn. 2001.

Where the names of ancient authors and the titles of books are abbreviated in the notes, it is according to the conventions listed in the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*.