

Preface

This book is the fruit of the project ‘The quaestorship during the Republic at Rome and abroad’, sponsored by the Spanish Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad (HAR2013-43477-P).

The authors are very grateful to some individuals and institutions that have helped make this project a reality. Each author would like to express his gratitude separately.

Francisco Pina Polo took the first steps in researching the elusive quaestors in 2014, when he spent three months at Princeton’s Institute for Advanced Study and enjoyed not only the wonderful atmosphere but also a place in its beautiful library overlooking the pond and woods. In 2015 and 2016, I was a guest for some weeks first at the Seminar für Alte Geschichte of Münster and then at the Institut für Geschichte (Lehrstuhl für Alte Geschichte) of Dresden, which are directed by two good friends and excellent colleagues, Johannes Hahn and Martin Jehne, respectively. Their hospitality and joviality truly helped me advance this project. Last but not least, in 2017 I had the privilege of being a Visiting Research Fellow at Merton College during Trinity term. Anyone who has ever spent some time working in the Sackler and Bodleian Libraries knows very well what this means for an ancient historian: paradise. For this privilege I am very much indebted to Jonathan Prag, Professor of Ancient History in Merton and himself a great expert on the Roman quaestorship. I would also like to thank other Oxonian colleagues who generously discussed some aspects of this book with me, including Fergus Millar and Henriette van der Blom (now in Birmingham). Some colleagues, including Werner Eck and Anne Kolb, have given their advice on various questions or have provided useful bibliographical items, for which I am very grateful. I owe a very special debt of gratitude to my colleague and friend Cristina Rosillo-López (University Pablo de Olavide, Seville), since she has patiently read substantial parts of the book and has always contributed invaluable advice and recommendations that have improved it. Needless to say, none of these colleagues and friends can be blamed for any infelicities or mistakes in the book.

Alejandro Díaz Fernández continued the work initiated by Francisco Pina Polo during two successive research trips in Rome (2016 and 2017) that were financed by the University of Málaga with the invaluable help of the Escuela Española de Historia y Arqueología of Rome (EEHAR-CSIC). I am sincerely grateful to Emma Chesterman for the translation and improvement of my text, as well as to my colleagues in the Department of Historical Sciences of the University of Málaga, my dear friend Francho and my family for their support and unconditional patience: completing this project would indeed have been impossible without the kind collaboration of so many people and institutions.

Finally, we want to thank Benjamin Jerue for the complete revision of the text and stylistic improvement.

