

Acknowledgments

The origin of this project lay in an exercise conducted by students in a seminar taught by Prof. Efthymiadis in the Department of Social Anthropology of the University of the Aegean (Mytilene), in the years 1997-1999. The students were assigned sources and instructed in the preparation of prosopographical entries. We must thank the President of the University at that time, Themistokles Lekkas, who secured supporting funds for that exercise. But only a handful of entries were begun then. The project gained momentum and clear purpose through collaboration with Prof. Kaldellis, who was investigating the early Christian and Byzantine history of the island of Lesbos. The latter is mostly responsible for the Early period and the Introduction, while Prof. Efthymiadis is mostly responsible for the Middle and the Late periods (whence the order of the names on the cover page). Yet each has corrected the other's work and so this must be seen as a joint effort and the fruit of a long-standing collaboration.

The authors would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions: Andreas Mazarakis (Numismatic Museum, Athens) read the entries and offered valuable suggestions, especially on the Genoese evidence. Dr. Christian Gastgeber (Austrian Academy of Sciences: Institut für Byzanzforschung) provided invaluable assistance with the formatting of the text for publication and with the content of the entries themselves, saving us from many errors. Prof. Jean-Claude Cheynet (University of Paris IV-La Sorbonne) made available to us the lead seals regarding Lesbos in his extensive personal archives and read an early draft of the prosopography. Dr. Alexandra-Kyriaki Wassiliou provided further sigillographic evidence and helped us with its dating. Ian Mladjov provided the translation of and historical commentary on the Slavic text in entry no. 161; he is also responsible for an earlier version of the map included in the volume. Sophia Vlachou prepared the initial version of the inventory of persons in chronological order. Prof. Gerhard Jaritz (Central European University-Institut für Realienkunde des Mittelalters und der frühen Neuzeit, Krems) provided invaluable assistance with the preparation of the final manuscript. We also wish to thank Prof. Johannes Koder and Dr. Peter Soustal for their interest in this project and for seeing it through to publication.

March 2009

Anthony Kaldellis, Stephanos Efthymiadis