Warfare and Society in Early Greece
FROM THE FALL OF THE MYKENAION PALACES
TO THE END OF THE PERSIAN WARS

ACADEMISCH PROEFSCHRIFT

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Preface

The present Ph.D. dissertation is about early Greek warfare in the period between the fall of the Mykenaian palaces, around 1200 B.C., and the end of the Persian Wars, i.e. the early fifth century BC. It incorporates a large amount of archaeological, iconographic, and textual evidence and hopefully presents a stimulating synthesis of the material as a whole, offering fresh insights into early Greek warfare and society.

This book would not have been possible if it had not been for the encouragement and helpful advice—including prodigious amounts of notes, references, and written comments!—of my supervisor at the VU University in Amsterdam, Dr. Jan Paul Crielaard. His enthusiasm for, and knowledge of the subject were a constant source of inspiration. I thank him wholeheartedly for sticking with the project through the years—going back to when it was just still a master’s thesis—and lending his support even in times when the present author was on the verge of chucking it all in. Naturally, I alone am responsible for any errors that remain in the text.

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