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Roman History Themes for Andrea Doria's Palazzo del Principe

In the fresco cycle of Palazzo del Principe, Andrea Doria's palace in Genoa, materials belonging to a number of different facets of Antiquity, pertaining to ancient Roman history and to classical myth, were used to convey allusions to Doria's role (as Charles V's admiral, guarantor of the Republic of Genoa's position in the Habsburgic power system and reformer of the Genoese state's structure). This contribution focuses on the historical themes, investigating the ways in which illustrious heroes of ancient Rome and their *gestae* were presented in this context. Particular attention is paid to Perino del Vaga's never executed project for the fresco decoration of the palace's north façade. The hitherto partly undeciphered notes on the design indicate an extensive program illustrating Furius Camillus's feats, both as victor of the Gauls and as saviour and "second founder" of Rome. Camillus's deeds clearly resonated with Doria's anti-French stance and the projection of his image as both defender and reformer of the Genoese state.