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**A Statue in Early Hellenistic Antioch
and Its Long Life in the City (and Modern Scholarship)**

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What we know about Early Hellenistic Antioch, Seleukos Nikator’s second foundation in Syria, depends largely on later sources. This is also true for the statue of the personification of the city that was erected in the early 3rd century BCE. The statue is lost, but numerous images in various media allow for a reconstruction of its composition and interpretations of its original function and its subsequent uses. At the time of its creation, it promised the Antiochenes a prosperous future; in Late Hellenistic times, it began to serve as a model for images of personifications of cities in the Levant and Asia Minor; in the Roman Imperial period, it reminded of the Seleukid foundation of the city. Scholars have studied this image since 1790 – and relied on late literary sources that provide precious evidence for the time of their authors but rather obscure the interests of previous generations. I will discuss the archaeological and the literary evidence, present my conclusions about the intentions for erecting a statue that visualized the city of Antioch in Early Hellenistic times, and sketch the later use of the statue.