

# Contents

Preface	vii
Chapter 1. Elementary Properties of Curves of Second Degree	1
1.1. Definitions	1
1.2. Analytic definition and classification of curves of second degree	5
1.3. The optical property	6
1.4. The isogonal property of conics	10
1.5. Curves of second degree as projections of the circle	15
1.6. The eccentricity and yet another definition of conics	17
1.7. Some remarkable properties of the parabola	19
Chapter 2. Some Results from Classical Geometry	27
2.1. Inversion and Feuerbach's theorem	27
2.2. Basic facts about projective transformations	29
2.3. Some facts from the geometry of the triangle	38
2.4. Radical axes and pencils of circles	57
Chapter 3. Projective Properties of Conics	65
3.1. The cross-ratio of four points on a curve. Parametrization. The converses of Pascal's and Brianchon's theorems	65
3.2. Polar correspondence. The duality principle	68
3.3. Pencils of curves. Poncelet's theorem	78
Chapter 4. Euclidean Properties of Curves of Second Degree	99
4.1. Special properties of equilateral hyperbolas	99
4.2. Inscribed conics	105
4.3. Normals to conics. Joachimstahl's circle	113
4.4. The Poncelet theorem for confocal ellipses	115

Chapter 5. Solutions to the Problems	119
Bibliography	131
Index	133