

FROM THE TETRARCHS TO THE THEODOSIANS

An integrated collection of essays examining the politics, social networks, law, historiography, and literature of the later Roman world, this volume treats three central themes: the first section looks at political and social developments across the period and argues that, in spite of the stress placed upon traditional social structures, many elements of Roman life remained only slightly changed. The second section focuses upon biographical texts and shows how late antique authors adapted traditional modes of discourse to new conditions. The final section explores the first years of the reign of Theodosius I and shows how he built upon historical foundations while unfurling new methods for utilizing, presenting, and commemorating imperial power. These papers analyze specific events and local developments to highlight examples of both change and continuity in the Roman world from 284 to 450.

SCOTT MCGILL is Associate Professor in the Classical Studies Department, Rice University. He is the author of *Virgil Recomposed: The Mythological and Secular Centos in Antiquity* (2005) and is currently writing *Plagiarism in Classical Latin Literature*, exploring the concept of plagiarism in Latin antiquity.

CRISTIANA SOGNO is Assistant Professor of Classics at Fordham University, New York. Her book *Q. Aurelius Symmachus: a Political Biography* (2006) offers a reconstruction of the political career of Symmachus through close analysis of his extensive writings, while also proposing a critical reevaluation of his historical importance. Among her current projects is a study on *curiositas* in Latin literature.

EDWARD WATTS is Associate Professor of History, Adjunct Associate Professor of Religious Studies, and Adjunct Associate Professor of Classics at Indiana University, Bloomington. His book *City and School in Late Antique Athens and Alexandria* (2006) won the Outstanding Publication Award from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South in 2007. His current book *Riot in Alexandria: Tradition and Group Dynamics in Late Antique Pagan and Christian Communities* (2010) explores the cultural and religious interactions of late fifth-century Alexandrian pagan intellectuals, Christian ascetics, and bishops.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-0-521-89821-8 — From the Tetrarchs to the Theodosians
Scott McGill, Cristiana Sogno, Edward Watts
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



John Matthews

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-0-521-89821-8 — From the Tetrarchs to the Theodosians
Scott McGill, Cristiana Sogno, Edward Watts
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

YALE CLASSICAL STUDIES



VOLUME XXXIV

FROM THE TETRARCHS TO
THE THEODOSIANS

*Later Roman History and Culture,
284–450 CE*

EDITED BY

SCOTT MCGILL

Rice University, Houston

CRISTIANA SOGNO

Fordham University, New York

EDWARD WATTS

Indiana University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-0-521-89821-8 — From the Tetrarchs to the Theodosians
Scott McGill, Cristiana Sogno, Edward Watts
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521898218

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2010

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

First published 2010
Reprinted 2010

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-0-521-89821-8 Hardback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will
remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-0-521-89821-8 — From the Tetrarchs to the Theodosians
Scott McGill, Cristiana Sogno, Edward Watts
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

For John Matthews, on the occasion of his 70th birthday

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>page</i> ix
Introduction	I
<i>Scott McGill, Cristiana Sogno, and Edward Watts</i>	
PART I POLITICS, LAW, AND SOCIETY	
1 The unity of the Roman Empire	13
<i>David Potter</i>	
2 Roman patronage	33
<i>Peter Garnsey</i>	
3 Roman matchmaking	55
<i>Cristiana Sogno</i>	
4 Constantine the lawgiver	73
<i>Jill Harries</i>	
5 Constantine answers the veterans	93
<i>Serena Connolly</i>	
PART II BIOGRAPHY AND PANEGYRICS	
6 Three generations of Christian philosophical biography	117
<i>Edward Watts</i>	
7 The education of Paulinus of Pella: learning in the late empire	135
<i>Josiah Osgood</i>	

8	Another man's miracles: recasting Aelius Donatus in Phocas's <i>Life of Virgil</i> <i>Scott McGill</i>	153
9	Gregory of Nazianzus's <i>Life of Julian</i> revisited (<i>Or.</i> 4 and 5): the art of governance by invective <i>Susanna Elm</i>	171
PART III FACES OF THEODOSIUS I		
10	Liar in winter: Themistius and Theodosius <i>Peter Heather</i>	185
11	Moments of truth: Gregory of Nazianzus and Theodosius I <i>Neil McLynn</i>	215
12	Reinventing Constantinople: Theodosius I's imprint on the imperial city <i>Brian Croke</i>	241
13	Reinventing history: Jerome's <i>Chronicle</i> and the writing of the post-Roman West <i>Mark Vessey</i>	265
	<i>References</i>	290
	<i>Index</i>	313

Acknowledgments

We owe debts of gratitude to a range of people who have made this project possible. Christina Kraus and the Yale University Department of Classics have been enthusiastic in their support of our initiatives. Michael Sharp and Elizabeth Hanlon of Cambridge University Press have been important resources throughout the process of preparing and assembling this volume. The Departments of Classics at Rice University and Fordham University have also made our efforts easier through their financial support. We also must thank Veronika Grimm who offered good advice even while keeping our activities a secret.