

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiv
Introduction: What We Talk about When We Talk about Roman Geography	
Roman Geography Triumphant	1
Why the Nile?	6
The Structure of the Argument	16
The Structure of the Argument	20
1 A World Full of Maps? Public ‘Chorographies’ in Late Republican and Early Imperial Rome	27
The ‘Chorographies’ of Vitruvius	39
The Praeneste Nile Mosaic	50
A World to Be Gazed upon and Talked About	63
Conclusions: Visual Geographies on a Grand Scale	65
2 The Dismembered Nile: The Geography of Triumphs and Monuments	69
Triumphs	71
Geography in Procession	73
Making Sense of Triumphal Geographies	78
The Wisdom of Crowds	86
Making Maps from Metonyms	91
The World in the City	93
Conclusions: Fragments and Assemblages	103
3 Gazing on the Nile: The Domestication of the River	106
The House of the Ephebe and the <i>Praedia</i> of Julia Felix	107
Pompeian Aegyptiaca	116
Egypt in Context: The House of the Ceii	119
Nile Landscapes and Roman Visual Culture in the Private Sphere	124
The Development of Roman Nilotica	131

viii	<i>Contents</i>	
	Larger Prospects. Gardens and Villas	137
	Text and Image	143
	Conclusions: The Power of the Gaze	148
4	<i>Creatio ex Nilo: Metaphysics and the Unknowable River</i>	150
	Lucretius, the Nile and the Nature of Knowledge	154
	Seneca and the Limits of Knowing	162
	Seneca's Nile and the Cycles of Cosmic Time	171
	Egyptian Cosmology and Roman Geography	174
	Isis, Serapis and the Nile in Pompeii	183
	Conclusions: Metaphysical Niles	196
5	<i>This River Is a Jumbled Line, Perhaps?: Journeys and Lines</i>	198
	Itineraries: A World Defined by Routes, Nodes and Lines	201
	The Ethiopian Expedition: To Meroe and Beyond?	206
	Itineraries in Roman Egypt	215
	Strabo	216
	Tacitus on the Ill-Fated Egyptian Journey of Germanicus	220
	Satire and Parody	228
	Conclusions: Thinking in Lines	232
6	<i>Triumph and Disaster: Rendering the River in Verse</i>	234
	The Politics of Geography in Epic and Elegy	239
	Lucan	251
	Conclusions: Poetic Geographies	277
	Afterword: The Many Niles of the Elder Pliny	279
	Nile Sources	285
	Multiple Egypts	288
	The World in Rome	290
	Conclusions: Kaleidoscopic Geographies	296
	<i>Bibliography</i>	298
	<i>Index</i>	333