

The Roman Emperor and His Court c. 30 BC–c. AD 300

Volume 1: Historical Essays

At the centre of the Roman empire stood the emperor and the court surrounding him. The systematic investigation of this court in its own right, however, has been a relatively late development in the field of Roman history, and previous studies have focused on narrowly defined aspects or on particular periods of Roman history. This book makes a major contribution to understanding the history of the Roman imperial court. The first volume presents nineteen original essays covering all the major dimensions of the court from the age of Augustus to the threshold of Late Antiquity. The second volume is a collection of the ancient sources that are central to studying that court. The collection includes: translations of literary sources, inscriptions, and papyri; plans and computer visualizations of archaeological remains; and photographs of archaeological sites and artworks depicting the emperor and his court.

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Edited by Benjamin Kelly , Angela Hug

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VOLUME 1

Historical Essays

Edited by

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*For
Colonel (Retired) Gregory George Hug
Unstoppable*

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Preface and Acknowledgements

In the first volume of this work, we provide a systematic analysis of the Roman imperial court from Augustus to the end of the third century. Volume 2 then offers a collection of fundamental sources for that court; in the cases of the textual sources, these are presented in original English translations. In both volumes we have avoided assuming that readers know Greek or Latin, or that they have been initiated into the more recondite details of Roman institutional and political history. Our hope is that the book will be intelligible to senior undergraduate students and professional scholars of other historical courts. Since we anticipate that the sourcebook will be more heavily used in pedagogical contexts, we have placed various supporting materials in that volume. Thus, it is there that the reader will find a glossary, a list of emperors and their dates, a register of important courtiers, and short descriptions of the major ancient authors and literary sources that provide evidence about the court.

We are very grateful to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for the award of an Insight Grant. This allowed us to run a workshop in Toronto in July 2017, at which we planned the project and discussed the first drafts of some chapters. The grant also allowed us to employ several research assistants, four of whom worked on the first volume. Carly Murdoch took responsibility for workshop logistics and also conducted epigraphic research on court service staff. Chris Dawson helped with checking the references in some of the chapters. Daniel Mitchell assisted with the bibliography. Samantha Rohrig also worked on the bibliography, as well as indexing the volume, helping with the research on Chapters 6 and 15, and assisting with copy-editing. The Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies at York University also gave a grant to help defray the costs of the workshop, as well as contributing to the salaries of several of our research assistants.

We are thankful to colleagues for assistance in obtaining images and permissions relating to archaeological sites and items of material culture. The creators of the images are acknowledged in the list of figures. In addition, we thank Bernard Frischer and Katja Piesker, who facilitated the process of obtaining permissions. Particular gratitude is due to Jens

Pflug for his help with permissions and his work updating some of the images in Chapters 9 and 12 to ensure they reflect the latest archaeological findings.

At an early stage, we benefitted from several thoughtful discussions with our York colleagues Sarah Blake, Jonathan Edmondson, Rob Tordoff, and Ryan Wei about the project. Sarah Blake read early drafts of five chapters of Volume 1 and gave invaluable feedback on them; Ryan Wei did likewise for another three. Caillan Davenport, Olivier Hekster, and Christian Rollinger gave feedback on advanced drafts of several other chapters, and we are most grateful for their perceptive comments.

Classics researchers in Southern Ontario have traditionally relied on the substantial holdings of the Robarts research library at the University of Toronto. Unfortunately, the riches of this collection have become increasingly difficult to access over the last decade, especially for researchers from other institutions. The global pandemic made a bad situation worse. We therefore would like to thank the interlibrary loans staff at York University's Scott library, who worked with great efficiency to get us the resources we needed, sometimes under challenging circumstances. We are grateful to Catherine Cooper and Laura Hug, who gave us access to private bibliographic resources at a critical point and therefore sped up the final stage of editorial work. Completing this project was also made immeasurably easier, especially during the pandemic, by the many excellent electronic resources available in our field – too many to list here by name. We would like to acknowledge the enormous investment of time and energy such websites require – labour too rarely valued by academic institutions – and express our deepest thanks to all those who create, curate, and maintain such resources.

At the Cambridge University Press, we appreciated Michael Sharp's support for the project and the efficiency of Liz Davey and Katie Idle during the production process. Malcolm Todd's keen eye was invaluable at the copy-editing stage.

Our contributors were models of tolerance as we requested multiple rewrites of many chapters. It was wonderful to be part of a genuinely collaborative enterprise, and to see authors' ideas evolve over the course of the project. The majority of contributions to this first volume were finalized in mid-2019, so the reader will find that works published later than 2018 are referred to only sporadically. We were saddened to learn of the death of one of our contributors, Ulrike Wulf-Rheidt, in the summer of 2018. By the time Ulrike died, the intellectual content of Chapter 9 had been essentially finalized, and her co-author, Jens Pflug, ably saw the

chapter through the translation and copy-editing process during what was a very difficult time for him.

Our families were also remarkable for their tolerance, and limited their enquiries about the book's completion date to a bare minimum. There are no words to express our appreciation for Laura Kuypers, our children's nanny for two years; without her this project would have sunk beneath a sea of stickers, LEGO, and picture books, and would never have been completed. Our mother/mother-in-law, Frances Burton, also stepped in repeatedly to help with childcare at critical moments, for which we are most grateful. Our children, Eamon and Pippa, have shared their parents with this project for years, and have endured our routine disappearance into the study and lengthy discussions concerning the Roman imperial court at the dinner table with (mostly) good humour and grace. Even during the lockdown in the spring of 2020, the frequency of Pippa's unannounced visits to said study was well below what one would expect from the average three-year-old. We hope that one day our children will understand what we were doing, even if they do not condone it.

In early 2016, around the time when this project was first getting underway, our father/father-in-law, Greg Hug, suffered a severe spinal injury. Greg/Dad has adjusted to this drastic change of circumstances with a humour and fortitude that has inspired everyone around him. We are honoured to dedicate this volume to him. And, besides, he is the only person we know who will read every last word of the book, which itself deserves some kind of recompense.

Abbreviations and Conventions

Unless otherwise noted, translations are the author's own and dates are AD. We have not striven to be hypercorrect with names. Where English place names exist, we use these. Otherwise, we tend to use Roman place names, but we also give the modern name the first time a place is mentioned in a chapter, so that the location may be found easily using mapping applications. All places are in Italy, unless otherwise indicated. With personal names, we have used anglicized versions where they are conventional (e.g. Julia Domna, Pliny the Younger); otherwise, we use Latin spellings (e.g. Iulius Montanus, *PIR*² I 434).

Italics have been used for Latin and transliterated Greek words; these are either translated or glossed where they stand, or explained in the Glossary in Volume 2 (in the case of words appearing repeatedly). Figures in **bold** type refer to the numbers we have given to the sources reproduced in Volume 2 (e.g. **Vol. 2, 3.21**). A cross-reference is provided even when only a portion of a passage cited in Volume 1 is reproduced in Volume 2.

Journal titles are abbreviated according to the system in *L'Année philologique* and authors of ancient literary works and titles of their books are abbreviated using the conventions of the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*. Epigraphic publications are abbreviated using the system of *L'Année épigraphique* and abbreviations for papyrological publications follow the conventions of the *Checklist of Editions of Greek, Latin, Demotic, and Coptic Papyri, Ostraca, and Tablets* (available at <https://papyri.info/docs/checklist>).

In addition, we have used the following abbreviations in this volume:

ANRW	Temporini, H. and Haase, W. (eds.) (1972–92) <i>Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt</i> . Berlin: de Gruyter.
EU	<i>Excerpta Ursiniana</i>
EV	<i>Excerpta Valesiana</i>
FGrH	Jacoby, F. (1923–) <i>Fragmente der griechischen Historiker</i> . Leiden: Brill.
Greek Constitutions	Oliver, J. H. and Clinton, K. (1989) <i>Greek Constitutions of Early Roman Emperors from Inscriptions and Papyri</i> .

	Memoirs of the American Philosophical Society, 178. Philadelphia, Pa.: American Philosophical Society.
Haines	Haines, C. R. (1928–9) <i>Fronto: Correspondence</i> , rev. ed. (2 vols.). Cambridge, Mass. and London: Harvard University Press.
JA	Joannes Antiochenus
LTUR	Steinby, E. M. (ed.) (1993–9) <i>Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae</i> (6 vols.). Rome: Edizioni Quasar.
OLD	Glare, P. G. W. (ed.) (1982) <i>Oxford Latin Dictionary</i> . Oxford: Clarendon.
PIR ²	Groag, E. et al. (1933–2015) <i>Prosopographia Imperii Romani saec. I. II. III.</i> (8 vols.), 2nd ed. Berlin, Leipzig, and New York: de Gruyter.
PLRE	Jones, A. H. M., Martindale, J. R., and Morris, J. (1971–92) <i>The Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire</i> (3 vols.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
PP	Petrus Patricius, <i>Excerpta Vaticana</i>
RIC	Mattingly, H. et al. (eds.) (1923–) <i>Roman Imperial Coinage</i> (10 vols.). London: Spink.
RPC	Burnett, A. et al. (eds.) (1992–) <i>Roman Provincial Coinage</i> (10 vols.). London: British Museum Press with Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris.
SCPP	<i>Senatus Consultum de Pisone Patre</i>
ShB	Shackleton Bailey, D. R. (1965–70) <i>Letters to Atticus</i> (7 vols.) / (1977) <i>Epistulae ad familiares</i> (2 vols.) / (1980) <i>Epistulae ad Quintum fratrem et M. Brutum</i> . Cambridge Classical Texts and Commentaries, 3–9, 16–17, 22. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
TLL	(1900–) <i>Thesaurus Linguae Latinae</i> . Leipzig: Teubner; Munich: Saur; Berlin: de Gruyter.
vdH	van den Hout, M. P. J. (1988) <i>M. Cornelii Frontonis Epistulae: Schedis tam editis quam ineditis Edmundi Hauleri usus iterum edidit</i> . Bibliotheca Teubneriana. Leipzig: Teubner.
Xiph.	Xiphilinus

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