

# Contents

## Abbreviations — IX

## Introduction — 1

### 1 The Origins of the *magister equitum* — 7

- 1.1 Finding the Early *magister equitum* — 7
- 1.2 The *tribunus celerum*: The *magister equitum* Refracted? — 12
- 1.3 Reflections on the Origins and Antecedents of the *magister equitum* — 17

### 2 The Second in Rank and Successor to the Dictator? A Reassessment of the *potestas* of the *magister equitum* — 20

- 2.1 Definitions: *potestas*, *imperium* and *auspicium* in Current Scholarship — 20
- 2.2 The *potestas* of the *magister equitum* — 21
- 2.3 The Appointment and Collegiality of the *magister equitum* — 34
- 2.4 Conclusions — 50

### 3 The Role of the *magister equitum* in the City and the Field — 53

- 3.1 The Role of the *magister equitum*: The State of the Question — 53
- 3.2 The Ancient Sources and the *magister equitum* in the Field — 55
- 3.3 The *magister equitum* in the City — 67
- 3.4 Conclusions — 74

### 4 The Senatorial Rank of the *magister equitum* — 77

- 4.1 Definitions and Method — 77
- 4.2 Evidence and Analysis — 80
  - 4.2.1 501–366 — 89
  - 4.2.2 367–292 — 92
  - 4.2.3 292–219 — 98
  - 4.2.4 218–202 — 104
- 4.3 Conclusions — 117

### 5 The Revival of the *magister equitum* in the First Century BCE — 119

- 5.1 L. Cornelius Sulla and the *magister equitum* — 119
- 5.2 C. Iulius Caesar's *magistri equitum* — 123
- 5.3 The *magistri equitum designati* and Caesar's Intentions — 130

## Conclusions — 145

## Appendix: List of Attested *magistri equitum*, 501–44 BCE — 149

**Bibliography — 160**

**Index — 170**