Contents

Acknowledgments	ix	
Map Showing Loca	tions in Egypt	xii

PROLOGUE	Reintroducing the Earliest Christian Manuscripts]
----------	--	---

- 1. The Early Christian Book 21
- 2. The Dating Game 47
- 3. Finding Early Christian Books in Egypt 83
- 4. A Discovery "Which Threw All Others in the Shade": The Beatty Biblical Papyri 116
- 5. An Elusive Collection: The Bodmer Papyri 157
- 6. Excavating Christian Litter and Literature at Oxyrhynchus 216
- 7. Fabricating a Second-Century Codex of theFour Gospels 247

EPILOGUE The Future of Ancient Christian Books 269

Appendix: Christian Books from Oxyrhynchus 273
Notes 281
Bibliography 353
Index of Subjects 385
Index of Manuscripts 395