

Contents

Acknowledgements — VII

Periodization — IX

Abbreviations — XI

1 Introduction — 1

2 The *Lǐyē* 里耶 Manuscripts — 9

2.1 General Background — 9

2.2 Physical Properties of the Manuscripts — 23

2.3 Handling of Documents — 31

3 Calendar and Timekeeping Systems — 55

4 Administrative Geography — 81

4.1 Central Government — 81

4.2 ‘Commanderies’ (*jùn* 郡) — 106

4.3 ‘Counties’ (*xiàn* 縣) — 114

4.4 ‘Bureaus’ (*cáo* 曹) and ‘Offices’ (*guān* 官) — 142

5 Corvée Labor — 155

6 Resource Management — 186

7 Conclusion — 222

Appendix — 229

List of Figures — 231

List of Tables — 237

Bibliography — 239

Index — 259