## CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS IX

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS XI

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS XV

## INTRODUCTION 1

- 1. COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND
  THE MEANINGS OF THE PAST 10
  - 2. PERFORMING PERSECUTION, THEORIZING MARTYRDOM 33
- 3. THE MARTYR'S MEMORY:
  Autobiography and Self-Writing in Ignatius, Perpetua, and Pionius 69
- 4. MARTYRDOM AND THE SPECTACLE OF SUFFERING 104
  - 5. LAYERS OF VERBAL AND VISUAL MEMORY:

    Commemorating Thecla the Protomartyr 134
    - 6. RELIGION AS A CHAIN OF MEMORY: Cassie Bernall of Columbine High and the American Legacy of Early Christian Martyrdom 172

EPILOGUE 197

NOTES 205
BIBLIOGRAPHY 283
INDEX 325

## ILLUSTRATIONS

1. Saint Thecla with Wild Beasts and Angels 103	
2. Pilgrim Ampulla (reverse), Saint Thecla's Martyrdom	166
3. Ampulla, Saint Thecla Between Two Beasts 168	