## **CONTENTS**

List of sigures		page 1x
L	ist of abbreviations	X
A note on nomenclature and citations Acknowledgements		xiii
		xiv
Ι	INTRODUCTION	
	Region, sources and scope	I
	Early medieval politics: problems of approach	4
2	MONASTICISM, SPIRITUAL PATRONAGE AND SOCIAL	13
	STRUCTURE	
	Gifts to the church: patterns and potential	13
	Spiritual patronage and gifts to the church	18
	Funerary ritual, inheritance and gift exchange	34
	Gifts of land and social power	40
	The implications of monastic landholding	47
3	LAND, KINSHIP AND STATUS	51
	The elite: kinship, land and inheritance	51
	Lorsch's founders	51
	The family of Otakar	61
	The family of Hraban Maur	65
	Land as property	68
	The exploitation of land and the organisation of estates	77
	Vertical integration: social status	82
	Vertical integration: kinship and lordship	85
	The relationship between land and power	93
4	LOCAL POWER: COLLECTIVE ACTION, CONFLICT	94
	AND CONSENSUS	
	Patterns of public action	94
	Cities, monasteries and collective action	95
	Rural settlements	105

## Contents

	Scribes as guardians of legal tradition	III
	Counts and public meetings	118
	Local political leadership	124
	Violence, ritual and dispute settlement	129
	The texture of local power	139
5	LOCALITY AND CENTRE: MECHANISMS OF EXTRACTION	141
	Approaching early medieval government	141
	Military service	143
	The army tax	153
	Royal levies	156
6	POLITICAL POWER FROM THE FIFTH TO THE ELEVENTH	165
	CENTURY	
	Introduction	165
	Roman to Merovingian	165
	The Merovingian middle Rhine	172
	Forging the pax Karolina	180
	Maintaining the pax Karolina	188
	The politics of division	195
	The zenith of Carolingian politics	210
	Crisis, conflict and consolidation	222
	The transformation of the early medieval polity	241
7	CONCLUSION: STATE AND SOCIETY IN THE EARLY	251
	MEDIEVAL WEST	
	Structural characteristics of early medieval politics	251
	Public and private, state and society	254
	Interpreting the early medieval west	259
L	ist of primary sources	268
	Bibliography of secondary works	
In	Index	