The age of Augustus, commonly dated to 30 B.C.–A.D. 14, was a pivotal period in world history. A time of tremendous change in Rome, Italy, and throughout the Mediterranean world, many key developments were under way when Augustus took charge, and a recurring theme is the role that he played in shaping their direction. The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Augustus captures the dynamic and richness of this era by examining important aspects of political and social history, religion, literature, and art and architecture. The sixteen essays, written by distinguished specialists from the United States and Europe, explore the multifaceted character of the period and the interconnections among social, religious, political, literary, and artistic developments. Introducing the reader to many of the central issues of the Age of Augustus, the essays also break new ground and will stimulate further research and discussion.

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Contributors

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It is a pleasure to contribute this volume to the newly expanded series of Cambridge Companions. Like its predecessors, it is not an attempt at an encyclopedic vade mecum. Instead, it aims to provide an accessible and yet sophisticated discussion of some paradigmatic aspects of this incredibly rich period. More is involved than a distillation of recent and older scholarship; while being duly informative, we have also tried to break some new ground and point the discussion in new directions. I will comment on this some more in the Introduction.

I would like to thank the sterling group of contributors who enlisted in this effort. It has been exciting to be their first reader (with the privilege of becoming a discussant) and I can only hope that other readers will benefit as much from their expertise and acuity as I have. I also wish to thank Beatrice Rehl for her constructive support and advice ever since the project’s inception; my graduate student Dan Hanchey for meticulously checking the final version (and there were several prior incarnations) of the various chapters; and Dr. Darius Arya for help with the increasingly complicated task of obtaining illustrations and permissions. The color reproductions have been made possible by a generous grant from one of Maecenas’ descendants, Mr. Mark Finley, and from the Floyd A. Cailloux Centennial Professorship endowment at my university, which also aided work on this volume in many other ways.

Austin
September 23 MMIV
1) Map of Italy
2) Map of major cities in the Augustan empire
3) The provinces of the Augustan empire
4) Genealogical chart of the family of Augustus

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The Julio-Claudian Family

Cornelia (d. 68 BC)
Julia (73 – 54 BC)
Cn. Pompey (106 – 48 BC)
Mucia (73 – 54 BC)
Caesarion (47 – 30 BC)
Alexander (b. 40 BC)
Cleopatra (b. 40 BC)
Ptolemy (b. 36 BC)
Caesar (42 BC – AD 37)
Agrippa Postumus (AD 37 – 68; emp. AD 54 – 68)
L. Domitius Ahenobarbus
Antonia Maior
Agrippina Maior (14 BC – AD 33)
Agrippina Minor
Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus
Nero Claudius Caesar (AD 37 – 68; emp. AD 54 – 68)

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70–30 B.C.

**History/Politics**

63 23.9 Birth of C. Octavius

44 15.2 Caesar declared dictator for life 15.3 Death of Caesar; Octavian named heir

Oct./Nov. Octavian raises private army and marches on Rome

43 19.8 Octavian made consul Triumvirate with Mark Antony and Lepidus

42 Battle of Philippi; death of Brutus and Cassius Treaty of Brundisium

40 Punic War

37 Extension of triumvirate for 5 years Antony from now on mostly in east

36 Battle of Naupactia; death of Sextus Pompey Defeat of Antony in Parthia

35 Livia and Octavia granted sacrosanctitas

31 2.9 Battle of Actium 30 1.8 Conquest of Alexandria; suicides of Antony and Cleopatra

29 B.C. – A.D. 14

29 11.1 Closing of Temple of Janus

28 Re-establishment of government by laws Settlers begin of veterans in Italy

27 13–16.1 Return of powers to SPQR; Octavian named "Augustus" Augustus granted tribunicia potestas for life; official beginning of his reign

23 Augustus seriously ill Augustus granted tribunicia potestas for life, official beginning of his reign

Death of Marcellus

21 Aug. Kaiafas becomes member of Arval Brotherhood

19 Roman laws on marriage and adultery

18 Julian laws on marriage and adultery

17 Secular Games

Finances/Expenditures

Octavian seizes war (against Parthians) treasury and tax collections from province of Asia Victory Games for Caesar (financed by Octavian); coronet appears First payment of 300 sestertii (HS) each to 250,000 plebeians under Caesar’s will Proscriptions (300 senators, 2,000 equites) Special payment of 2,500 denarii to each of Octavian’s soldiers Settlement begins of veterans in Italy; land confiscations

33 Rebuilding of Rome begun under Agrippa’s aedileship; largesse to urban populace; games 700 million HS for land purchases for veterans

24 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians and of 1,000 HS to 120,000 soldiers Restoration of 82 temples

23 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians and of 1,000 HS to 120,000 soldiers

22 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians 60 million HS; 12 distributions of grain to 250,000 plebeians

21 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians

20 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians

19 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians

18 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians

17 Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians

16 Gladiatorial games of Drusus and Tiberius

14 160 million HS; land purchases for

Buildings/Art/Literature

70 Birth of Vergil 65 Birth of Horace 59 Birth of Livy

54 18 Birth of Propertius

Death of Cicero

Birth of Ovid

Temple of Divus Iulius begun Temple of Mars Ultor vowed


Temple of Palatine Apollo begun

Horace, Satires I

Horace, Satires II

Horace’s Carmel Saeculare

Dedication of Temple of Divus Iulius and of Curia Iulia Vergil begun Aeneid Temple of Palatine Apollo dedicated

Mausoleum begun

Propertius, Book I

26 Suicide of Cornelius Gallus Horace, Odes I–III

Propertius, Books II and III

Horace, Epodes I Art of Poetry

19 Deaths of Vergil and Tibullus

Horace’s Carmina Secundae

Propertius, Book IV; death of Propertius

5) Timeline

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Deaths of Lepidus and Agrippa</td>
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<td>Augustus becomes pontifex maximus</td>
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<td>Organization of Rome into 14 regions and 265 vici</td>
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<td>Reorganization of cult of Latro Comitales</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Fasti of the vicomagistri begin</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Augustus acclaimed as pater patriae</td>
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<td>Julia exiled</td>
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<td>5-9</td>
<td>Famines in Rome; reorganization of grain supply</td>
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<td>6-9</td>
<td>Pannonian revolt</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Revision of laws on marriage</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Death of Julia</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Death of Augustus (in Nola)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Livia declared Livia Augustea</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Augustus declared divus</td>
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<td>Tiberius elevated to Augustus</td>
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<td>Colonies in the provinces</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Largesse of 400 HS to 250,000 plebeians</td>
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<tr>
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<td>400 million HS for veterans (until 2 B.C.)</td>
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<td>170 million HS paid into aerarium militare</td>
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<td>5 240 HS each paid to 320,000 plebeians</td>
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<td>Naumachy with 3,000 combatants</td>
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<td>Recipients of grain dole reduced to 200,000</td>
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<td>Largesse of 240 HS to 200,000 plebeians</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>Mill HS: largesses to people and soldiers under Augustus' will</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Ara Pacis begun</td>
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<td>Horace, Ode IV</td>
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<td>Theater of Balbus dedicated</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Temple of Concordia Augusta dedicated</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Basilica Julia rededicated as Basilica of Gaius and Lucius</td>
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