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RE-WRITING THE FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY TRADITION

This book examines the politics of the French Revolutionary tradition during the Bourbon Restoration and the early July Monarchy. Robert Alexander argues that progressive political change was achieved by legal grassroots organization and persuasion – rather than the Revolutionary tradition of conspiracy and armed insurrection – and that, moreover, political struggle was not confined to the elite, as common material interests and values linked the electorate to the disenfranchised. Battle between the advocates of national and royal sovereignty constituted the principal dynamic of the period, and fostered significant developments in party formation previously unrecognized by historians. To substantiate his claims, the author analyses relations between the Liberal Opposition, ultraroyalists and the state, concluding that although Liberals triumphed in the 1830 Revolution, thereafter they contributed to the destabilization that produced an immobile Orleanist regime. Nevertheless, they had pioneered a model for change which could successfully adapt pursuit of reform to longing for civil order.

ROBERT ALEXANDER is Professor of History at the University of Victoria, Canada. He has previously published with Cambridge University Press *Bonapartism and Revolutionary Tradition in France* (1991), and has also published *Napoleon* (2001). He has also contributed to many journals, including *The Historical Journal*, *French History* and *Modern and Contemporary France*.

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*Dedicated to the memory of my mother,
Helen Kathleen Richards*

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Abbreviations used in the notes

ADBR	Departmental Archives of the Bas-Rhin
ADHG	Departmental Archives of the Haute-Garonne
ADI	Departmental Archives of the Isère
ADSM	Departmental Archives of the Seine-Maritime
AN	(French) National Archives
BCUL	Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne
BMT	Municipal Library of Toulouse
BMUG	Municipal and University Library of Grenoble
BN	(French) National Library
BNUS	National and University Library of Strasbourg



Figure 1 The departments of France and their capitals in 1814

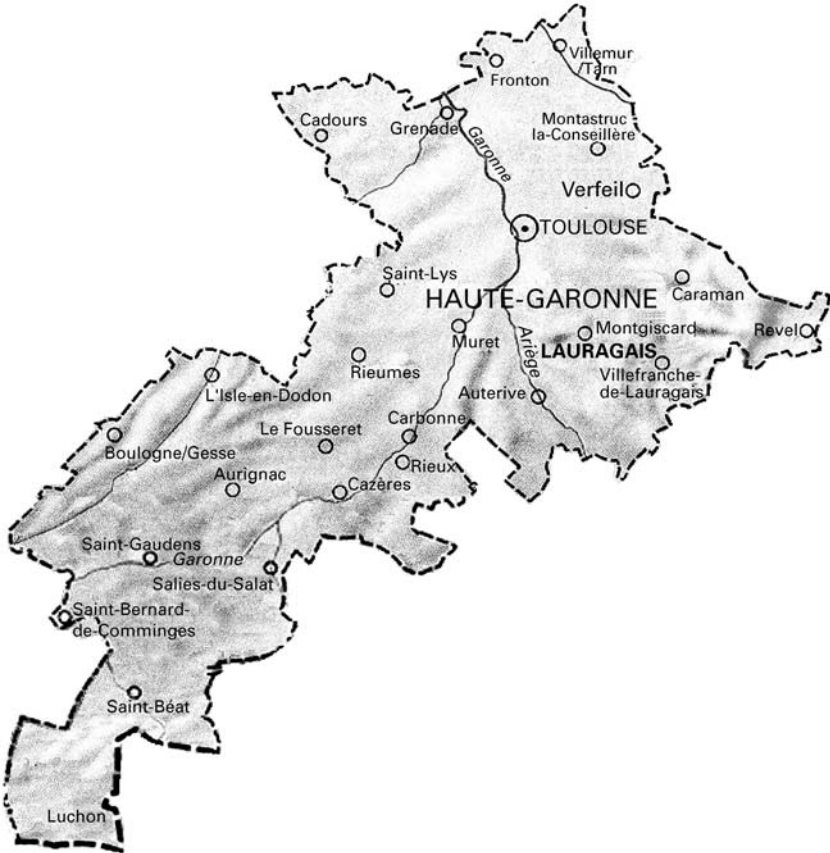


Figure 2 The Haute-Garonne



Figure 3 The Isère

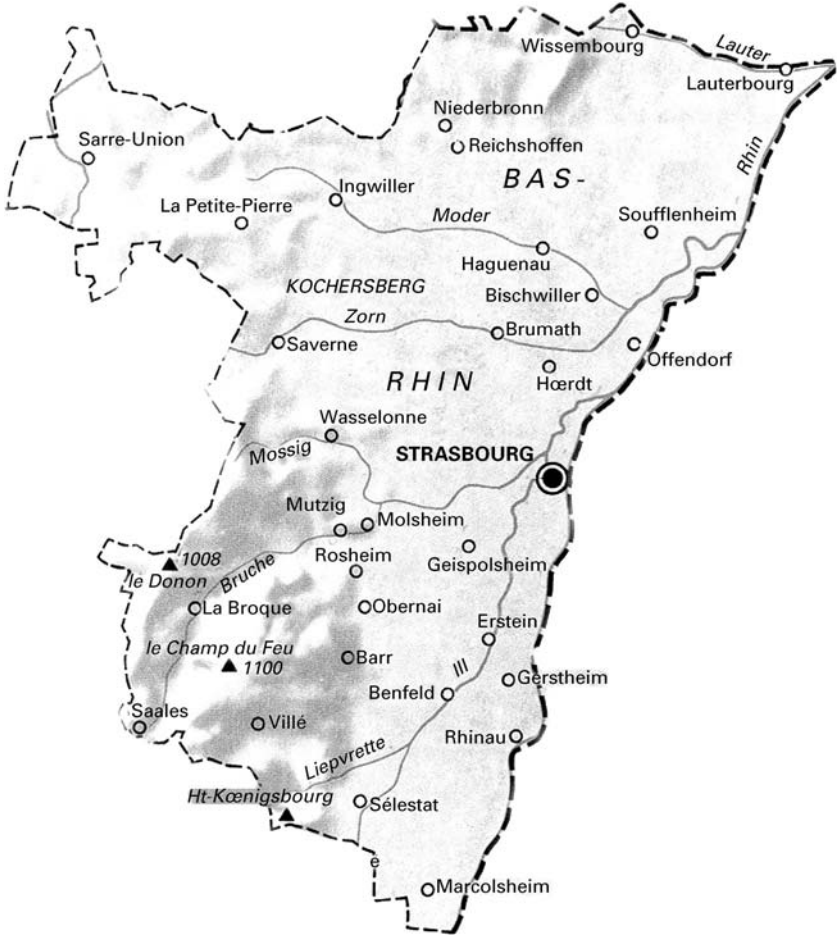


Figure 4 The Bas-Rhin



Figure 5 The Seine-Inférieure