

## ANCIENT ROME

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This book provides a short but comprehensive political history of ancient Rome from the origins of the city in the Italian Iron Age to the deposition of the last emperor in A.D. 476. The reasons for Rome's conquest and absorption of Italy, and how this gave the Romans a manpower reserve that allowed them to conquer the Mediterranean in half a century, are described. The military responsibilities attendant upon these conquests undermined the political institutions of the Republic, with the Emperor Augustus managing to set up surreptitiously a monarchical form of government, in effect securing two centuries of peace. New military pressures then caused a significant change in the structure of the Imperial government, which eventually succumbed in the west to invasion. The influence on the Imperial government of the adoption of Christianity as the state religion is also discussed.

Christopher S. Mackay is Associate Professor at the University of Alberta. He has published numerous articles on all periods of Roman history, is associate editor of the *American Journal of Ancient History*, and is the author of a forthcoming book containing the only modern Latin text and English translation of the *Malleus Maleficarum*, a fifteenth-century handbook on witch-hunting.

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Christopher S. Mackay  
Frontmatter  
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## A MILITARY AND POLITICAL HISTORY

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CHRISTOPHER S. MACKAY

*University of Alberta*



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*To Kelly  
who helped so much*

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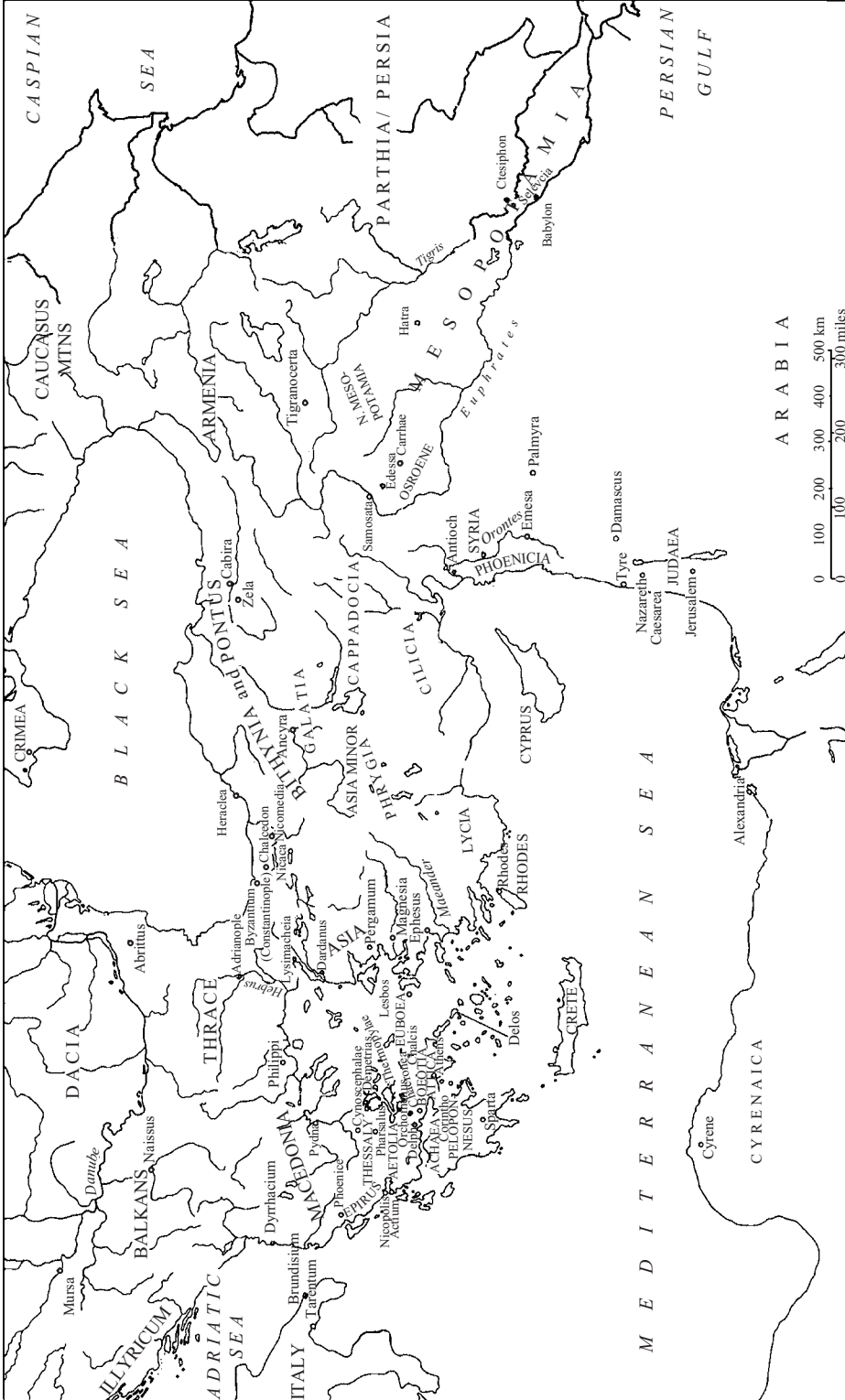
Map 1. Locations in central Italy



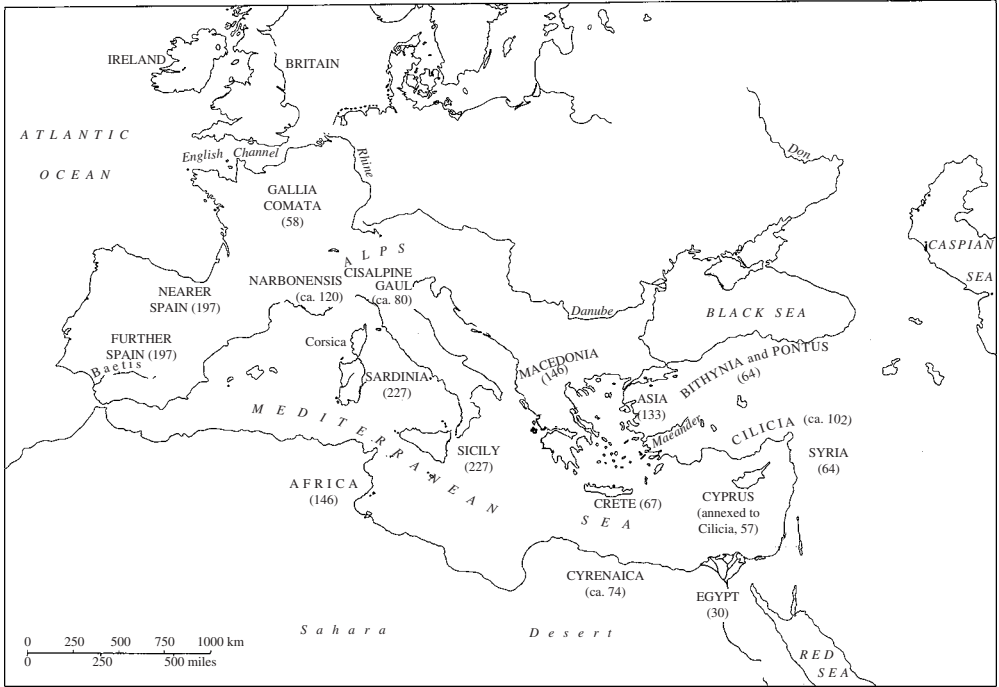
Map 2. Locations in Italy



Map 3. Locations in western Europe and North Africa



Map 4. Locations in Greece and the Near East

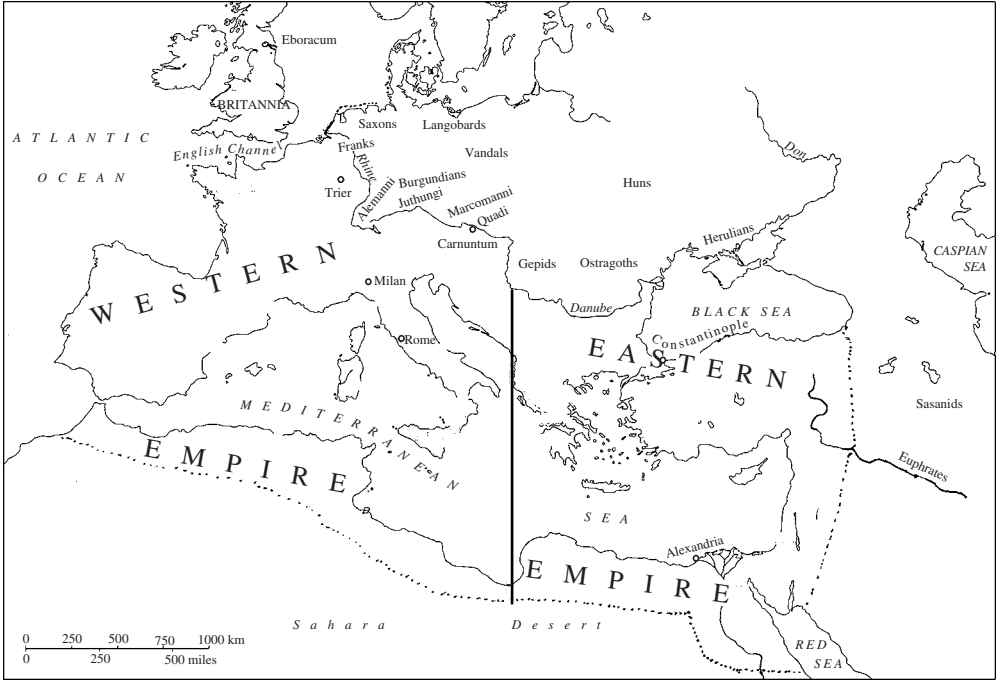


Map 5. Expansion of the Roman Republic outside of Italy



Map 6. Provinces of the early Principate

ILLUSTRATIONS



Map 7. The divided Empire and its neighbors (A.D. 395)