



Minted in 54 BC (Pompeius Rufus as one of the *tresviri monetales*)

The Sullan “Reforms”: Restoration or Innovation

The Life and Times of
Caesar and Cicero
(HPAH5046/6046)

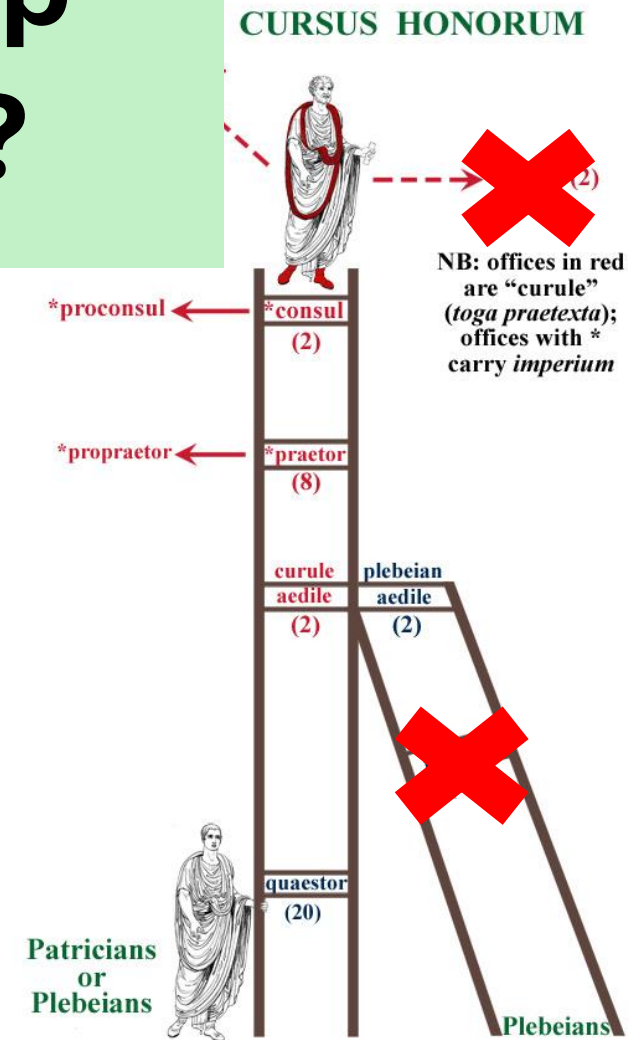
“Restoring” traditions or “innovation” – a “New Sullan Republic”? [Law-giving vs. *mos maiorum*]

- Likely all implemented in 81 BC.
- Increasing in size of depleted senate:
 - Some 450 new senators?
 - Many “new men” from equestrian order
 - Inner and outer circles?
- Establishment of 20 quaestorships.
 - Those elected as quaestor automatically enrolled in Senate.
 - Not co-opted by censors.
- New permanent jury courts filled by senators (*quaestiones*).
- Abeyance of *princeps senatus*.



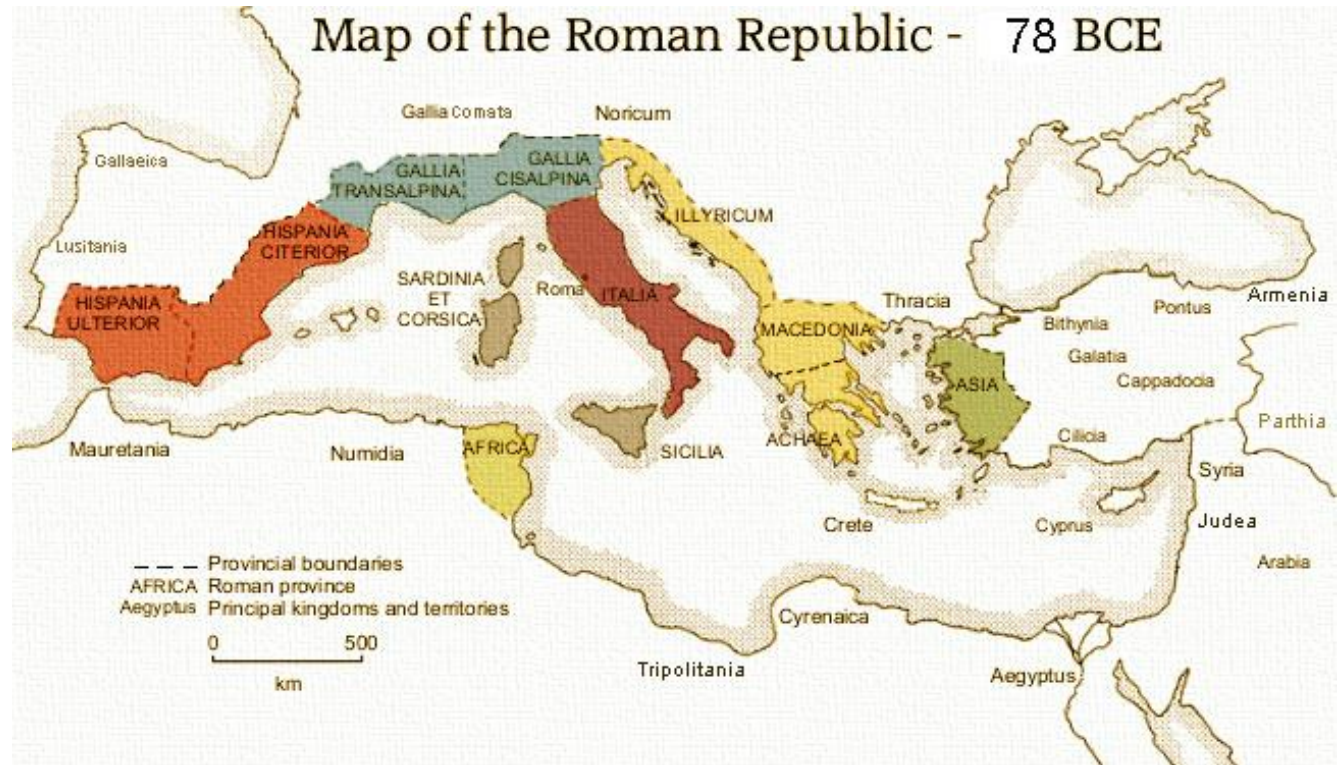
Why might the Censorship have been left “unfilled”?

- Consuls and praetors increasingly “staying” in Rome.
 - New structure to senatorial debate – clashes between consuls.
 - Proconsuls and propraeors sent to provinces.
 - 20 quaestors, 4 aediles, 8 praetors, 2 consuls.
- New emphasis on courts for the praetors.
- 10 years period before resuming the same office.



Conduct in the Provinces

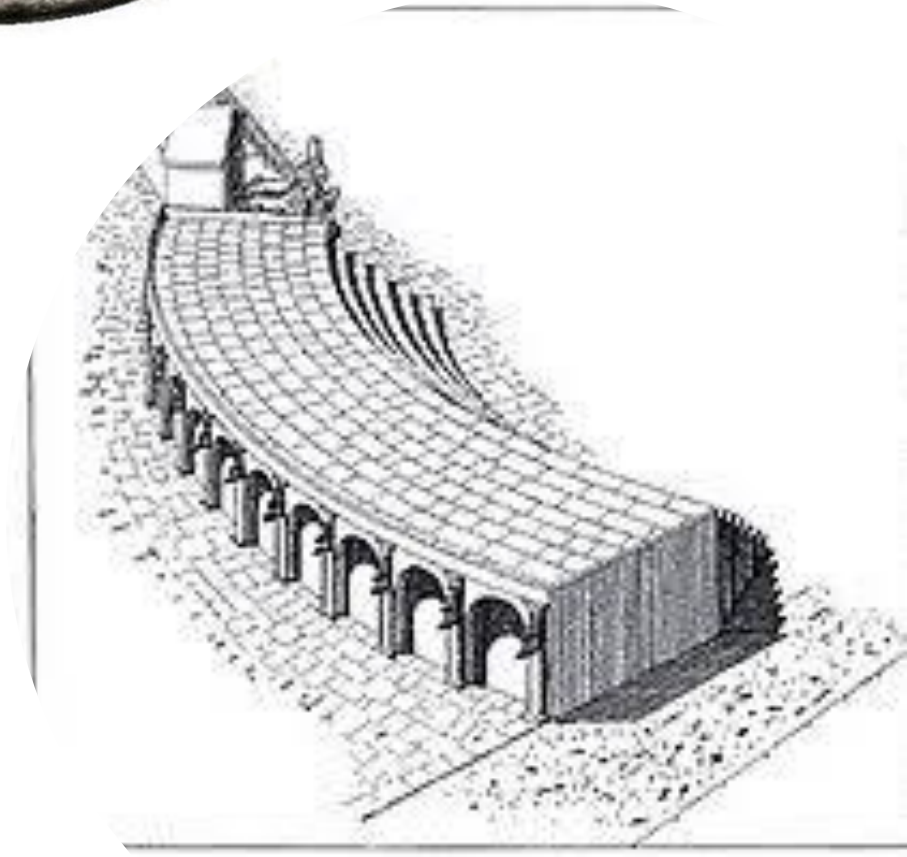
- More oversight over provincial commanders – *maiestas* (treason) laws.
- Specific geographical areas fixed as frontiers of provinces.



Tribunes of the plebs

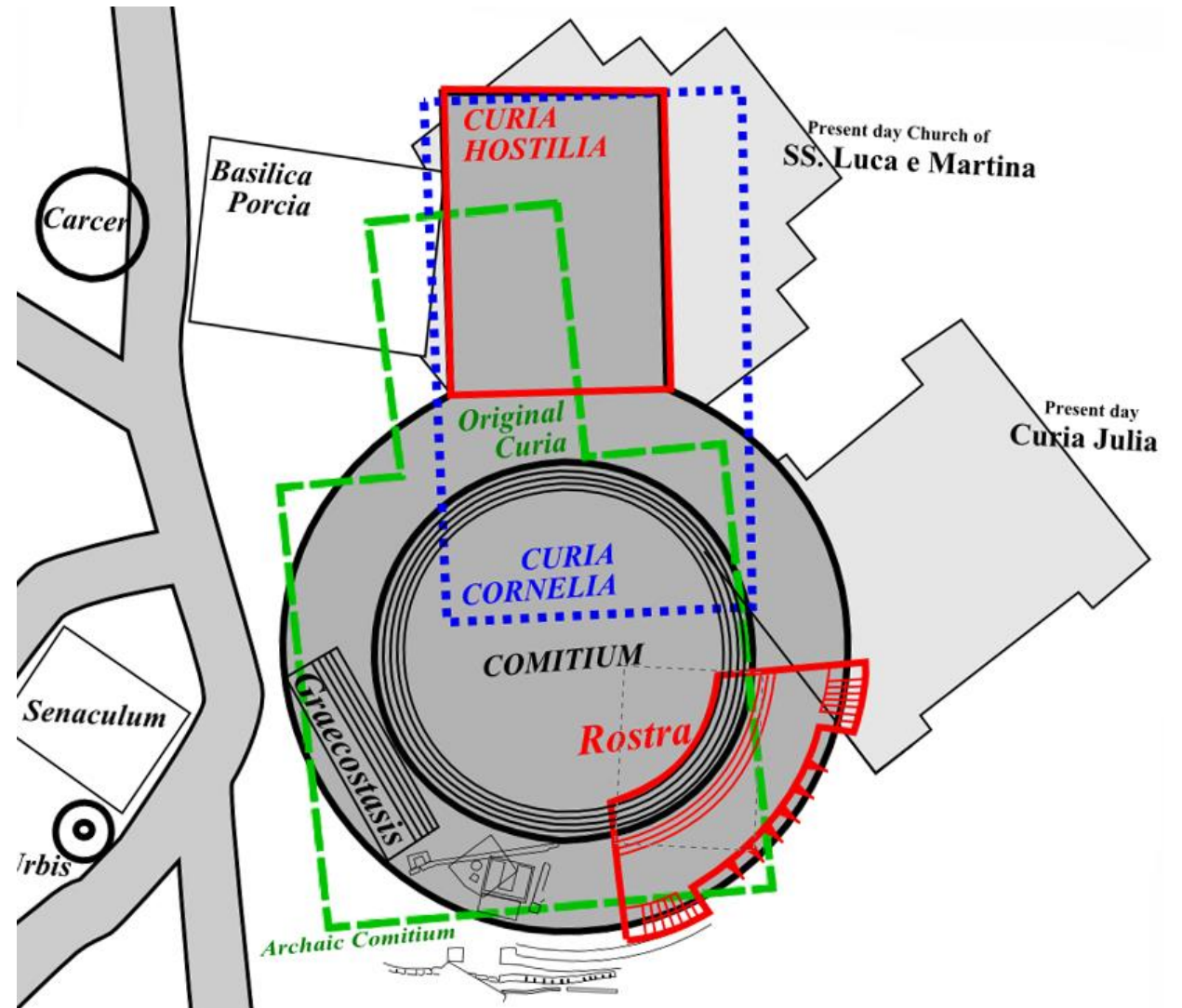
- No longer able to introduce legislation to plebeian assembly.
 - *lex Hortensia* (287 BC) had made *plebiscites* binding on all.
- Limited to protecting citizens from arbitrary abuses of magistrates.
- Political dead-end.

“They proposed many other measures for curtailing the power of the tribunes, which had become extremely tyrannical...” – **Appian *BC* 1.59, 66.**



The people and the “New Republic”

- Abeyance of *contiones* made from the rostra.
- Ratifying laws already approved by the Senate.
- Abolition of the grain dole.
- Freeing of 10,000 slaves taken from the proscribed – *liberti Cornelii*.



Sulla lays down the Dictatorship

- Gives up dictatorship in 81 BC? – becomes Consul in 80 BC (or by 79 BC?).
- Causes for retirement:
 - Illness?
 - Feelings of political failure or success?
 - Prominence of rivals?
 - Write his memoirs?
 - Sulla as Solon?

Death in 78 BC



“And it is said that the women contributed such a vast quantity of spices for it, that, apart from what was carried on 210 litters, a large image of Sulla himself, and another image of a lictor, was moulded out of costly frankincense and cinnamon... his monument stands in the Campus Martius...” – **Plutarch Sulla 38.**