Contents

List of figures ix Foreword xi Acknowledgements xii
Timechart xiii
1 Introduction 1
2 The soldier emperors and Diocletian 3
3 Constantine's rise to power 12
4 Constantine's conversion 21
5 Constantine as the sole ruler of the West 29
6 The conflict with Licinius 38
7 The Arian controversy, the Council of Nicaea and its aftermath 45
8 The crisis in the imperial family 52
9 The new Rome 59
10 Constantine's government 68
11 Constantine's final years, death and burial 73
12 Constantine's image in Roman art 78
13 An assessment 83

Appendices

I The sources for the reign of Constantine 88 II Glossary of Greek, Latin and technical terms 91 III Biographical notes 94 IV The Creeds 100

Bibliography 102