

The Roman Market Economy

• • • •

Peter Temin

Princeton University Press

Princeton & Oxford

Contents

■ ■ ■

Preface and Acknowledgments ix

1. Economics and Ancient History 1

Part I: Prices

Introduction: Data and Hypothesis Tests 27

2. Wheat Prices and Trade in the Early Roman Empire 29

3. Price Behavior in Hellenistic Babylon 53

Appendix to Chapter 3 66

4. Price Behavior in the Roman Empire 70

Part II: Markets in the Roman Empire

Introduction: Roman Microeconomics 95

5. The Grain Trade 97

6. The Labor Market 114

7. Land Ownership 139

8. Financial Intermediation 157

Part III: The Roman Economy

Introduction: Roman Macroeconomics 193

9. Growth Theory for Ancient Economies 195

10. Economic Growth in a Malthusian Empire 220

Appendix to Chapter 10 240

11. Per Capita GDP in the Early Roman Empire 243

References 263

Index 289