Finch & Co



AN ITALIAN CARVED IVORY RELIEF ROUNDEL DEPICTING CAESAR AUGUSTUS

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INSCRIBED 'DIV. IVLI. C.AE'
SIZE: 7CM DIA. – 2¾ INS DIA.

LITERATURE

AUGUSTUS (63 BC – AD14) WAS THE 1ST EMPEROR AT ROME WHO ESTABLISHED MUCH OF THE INSTITUTIONAL AND IDEOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE IMPERIAL SYSTEM OF THE FIRST THREE CENTURIES AD. THE LONG SURVIVAL OF HIS SYSTEM AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH WHAT CAME TO BE REGARDED AS THE GOLDEN AGE OF LATIN LITERATURE MAKE HIM A UNIQUELY IMPORTANT FIGURE IN ROMAN HISTORY. HIS MILITARY OPERATIONS DOUBLED THE SIZE OF THE EMPIRE AND HELPED TO MAINTAIN THE PRESTIGE OF HIS REGIME. HE ESTABLISHED AN IMPERIAL MONARCHY AND RECREATED THE ROMAN ARISTOCRACY GIVING THEM A ROLE IN HIS SOCIAL SYSTEM. EVENTUALLY THE EMPEROR AUGUSTUS WAS WORSHIPPED AS A GOD.