Contents

List of tables ........................................... page viii
Acknowledgements ....................................... ix
Notes on conventions and abbreviations .......... xi

1 Introduction ........................................ 1
2 The British cartel system, 1880–1964 .......... 8
3 The state and the ‘monopoly problem’, 1880–1939 36
4 The war and the White Paper, 1940–44 .......... 54
5 The origins of the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices Act, 1948 83
6 Interpretation of policy – the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices Commission, 1949–56 104
7 The origins of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1956 – a re-interpretation 125
8 Resale price maintenance .......................... 149
9 Conclusions .......................................... 170

Appendices ............................................. 178
1 British participation in international cartels in manufactured goods, 1930s and 1950s 178
2 Correlation of RPM with levels of concentration of employment, 1938 186
3 The systematisation of British trade associations, 1875–1953 188
4 Analysis of the signatories of the 'National Policy for Industry', 1942 193
5 Criteria for the selection of references to the MRPC, 1949–56 196

Notes ..................................................... 198
Bibliography ........................................... 247
Index ...................................................... 267