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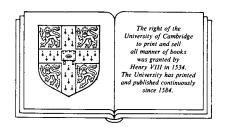
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A stagnating metropolis: the economy and demography of Stockholm, 1750–1850

JOHAN SÖDERBERG, ULF JONSSON AND CHRISTER PERSSON

Department of Economic History, University of Stockholm



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Preface

This volume attempts to fill a gap in the economic history of Stockholm. Most of the recent research has dealt with either earlier or later periods than the long phase of stagnation from the mid eighteenth to the mid nineteenth century which we are dealing with. The great period of industrialization starting between c. 1860 and 1914 has been particularly well covered from economic, social, and demographic aspects.

The book grew out of the project 'Stagnating metropolis: growth problems and economic inequality in Stockholm, 1760–1850', for which financial assistance was provided by the Swedish Research Council in the Humanities and Social Sciences. We wish to thank the participants of the Economic History Seminar, Department of Economic History, Stockholm University, and in particular Rolf Adamson, Sven Fritz, Staffan Högberg, and Sture Martinius, for their comments on earlier versions of several of the chapters included here.

Earlier versions of various portions of the book were presented at the conference 'Living Conditions in the Nordic Countries c. 1700–1945', Sandbjerg, Denmark, 1983, and at the workshop 'Methodological Problems in Urban History', Ninth International Economic History Congress, Berne, 1986. We wish to thank the participants of these symposia for their comments and suggestions. We have had the opportunity to discuss various points with many others, including Gunnar Artéus, Tommy Bengtsson, Christine Bladh, Gunnar Fridlizius, Ingrid Hammarström, Arthur E. Imhof, Hans Chr. Johansen, Konrad H. Jarausch, Hartmut Kaelble, Gerry Kearnes, Paul Laxton, Robert Lee, Peter Lindert, Catharina Lis, Herman Schück, Per Schybergson, Lennart Schön, Hannu Soikkanen, Jeffrey Williamson, and Brita Zacke. We also wish to thank Tony Wrigley for many



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useful suggestions. Naturally, responsibility for remaining short-comings rests with us.

Chapter 3 on de-industrialization and the manufactories has been written by Christer Persson and the section dealing with mortality in chapter 8 by Ulf Jonsson. The rest of chapter 8 on the economic-demographic system and chapter 4 on labour markets and the informal sector was written jointly by the three authors. The remaining chapters (1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 9) have been written by Johan Söderberg.

Chapter 2 on Stockholm's growth problems draws on a version published in Swedish in *Historisk tidskrift*. Portions of chapters 5 and 7 dealing with real wage developments and inequality trends have previously appeared in *Social History* and *Historisch-Sozialwissenschaftliche Forschungen*.

The staff of the Stockholm City Archive has been most helpful; Ulla Johanson and Lars Wikström aided us in several ways. Finally, we wish to thank Ulrika Moberg, who typed several chapters in her usual efficient way.