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978-0-521-55205-9 - Theory and Measurement: Causality Issues in Milton Friedman's
Monetary Economics

J. Daniel Hammond

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To Claire, Joe, Pat, and Jane

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Acknowledgments

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The project, and ultimately this book, began to take a biographical turn in the fall of 1987 when Milton Friedman agreed to my request for an interview. In May of the following year Mr. Friedman spent a half day with me at Stanford University's Hoover Institution responding to a very long list of questions about his debates with critics over money's role as cause and effect and about his education and training in economics and statistics. During that visit something happened that illustrates both the role of serendipity in research and Milton Friedman's generosity and liberality. Just a week or so before, he had dug out from his files his graduate school class notes for someone who was writing a paper on Jacob Viner's University of Chicago price theory course. When we completed my interview he offered to me, for the next day, the use of all the class notes, his office, and a photocopy machine. I eagerly accepted this most generous offer, and from that point on I knew that my work on Milton Friedman's economics would be heavily biographical.

The following year I had the good fortune to interview Mr. Friedman once again, along with Rose D. Friedman. The Friedmans shared recollections of their lives and work in the half century since they met as University of Chicago graduate students in 1932. I have returned each summer since 1988 to work in the Milton Friedman Papers at the Hoover Institution Archives. On each of these visits Mr. Friedman's assistant, Gloria Valentine, has helped make my time at Hoover pleasant and productive. Both she and Mr. Friedman have generously provided me with materials from his active files. For my use of the papers deposited in the Hoover Institution Archives I am also grateful to the efficient and friendly archives staff.

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