

The History of Family Business, 1850–2000

In this new textbook, Andrea Colli gives a historical and comparative perspective on family business, examining through time the different relationships within family businesses and among family enterprises, inside different political and institutional contexts. He compares the performance of family businesses with that of other economic organisations, and looks at how these enterprises have contributed to the evolution of contemporary industrial capitalism. Central to his discussion are the reasons for both the decline and persistence of family business, how it evolved historically, the different forms it has taken over time, and how it has contributed to the growth of single economies. The book summarises previous research into family business, and situates many aspects of family business – such as their strategies, contribution, failure, and decline – in an economic, social, political, and institutional context. It will be of key interest to students of economic history and business studies.

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Prepared for the Economic History Society by

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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge, CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa
http://www.cambridge.org

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First published 2003

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface Plantin 10/12.5 pt System LATEX 2_{ε} [TB]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 0 521 80028 5 hardback ISBN 0 521 80472 8 paperback



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