

The British End of the British Empire

How did decolonization impact on Britain itself? And how did Britain manage its transition from colonial power to postcolonial nation? Sarah Stockwell explores this question principally via the history of the overseas engagements of key institutions that had acquired roles within Britain's imperial system: the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the Bank of England, the Royal Mint and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Using a huge range of new archival sources, the author shows how these institutions fashioned new roles at the end of Empire, reconfiguring their activities for a postcolonial world and deploying their expertise to deliver technical assistance essential for the development of institutions in new Commonwealth states. This study not only pioneers an entirely new approach to the history of the British end of the British Empire but also provides an equally novel cross-sectoral analysis of institution-building during decolonization and highlights the colonial roots of British postcolonial aid.

Sarah Stockwell is Professor of Imperial and Commonwealth History at King's College London, and a leading historian of British decolonization. Her publications include *The Business of Decolonization: British Business Strategies in the Gold Coast* (2000) and, as editor, *The British Empire: Themes and Perspectives* (2007).

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Sarah Stockwell
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For Arthur, James,
Alasdair and Douglas

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Abbreviations and Note on the Text

BDEE	British Documents on the End of Empire [project]
BESS	British Expatriate Supplementation Scheme
BoE	Bank of England
BoG	Bank of Ghana
CAF	Central African Federation
CAS	Colonial Administrative Service
CCTA	Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara
CIGS	Chief of Imperial General Staff
CO	Colonial Office
CPP	Convention People's Party (Ghana)
CUL	Cambridge University Library
CWMTAS	Commonwealth Military Training Assistance Scheme
DFID	Department for International Development
DTC	Department of Technical Co-operation
EACB	East African Currency Board
EALF	East African Land Forces [Organization]
EEC	European Economic Community
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FO	Foreign Office
FSP	Foreign Service Programme [at Oxford University]
GSO	General Staff Officer [British Army]
HMOCS	Her Majesty's Oversea [from 1956, Overseas] Civil Service
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICS	Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of Oxford
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IDS	Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex
IUC	Inter-University Council [for Higher Education in the Colonies]
JSCCST	Joint Standing Committee on Colonial Service Training
KAR	King's African Rifles
LSP	Loan Service Personnel [scheme]
MoD	Ministry of Defence

xvi Abbreviations

NCO	Non-Commissioned Officer
ODA	Overseas Development Administration [of the FCO]
ODM	Ministry of Overseas Development
OSAS	Overseas Service Aid Scheme
OSC	Overseas Studies Committee, University of Cambridge
LSE	London School of Economics and Political Science
QEH	Queen Elizabeth House, University of Oxford
RCC	Regular Career Commission course [at Sandhurst]
RMA	Royal Military Academy Woolwich
RMAC	Royal Mint Advisory Committee [on the Design of Coins, Medals, Seals and Decorations]
RMC	Royal Military College Sandhurst
RMAS	Royal Military Academy Sandhurst [from 1947]
RWAF	Royal West African Frontier Force
RMM	Royal Mint Museum
SMC	Standard Military Course [at Sandhurst]
SRCB	Southern Rhodesian Currency Board
UDI	Unilateral Declaration of Independence [Rhodesia]
UGC	University Grants Committee
UKMTAS	United Kingdom Military Training Assistance Scheme
UN	United Nations
WACB	West African Currency Board
WO	War Office

Note on the Text

Throughout this book, countries have been referred to using the names current at the time: for example, ‘Gold Coast’ denotes Ghana during the colonial period, whereas ‘Ghana’ is used thereafter.