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Printed and bound in Malaysia

11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
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Decolonisation and Development is the third and final book of the series intended to cover the 2000 Caribbean History syllabus of the Caribbean Examinations Council. It incorporates a certain amount of material from Development and Decolonisation, the work written to meet the needs of earlier editions of the syllabus, but is otherwise a completely new book.

The two previous volumes in the series dealt with the history of the Caribbean from pre-Columbian times to the end of the nineteenth century. The present volume carries the story forward to the end of the twentieth century. As such it deals in their entirety with two themes in the syllabus: Social and Economic Conditions in the Twentieth Century and Movements towards Independence and Regional Integration up to 1985. It also covers the twentieth-century aspects of three other themes: Economic Diversification, 1875–1985; The United States in the Caribbean 1776–1985; and Social Life, 1838–1962.

As in the previous two books, a determined effort has been made to concentrate on a factual approach, and to treat all the topics listed in the syllabus under each theme at the level required by the Caribbean Examinations Council. At the same time, some insights into, or comments on, key events have been inserted in order to encourage students to be analytical in their attempts to meet the objectives of the syllabus, with regard to the interpretation, analysis and evaluation of the knowledge they acquire from studying history. The revision questions at the end of the book are based very much on questions that were asked in the history examinations set during the seven years which followed the introduction of the 2000 syllabus.

Brian Dyde
Pembroke, 2008