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## Preface

This volume was long in coming. Robert Gallman began his capital stock project more than half a century ago. Its first product was a paper by Gallman and Edward S. Howle titled “Fixed Reproducible Capital in the United States,” presented to the 1965 Cliometrics Conference held at Purdue University. (I was delighted recently to discover an original draft of this piece in the papers of Alice Hanson Jones at Columbia University Library.) During his lifetime, Gallman published three important pieces on the American capital stock from the project, and reported on his findings in numerous venues. He wrote up, but did not publish, the material backing his series.

This volume publishes that material. It combines edited text from Gallman’s published works, text from his research files, and text that I, Rhode, have written. I have endeavored to convey Gallman’s research and thoughts faithfully. I have also tried to be clear about which materials speak with his voice and which speak with mine. Anyone who knew Bob will be able to guess accurately who wrote which text, but I have placed clarifying notes at the front of each chapter specifying the authors. In Gallman’s chapters I have revised some of his language, reordered some sections, and added introductory text to improve flow.

I have benefited from discussions over many years with Jeremy Attack, Martha Bailey, Hoyt Bleakley, Peter Coclanis, William Collins, Lee Craig, Paul David, Lance Davis, Richard Easterlin, Stanley Engerman, Alexander Field, Price Fishback, Matthew Gallman, Claudia Goldin, Philip Hoffman, Edward Howle, Alan Olmstead, Debin Ma, William Parker, Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, Elyce Rotella, John Wallis, Thomas Weiss, and Gavin Wright. The result should be treated as “oral tradition,” based on a good-faith rendering of my best recollections.

I am especially indebted to Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, Philip Hoffman, and Sabrina De Jaegher for hosting a conference at Caltech in January 2016 to discuss the monograph. I have attempted to bring on board as many of the conference participants' comments and critiques as possible.

A great debt is owed to Shirlene Garner, Gallman's longtime secretary at the University of North Carolina, for her work on the project. I also thank Kristen McGuire, Molly Shapiro, and Hanna Zlotnick for research and editorial assistance. And I am sure that this volume would not have been completed without the contributions of many others.

I wish, finally, to thank Claudia Goldin for her patience and unwavering support, and for locating the wonderful cover art. The Currier and Ives print *Through to the Pacific* displays myriad forms of capital in mid-nineteenth-century America—not only factories, railroads, ships, and harbors, but also houses and land being logged and tilled. The image beautifully captures Gallman's themes.