Preface

This volume evolved from papers and discussion at a workshop and conference, Economic Methods for Chinese Historical Research, sponsored by the Henry Luce Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the National Science Foundation and held in Honolulu, Hawaii in January 1987 and Oracle, Arizona in January 1988. In the 1987 workshop, a number of economists who specialize in economic history presented seminars on broad subjects: choice, long-term trends, macroeconomics, international issues, and economic institutions, for which the historian-participants had prepared by completing a series of readings. These materials formed the basis for the present volume.

The same group of historians and economists met again in 1988, with the historians presenting papers developed using the guidelines and suggestions of the first session, and the economists serving as discussants. Their papers were collected in a separate volume, *Chinese History in Economic Perspective* edited by Thomas G. Rawski and Lillian M. Li and published by the University of California Press.

The completion of a revised and expanded version of the initial economics presentations has benefited immensely from the contribution of many people whose names do not appear in the table of contents. They include Lynda S. Bell, Claudia Goldin, Van Beck Hall, Lillian M. Li, Susan Mann, Margaret Maurer-Fazio, Jack Ochs, Evelyn S. Rawski, Samantha Roberts, Julius Rubin, Werner Troesken, Jerome C. Wells, and
two anonymous reviewers who combined fierce critiques with enough praise to persuade the press to support our project.

In producing this volume, we have relied on the elegant editorial work of Edith Gladstone, on the constant support of Sheila Levine, Scott Norton, Monica McCormick, and Laura Driussi at the University of California Press, and on the endless ingenuity of Della Sinclair, Hillary Sinclair, Pam Trbovich, and Penny Weiss at the University of Pittsburgh. Paul Spragens prepared the index.

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