# Acknowledgements

This book was written without the benefit of research funding from external resources, but has been much helped by the recognition by Brunel University's Economics Department that historical research cannot be conducted sitting in front of a computer screen in Uxbridge.

Over the years many people have offered helpful comments on aspects of the Attlee government's policies, including Martin Francis, Lewis Johnman, John Kent, Helen Mercer, Neil Rollings, Rodney Lowe, Noel Whiteside and Ina Zweiniger-Bargielowska.

Two people have been especially important. I have worked with Nick Tiratsoo over a number of years and his knowledge of sources and his sceptical enthusiasm for understanding the Attlee government have both been invaluable. Last but not least, Sir Alex Cairncross, whose own *Years of Recovery* is the foundation of serious scholarly studies of the period, has been a key figure. In a serious sense this is a 'post-Cairncross' work, building on and attempting to go beyond what he wrote.

Thanks are due to the following archivists for permission to quote from sources in their charge: Stephen Bird for Labour Party records, Henry Gillett for the records of the Bank of England, and the Copyright Officer at the PRO for the Public Records. I am grateful to J. W. Piercy for permission to cite the papers of the first Baron Piercy. I am pleased to acknowledge permission from the University of Chicago Press to use material which first appeared in *The Journal of British Studies*, and to Oxford University Press for material which first appeared in *Twentieth Century British History*. Some of the material in chapter 4 first appeared in *The Economic History Review*.



Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 18 Nov 2026 at 18:00:00, subject to the Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9780511599460