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# Liverpool, the African Slave Trade, and Abolition

Essays to illustrate current  
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The emotive nature of the history of slavery has led to a vast outpouring of writing on the slave trade and abolition. Much of this literature, though documenting contemporary opinion, has not been based on a sound analysis of records, and has not advanced an objective appraisal of the subject.

These essays represent an important sample of work being currently pursued to establish a soundly-based assessment of the Atlantic slave trade and abolition. Emphasis is placed on the way in which the historiography of the slave trade and abolition has reflected contemporary attitudes, and the availability and limitations of extant records upon which the definitive history of the subject must be written. The essays deal with the slave trade in the African economy, the volume, profitability and organisation of the trade (with specific essays on Liverpool and Bristol), and the movement for abolition. They will be of especial interest to students of African and Black History, eighteenth and early-nineteenth century British Economic and Cultural History, and Local History.

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