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This volume derives from the informal discussions of a group of historians who met at the University of Liverpool in 1974 to consider advances in scholarly knowledge of the Atlantic slave trade and British Abolition. The essays, which have been regularly cited in slave trade studies since first publication, represent an important sample of the work pursued in recent decades by scholars anxious to establish a soundly based assessment of the subject. Although Liverpool is strongly represented, the scope of the essays ranges widely, from the slave trade in the African economy, over the volume, profitability and organisation of the trade (with three essays on Liverpool and one on Bristol), to the local and national movements for Abolition. They are of especial interest to students of African and Black History, eighteenth and early nineteenth-century British History, and Local History.

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