

# CONTENTS

FIGURES ix

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS xi

ABBREVIATIONS xiii

KEY DATES IN NIGERIAN HISTORY xv

## CHAPTER 1

To Understand the Novel in Nigeria 3

*In Nigeria* 6

*The Novel* 13

*To Understand* 17

## CHAPTER 2

The Nigerian Fiction Complex 26

*The Novels* 29

*The Writers* 38

*The Business* 60

*The Readers* 88

## CHAPTER 3

Nigerian Novels 120

*Village and City* 123

*Women and Men* 167

*Pen and Sword* 208

*Crime and Politics* 238

## CHAPTER 4

Capturing the Past and Inventing the Future 269

## APPENDIX A.

Nigerian novels 275

## APPENDIX B.

Nigerian authors 288

## APPENDIX C.

Coding forms 292

NOTES 297

BIBLIOGRAPHY 323

INDEX 333