

CONTENTS

List of illustrations vi

List of maps vii

Introduction viii

- 1 The search for trade: 1555–1763 1
- 2 British victory, power, and dominance to 1797 13
- 3 Napoleonic wars and regional security 1798–1815 25
- 4 Control in the Gulf, Red Sea, and Egypt 1815–41 41
- 5 The “Great Game,” Afghanistan 1838–42 55
- 6 The Crimean War and its impact 1838–58 63
- 7 The question of Egypt 1838–79 71
- 8 The turning point: Invasion of Egypt 1879–82 85
- 9 Aftermath and the imperial scramble 1883–1914 103
- 10 The Middle East in the Great War 1914–18 121
- 11 War’s aftershock: The watershed 1918–22 141
- 12 Tenacity enshrined: Holding on 1922–40 155
- 13 The Middle East in the Second World War 1939–45 169
- 14 End of the road: Exit from empire 1945–71 189

Conclusion 209

Notes 213

Bibliography 259

Index 267