

# Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>Preface</i>	xiii
<b>1 Property and Privilege in Perspective</b>	<b>1</b>
Social stratification and social classes	1
The structure of feudal stratification	6
<b>2 Magnates, Gentry and Bourgeoisie</b>	<b>12</b>
Merchants and markets	12
The transition to capitalist agriculture	15
Land, lineage and lordship	22
The monopolisation of social honour	27
<b>3 Rentiers, Farmers and Financiers</b>	<b>34</b>
The transformation of the countryside	34
The consolidation of capitalist commerce	42
Fiscal and legitimisation problems	48
Oligarchy and patronage: old corruption	53
<b>4 The Rise of the Manufacturers</b>	<b>67</b>
Families and firms	67
The capitalist spirit and capitalist surveillance	71
<b>5 Gentlemen of Property</b>	<b>78</b>
The city, the lords and the boards	79
Deference and decline	89
Elitism, electoralism and the establishment	96
<b>6 Capital, Wealth and Control</b>	<b>114</b>
Wealth and the wealthy	115
The struggle for control	123
Institutional holdings and finance capitalists	130

viii *Contents*

<b>7 Class, Status and Power</b>	<b>149</b>
Master symbols of legitimation	150
The old-boy network	158
The establishment and corporatist politics	179
<i>Bibliography</i>	191
<i>Index</i>	208