Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade

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Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade

David Eltis and David Richardson

Foreword by David Brion Davis

Afterword by David W. Blight

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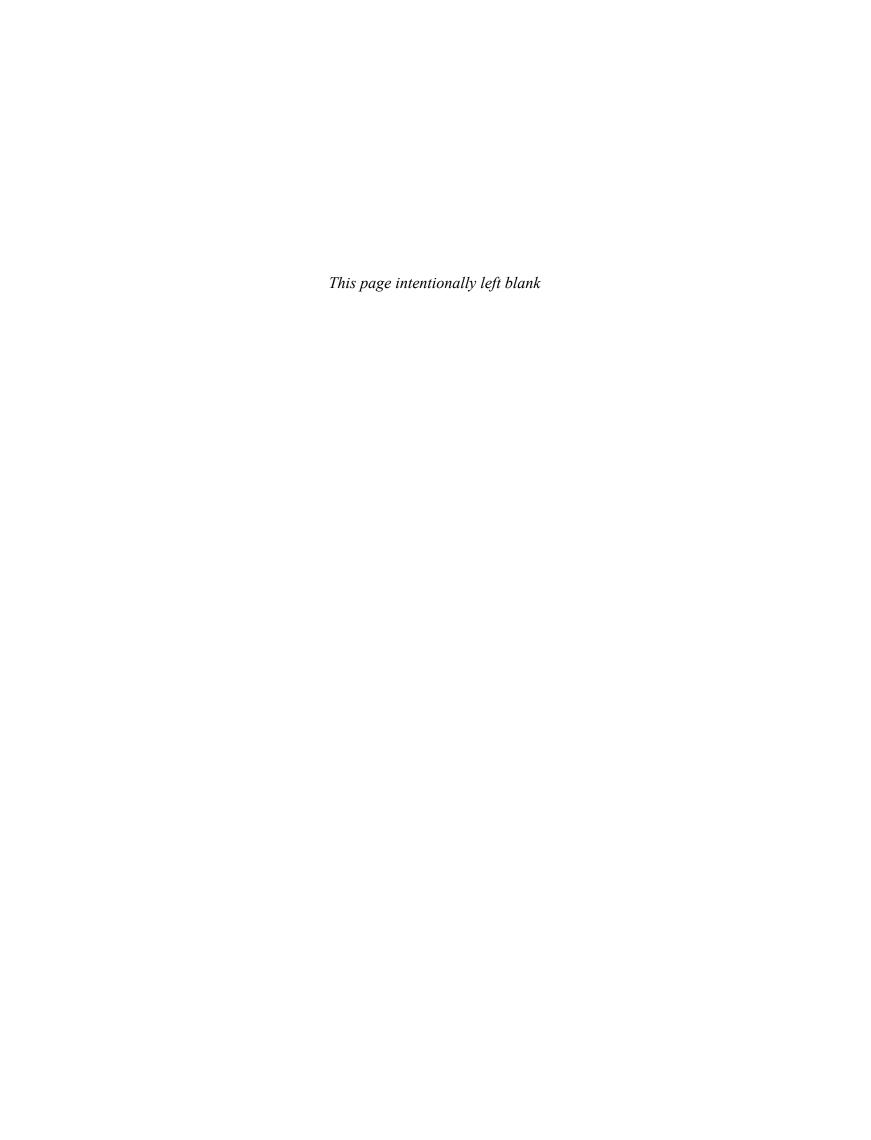
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TO THE MEMORY OF

Philip DeArmond Curtin

(1922–2009)

historian of Africa and the African diaspora, whose work inspired the creation of the slave voyages database upon which this atlas is based On this distressing subject, so revolting to every well regulated mind, I will add that such is the merciless treatment of the slaves by the persons engaged in the traffic that no fancy can picture the horror of the voyage—crowded together so as not to give the power to move—linked one to the other by the leg—never unfettered whilst life remains, or till the iron shall have fretted the flesh almost to the bone . . . breathing an atmosphere the most putrid and pestilential possible, with little food and less water. . . . It is to me a matter of extreme wonder that any of these miserable people live the voyage through; many of them indeed perish on the passage, and those who remain to meet the shore, present a picture of wretchedness language cannot express.

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