

Contents



<i>List of Maps & Tables</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xi
<i>Introduction</i>	1
1	
<i>Origins</i>	
<i>Ouidah before the Dahomian conquest</i>	18
2	
<i>The Dahomian Conquest of Ouidah</i>	50
3	
<i>Dahomian Ouidah</i>	71
4	
<i>The Operation of the Atlantic Slave Trade</i>	123
5	
<i>De Souza's Ouidah</i>	
<i>The era of the illegal slave trade</i>	
1815–39	155
6	
<i>The Era of Transition</i>	
<i>From slaves to palm oil</i>	
1840–57	189
7	
<i>Dissension & Decline</i>	
<i>Ouidah under King Glele</i>	
1858–77	231

Contents	
8	
<i>From Dahomian to French Rule</i>	
1878–92	263
<i>Sources & Bibliography</i>	281
<i>Index</i>	298

List of Maps & Tables



Maps

1 The Republic of Bénin	xii
2 Ouidah, showing the quarters and major historical sites	11
3 Dahomey and its immediate neighbours	51
4 Ouidah in 1776	72
5 The 'ports' of the slave trade	124

Tables

3.1 Estimated population of Ouidah, 1772–1890	74
4.1 Prices of (adult male) slaves at Ouidah, 1725–93	130
5.1 Slave prices at Ouidah in the illegal trade, 1834–64	159
6.1 Price of palm oil at Ouidah, 1844–78	208
8.1 Population figures for southern Bénin towns, 1937–72	278