

Acknowledgments

The good fortune in my working life began when I was hired by US House Banking Committee chairman Wright Patman of Texas to write a history of the early years of the Federal Reserve System. Working for two exceptional public servants, Chairman Patman and his staff director, Paul Nelson, who became my mentor, was a remarkable learning experience. The next two committee chairmen I served under, representatives Henry Reuss of Wisconsin and Timothy Wirth of Colorado, asked me to write additional studies of the financial system in connection with work on hearings and legislation. Working with Tim, his staff director, David Aylward, and my research assistant, Mary Jo Parrino, on financial restructuring was another notable experience that laid the foundation for my writing and teaching in the years that followed.

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