

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	xiv
Abbreviations	xvii
Weights, Measures, and Currency	xviii
Glossary	xix
Maps	xx
Introduction	1
Inspiration for Research	3
A Note on Sources	6
Points of Discussion	10
Chapter One: Getting to Know Places and Peoples: Cochin circa 1750	13
Locating Fort Cochin	15
Ports North of Fort Cochin	16
Ports South of Fort Cochin	19
Fort Cochin: A Fortified Town	23
Dutch Administration of Fort Cochin	27
The Port of Cochin	31
The Peoples in and around Fort Cochin	32
Within the Walls	33
Outside the Walls	39
Conclusion	43
Chapter Two: The Metamorphosis of the Malabar Command (1750–1784)	45
Changing Times: Europe and India	45
Power Struggle in Europe	46
The Scenario in India	48
The Malabar Coast	51
A Dance for the Bride	55
VOC and Pepper from Malabar	56
Profitability of the Malabar Command	62
Batavia's Ill-founded Doubts	68
From Black Pepper to Brown Soil	72
Advocates of Landed Wealth	73
Batavia's Men	77
A Reassessment	83

Conclusion	88
Chapter Three: The Social World of Fort Cochin	91
Mestizos and Merchants	92
Households and Family Units	96
Servants of the Company	101
Daughters, Wives, and Widows	109
Living in Fort Cochin	116
In Search of Livelihood	116
The Circle of Life	122
Daily Life	126
Public Institutions	131
The Court of Justice	132
Church, School, and Orphanage	136
Leper House and Hospital	141
Conclusion	143
Chapter Four: Days of Reckoning (1784–1795)	147
Winds of Change	148
England and the EIC	148
The Dutch Republic and the VOC	152
The State of Affairs of the Malabar Command	154
Sale of the Malabar Command	157
The Commander Leads	159
The Take-over of Fort Cochin	161
Contact for Conquest	164
Declaring Loyalties	167
A Surrender?	169
Conclusion	173
Chapter Five: Life after the VOC	175
Primary Changes after the Take-over	175
The British Administration	176
First Reactions of the Inhabitants	181
New Opportunities	182
Leaving Fort Cochin	182
A Season of Lovers	186
Staying On	188
The Peoples Re-visited	195
Conclusion	200
Chapter Six: Adapting to British Cochin (1798–1830)	201
Ongoing War	201

The Demolition of Fort Cochin	205
At Home in British Cochin	210
Lingering Shadows	210
New Prosperity or Wishful Thinking?	220
Conclusion	222
Conclusion	225
Notes	233
Appendices	
1: Memorandum of gardens and lands belonging to the VOC on the coast of Malabar, dated 1781	273
2: List of people living in Fort Cochin towards the end of 1792	277
3: List of people in the orphanage on the Heerenstraat in 1792, whose estates were being managed by the Orphan Board	284
4: Number of households per street (1792)	285
5: List of Residents of Cochin on 5 April 1814	286
6: A few grave-stones of Dutch persons connected with Fort Cochin that could be traced in Malabar up to mid-nineteenth century	288
7: VOC and EIC Commanders, Governors, and Governors-General	289
8: Family-tree of families of Cochin	291
I. Weyerman Family-tree	292
II. Daimichen Family-tree	293
III. Lunel Family-tree	294
IV. Van Spall Family-tree	295
V. Weinsheimer Family-tree	296
Bibliography	297
Index	309
List of Maps	
1: Map of present-day Cochin	xx
2: Map of the Malabar Coast	xxi
List of Tables	
1.1: The number of employees in India and Ceylon prior to 1750	24
1.2: The number of employees in India and Ceylon (1751–1789)	24

1.3: Households and population of Fort Cochin (1700 and 1730)	35
1.4: Employees of the VOC in Cochin (1750 and 1755)	35
1.5: Qualified employees of the VOC in Cochin (1750 and 1755)	36
1.6: VOC commanders and governors of Malabar (1747–1795)	37
2.1: Average yearly amounts of pepper in pounds bought by the VOC in Malabar (1740–1787)	61
2.2: Amounts of pepper in pounds bought in Malabar and other places by the VOC averaged per year (1740–1749=100)	61
2.3: Malabar local financial results in guilders (1749–1794)	66
2.4: Gross profit and expenses of Malabar (1749–1784), according to VOC book-keeping system, added up for every five years	71
3.1: Persons in Fort Cochin as part of households in Fort Cochin (1760 and 1790)	93
3.2: Size of households in Fort Cochin (1760 and 1790)	97
3.3: Slaves in Fort Cochin (1760 and 1790)	97
3.4: Slaves per household (1760 and 1790)	97
3.5: Qualified employees of the VOC in Fort Cochin (1760–1785)	105
3.6: Total number of employees of the VOC in Fort Cochin (1760–1785)	105
3.7: Number of VOC Employees (on land) in Fort Cochin (1750–1788)	107
3.8: Company servants in Fort Cochin and their places of origin (1760 and 1788)	108
3.9: Single women in Fort Cochin (1760 and 1790)	112
 List of Figures	
2.1: Malabar local financial results in guilders (1661–1700)	64
2.2: Malabar net profit and loss (1661–1795)	65
2.3: Malabar local financial results in guilders (1749–1794)	67
3.1: Population composition of Fort Cochin (1760 and 1790)	94
3.2: VOC employees in Fort Cochin (1750–1788)	103
3.3: Qualified employees of the VOC in Fort Cochin (1760–1785)	104
3.4: Composition of VOC employees in Fort Cochin (1760 and 1788)	106
 List of Illustrations	
1: A view of Cochin by James Forbes, 14 Feb. 1772	14
2: Dutch houses in Fort Cochin	34

3: View of Cochin with the Union Jack by William Alexander, circa 1800	171
4: Gravestones of VOC personnel and family members in Fort Cochin	190