

Acknowledgements

This book is based on a thesis I wrote at the University of Sydney between 2007 and 2012, and I wish to express my thanks to the university and its Department of History for supporting much of the research and writing that make up this book. My supervisors Peter Read and Mark McKenna provided intellectual nourishment, guidance and inspiration along the winding path of my thesis, and the book it has become. Richard White acted as sounding board for many of my ideas, and he and Cath Bishop have encouraged me to persist with this book and with my interest in history. Kate Fullagar opened up invaluable opportunities for collaboration around Bennelong's story. John Hirst enlivened the postgraduate history experience with a seminar series that broadened our horizons and enabled us to contribute to each other's work. A warm thanks to members of John's writing groups who did so, especially Rosemary Kerr, Hannah Forsyth, Daniel Fleming, Deborah Beck, Judith Bonzol, Matt Allen, Avril Alba and Alex Cameron-Smith. Thanks to Iain McCalman and Larissa Behrendt for comments on my thesis that have been invaluable in writing this book.

Thanks to those who gave me a home away from home while I undertook research, as well as connecting me with local people, places, events and resources. I would particularly like to thank Glyn and Glenis Davies, Viv and Ian Youngs, Heather and Evan Lawton and my cousin Vivien Keller-Tuberg and her family, Russell McGregor and his colleagues at James Cook University, and Peter Whalley and staff of the Oodgeroo Unit, Queensland University of Technology.

Many generous people shared the results of their hard-won research with me, and their expertise in and passion for history and community, and I would particularly like to thank Anna Clark, Keith Smith, Valerie Cooms, David Roberts, Loftus Dun, Colin Ellis, John and David Suttor, Phillip Murray, Bill Murray, Alex Roberts, Kath Schilling, Gavin Andrews,

Bronwyn Batten, Chanelle Burman, Vanessa Cavanagh, Judy MacGregor Smith and the Bennelong Residents for Reconciliation, and Dilys Maltby and Ann Wills of the Bowen Historical Society. Thanks also to the staff of the Mitchell Library and State Library of New South Wales, the National Library of Australia, Fisher Library, the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library and the Office of Environment and Heritage librarians, for your patience and dedication.

Thank you to Aboriginal History Inc. and to Rani Kerin (who has been a welcoming and patient editor) for making it possible to write this book alongside my work, at the same time as being a mother. My colleagues in the former research section of the Country, Culture and Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage, enriched my interpretations of places and people's connections to them, encouraged me to set sail with a book proposal and supported me in seeking a publisher—thanks especially to Caroline Ford, Denis Byrne and Steve Brown.

Sue Rosen taught me how to manage my research, write early and be a persistent historian, skills without which I would never have written this, my first book. Fellow members of the Professional Historians Association have also kept me connected and inspired about making history, especially my friend and neighbour Laila Ellmoos.

Friends and family encouraged me in this project over the past decade, especially Louise and Marita Dortins and Matthew Wallman, who read and commented on my work, and Mum and Dad, and Matt and August, who have supported this project and lived with it.

This text is taken from *The Lives of Stories: Three Aboriginal-Settler Friendships*, by Emma Dortins, published 2018 by ANU Press, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.