



Memory, Place and Aboriginal-Settler History

Understanding Australians' Consciousness of the Colonial Past

By Skye Krichauff

Pub Date: 27 September 2017

Binding: Hardback

Price: £70.00 / \$115.00

ISBN: 9781783086818

Extent: 250 pages

Size: 153 x 229 mm /

6 x 9 inches

Series: Anthem Studies in Australian History

BISAC CATEGORY: HISTORY / Social History HISTORY / Australia & New Zealand, SOCIAL SCIENCE / Anthropology / Cultural

BISAC CODE: HIS054000

BIC CODE: HBTB

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In-depth study of Aboriginal-settler history that combines the methodologies and theories of historical enquiry, anthropology and memory studies.

“It didn’t happen here.” What do people forget? Why do they forget? Can memory and history meet? This beautifully written book explores these and similar questions, especially around early settler treatment of Aborigines. A book for all Australia.’ —Bill Gammage, Emeritus Professor, Humanities Research Centre, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

‘This fine new work on the communal memory of rural Australians explores how settler narratives of belonging are made, and how they obscure, mitigate or intersect with histories of indigenous dispossession. It shows us more than ever that, in addition to nationwide political campaigns and legislative reform, processes of reconciliation demand a deeper engagement with intimate histories of place. This is a book that offers all settler nations a powerful reminder of our shared responsibility to unsettle the colonial past.’ —Amanda Nettelbeck, Professor in Department of History, School of Humanities, University of Adelaide, Australia

Taking the absence of Aboriginal people in South Australian settler descendants’ historical consciousness as a starting point, ‘Memory, Place and Settler—Aboriginal History’ combines the methodologies and theories of historical enquiry, anthropology and memory studies to investigate the multitudinous and intertwined ways the colonial past is known, represented and understood by current generations.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Skye Krichauff is visiting research fellow in the Department of History, School of Humanities, University of Adelaide, Australia. An ethno-historian and anthropologist, she draws upon archival material, oral histories, fieldwork, site visits and personal experience to research how the historical injustice of Aboriginal dispossession is known, understood and represented by current generations of Australians. She is the author of ‘Nharangga Wargunni Bugi-Buggillu: A Journey through Narungga History’ (2011).

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