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052152296X - Land Settlement in Early Tasmania: Creating an Antipodean England - Sharon Morgan

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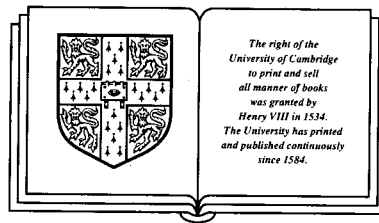
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Land Settlement in Early Tasmania

CREATING AN ANTIPODEAN ENGLAND

Sharon Morgan

SELWYN COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge

New York Port Chester Melbourne Sydney

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 Frontmatter/Prelims
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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
 The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
 The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK
 40 West 20th Street, New York NY 10011-4211, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
 Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa
<http://www.cambridge.org>

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First published 1992
 First paperback edition 2003

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

National Library of Australia cataloguing-in-publication data

Morgan, Sharon.
 Land settlement in early Tasmania.
 Bibliography.
 Includes index.
 ISBN 0 521 39031 1.
 1. Land settlement – Tasmania – History.
 2. Tasmania – History – To 1803. 3. Tasmania –
 History – 1803–1851. 4. Tasmania – Social
 life and customs – 1803–1851. I. Title.
 994.602

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Morgan, Sharon, 1961–
 Land settlement in early Tasmania: creating an antipodean England
 Sharon Morgan.
 Includes biographical references and index.
 ISBN 0 521 39031 1 (HC)
 1. Land Settlement – Australia – Tasmania – History. 2. Tasmania
 – History. I. Title.
 HD1039.T37M67 1991
 333.3'1946–dc20

ISBN 0 521 39031 1 hardback
 ISBN 0 521 52296 X paperback

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Note on Currency and Measurements

Currency

In the currency used during the period dealt with in this book, there were 12 pennies (d.) in one shilling (s.), and 20 shillings in one pound (£).

The sum of 10 shillings and 6 pence could be written as 10s. 6d. or as 10/6. A farthing was a quarter of a penny, and a guinea was £1 1s.

When Australia changed to decimal currency in 1966, \$2 was equal to £1.

Mass

1 drachm = 3.88 g
1 ounce (oz) = 28.3 g
1 pound (lb) = 454 g
1 stone = 6.35 kg
1 ton = 1.02 t

Area

1 acre = 0.40 ha
1 square mile = 2.59 km²

Length

1 mile = 1.61 km

Volume

1 pint = 0.57 L
1 gallon = 4.55 L
1 bushel = 0.036 m³ = 36.4 L

Acknowledgements

In the winter of 1986 I flew from Melbourne to Launceston for an interview at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery. They were looking for a historian to do some research into the pattern and effects of land settlement in the island's early years. I spent the day with Brian Plomley and Chris Tassell, respectively the prime mover behind the project and the museum's director, discussing what the work would entail. They envisaged a research project of some six months' duration. I returned to Melbourne feeling unsure about the work itself — it was a long way from my main interest of women's history — but confident I would enjoy living in Tasmania for six months.

As it turned out, the work excited me far more than did life in the island state. There was a wealth of material to work with, and I was pleased and grateful that the museum supported my wish to undertake a more detailed history than we had originally decided upon. I worked there for two years, completing the present volume in that time.

There are a number of people I must now thank. My first debt is to the staff of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, especially to Brian Plomley and Chris Tassell, whose encouragement was unceasing and of immeasurable assistance. The staff at a number of archives have also given their time and attention. The time spent at the Archives Office of Tasmania was made more productive by the able assistance of the staff there, and particularly of Margaret Glover. The staff of the Archives Office of New South Wales, the Mitchell Library and the State Library of Tasmania also deserve thanks.

Thanks to Richard Clegg, my friend and fellow-Australian at Selwyn, for taking the time in a very busy life to read and make recommendations on the manuscript. My gratitude extends too to my editor, Janet Mackenzie, for her suggestions and encouragement. And, on a more personal note, thanks to my family, especially my parents, and to my friends in Tasmania, Melbourne and Cambridge, for their support and confidence, without which I would probably have given up long ago.

Selwyn College
Cambridge
July 1990