

READING THE GARDEN

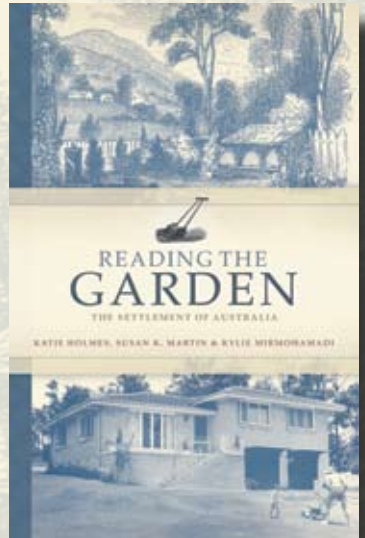
THE SETTLEMENT OF AUSTRALIA

BY KATIE HOLMES, SUSAN K. MARTIN & KYLIE MIRMOHAMADI

'Planting a garden is ... an act of memory and settlement: those who make a garden look back to recollected forms and forward to new growth that will become a special kind of place.'

Whether a small plot in the backyard of an inner-urban home or a capital city's sprawling botanic garden, Australians all over the country have long desired a patch of dirt to plough or enjoy.

Reading the Garden explores our deep affection for gardens and gardening and illuminates their numerous meanings and uses from European settlement to the late twentieth century. More than just a pastime, the act of garden making has helped migrants create 'home' and an identity in a new place, and we continue to use our outdoor landscapes to preserve the memory of a loved one, feed the family or beautify our surrounds.



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