CONTENTS

Preface vii
Acknowledgements ix
Figures xi
Maps xi
Tables xi
Introduction 1

Part I: The palaeoeconomic history of Aboriginal migration

1. Introduction 8
2. Conventional views and alternative approaches 11
3. Non-Malthusian issues: pathways and innovations 14
4. Scarcity possibilities in Aboriginal migration 35
5. Some possible migration scenarios 42
6. A synthesis 49

Part II: Development, structure and function of Aboriginal economy

7. Introduction 52
8. The process of early settlement 57
9. Variety in the precontact Aboriginal economy 66
10. The nature and function of Aboriginal economy 71
11. Dynamic elements in the Aboriginal economy 87

Part III: Disease, economics and demography

12. Introduction 98
13. The problem of an exposed population 102
14. Re-estimating precontact populations 121
15. Turning the models around 133
Part IV: The establishment of a bridgehead economy: 1788–1810

16. Introduction 142
17. History and theory 146
18. Free lunches, antipodean style 158

Part V: The takeover process: 1788–1850

19. Introduction 184
20. British development in the long run 186
21. The hunter gatherers of empire 190
22. British, American and Macassan presence in the takeover 196
23. The major players 199
24. Aborigines and British law 202
25. The economics of takeover 205
26. The composition and demographic impact of disease 215
27. The interaction of disease with resistance, integration and submission 221
28. Conclusions 227

Bibliography 231

Appendix 1: Preliminary model/checklist of Aboriginal migration to Australia 243
Appendix 2: NOAA depth contour maps 246
Index 247