Acknowledgements

I wrote this thesis during the final years of my PhD program at the Centre for Scandinavian Studies at the University of Aberdeen and submitted and defended it in the summer of 2021. The years at the Centre were an absolute privilege and I am forever grateful. First and foremost, I extend my gratitude towards my two wonderful supervisors. I am beyond grateful for your valuable feedback and support. Hannah, thank you for supporting me from the very start (struggling with Old Norse cases and whatnot...) and for encouraging me to do the jump from being an undergraduate to a PhD candidate. Your patience, enthusiasm, expertise, and advice have been priceless, and I am incredibly thankful (hand heart!). Charlotta, thank you for the incredibly useful archaeological and postcolonial resources you have introduced me to along the way. A big thank you for all the pep talks and encouragement, and of course, the countless Kilauc coffees. Tack så mycket! I truly appreciate all the effort you have both put into my project and all the kindness you have shown me, and I look forward to the next time we get to catch up. I also extend my sincere thanks to my viva examiners, Prof. Ralph O’Connor and Dr Carl-Gösta Ojala, whose input and insightful discussion during and after the viva has been incredibly valuable for the thesis itself and for myself as a researcher.

The research trips I have undertaken during my thesis would not have been possible without financial support. I extend my thanks towards the University of Aberdeen Development Trust, DHP postgraduate funding and the Centre for Scandinavian Studies. Additional thanks go to the Creating the New North research group at the University of Tromso, who not only hosted me twice but also contributed with very productive feedback and vital input during our many discussions. I am grateful to Svenska Institutet for financing my planned research stay in Sweden, which was unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19. To CG, thank you for offering to supervise my research in Uppsala and the enthusiasm you showed (and continue to show) for my project and research.

Furthermore, I am incredibly grateful to the Open Access pilot program for monographs at the University of Greifswald (where I find myself incredibly grateful to be employed) for receiving funding for this publication. I extend my gratitude towards my department, the Chair of Nordic History, from which parts of the funding for this publication comes from. I am very thankful, especially for all the encouragement from good colleagues. A major thanks go out to Prof. Dr Cordelia Heß for all her help with getting this process of publication going and for always encouraging me in my research (and for teaching me about feierabend and likewise, for joining in on the utepils). And cheers to my office mates! I also extend
my gratitude to Henriette Hellinger, the brilliant student assistant at the Chair, who has helped out with several versions of this manuscript.

A very humble thank you goes out to the editorial team at De Gruyter, particularly Robert Forke and Dominika Herbst. I greatly appreciate your time and patience (!) and I am very much looking forward to being able to thank you in person. It has been a real pleasure working with you! Likewise, I am thankful to the editors of the series. It is a great privilege and incredibly humbling to have my work published among such wonderful company.

I extend my sincerest thanks to my supportive family, friends, and co-workers around the world, without whom this journey would have been so much harder (not to mention uneventful!). To my friends and co-workers, past and present, at the Centre for Scandinavian Studies: thank you for your academic support, but even more so, for the pints, potlucks, and the pandemic calls. To my close and wonderfully brilliant and absolutely outrageous friends Heidi, Ingrid, and Jennifer, thank you for being there for me, for everything (literally!), throughout. Y’all run the world! A special thank you goes out to my extended family up north, who very kindly accommodated “søringen” during my research trips to Troms, and to my uncle for his genuine interest in my project. To my family in Oslo: you rock (kgid!). Lastly, I am beyond grateful for my amazing mum (the Marianne). For supporting me in everything, for being a voice of reason, for always being there, and for, quite frankly, being my person. Being compared to you is the best compliment.

You all deserve a big drink, and so do I. Skål!