

Acknowledgments

WORKING ON DEBT, I incurred many of my own. *Native Sons* was researched on three continents and written on four. Scores of people helped, hosted, or humored me while I worked to produce it. In Bamako, my *jatigi* Ousmane Traore, *hajiya* Madame Traore Miriam Koné, and their family displayed endless patience and generosity. *Aw ni bàràji*. My deep thanks also to Ali Niane, Dr. Maïga, their families, and their neighbors in Magnambougou Projet. I am very grateful for the hospitality and assistance of Gomba Coulibaly and his family in San and Diabougou. They, along with the Frères du Sacré-Coeur and Brother David Coulibaly, were gracious hosts. Also in San, the Sidibe family was always welcoming, and the Abbé Felix Coulibaly granted me access to the papers of Father Bernard de Rasilly. Attaher Sofiane assisted me in Koutiala. Adama Sékou Traore showed me some of his father's private papers. At Kuluba, I am grateful for the goodwill of Ali Ongoïba, director of Mali's national archives, Alyadjidi Almouctar (Alia) Baby, Timothée Saye, Abdoulaye Traore, and Youssouf Diarra. In Paris and Montreuil, Jennifer and Thomas LaDonne were model friends, just as in Chennai, Mr. and Mrs. Uttam Reddi and Srinivas Mallu and Meenakshi Reddi were model hosts.

Many thanks for careful readings and illuminating criticisms to Drs. John O. Hunwick, Jonathon Glassman, Jane I. Guyer, and Robert Launay. Along with Jane, Sara Berry helped me make the transition from "interested in" to "working on." The support of Myron Echenberg and Nancy Lawler has always been appreciated, as has that

of David Killingray. I would also like to express my deep appreciation for the guidance of Mamadou Diawara, whose energetic and rigorous *Projet Point Sud*/Center for Research on Local Knowledge provided me an intellectual home in Bamako. Many thanks also to Seydou Camara, Mamadi Dembele, and their colleagues at the *Institut des Sciences Humaines*; Isaie Dougnon of FLASH/Université de Bamako; Director Modibo Diallo at the Mémorial Modibo Keita; Dolores Koenig; Ambassador David Rawson; and Peace Corps Mali, especially Candy Avila and Anne Cullen. Mali's veterans—and particularly those in San—deserve a salute and much more.

Marcia Wright, Fred Cooper, Luise White, Richard Roberts, Nancy Hunt, Laura Lee Downs, Alice Conklin, and Patrick Weil offered insights, encouragement, and opportunities. Miranda Pollard brought me into the study of history, and David Schoenbrun brought me into the study of Africa. Tarik Barkawi's close and rigorous readings made the manuscript much stronger than it would otherwise have been. Emmanuelle Saada listened closely and made valuable critiques. Brian Peterson and Julie Livingstone commented incisively on the introduction, and Sandrine Bertaux and Miriam Ticktin gave me a chance to re-think some of the ideas in chapter 5. Ben Soares set an example and helped on many fronts. Baz Lecocq has lived with and contributed to versions of this project in a truly inordinate number of settings. I thank him. Along with Baz, Emily Osborn, Trevor Getz, Richard Fogarty, Ellen Amster, and Shannon Vance were entertaining and generous companions in the archives. Leo Villalón and Fiona McLaughlin invited me into their salon in Dakar. For hospitality, friendship, and tolerance, I am indebted to Natalie Adamson, Brian and Andrea, Jacqui and Catherine, and Jonny and Jimmy. Emma has a big place in this and everything.

Finally, it is both customary and statutory to recognize those who funded research. Thus, in no order, I gratefully acknowledge the support of the Fulbright-HE Program, the National Security Education Program—Academy for Educational Development (NSEP-AED), Northwestern University's Dissertation Year Fellowship, Columbia University Summer Grant Program in the Humanities, Columbia University's Institute for Scholars at Reid Hall, the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Program for a summer grant, and the Camargo Foundation. I should also note that portions of chapter 5 appeared in *Comparative Studies in Society and History* in 2003 and part of

chapter 4 touches on points I addressed in an article in the *American Historical Review* in 2005. All faults and mistakes remain my own responsibility.

Lastly, Suchi put up with this manuscript for a long time. I owe her a lot more than can be decently put on an acknowledgments page, and I hope that debt lasts a very, very long time.