

Preface

This volume came into being through the event “Digitising Heritage – An International Workshop” that took place at the Internationale Wissenschaftsforum Heidelberg (IWH) in September 2019, and for which we gratefully acknowledge financial support from Heidelberg University’s Field of Focus 3 “Cultural Dynamics in Globalised Worlds”. The workshop also served as the interim meeting of the German Association for Australian Studies (GASt), which allowed us to welcome international guests with a particular research focus on Australia. Together, we discussed the use of digital media and digital resources for the global networking of researchers and institutions engaged in the preservation and study of heritage, focussing on tools and concepts of digitisation and how those advance interdisciplinary collaboration and public engagement. We would like to thank all participants for their generous and insightful contributions. We would furthermore like to acknowledge the participants in the seminar “Heritage goes Digital: Exploring Immaterial Heritage in Times of COVID-19” that was held at Heidelberg University in the spring term of 2020 for highlighting some of the virtual examples referenced in our introductory chapter. A particular thanks go to Clare Harris and Geva Herlyn for their editorial assistance. We are grateful to the series editors of KEMTE, Christiane Brosius, Ludger Lieb, and Christian Witschel for accepting our volume. With its special emphasis on digital media, this series has provided us with an ideal framework for this publication. Thank you also to the team of Heidelberg University Publishing (heiUP), Anja Konopka, Johanna Hildenbeutel, Frank Krabbes, and Katharina Stumpf. Our special thanks go to Nicolai Dollt for his patience and careful revisions. This publication was made possible through the generous support of the SFB 933 Material Text Cultures and the GASt.

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