I am indebted to the people who knew Jim Richards who agreed to talk to me for my research and who helped me locate the somewhat elusive and scattered sources. Colin Amery was the first person I spoke to and he put me in touch with Lady Susan Lasdun, whose generosity with her own research material as well as her memories of Richards were invaluable. Nicholas Taylor had the most detailed memories of working with Richards and his stories really enlivened Jim for me. Victoria Gibson and her husband Richard Gibson agreed to speak to me about her father and shared a wealth of correspondence, photographs and unpublished manuscripts. This book would not have been possible without them. Their generosity with their memories, family histories and hospitality, shaped this project and I am very grateful.

This book has been supported by the internal research fund at the University for the Creative Arts and by the publication grant of the Design History Society. Some of the research was supported by the Getty Foundation for a research trip to their archive in Los Angeles.

For their help with locating and photographing spreads of The Architectural Review and other obscure images, thank you to Jonathan Makepeace at the RIBA and Claire Isherwood at the Museum of Domestic Design & Architecture, as well as teams of archivists and librarians who have assisted in the complicated task of researching this book. Thank you to Amy Etherington who made the original illustrations for the maps of Richards’s network and the sites in London and Sussex. Thank you to the current editorial staff of The Architectural Review for giving permission to reproduce images of the magazine in this book.

Thank you to Elizabeth Darling for her feedback on early drafts of this book and for her continued generosity and support. I have been lucky to be the recipient of guidance, support and encouragement from Harriet Aitkinson, Dana Arnold, Chiara Barbieri, Louise Campbell, Barry Curtis, Erdem Erten, Suzanne Ewing, Alistair Fair, Janina Gosseye, Susie Harries,
David Heathcote, Zoe Hendon, Eleanor Herring, Claire Jamieson, Grace Lees Maffei, Anne Massey, Margaret Outen, Stephen Parnell, Diana Periton, Alan Powers, Neal Shasore, Naomi Stead, Deborah Sugg Ryan, Igea Troiani, Deborah Van Der Plaat.

My colleagues at the University for the Creative Arts have supported me throughout this book project: thank you to Liz Baxter, Sian Bennett, Adrian Bland, Mark Brill, Victoria Kelley, Tom Northey, Artun Ozguner, Anne Reimers and Catharine Slade-Brooking.

To my friends, who are always there, through everything, thank you to Sophie Bodoh, Katie Darian, Hazel Davies, Jenny Garlick, Theresa Halliday, Kay Johnson, Teleri Lloyd Jones and Barbi Sido. To my Feminist Book Group sisters, in solidarity.

Finally, to my family, without whom nothing would be possible and to whom I owe everything, thank you, Tom Kelly, Janette Kelly, Joe Kelly, Becci Connolly and Mike Wagg. And to Mike, I think you are wonderful, thank you for everything.