ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

After this work of mine has appeared in type, I feel a sense of achievement and the memory of those who contributed to making it a reality will remain etched in my mind for all times to come.

I am greatly indebted to my guide Dr S.B. Deo whose encouragement and guidance enabled me to keep my often bruised nose to the grindstone. His patience and brilliance helped me tide over the despairing phases of my work.

I wish to express my gratitude to Dr M.S. Nagaraja Rao who gave me invaluable assistance on my visits to Karnataka.

Mrs S Jagannathan was instrumental in helping me meet several people, most of whom assisted me in collecting information for my study.

I am thankful to the American Institute of Indian Studies for providing me with the photographs for illustrations in my thesis.
My friendship of several years with the family of Mr H.D. Chawda, whom I met during one of my forays into Belur, was a source of both personal and academic satisfaction. Their generous hospitality will always be remembered with gratitude and affection by me.

The Archaeological Survey of India gave me the permission to visit and photograph their monuments. I am very grateful to their staff for having given me all the necessary help.

For many courtesies and special work facilities, I am indebted to the Librarians of the Bombay University, Library of the Archaeological Department in Mysore, and American Institute of Indian Studies, Varanasi.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of Dr. A.P. Jamkhedkar's encouragement, valuable suggestions and most of all his introducing me to Dr. Deo who contributed in making this study an enriching learning experience.

Renupum Nangia