## Acknowledgments

I have been unusually fortunate in the unstinting assistance I have been given by friends and colleagues. Earlier versions of the book were read by Ian Bell, S. R. L. Clark, John Dillon, Richard Dufour, Asli Gocer, Charles Kahn, Debra Nails, Sara Rappe, John Rist, C. D. C. Reeve, and Harold Tarrant. I am deeply grateful to all of these scholars for sharing with me their learning and for their critical engagement with my ideas. An early version of the main themes in this book was presented at a conference on Plato's ancient readers at the University of Newcastle, NSW, in the summer of 2002. I benefited immensely from the very good-humored and pointed dialogue that my paper inspired. I am especially grateful to Dirk Baltzly, John Cleary, and Richard Sorabji for their helpful suggestions. Another version was presented at a colloquium at Trinity College, Dublin, where a learned and cordial audience provided me with much food for thought. Holger Thesleff offered me his warm encouragement and, from his own library, material that was not otherwise available to me. An earlier version of a portion of chapter 2 appeared in Journal of the History of Philosophy; material contained in chapter 4 appeared in an article in Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie; parts of chapter 5 appeared in an article in *Phronesis*; and parts of chapter 8 in an article in Oxford Studies in Philosophy. I am grateful to the editors of these publications for their permission to reprint. The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada endowed me with a research grant during the period 2002-4, which gave me much needed time, among other things, to complete my research.

