CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

INTRODUCTION
Why White Ethnicity? Why Ethnic Pasts? 1

CHAPTER ONE
The Politics and Poetics of Popular Ethnography
Folk Immigrant, Ethnic, and Racial Pasts in History and Discourse 29

CHAPTER TWO
Whither Collective Ethnic Identities?
White Ethnics and the Slippery Terrain of European Americanness 62

CHAPTER THREE
Whose Ethnic Community?
Gendered Pasts and Polyphonies of Belonging 96

CHAPTER FOUR
Interrogating Ethnic Whiteness, Building Interracial Solidarity
Popular Ethnography as Cultural Critique 129

CHAPTER FIVE
Ethnicity as Choice?
Roots and Identity as a Narrative Project 162