Contents

List of Illustrations ix
Foreword DONALD WORSTER xi
Acknowledgments xv

Il Bel Paese
An Introduction
MARCO ARMIERO AND MARCUS HALL 1

FOUNDATIONS

Chapter 1. The Distinctive Character of Italian Environmental History
PIERO BEVILACQUA 15

Chapter 2. Upside-Down Landscapes
Seismicity and Seismic Disasters in Italy
EMANUELA GUIDOBONI 33

Chapter 3. Moving Ground
Vesuvius and the Nola Mudslides of the Nineteenth Century
WALTER PALMIERI 56

Chapter 4. Environmental Imperialism in Sardinia
Pesticides and Politics in the Struggle against Malaria
MARCUS HALL 70
## Commons and Forests

### Chapter 5.
The Decline of the Commons and the Environmental Balance in Early Modern Italy

_Gabriella Corona_

89

### Chapter 6.
Forest Visions in Early Modern Italy

_Bruno Vecchio_

108

### Chapter 7.
Environmental Heritage of a Past Cultural Landscape

_Alder Woods in the Upper Aveto Valley of the Northwestern Apennines_

_Roberta Cevasco_

126

### Chapter 8.
Act Locally, Think Nationally

_A Brief History of Access Rights and Environmental Conflicts in Fascist Italy_

_Wilko Graf von Hardenberg_

141

## Pollution, Industry, and Urban Environment

### Chapter 9.
Dealing with Industrial Pollution in Italy, 1880–1940

_Simone Neri Serneri_

161

### Chapter 10.
Petrochemical Modernity in Sicily

_Salvatore Adorno_

180

### Chapter 11.
The Seveso Disaster Legacy

_Laura Centemeri_

195

## Landscape, Culture, and Environmentalism

### Chapter 12.
A “Natural” Capitalism

_Water and the Making of the Italian Industrial Landscape_

_Stefania Barca_

215

### Chapter 13.
Nationalizing the Mountains

_Natural and Political Landscapes in World War I_

_Marco Armiero_

231

LUIGI PICCIONI 251

Selected Bibliography 269
Contributors 279
Index 283