

CONTENTS

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
Introduction: Props and Scenery	1
1 An Old World Before It Was “New”	8
Shaping Fertile Landscapes	11
Attitudes toward Nature and Consumption	26
People Eating People	36
The Question of Sustainability	40
2 Nature’s Conquests	49
Pestilence	50
Biodiversity’s Gains	56
An Enriched Platter	61
Responding to Alien Natures	65
3 The Colonial Balance Sheet	77
Consuming Sugar	79
Deadly Silver	87
Handcuffed Colonists	91
4 Tropical Determinism	105
Racist Dogmas	106
Tropical Diseases	112
Natural Disasters	119
Plant Maladies	125

viii

CONTENTS

5	Human Determination	136
	Mountains Moved	139
	Guano Happened	147
	Rivers Reversed	155
6	Asphyxiated Habitats	167
	Urban Traditions	169
	Automotive Carnage	176
	Curitiba's Present	183
	Demographic Futures	189
7	Developing Environmentalism	193
	Conservationism and Wilderness	195
	The Limits of Popular Environmentalism	204
	Invasions of Paradise	219
	Epilogue: Cuba's Latest Revolution	229
	<i>Suggested Further Readings</i>	237
	<i>Index</i>	249