Contents

Preface ix
Acknowledgments xv

Introduction 1

1 The Stereotype of Senility in Late-Nineteenth-Century America 11
2 Beyond the Characteristic Plaques and Tangles 36
3 From Senility to Successful Aging 56
4 The Renaissance of Pathology 81
5 The Health Politics of Anguish 113
6 The Preservation of Selfhood in the Culture of Dementia 152

Notes 189
Index 231