## Contents

Preface to the Second Edition ..... ix
Preface to the First Edition ..... xiii
1 Fieldnotes in Ethnographic Research ..... 1
Ethnographic Participation ..... 2
The Complexities of Description ..... 5
Inscribing Experienced/Observed Realities ..... 12
Implications for Writing Fieldnotes ..... 15
Reflections: Writing Fieldnotes and Ethnographic Practice ..... 18
2 In the Field: Participating, Observing, and Jotting Notes ..... 21
Participating in Order to Write ..... 24
What Are Jottings? ..... 29
Making Jottings: How, Where, and When ..... 34
Reflections: Writing and Ethnographic Marginality ..... 41
3 Writing Fieldnotes I: At the Desk, Creating Scenes on a Page ..... 45
Moving from Field to Desk ..... 48
Recalling in Order to Write ..... 51
Writing Detailed Notes: Depiction of Scenes ..... 57
Narrating a Day's Entry: Organizational Strategies ..... 74
In-Process Analytic Writing: Asides and Commentaries ..... 79
Reflections: "Writing" and "Reading" Modes ..... 85
4 Writing Fieldnotes II: Multiple Purposes and Stylistic Options ..... 89
Stance and Audience in Writing Fieldnotes ..... 90
Narrating Choices about Perspective ..... 93
Fieldnote Tales: Writing Extended Narrative Segments ..... 109
Analytic Writing: In-Process Memos ..... 123
Reflections: Fieldnotes as Products of Writing Choices ..... 126
5 Pursuing Members' Meanings ..... 129
Imposing Exogenous Meanings ..... 131
Representing Members' Meanings ..... 134
Members' Categories in Use: Processes and Problems ..... 151
Race, Gender, Class, and Members' Meanings ..... 158
Local Events and Social Forces ..... 166
Reflections: Using Fieldnotes to Discover/Create Members' Meanings ..... 167
6 Processing Fieldnotes: Coding and Memoing ..... 171
Reading Fieldnotes as a Data Set ..... 173
Open Coding ..... 175
Writing Code Memos ..... 185
Selecting Themes ..... 188
Focused Coding ..... 191
Integrative Memos ..... 193
Reflections: Creating Theory from Fieldnotes ..... 197
$7 \quad$ Writing an Ethnography ..... 201
Developing a Thematic Narrative ..... 202
Transposing Fieldnotes into Ethnographic Text ..... 206
Producing a Completed Ethnographic Document ..... 229
Reflections: Between Members and Readers ..... 241
8 Conclusion ..... 243
Notes ..... 249
References ..... 269
Index ..... 283

