

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	page vii
Introduction: Ceremonies of Possession in Europe's Conquest of the New World, 1492–1640	1
1 Houses, Gardens, and Fences: Signs of English Possession in the New World	16
2 Ceremonies: The Theatrical Rituals of French Political Possession	41
3 The Requirement: A Protocol for Conquest	69
4 “A New Sky and New Stars”: Arabic and Hebrew Science, Portuguese Seamanship, and the Discovery of America	100
5 Sailing in the Wake of the Portuguese	149
Conclusion: The Habits of History	179
Index	195