Contents

Acknowledgments  xi
List of Contributors  xiii
Introduction  xv
   PHILIP D. CURTIN

ONE
The Chesapeake Ecosystem
Its Geologic Heritage  1
   GEORGE W. FISHER AND JERRY R. SCHUBEL

TWO
Climate and Climate History in the
Chesapeake Bay Region  15
   JOHN E. KUTZBACH AND THOMPSON WEBB III

THREE
Forests before and after the Colonial Encounter  40
   GRACE S. BRUSH

FOUR
Human Influences on the Physical Characteristics of
the Chesapeake Bay  60
   DONALD W. PRITCHARD AND JERRY R. SCHUBEL

FIVE
A Long-Term History of Terrestrial Birds and
Mammals in the Chesapeake–Susquehanna
Watershed  83
   DAVID W. STEADMAN
Contents

SIX
Living along the "Great Shellfish Bay"
The Relationship between Prehistoric Peoples and the Chesapeake 109
HENRY M. MILLER

SEVEN
Human Biology of Populations in the Chesapeake Watershed 127
DOUGLAS H. UBELAKER AND PHILIP D. CURTIN

EIGHT
A Useful Arcadia
European Colonists as Biotic Factors in Chesapeake Forests 149
TIMOTHY SILVER

NINE
Reconstructing the Colonial Environment of the Upper Chesapeake Watershed 167
ROBERT D. MITCHELL, WARREN R. HOFSTRA, AND EDWARD F. CONNOR

TEN
Human Influences on Aquatic Resources in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed 191
VICTOR S. KENNEDY AND KENT MOUNTFORD

ELEVEN
Land Use, Settlement Patterns, and the Impact of European Agriculture, 1620–1820 220
LORENA S. WALSH

TWELVE
Chesapeake Gardens and Botanical Frontiers 249
ANNE E. YENTSCH AND JAMES L. REVEAL
THIRTEEN

Genteel Erosion
The Ecological Consequences of Agrarian Reform in the Chesapeake, 1730–1840 279
CARVILLE EARLE AND RONALD HOFFMAN

FOURTEEN

Farming, Disease, and Change in the Chesapeake Ecosystem 304
G. TERRY SHARRER

FIFTEEN

Bird Populations of the Chesapeake Bay Region
350 Years of Change 322
JAMES F. LYNCH

COMMENTARY

Reading the Palimpsest 355
WILLIAM CRONON

Index 375