CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

Prologue. Fieldnotes on the Dick Philbrook and the Frye Mountain Band Show xiii

Introduction. Reintroducing New England to the Country Music World 1

1 New England Country and Western Music and the Myth of Southern Authenticity 11


3 Finding Community in the New England Country and Western Event 105

4 Home on the Grange: The Frontier between “American” and “Immigrant” Worldviews in New England Country and Western 124

5 “It Beats Digging Clams”: The Working Life of Country and Western Musicians in the Barnstorming Era 145

6 The New England Cowboy: Regional Resistance to National Culture 167

Epilogue. “Oh, You’re Canadian”: My Night as a Canadian American in Watertown, Massachusetts 183

References 187

Index 199

Photos follow page 89.