# Contents

*Preface* ix  
*Abbreviations* xi  

**Introduction** 1  

**CHAPTER 1**  
**Birth of a Borderland** 17  

**CHAPTER 2**  
**A Region on the Move: Labor Migration and the Rethinking of Space, 1870–1914** 33  

**CHAPTER 3**  
**“Every reason to be on their guard!” German Nationalism across the Frontier, 1880–1914** 57  

**CHAPTER 4**  
**What’s in a State? Citizens, Sovereignty, and Territory in the Great War, 1914–19** 81  

**CHAPTER 5**  
**The Ties That Bind: Economic Mobility, Economic Crisis, and Geographies of Instability, 1919–29** 112  

**CHAPTER 6**  
**Connecting People to Places: Foreigners and Citizens in Frontier Society, 1919–32** 131  

**CHAPTER 7**  
**Borderlands in Crisis, 1929–33** 158
CHAPTER 8
“‘No border is eternal’: The Road to Dissolution, 1933–38” 181
Epilogue: Occupation, Expulsion, and Resurrection 202
Notes 213
Selected Bibliography 253
Index 265