Contents

List of Illustrations xi
List of Abbreviations xiii
Introduction: Tackling Topography 1

1. Preliminaries: Latium, the Church, the Pope, and Kircher’s Preface 16
2. It All Started with Noah (Book 1, Chronological) 31
3. Latium’s Lake Country, the Alban Hills (Book 2, Part 1) 44
4. Villas and a Tomb: Tusculum and the Ager Tusculanus (Book 2, Part 2) 65
5. Praeneste: Barberini Town and Its Mosaic (Book 2, Part 3) 95
6. Villa Country: Tivoli and Its Surrounding Territory (Book 3 and Book 4, Parts 1–2) 116
7. The Sabines and Volscians (Book 4, Parts 3–4) 150
8. Draining the Pomptine Marshes: A Not-So-Modest Proposal (Book 5) 165
9. Habent sua fata libelli: Fabretti’s Reading of Kircher 185
10. The Legacy of Kircher’s Latium 207

Works Cited 217
Index 225