



# MOVEABLE GARDENS

ITINERARIES AND SANCTUARIES OF MEMORY

EDITED BY VIRGINIA D. NAZAREA AND  
TERESE V. GAGNON

*An intimate look at food and community in a fractured world*

*Moveable Gardens* explores how biodiversity and food can counter the alienation caused by displacement. By offering in-depth studies on a variety of regions, this volume carefully considers various forms of sanctuary making within communities, and seeks to address how carrying seeds, plants, and other traveling companions is an ongoing response to the grave conditions of displacement in today's world. The destruction of homelands, fragmentation of habitats, and post-capitalist conditions of modernity are countered by thoughtful remembrance of tradition and the migration of seeds, which are embodied in gardening, cooking, and community building.

*Moveable Gardens* highlights itineraries and sanctuaries in an era of massive displacement, addressing concerns about finding comforting and familiar refuges in the Anthropocene. The worlds of marginalized individuals who live in impoverished rural communities, many Indigenous peoples, and refugees are constantly under threat of fracturing. Yet, in every case, there is resilience and regeneration as these individuals re-create their worlds through the foods, traditions, and plants they carry with them into their new realities.

This volume offers a new understanding of the performances and routines of sociality in the face of daunting market forces and perilous climate transformations. These traditions sustained our ancestors, and they may suffice to secure a more meaningful, diverse future. By delving into the nature of nostalgia, burrowing into memory and knowledge, and embracing the specific wonders of each deeply rooted or newly displaced community, endlessly valuable ways of being and understanding can be preserved.

**VIRGINIA D. NAZAREA** is a professor of anthropology at the University of Georgia. She has written or edited several books on biodiversity, most recently *Heirloom Seeds and Their Keepers* and *Seeds of Resistance, Seeds of Hope*.

**TERESE GAGNON** is a PhD candidate at Syracuse University, where she is writing her dissertation in dialogue with Karen individuals from Myanmar, exploring relationships between people, plants, and sensory politics in forced migration and exile.

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*"This carefully edited volume, well curated and well integrated, addresses a set of interrelated complexities critical to our current planetary era."*

—Ann Grodzins Gold, author of *Shiptown: Between Rural and Urban North India*

*"This new collection of original essays by leading and younger anthropologists powerfully demonstrates that gardening and cooking are activities that produce longings without which no valued belonging can emerge or survive."*

—Laura Rival, author of *Huaorani Transformations in Twenty-First-Century Ecuador: Treks into the Future of Time*