## Contents

Acknowledgements ix

Introduction 1

1 The Eighteenth-Century Sonnet 11

2 Tradition 29
   Nightingales 30
   Streams 39
   River Arun 43
   Other Poetic Landscapes 60

3 Innovation 71
   The Sea 72
   Breaking 'the silent Sabbath of the grave': Sonnet XLIV 80
   Giddy Brinks and Lucid Lines 91

4 Wider Prospect 99
   Wider Prospect of the Sonnet Revival 100
   Smith in Posterity: A Fragile Inheritance 112

5 Botany to Beachy Head 133
   Goddess of Botany 135
   Economies of Vegetation 140
Charlotte Smith and the Sonnet

Gossamer 146
Beachy Head 151

Bibliography 161

Index 175