The idea behind this volume began during my fieldwork on the Ilisu Dam rescue project in southeastern Turkey. Over five years I witnessed how landscapes' natural, tangible and intangible heritage are crucial for a sense of belonging and identity construction by local communities. I also perceived the ways in which archaeology and recent history play a major role in how people construct, change and transform heritage through the interaction of nature, landscape and material culture. Over the years tens of thousands of local people were forced to leave their homes and landscapes because of this mega project, a deracination that has similar echoes in many parts of the world. I would like specifically to acknowledge the contribution of these people to the shaping of this volume, and to thank all those who shared their experiences with me.

Preparation of this volume has taken over two years, and there are a number of additional people who have made it possible. First of all, I would particularly like to thank UCL Press for making this volume open access and the authors who kindly accepted my offer to contribute to this volume. Within this period many people, friends and colloquies were directly or indirectly involved in this process, both through discussions on the subject and in giving me the support and motivation to pursue and complete this volume. I would particularly like to thank Louise Martin, Brenna Hassett, Sara Perry, Ulrike Sommer, Andy Bevan, Gabriel Moshenska, Claire Smith, Shahina Farid, Cigdem Esin, Kahraman Yadirgi, Jonathan Gardner, Rachel King, Colin Sterling, Paul Tourle, Beatrijs de Groot, Gwendoline Maurer and Victoria Ziegler. Finally, my sincere thanks to my family, who are always there to support me.