Contents

List of Illustrations vii

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction. Thrift, Antithrift, Scale, and Paradox 1
  Catherine Alexander and Daniel Sosna

Chapter 1. Making Savings 31
  Stephen Gudeman

Chapter 2. Saving, Investment, Thrift? Welfare Beneficiary Households and Borrowing in South Africa 49
  Deborah James, David Neves, and Erin Torkelson

Chapter 3. Wages, Patronage, and Welfare: Thrift and Its Limits in Argentina's Gran Chaco 74
  Agustin Diz

Chapter 4. Generous Thrift: Postpastoral Cooperation and Fortune-Making among the Torghut of Mongolia 94
  Tomasz Rakowski

Chapter 5. Discretio and the Golden Mean: Working Out Frugality and Thrift in Two Czech Postsocialist Monasteries 117
  Barbora Spalová

Chapter 6. Regimes of Asceticism: Austerity and Thrift in a Spiritual Economy 140
  Daromir Rudnyckyj

Chapter 7. Saving and Wasting: The Paradox of Thrift in a Czech Landfill 162
  Daniel Sosna
Contents

Chapter 8. Thrift and Its Opposites 185
Richard Wilk

Afterword 208
Chris Hann

Index 213