

Contents

Acknowledgments	9
<i>INTRODUCTION</i>	
Richard Ford as an American Author	11
<i>CHAPTER I</i>	
The Rhetorical Construction of a National Identity in the United States	19
<i>CHAPTER II</i>	
Making the Nation: Models and Performances of Americanness in the Bascombe Novels	51
<i>CHAPTER III</i>	
A Depthless Place: Configurations of Space and Visions of Hyperreality	107
<i>CHAPTER IV</i>	
In the Midst of the Crowd: Economic, Political, and Social Considerations	155
<i>CONCLUSIONS</i>	
.....	213
Bibliography	219