

communities. This section ends with a discussion of the emergence of Jewish settlements, the underlying forces of their establishment, the different settlement types, their geographical distribution, and their crucial impact on the map of the settlement patterns of Eretz Israel.

In contrast to many other books concerned mainly with rural settlements, this book is about people. Grossman makes it clear that people had a significant influence on sedentarization processes and the pattern of rural settlements. The impact of terrain and resource availability on settlement patterns is also well emphasized. The decision-making of individuals and groups, tenurial laws and customs, the role and inter-relationships of classes, and the role of the lord, the state or any other ruling authority, all had their impact at any given time.

This is certainly a thought-provoking book and it has taught me a great deal. I highly recommend it to readers with interest in the development patterns of rural settlement and in processes of rural transformation.

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SPATIAL DATA ANALYSIS IN THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES by Robert Haining. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.

This is a graduate text in quantitative geography, maybe the first of its kind since L. King's 1969 book. It is in line with recent work in statistics, notably Ripley's *Spatial Statistics* (1981). The book begins with an extensive discussion on the nature of spatial data and the problems associated with their analysis. The first two chapters are then followed by discussions of exploratory, robust and explanatory analyses of geographical data. Of these, the orderly presentation of robust avenues is novel. In most parts of the book, the discussion focuses on the regression model in its various modes. Haining highlights many of the problems involved in its applications, and in the formulation and interpretation of the dependent variable (such as autocorrelation). Special attention is given to non-parametric modes of analysis.

The book's level of complexity is not uniform in the various discussions, as well as in the detailed examples. The depth of analysis in this book demonstrates the need for an equivalent text that would handle other elements of statistical analysis, mainly descriptive statistics, probability theory (for both continuous and discrete distributions) and analysis of variance.

The book ends almost abruptly, with a postscript rather than a strong summary chapter. One may only join the author in lamenting the lack of packages of computer programs for the statistical analysis of spatial data.

This book is an important addition to the literature in geographical analysis, and it will certainly well serve a growing community of advanced students and

professionals, both within and outside the discipline, who need to know more about the sophisticated handling of geographical data.

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REGIONAL POLICY IN A CHANGING WORLD by Niles Hansen, Benjamin Higgins, and Donald Savole. New York: Plenum Press, 1990.

This book is a review of regional policies in seven countries: Canada, France, Britain, the United States, Australia, Malaysia, and Brazil. It reflects both the different experiences of the authors, and their different backgrounds, so that the various chapters are not based upon a common framework or orientation. Moreover, the evaluation of policies is rather *ad hoc*, rather than the result of formal evaluation design. Nevertheless, there is much common sense and a wealth of experience reflected in the work, and it provides, thereby, a reasonably representative picture of what has been done, what has worked (at least to some extent), and most important, what the most serious failures have been. Advocates of brave new initiatives in this field would do well to study these experiences.

The wide scope of the book makes it most useful to review the general findings, leaving the individual case studies to country specialists. Among the most important results (for this reviewer) were the following:

1. Most of the theories that were used to support regional policies, and especially growth pole theories, were half-baked and were inappropriately applied. Those who continue to refer to the ideas of Francois Perroux fail to appreciate his distinction between functional as opposed to geographic poles.

2. Almost everywhere, the favored instruments of regional policy are spending on infrastructure and investment incentives. Despite evidence of high returns, only rarely are investments made in human resources as an engine of regional growth.

3. With the exception of the developing countries, regional policy has rarely been integrated into national economic policy making. This is partly for ideological reasons (regional policy tends to be pursued by interventionist regimes) but also due to the tendency to see the regional issue as other than developmental, or even an impediment to national development. As a result, among economic policy makers, regional policy emerges as a lower priority issue.

4. The greatest regional policy successes took place where the policy thrust was genuinely developmental, because that engendered less conflict with national economic efficiency goals. Where regional policy goals are designed to pursue equity or short term economic stabilization there has been more likelihood of policy conflict. In fact, most governments that pursue regional policy emphasize precisely these non-developmental goals.