

BEYOND THE METROPOLIS



URBAN GEOGRAPHY AS IF SMALL CITIES MATTERED

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Beyond The Metropolis Urban Geography As If Small Cities Mattered

Robert C. Brears



Beyond The Metropolis Urban Geography As If Small Cities Mattered:

Beyond the Metropolis Benjamin Ofori-Amoah, 2007 *Beyond the Metropolis* is an attempt to mend the lacuna that exists between large and small city studies in urban geography especially in North America. It covers a wide range of topics organized around some of the most common themes that urban geographers have addressed in their study of large cities. In addition to a general introduction and conclusion, the book is divided into three parts. Part I focuses on the evolution and growth of small cities. It outlines in very broad terms the status of small city studies within urban studies in general and urban geography in particular to underscore the relatively little attention that has been given to small cities. Part II deals with the internal structure of small cities. Part III examines issues related to planning and managing change in small cities. The chapters examine established conventions in urban geography and related disciplines from the perspectives of small cities for the purpose of understanding small cities. Students and researchers as well as city administrators will find the book useful.

Beyond the metropolis B Ofori-Amoah, 2007 *Small Cities with Big Dreams* Greg Richards, Lian Duif, 2018-07-20 How can small cities make an impact in a globalizing world dominated by world cities and urban development strategies aimed at increasing agglomeration? This book addresses the challenges of smaller cities trying to put themselves on the map, attract resources and initiate development. Placemaking has become an important tool for driving urban development that is sensitive to the needs of communities. This volume examines the development of creative placemaking practices that can help to link small cities to external networks, stimulate collaboration and help them make the most of the opportunities presented by the knowledge economy. The authors argue that the adoption of more strategic holistic placemaking strategies that engage all stakeholders can be a successful alternative to copying bigger places. Drawing on a range of examples from around the world, they analyse small city development strategies and identify key success factors. This book focuses on the case of s Hertogenbosch, a small Dutch city that used cultural programming to link itself to global networks and stimulate economic, cultural, social and creative development. It advocates the use of cultural programming strategies as a more flexible alternative to traditional top-down planning approaches and as a means of avoiding copying the big city. The Open Access version of this book is available at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com> and has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license. Vulnerable Communities James J. Connolly, Dagny G. Faulk, Emily J. Wornell, 2022-02-15 *Vulnerable Communities* examines the struggles of smaller cities in the United States, those with populations between 20,000 and 200,000. Like many larger metropolitan centers, these places are confronting change within a globalized economic and cultural order. Many of them have lost their identities as industrial or commercial centers and face a complex and distinctive mix of economic, social and civic challenges. Small cities have not only fewer resources but different strengths and weaknesses, all of which differentiate their experiences from those of larger communities. *Vulnerable Communities* draws together scholars from a broad range of disciplines to consider the present

condition and future prospects of smaller American cities Contributors offer a mix of ground level analyses and examinations of broader developments that have impacted economically weakened communities and provide concrete ideas for local leaders engaged in redevelopment work The essays remind policy makers and academics alike that it is necessary to consider cultural tensions and place specific conflicts that can derail even the most well crafted redevelopment strategies prescribed for these communities

The Routledge Handbook of Small Towns Jerzy Bański, 2021-08-16 The Routledge Handbook of Small Towns addresses the theoretical methodical and practical issues related to the development of small towns and neighbouring countryside Small towns play a very important role in spatial structure by performing numerous significant developmental functions for rural areas At the local scale they act as engines for economic growth of rural regions and as a link in the system of connections between large urban centres and the countryside The book addresses the role of small towns in the local development of regions in countries with different levels of development and economic systems including those in Europe Africa South America Asia and Australia Chapters address the functional structure of small towns relations between small towns and rural areas and the challenges of spatial planning in the context of shaping the development of small towns Students and scholars of urban planning urban geography rural geography political geography historical geography and population geography will learn about the role of small towns in the local development of countries representing different economic systems and developmental conditions

Small Cities, Big Issues Christopher Walmsley, Terry Kading, 2018-07-20 Small Canadian cities confront serious social issues as a result of the neoliberal economic restructuring practiced by both federal and provincial governments since the 1980s Drastic spending reductions and ongoing restraint in social assistance income supports and the provision of affordable housing combined with the offloading of social responsibilities onto municipalities has contributed to the generalization of social issues once chiefly associated with Canada's largest urban centres As the investigations in this volume illustrate while some communities responded to these issues with inclusionary and progressive actions others were more exclusionary and reactive revealing forms of discrimination exclusion and othering in the implementation of practices and policies Importantly however their investigations reveal a broad range of responses to the social issues they face No matter the process and results of the proposed solutions what the contributors uncovered were distinctive attributes of the small city as it struggles to confront increasingly complex social issues If local governments accept a social agenda as part of its responsibilities the contributors to Small Cities Big Issues believe that small cities can succeed in reconceiving community based on the ideals of acceptance accommodation and inclusion

The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Futures Robert C. Brears, 2023-01-13 While urban settlements are the drivers of the global economy and centres of learning culture and innovation and nations rely on competitive dynamic regions for their economic social and environmental objectives urban centres and regions face a myriad of challenges that impact the ways in which people live and work create wealth and interact and connect with places Rapid urbanisation is resulting in

urban sprawl rising emissions urban poverty and high unemployment rates housing affordability issues lack of urban investment low urban financial and governance capacities rising inequality and urban crimes environmental degradation increasing vulnerability to natural disasters and so forth At the regional level low employment low wage growth scarce financial resources climate change waste and pollution and rising urban peri urban competition etc are impacting the ability of regions to meet socio economic development goals while protecting biodiversity The response to these challenges has typically been the application of inadequate or piecemeal solutions often as a result of fragmented decision making and competing priorities with numerous economic environmental and social consequences In response there is a growing movement towards viewing cities and regions as complex and sociotechnical in nature with people and communities interacting with one another and with objects such as roads buildings transport links etc within a range of urban and regional settings or contexts This comprehensive MRW will provide readers with expert interdisciplinary knowledge on how urban centres and regions in locations of varying climates lifestyles income levels and stages development are creating synergies and reducing trade offs in the development of resilient resource efficient environmentally friendly liveable socially equitable integrated and technology enabled centres and regions

Small Town Sustainability Paul Knox, Heike Mayer, 2012-11-05 In an era in which the individuality and vitality of small towns are under threat from globalization and city planning discussions tend to center on topics like metropolitan regions megaregions and global cities the authors of this volume see a need to reflect critically on the potential of small towns They show how small towns can meet the challenge of a fast paced globalized world and they use case studies to introduce movements programs and strategies capable of effectively promoting local cultures traditions identities and sustainability Small towns often play critical roles in regional economic systems When small towns focus on their specific characteristics and take advantage of their opportunities they can become stable niches within regional national and global economies and take on an important role in shaping a sustainable future In einer Zeit in der der Prozess der Globalisierung die Besonderheiten kleiner Städte und ihre Vitalität bedroht und in der sich die meisten stadtplanerischen Diskussionen um Themen wie Metropolregionen oder Mega Regionen und Weltstädte drehen sehen die Autoren die Notwendigkeit das Potenzial kleiner Ortschaften kritisch zu reflektieren Sie veranschaulichen wie Kleinstädte die Herausforderung einer schnelllebigen und globalisierten Welt annehmen können und stellen anhand von Fallbeispielen Bewegungen Programme und Strategien vor die örtliche Kulturen Traditionen Identitäten und Nachhaltigkeit effektiv zu fördern wissen Kleinstädte spielen oftmals eine entscheidende Rolle innerhalb regionaler Wirtschaftssysteme Wenn Kleinstädte sich auf ihre spezifischen Eigenschaften konzentrieren und ihre Möglichkeiten nutzen können sie zu stabilen Nischen in regionalen nationalen und globalen Ökonomien werden und wesentlich dazu beitragen eine nachhaltige Zukunft zu gestalten

Small, Gritty, and Green Catherine Tumber, 2013-09-13 How small to midsize Rust Belt cities can play a crucial role in a low carbon sustainable and relocalized future America's once vibrant small to midsize cities Syracuse

Worcester Akron Flint Rockford and others increasingly resemble urban wastelands Gutted by deindustrialization outsourcing and middle class flight disproportionately devastated by metro freeway systems that laid waste to the urban fabric and displaced the working poor small industrial cities seem to be part of America's past not its future And yet Catherine Tumber argues in this provocative book America's gritty Rust Belt cities could play a central role in a greener low carbon relocalized future As we wean ourselves from fossil fuels and realize the environmental costs of suburban sprawl we will see that small cities offer many assets for sustainable living not shared by their big city or small town counterparts including population density and nearby fertile farmland available for new environmentally friendly uses Tumber traveled to twenty five cities in the Northeast and Midwest from Buffalo to Peoria to Detroit to Rochester interviewing planners city officials and activists and weaving their stories into this exploration of small scale urbanism Smaller cities can be a critical part of a sustainable future and a productive green economy Small Gritty and Green will help us develop the moral and political imagination we need to realize this *Fundamentals of Sustainable Urban Renewal in Small and Mid-Sized Towns* Avi Friedman,2018-05-23 The book introduces challenges affecting smaller urban communities with fewer than 50 000 inhabitants and offers urban planning and building architectural strategies to strengthen their city centers It divides urban renewal of small towns into sub components such as environmental challenges demographic trends economic changes and cultural aspects and aging infrastructure In each context is established and principles are outlined and illustrated Topics include urban form mobility and connectivity infill neighborhoods design wealth generation and promotion of local culture and well being Reinforced with detailed case studies *Fundamentals of Sustainable Urban Renewal in Small and Mid-Sized Towns* is an ideal resource for municipal planners architects civil engineers and policy makers

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