



written. The importance of manufacturing industry to local economies within advanced countries and the role of industry in shaping the 'character' of places underlay this

location dynamics at the level of individual factories (part 2), individual firms (part 3), and finally with respect to production systems which comprising bundles of inter-firm (and inter-factory) relations in the manufacture of particular products (part 4). While this sequential focus on the factory, the firm and the production system (inter-firm relations) reflects the chronology of industrial geography as a sub-discipline, the primary rationale for this organization is analytical. Given the historical and geographical context of industrialization outlined in Part I, the factory, the firm and the production system represent progressively more complex units of investigation (and location structures) and principles and issues in the early parts of the discussion are incorporated and elaborated in later parts of the discussion.

The book is targeted primarily for senior level undergraduates and represents the way I have been teaching my Geography of Manufacturing course at Simon Fraser for several years. In this course, I have found H D Watts' (1987) *Industrial Geography* and K Chapman's and D. Walker's (1987) *Industrial Location* to be extremely useful and much appreciated by my students. Another good text book is E J Malecki's (1991) *Technology and Economic Development* although as its title implies this book has a specific focus on technological change. My own book, I believe, offers a distinctive organization which explicitly links industrial geography with the 'industrial transformation problem' (Part I) and progressively builds on the three most theoretically important categories of analysis used in industrial geography, namely the factory, the firm and the production system (Parts 2-4). In addition, in comparison to existing texts, there is more emphasis placed on production systems, and the related topic of industrial districts, since they have been such an important thrust of research within industrial geography over the past decade. In any event I hope that this book will continue to stimulate interest in industrial geography and encourage students to continue to think about the relations between industrialization and regional development.



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