disaggregated enough to get an accurate understanding of this policy problem. Because Asian and native labor are not distinguished in production, the extent of their substitutability (or complementarity) is not known. Consequently, the extent of native displacement cannot be known without appeal to off-model arguments in which the author is left to indulge.

Next, a capital subsidy simulation is performed ignoring the source of the finance for the implied tax expenditures. There is no government budget constraint in the model, and this is a serious omission for a model designed in part for government policy analysis (as the author alludes to in his concluding remarks). It is obvious that this type of “free lunch” simulation could easily lead to non-optimal policies.

The main shortcomings of the model in the author’s view stem from data limitations. These preclude more micro-founded specifications to be implemented empirically, and especially so in the demographic submodel. My view is that data shortcomings compromise the rigor of the empirical specification of many of the relations in the economic sub-model as well. The absence of regional industry and consumer prices and regional capital stocks for nonmanufacturing industries are major stumbling blocks that affect the author’s specification, as are the absence of regional final demand accounts which is noted by the author. Given the data problems, I wonder why the author almost exclusively uses state-level time series to estimate model parameters. Others who have encountered these problems have developed alternative estimation approaches. It is odd that the book does not have one reference to the papers written on the TFS methodology or on computable general equilibrium approaches. I believe that this is a serious omission.

The time-series data limitations also lead the author to specify ad hoc lag structures, and this seems to create problems that show up in the simulation dynamics. The author is correct in stressing the need to focus more on building regional models involving long-run relations as opposed to short-run dynamics.

Overall, the book does a reasonably good job describing the modeling approach taken and treating some of the problems encountered. The disappointing aspects relate to the lack of well-motivated reasoning for both the differences in state simulation results (could these be due to the high degree of industry aggregation?) and the long cyclical dynamic adjustment paths, the use of off-model arguments and the omission of relevant constraints in simulation exercises, and the lack of comparison and potential integration with other well-known methodologies that have evolved in part from one of the major problems that the author recognizes: regional data limitations.

Gary L. Hunt
Department of Economics
East Carolina University


These books cover different topics but share a common thread. On the surface they address suburban spatial structure, plan evaluation, and regional geography, respectively.
Below the surface, however, they demonstrate a common dissatisfaction with the theories inherited by their authors. Each book reveals a belief that existing theories focus on too narrow a set of factors and that the current set of competing theories need to be integrated.

_Natural Landscape Amenities and Suburban Growth_ tests empirically the assumption that "natural landscape features, as amenities, play discernable roles in shaping the physical form of contemporary suburban development, its direction, intensity, and reach." (p. 1) The author argues that existing models of the spatial structure of metropolitan areas, which he briefly reviews, can be improved by adding new variables that reflect natural environmental features. He uses stepwise multiple regression procedures to estimate the effects of forests, lakes, relief, and other natural landscape components on population density in metropolitan Chicago during the 1970s. He argues that accessibility or linear distance alone cannot explain the presence of subcenters in population density gradients and that natural factors can add another dimension to urban density models.

The analysis demonstrates that lakes and rivers are a fairly constant fixture associated with leap-frogging, discontinuous residential development throughout the stages of suburban growth. Forests, parks, and nature preserves have their strongest effects during early stages and relief and golf courses assume a growing role during later stages. Overall, the addition of landscape variables into a model that already uses accessibility to explain population density causes a relative reduction in unaccounted variance by 11 to 46 percent, depending on the time period and geographical sector analyzed.

The study provides valid evidence that natural factors do in fact affect spatial structure in the study region. It is disappointing, however, that the author rests primarily on his empirical results and does not explore which of the competing theories of spatial structure are more capable of incorporating these factors or explaining their significance.

_Evaluation Methods for Urban and Regional Plans_ provides another example of how scholars are pushing the evolution of inherited theories. It contains eleven papers prepared for the Morris Hill Memorial Session of the 27th European Congress of the Regional Science Association held in Athens in 1987. Contributors include many of the leading scholars in the area including Morris Hill himself through the republication of "A Goal Achievement Matrix for Evaluating Alternative Plans," which was first published in 1968 and is referred to in the book's introduction as his best-known and most influential contribution, as well as a more recent work he coauthored with four Israeli colleagues.

Although the book could serve as an introduction to the field, particularly because of the retrospective dimension of most of the contributions, it also deals with where evaluation research and practice should be going in the future.

The editors have organized the papers into three groups under the headings of the work of Morris Hill, the present state of the art of evaluation, and new avenues and future prospects. But in fact all of the papers address themselves to Hill's work and where evaluation has been and should be going.

Most of the papers are theoretical, even when they are grounded in case histories. They emphasize the relationship between evaluation methods and planning theory and while they seldom break new ground they elaborate on some of the most important issues and problems in this area. Among these are: decisions are not monolithic but occur in the context of pluralistic, dynamic settings where power is shared and values conflict; evaluation problems vary and therefore no single evaluation method is appropriate to all problems; evaluation should increasingly be linked backward to proactive plan designs and forward to plan implementation.

This last issue is the most important new direction for evaluation theory. Rather than seeing the evaluation of alternative plans as one step in the planning process, as Hill says in his 1968 paper, we now see it as a framework for planning itself with a role to play in
identifying problems, designing optional solutions, debating and taking decisions, implementing programs, and monitoring results. In this transformation, evaluation theory transcends the limitations of the rational planning model and adjusts to recent formulations of planning theory that characterize planning as a more continuous, adaptive, and political process.

Region as a Socio-environmental System aims “to contribute to a revival of regional geography” (p. 27) by applying systems theory to the subject. It argues that the systems approach can overcome the place-space and man-nature dichotomies which are said to be dangerously antagonistic to geography. It offers a geographical regional approach as a means of focusing the quantitative, humanistic, radical, landscape, and other approaches that are in “danger of generating centrifugal forces which may disperse geography in many directions” (emphasis in original) (p. 52).

Although one chapter is devoted to methods in regional geography, most of the book is concerned with reviving the validity of place-based regional studies and with replacing topical analyses focused on single systems—such as regional economies—with more integrated explorations of the social, political, economic, and physical components of a region in order to find the “central problem” responsible for significant differences between the study region and adjacent regions. The logical extension of the central problem model, according to Nir, is a systems model of the region. He offers such a model in which the region is seen as an open system existing as a place within the larger social, cultural, political, and economic national and global context. Most of the book addresses this central concern from historical, philosophical, analytical, and political perspectives.

In all of these works, the authors are dissatisfied with the theories and worldview they have inherited. They do not believe they sufficiently explain the objects they are studying. Yet they are not ready to reject totally their inheritance and are more interested in expanding and broadening the theories than in revolutionary paradigm shifts. For Mueller-Wille, accessibility does not fully explain patterns of suburban growth and encourages the addition of landscape amenities to our models. For the writers honoring Morris Hill, evaluation methods should be refined to be useful throughout the often unpredictable, unmeasurable, and politically complex planning environment. And for Nir, the intellectual diversity within geography should be integrated and given more focus by a new systematic regional geography that reconciles the differences among competing doctrines.

Gary Pivo  
Department of Urban Design and Planning  
University of Washington


The tourism industry (and related activities) is regarded by some futurists as being one of the world’s major employers in the 21st century. Certainly, for some countries, tourism is going to be a major source of foreign exchange earnings. For example, Czechoslovakia is hoping that tourism can make up the difference as they phase down arms sales under their new government. These three new books provide a multifaceted, analytical perspective of tourism as it relates to issues of economic development.

The second edition of Tourist Development uses more mature and updated materials compared with the first edition. It expands the topic of tourist development greatly and