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KEY CONCEPTS IN
HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
The *Key Concepts in Human Geography* series is intended to provide a set of companion texts for the core fields of the discipline. To date, students and academics have been relatively poorly served with regard to detailed discussions of the key concepts that geographers use to think about and understand the world. Dictionary entries are usually terse and restricted in their depth of explanation. Student textbooks tend to provide broad overviews of particular topics or the philosophy of Human Geography, but rarely provide a detailed overview of particular concepts, their premises, development over time and empirical use. Research monographs most often focus on particular issues and a limited number of concepts at a very advanced level, so do not offer an expansive and accessible overview of the variety of concepts in use within a subdiscipline.

The *Key Concepts in Human Geography* series seeks to fill this gap, providing detailed description and discussion of the concepts that are at the heart of theoretical and empirical research in contemporary Human Geography. Each book consists of an introductory chapter that outlines the major conceptual developments over time along with approximately twenty-five entries on the core concepts that constitute the theoretical toolkit of geographers working within a specific subdiscipline. Each entry provides a detailed explanation of the concept, outlining contested definitions and approaches, the evolution of how the concept has been used to understand a particular geographic phenomenon, and suggested further reading. In so doing, each book constitutes an invaluable companion guide to geographers grappling with how to research, understand and explain the world we inhabit.

Rob Kitchin
Series Editor
KEY CONCEPTS IN
HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

JOHN MORRISSEY
DAVID NALLY
ULF STROHMAYER
YVONNE WHELAN
Neil Smith (1954–2012), in memoriam
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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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David Nally studied History and Geography at University College Cork before moving to Vancouver to pursue his doctoral degree at the University of British Columbia. He grew up in County Clare in the west of Ireland and is currently a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography and a Fellow of Fitzwilliam College at the University of Cambridge. His research interests include the political economy of agrarian change, the history of subsistence crises, and the politics of disaster relief. He has recently completed a book Human Encumbrances: Political Violence and the Great Irish Famine (2011) and is currently working on the making of the idea of ‘food security’.

Ulf Strohmayer is a graduate of Munich Technical University and Pennsylvania State University. Currently, he is Professor of Geography at the National University of Ireland, Galway, after teaching previously at the University of Wales at Lampeter. Educated in Germany, Sweden, USA and France, he has also held visiting teaching and research posts at the Université de Pau et des Pays de L’Adour, Dresden Technical University, Binghamton University and the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme in Paris. His interest in social theory and philosophy is matched by an equal curiosity about the conditions and consequences of historical processes of modernization in Western Europe, all of which have informed his extensive publication record. He
About the Authors

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Yvonne Whelan is a Senior Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Bristol. She has published widely on the cultural landscapes of Ireland and is the author of Reinventing Modern Dublin (2003) and the co-editor of Ireland: Space, Text, Time (2005), Heritage, Memory and the Politics of Identity (2006) and Ireland Beyond Boundaries (2007).
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John Morrissey
David Nally
Ulf Strohmayer
Yvonne Whelan