

but one wonders to what 'fundamental sense' he refers in this case. Similarly, chapters entitled 'Spicing the city' and 'Tropicalizing cold urban space' flirt dangerously with the ethnic stereotyping that plagues popular media with depressingly regurgitated phrases such as 'Latin salsa fever' and 'infectious Caribbean rhythms'.

The book's stated objective is to put 'Latinos where they clearly belong: in the centre of debate about the future of the American city' (p. 9). While an encouraging number of authors share the same aim, Mike Davis's success as writer, raconteur and researcher, and the subsequent breadth and depth of his readership, will have done much to assist this goal by producing another fine volume for the library reserve and bestseller lists.

David Howard
University of Edinburgh

Davis, M. 1990: *City of quartz: excavating the future of Los Angeles*. London: Verso.

— 1998: *Ecology of fear: Los Angeles and the imagination of fear*. New York: Metropolitan.

— 1999: Magical urbanism: Latinos reinvent the US big city. *New Left Review* 234, 3–43.

— 2001: *Late Victorian holocausts: El Niño famines and the making of the Third World*. London: Verso.

Dodge, M. and **Kitchin R.** 2001: *Mapping cyberspace*. London: Routledge. xii + 260 pp. £65 cloth, £21.99 paper. ISBN: 0 415 19883 6 cloth, 0 415 19884 4 paper.

According to the authors, this text started as a coffee-table book. The book does not deserve such a fate, for it stands as a solid effort demonstrating current and outlining future contributions geographers can make to the developing literature on information technology (IT) and societal transformations. The pages of this journal have been graced with similar calls (Hillis, 1998; Kitchin, 1998).

The thrust of Dodge's and Kitchin's argument is that spaces of the 'real' world and those of cyberspace are inextricably linked, and attempts to analyse cyberspace as a separate environment are mistaken. Cyberspace is firmly embedded in the social spaces seen in the 'real' world, and this relationship is reflected in how cyberspace is created, conceptualized and studied. Driving this point home, the authors use social construc-

tivist and political economy approaches in combination, addressing the overemphasis on cultural mediation of cyberspace seen in the former approach by embedding cyberspace in the activities of capital while still recognizing the importance of social processes in the appropriation of technology.

To do this, the first chapter provides a concise, yet surprisingly deep, history of the developments of the internet, combining it with a series of characteristics of cyberspace, set up as binary oppositions to explore claims surrounding cyberspace. The remainder of the chapter sets the theoretical position outlined above.

The next two chapters engage the geographies of the information society and the geographies of cyberspace. The chapter on the information society examines claims about the role IT plays in restructuring economies and urban areas, and the manner in which political power is deployed by individuals and institutions, under the rubric of modernism. The latter details claims of cyberspace changing the definitions of place and space via the social relations brought to bear by cyberspace denizens on the technology employed.

Chapters 4 through 8 shift to the activity in the title of the book, the 'mapping' of cyberspace in cartographic terms. The first of these chapters provides a history of cartography and then melds it to the types of maps people have produced to understand cyberspace. Familiar cartographic concerns are discussed, primarily the issues of accuracy, interpretability, what is not on the map, the 'why' behind the map's existence, and the ethics about the map, serving to hammer home theoretical concerns around cartographic efforts.

The next three chapters focus on discrete topics found on the maps, and the strengths and weaknesses of the products. Separate chapters address the various mappings of physical infrastructure (both government and corporate efforts), internet traffic and topological maps of networks. Theoretical mappings of asynchronous media such as email, listservs and newsgroups, along with synchronous media such as chat programs and multi-user dungeons (MUDs), demonstrate the spatiality inherent in the technologies. Finally, this section contains a detailed analysis of one cyberspace known as Alpha World, a program that allows the 'building' of structures and

community in a Cartesian demarcated computer space.

Dodge and Kitchin explore, in the next two chapters, issues of spatial cognition and fictional visions of cyberspace. The first of these chapters provides a short review of spatial cognition theory, and links it to how cyberspace is cognized, focusing primarily on the few efforts examining individuals' navigation of virtual-reality worlds such as the aforementioned Alpha World, or through the world wide web, and the potential for improved navigation via extensive use of spatial metaphors, linking time and space to three-dimensional virtual spaces resembling geographic space. The other chapter, 'Imaginative mappings of cyberspace', engages the fictional literature that gave rise to the term cyberspace, demonstrating the power of fictional discourse in chronicling the effects on researchers and others seeking to chart a future for development in IT.

The final chapter serves as a map of future work for geographers interested in IT, noting the continued paucity of work addressing the multiple geographies of cyberspace. Tables listing a myriad of questions serve as signposts to avenues of research, which are then linked back to issues found in the previous chapters.

The authors effectively meld their previous approaches to the topic of cyberspace, the one empirical and visual, with the other's theoretical efforts to ground the study of cyberspace. The text provides an extensive review of the literature and establishes a theoretical underpinning for the descriptive analysis of the mappings of cyberspace represented in the multiple illustrations (a strength of the text). Additionally, an active website supports the text, providing information on new manners of mapping cyberspace (www.mappingcyberspace.com). Dodge and Kitchin provide a strong contribution to the growing literature in geography and cyberspace, charting multiple areas to which scholars in many subdisciplines of geography may contribute.

Darren Purcell
Florida A&M University

Hillis, K. 1998: On the margins: the invisibility of communications in geography. *Progress in Human Geography* 22, 543–66.

Kitchin, R. 1998: Towards geographies of

cyberspace. *Progress in Human Geography* 22, 385–406.

Dunning, J.H., editor 2000: *Regions, globalization and the knowledge-based economy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. xiv + 506 pp. £55 cloth. ISBN: 0 19 829563 7.

Economic geographers have long-standing interests in the relationships between place, space and the organization of the economy. These issues are of central concern to them. Recently, a number of economists and business analysts have (re)discovered the significance of place to production and of producing places, albeit often predicated upon a rather emaciated and partial concern with the powers of place. This has led to a number of edited collections, bringing together authors of different disciplinary backgrounds and from varying epistemological, theoretical and methodological traditions. This is one such collection and, while the extent of crossdisciplinary dialogue is at times limited, it achieves more in this regard than some other recent edited volumes that seek to bridge disciplinary divides.

The book is divided into four main parts. The first, comprising four chapters, sets out the key analytic issues that run as linking threads through the volume and the way in which these are considered by economic geography, economics and business studies. In particular, it focuses on the issue of the optimal spatial unit, as seen from the perspectives of companies and governments, for the organization and regulation of the economy – supranational macroregions, national state territories or subnational units such as cities or regions. The second part of the book concentrates on macroregions as units of spatial analysis. It considers both the general relationships between regional economic integration and foreign direct investment (FDI) and case studies both of the European Union and its impacts on FDI and of NAFTA and its impacts on the structure of the US economy. The conclusion is that such macroregional entities will become a more important influence on the location of FDI in the future. The third part consists of a series of national case studies, with authors asked to examine how contemporary events in the global economy are influencing the intranational distribution of economic activity, with a particular