

te, wobei dieses Mosaik der Rechtswelt als Frucht von Archiv- und Fallstudien den Boden des Buches, auf dem es aufbaut, bildet. Insgesamt auch deshalb eine exemplarisch extraordinäre Studie zum Recht und seinem fragwürdigen Stillstand, die es lohnt zu lesen. Insgesamt erweist sich über die eingangs genannten Umstände hinaus, dass die Justiz oft weiterarbeitete, man mied den Stillstand der Rechtspflege nach Möglichkeit. Es handelte sich also eher um eine okkasionelle Pflege des Rechts, waren doch viele Gerichte auf die eine oder andere Weise entfallen, sehr viele Stellen nicht mehr besetzt, Akten abhandengekommen und sicher auch der Dienstfeifer oft geschwunden. Aber erst die Eingriffe der Alliierten beendeten das gespenstische Spiel, oft erst im Sommer nach Kriegsende. Rechtssuchende konnten nur auf einen Neubeginn hoffen. Der folgte oft kaum weniger gespenstisch auf den Fuß, nachdem die Tore der dritten Gewalt wieder offenstanden, anfangs auch in Ost, nicht nur in West noch oder wieder in bisheriger deutscher Hand, offen für den regulären Dienstbetrieb, wenn auch noch nicht mit neuem Papier. Die nicht endende Fülle der Beispiele der Untersuchung zeigen, dass das Gebiet der Neueren Rechtsgeschichte ganze Latifundien unbeackerteter Geschehnisse umfasst. Je mehr man sich darauf einlässt, desto besser versteht man vielleicht auch das heutige Recht und seine Bürokratien. Auch dazu verhilft dieses Buch im Rahmen seines engeren Beritts.

Anmerkung

- 1 Vgl. F. Michl, Wiltraut Rupp-von Brünneck (1912–1977). Juristin, Spitzenbeamtin, Verfassungsrichterin, Frankfurt a. M. 2022, etwa S. 159.

Sebastian Voigt (ed.), *Since the Boom: Continuity and Change in the Western Industrialised World after 1970* (= *German and European Studies*, 36), Toronto / Buffalo / London: University of Toronto Press, 2021, vii + 272 pp.

Reviewed by
Jörg Arnold, Nottingham

Some forty years ago, against the backdrop of skyrocketing energy prizes, escalating inflation and a general atmosphere of gloom, social scientists started proclaiming the end of an era. Daniel Bell published *The Coming of Post-industrial Society* (1973), whereas French philosophers declared that modernity itself had come to an end.[1] The term ‘de-industrialisation’ re-entered public usage and the British Marxist Stuart Hall, writing in *Marxism Today*, identified a new variant of ‘authoritarian populism’, which he called ‘Thatcherism’.[2] Twenty years later, contemporary historians, in their attempts to make sense of the recent past, started integrating the analytical frameworks of the social sciences into their narratives of the twentieth century. They argued that the 1970s marked a rupture in the history of the West, a ‘soft turning point’ that separated the post-war ‘Golden Age’ from the decades that followed. In the estimation of Jim Tomlinson, ‘de-industrialisation’ qualified as a meta-narrative for understanding post-war British history. In Germany, meanwhile, Anselm Doering-Manteuffel and Lutz Raphael published *Nach dem Boom*, an influential essay that

emphasised 'structural change' and 'rupture' (*Strukturbruch*). The 1970s, the argument went, marked the beginning of an economic and social transformation of a 'revolutionary quality', with far-reaching consequences to the present day.[3]

Since the Boom, expertly edited by Sebastian Voigt, sits within this broader context. In echoing Doering-Manteuffel and Raphael's essay, the title makes clear the point of departure: The volume is pitched both as an assemblage of empirical case studies and as a historiographical intervention in the debate about the nature of the recent past. It makes accessible to an English-speaking audience the original argument of *Nach dem Boom* and offers a critical evaluation in the light of recent empirical research and conceptual reflections. The result is not so much a revision of Doering-Manteuffel and Raphael's thesis than a frontal assault on the rivalling concept of 'de-industrialisation'.

The volume contains nine substantial chapters, organised in three sections, labelled 'Ambiguities', 'Adaptations' and 'Dis-continuities'. While the individual contributions vary in scope and approach, they all are of a high quality. The cross-references between the chapters also indicate that the editor did an excellent job in coordinating the contributions. They are held together by casting doubt on the 'de-industrialisation' framework either empirically or conceptually. Part one, 'Ambiguities', demonstrates that the 1970s witnessed pockets of continuous growth amid the economic downturn. Indeed, as Jessica Burch demonstrates, the general downswing provided the precondition for a boom in 'counter-cyclical' industries such as money lending, pawnshops or in-

deed, the brewing industry (p. 36). The case study focuses on the history of a direct sales company, whose business model turned homes into retail spaces and consumers into self-employed entrepreneurs, making the 1970s their 'best [years] ever' (p. 37). Focusing on the UK, Sina Fabian, meanwhile, shows that patterns of personal consumption, as illustrated by rates of car ownership and holiday making, continued to expand throughout the 1970s and early 1980s. Rightly, Fabian insists that the 1970s need to be studied in their own right, rather than as a pre-history of the Thatcher revolution (p. 57). In an innovative piece, Eileen Boris investigates the impact of de-industrialisation on female employment. While the structural shift towards the tertiary sector opened up opportunities for women in white collar positions, this also led to a new demand for domestic service work. With the absence of a public care system for infants, middle-class families resolved the crisis of reproduction by hiring domestic helpers. As Eileen underlines, in the US at least, there was a racial as well as a social class dimension to this labour regime: While white middle-class women went out to work, part of the care work was outsourced to women of colour, often on precarious contracts, sometimes by bypassing the law altogether.

Section two, 'Adaptations', is concerned with labour and the workplace. In an important intervention, Michael Kozakowski makes clear that much of the brunt of de-industrialization was borne by migrant workers. The very same workers who had been incentivised to leave behind their homes to toil in Europe's heavy industries were the first to lose their jobs when the

economic tide turned. Their 'dual crisis' remains insufficiently acknowledged in the historiography and popular representations of de-industrialization alike. As Franziska Rehlinghaus indicates in a deeply researched contribution, inhouse training opportunities were available to some employees only, serving to deepen the gulf between a company's protected core workforce and outsourced peripheral labour. Finally, as Karsten Uhl in his study of technological change in the printing industry illustrates, even well-organised workers, could be rendered defenceless in the face of revolutionary technological change. Just like the miners before them, the printers proved unable to stop, or even to mitigate, the pace of technological change. Within a decade, their jobs had evaporated while their trade unions, long considered among the vanguard of organised labour, were destroyed.

The final section, '(Dis-)continuities', offers the most direct challenge to the de-industrialisation paradigm. Focusing on France, Andreas Wirsching emphasises the limited explanatory power of de-industrialisation as an analytical framework. How can a process that affected 'only certain groups and areas and [was] limited in scope' serve as a meta-narrative for contemporary history, he asks (p. 191). While the job losses, the structural mass unemployment and the attendant identity crises were real enough, this misses the bigger picture. On a global scale, the 1970s witnessed a spectacular expansion in industrialisation. In arguing thus, Wirsching echoes the scathing observation by David Edgerton that, 'The more post-industrial the commentators claimed the world was becoming, the more metals, plastics and

nearly every kind of product was produced in factories the world over.'^[4] Following on from the regionally bounded nature of de-industrialisation, Barth Hoogetboom and Marjin Molema examine regional industrialisation policies in a Dutch province in the years after the boom. While Wirsching emphasises the limits of de-industrialisation, Hartmut Berghoff identifies the 1990s, rather than the 1970s, as the key decade of change for the German economy. It was after the end of the Cold War, amidst a broader perception of Germany as 'the sick man of Europe', that the German business model was transformed: Companies such as Siemens or Daimler were turned from 'organically grown, long standing entities [into] investment portfolios that could be reshuffled at short notice' (p. 248), with far-reaching consequences for employees and broader social cohesion. Even so, Berghoff cautions, there was continuity amidst the change. Germany did not de-industrialise.

After the Boom represents a very useful collection that deserves a wide readership. It succeeds on several counts: First, the collection successfully introduces to an English-speaking readership the German concept of *Strukturbruch*. Second, the collection broadens our understanding of the socio-economic ruptures of the recent past both geographically and socially, most usefully by paying attention to gender and ethnicity in addition to social class. Finally, the collection offers a productive challenge to the de-industrialisation paradigm. It reminds us that there could be gains amidst the loss.

Notes

- 1 D. Bell, *The Coming of Post-industrial Society: A Venture in Social Forecasting*, New York 1973; J.-F. Lyotard, *La condition postmoderne: rapport sur le savoir*, Paris 1979.
- 2 T. Benn, F. Morrell and F. Cripps, *A Ten-Year Industrial Strategy for Britain*, London [1975]; S. Hall, *The Great Moving Right Show*, in: *Marxism Today* (January 1979), pp. 14–20.
- 3 E. Hobsbawm, *The Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century, 1914–1991*, London 1994; H. Kaelble, *The 1970s in Europe: A Period of Disillusionment or Promise?* (German Historical Institute, *The 2009 Annual Lecture*), London 2010; J. Tomlinson, *De-industrialization Not Decline: A New Meta-narrative for Post-war British History*, in: *20th Century British History* 27 (2016) 1, pp. 76–99; A. Doering-Manteuffel, L. Raphael, *Nach dem Boom: Perspektiven auf die Zeitgeschichte seit 1970*, Göttingen 2008.
- 4 D. Edgerton, *The Rise and Fall of the British Nation: A Twentieth-Century History*, London 2018, p. 497.

**Konrad Lawson / Riccardo Bavaj /
Bernhard Struck (eds.): A Guide to
Spatial History: Areas, Aspects, and
Avenues of Research, Abingdon /
New York: Routledge, 2022, 308 pp.**

Reviewed by
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“Space matters!” not only has become the rallying cry of critical geographers who are finding a new centrality of their discipline within the humanities, but also has turned many disciplines upside down. Spatial history has established itself as a new sub-discipline within the historical sciences, encompassing a wide range of approaches that have been given a further boost

through encounters with the data-driven digital humanities. This volume provides an introduction to this recently so successful sub-discipline and is, at the same time, an original contribution to its continued development.

As the title suggests, the authors are concerned with the practice of spatial history. In the first part, they discuss the value of source genres. In the second part, they ask about the suitability of certain spatial configurations (from oceans to border zones) for doing spatial history, and in the third part, they discuss theoretical concepts and their applicability. The volume emerged from the close collaboration among a group of historians at the Institute for Transnational and Spatial History at the University St Andrews, whose networks were mobilized from Greece to Texas, from New Zealand to Canada and Ireland, guaranteeing the diversity of examples used in the volume to illustrate and ground the theoretical claims. In this way, we actually learn how spatial history is done in various contexts.

The introduction starts by painting a picture of a broad field in which many experiments are undertaken that relate to both the materiality of space and its discursive production. The core of a spatial history focused on modern history, however, is an engagement “with practices of territorialization, the drawing of borders and creation of infrastructures” (p. 1). This fixation on territory and territorialization is reinforced by the fascination with the new possibilities opened up by GIS technology. This characterizes spatial history, especially in the USA, for which the Stanford-based Spatial History Project, founded in 2007, was particularly influential. Regarding this