

The Economics of Urban Size



HARRY W. RICHARDSON

*Director, Centre for Research in the Social Sciences,
University of Kent at Canterbury*

SAXON



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Preface

The purpose of this book is to explore the relationships between various economic phenomena and city size to shed more light on the controversies about whether big cities are bad and whether city size is the arch villain in the so-called 'urban crisis'. In this way this study builds upon and extends previous work, in particular, the study by Neutze published in 1965 (long before urban size became a fashionable topic), a series of papers written by Alonso between 1968 and 1972, and the proceedings of a conference on National Urban Development Strategies organised by Resources for the Future and Glasgow University and held in September 1971 (most of the papers presented were published in *Urban Studies* in February and October 1972). I am grateful to the Editors of *Urban Studies* for permission to use material contained in my contribution to that Conference in Chapters 10 and 13 of this book. I am also grateful to the Editor of *Regional Studies* for permission to use a paper which appears as Chapter 11. I also wish to thank Mrs Sandy Sharples and Miss Glenys Phillips for typing the drafts.

Harry W. Richardson
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