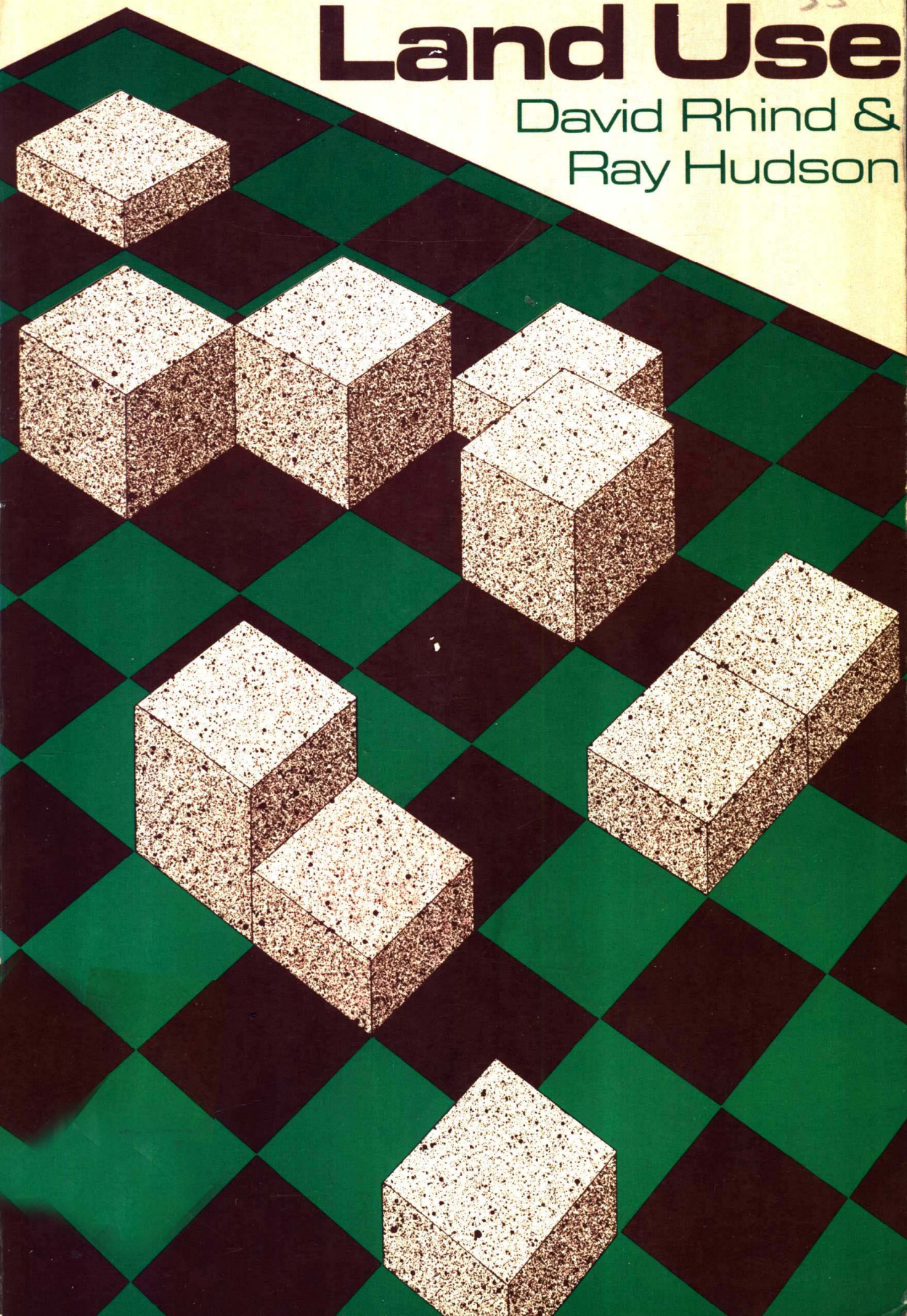
Land Use

David Rhind &
Ray Hudson



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Preface

It is perhaps rare to be able to identify the precise moment at which a particular decision was taken which, however elliptically, eventually led to the writing of a book. In this case, however, we retain a vivid memory of that moment. In the course of running a field trip for first year undergraduates to Alnwick in 1975, we designed a project on urban land use. Musing on the desirability of being able to collect detailed land use data not merely for one but for a whole series of towns, we chanced across a report in *The Times* concerning the establishment of the Job Creation Programme by the Manpower Services Commission. Could we get them to provide the financial resources to enable us to mount a survey to collect such comparative data? It transpired that we could and, as a result, a considerable slice of both our lives for the next three years was given over to organizing the Durham and Northumberland Land Use Surveys: we take this opportunity to record our gratitude to the one hundred or so staff employed at various times on these surveys for the high standards which they maintained throughout. Above all, we wish to record our thanks to Professor W.B. Fisher who, as Honorary Secretary of the Durham Research Trust, facilitated the running of these projects. As a consequence of the efforts of our staff, we found ourselves in possession of very detailed data for the use of individual properties in the urban areas of the counties of Durham and Northumberland, to which we subsequently added similar data for Tyne and Wear County (by courtesy of the Tyne and Wear County Council) and are adding data for Cleveland County. John Hanna and Mandy Lane contributed greatly in the analyses of these data, some of which are included in this book.

A consequence of directing these surveys was that we both became increasingly interested in more general issues to do with land use which, in turn, stimulated us to write this book. It is written primarily as an introduction for an Honours degree undergraduate audience, intended to open up the rich variety of information and concepts related to the study of the use of land. While it does contain some original material from our own joint and individual research, it largely involves the bringing together and synthesis of a wide variety of existing work pertaining to land use studies and is organized around the basic theme of 'how can we order land use data?' – necessarily

encompassing all the various inter-related stages of data capture, interpretation, modelling and theorizing. It seemed to us that such a synthesis was not only intrinsically desirable but posed a stimulating intellectual challenge: whether we have succeeded we must leave to others to judge.

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D.R.
R.H.
Durham
July 1979

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Tables

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Glossary of abbreviations

AERE	Atomic Energy Research Establishment (UK)
AGRG	Applied Geochemical Research Group (USA)
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia)
CSO	Central Statistical Office (GB)
DoE	Department of the Environment (England and Wales)
DLUS/NLUS	Durham/Northumberland Land Use Surveys
ECU	Experimental Cartography Unit of the Natural Environment Research Council (UK)
EROS	Earth Resources Observation Systems Program, Department of the Interior (USA)
GB	Great Britain (England, Scotland, Wales)
GSS	Government Statistical Service (GB)
IGU	International Geographical Union
JIS	See NGPS
LUNR	Land Use and Natural Resources Inventory of New York State
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods (UK)
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (USA)
NGPS	National Gazetteer Pilot Study (joint study financed by the Department of the Environment and Tyne and Wear County Council; when taken over entirely by the latter, it became known as the Joint Information System)
NLUC	National Land Use Classification
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPCS	Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (England and Wales)
OS	Ordnance Survey (GB)
SDD	Scottish Development Department
SLUS	Second Land Utilisation Survey (GB)
UK	United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland)
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WLUS	World Land Use Survey

Contents

Part 5

Figures

Part 1