Acknowledgements

Started in 2011, it took me six years to conduct research on this immense topic which I am grappling with due to the vast variety and quantity of materials. Without the support of different organisations and experts, I would not have been able to make use of my initial research results and publish a preliminary research report. My special thanks must first go to the Planning Department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, for their trust in me and their generous support in providing valuable raw materials that include town planning reports, maps and original statistics. Their verification of my data and professional opinions have significantly enhanced the standard and accuracy of this book. Planners and senior colleagues including Mr Raymond LEE Kai Wing, Mr LING Kar Kan, Dr POON Kwok Sing, Mrs Ava NG Suk Ying, Mr Jimmy LEUNG Cheuk Fai, Mr FUNG Chi Keung, Ms Phyllis LI Chi Miu, Mr LO Chai Wan, Mr CHAN Pun Chung and Ms Ophelia WONG Yuen Shang. Despite their heavy workload, they have offered valuable assistance by explaining to me, with great patience, the complicated details of the town planning process. I also had to draw on the professional expertise of Mr LING Chi Tak, Mr CHAN Wai Shun, Mr Edward LO Wai Ming, Ms CHAN Yuet Mei, Ms KWAN Wai Ling, Ms TANG Yeuk Mei, Ms LAU Sau Yee, Ms Vivian TSANG Wai Man, and Ms Gina WONG W.M. to verify the accuracy of data. Their support has enabled this research to acquire a firm understanding of town planning development in Hong Kong.

I particularly wish to thank the late Miss LEUNG Hung Kee for her generous support in establishing the Leung Po Chuen Research Centre for Hong Kong History and Humanities, which empowers historical research on Hong Kong. My sincere gratitude goes to my research assistants: Miss LEUNG Yin ling, Miss CHEUNG Sau Chun, Miss LAU Man Ting and Mr WONG Chun Yu, for their efforts in gathering and collating data, as well as typing and proofreading the manuscript. Special thanks are also due to the following bodies and persons: Public Records Office, Highways Department, Civil Engineering and Development Department and Lands Department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for their provision of maps, plans and photos; and Dr TONG Cheuk Man and Mr KO Tim Keung for generously making available to us their precious collections of photos to give readers views from other angles. Last but not least, I am grateful to the many research institutions that have rendered generous assistance to this project. They include the libraries of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and of the University of Hong Kong, and the editorial team of Edward Elgar Publishing, in particular Ms Barbara Pretty, Ms Katy Crossan and Ms Karen Jones. The publication of this research would not have been possible without their support.
With very limited knowledge and strength, my analyses are immature and inevitably contain numerous errors and omissions, for which I take full responsibility.