In the late 1960s and early 1970s, some scholars and journalists already recognized the emergence of a post-suburban pattern of settlement along the metropolitan fringe. Earl W. Kersten, Jr. and D. Reid Ross, "Clayton: A New Metropolitan Focus in the St. Louis Area," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 58 (December 1968): 637-49, described the changes in Saint Louis County. A five-article series in the *New York Times*, 30 May–3 June 1971, announced the arrival of "the Outer City." According to the first of these articles (30 May 1971, p. 1), a city’s suburbs were "no longer mere orbital satellites. They [were] no longer sub." Louis H. Masotti and Jeffrey K. Hadden edited a collection of essays, *The Urbanization of the Suburbs* (Beverly Hills: Sage Publications, 1973). In the first line of the introductory essay, Masotti summarized the theme of the volume: "Suburbia is undergoing a significant transition from its traditional role as dependent ‘urban fringe’ to independent ‘neo-city’" (p. 15).


During the second half of the 1980s and the early 1990s, however, the literature on the post-suburban metropolis increased exponentially as the new world along the metropolitan fringe became the subject of articles in many


In the mid 1990s not everyone was enamored of the concept of edge cities or technoburbs. William Sharpe and Leonard Wallock, "Bold New City or Built-Up 'Burb? Redefining Contemporary Suburbia," *American Quarterly* 46 (March 1994): 1–30, rejected the notion that the suburbs had actually developed into a "bold new city" and echoed 1950s critics of suburbia by angrily attacking life along the fringe. In the same issue of *American Quarterly* (pp. 31–54), Robert Bruegmann, Robert Fishman, Margaret Marsh, and June Manning Thomas each responded to this critique, the first three effectively dismissing the arguments of Sharpe and Wallock.