

Figure 16.6
Rapid urban sprawl in Kanazawa
city: 1960–1995.

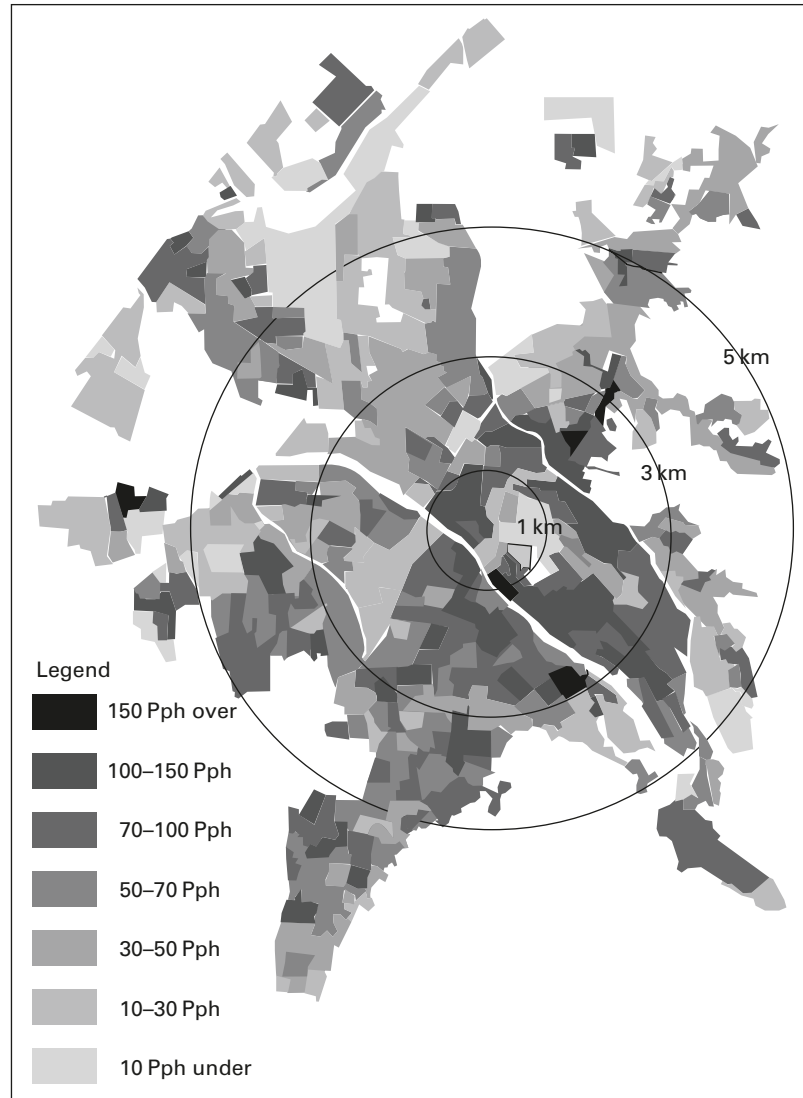
castle town in the Edo era from the 17th century to the middle of the 19th century. The size of the city area had not expanded markedly until the 1960s when it began to rapidly increase in size (see Figure 16.6).

Table 16.2 shows the changes in population, area and density in the DID of Kanazawa between 1960 and 1990. While the population has increased consistently since 1960 (to 450,000 in 1995), the population density has markedly decreased. As a consequence, the area of Kanazawa has also increased to accommodate higher populations but at lower densities. The population density has actually increased since the late 1990s (not tabulated here), but only gradually. The distribution of density across Kanazawa's DID is shown in Figure 16.7. Looking at this

Table 16.2
Population, area and population density of Kanazawa: 1960–1990.

Year	Population	Area in hectares	Population density persons per hectare
1960	225,000	1600	141
1970	251,000	2500	100
1990	370,000	5160	61

Figure 16.7
Population densities in Kanazawa city's Urbanisation Promotion Areas in 1995.



together with Figure 16.6 (which clearly marks the trunk roads in the DID), illustrates the way in which higher-density areas have spread along the trunk roads, indicating the importance of transport infrastructure. However, the difference here is that the transport infrastructure is oriented around the individual car use.