



## Contents

List of Tables and Illustrations	xv
A Note about Romanization	xix
Chronology: Han Rulers and Reigns, 221 B.C.–A.D. 220	xxi
Equivalents of Weights and Measures	xxiii
Basic Sources, Conventions, and Style of Citing Han Wooden and Bamboo Documents	xxv
General Abbreviations and Translations of Technical Terms	xxxii
Preface	xxxiii

---

Introduction: Virgin Land, National Security, and  
Agricultural Colonization 1

1. The Han Frontier System: Origins, Theories, and  
Structural-Functional Patterns 15
2. The Han Colonists in Chü-yen: The Organization,  
Composition, and Character of the Han Frontiersmen 23
3. The Han Settlements in Chü-yen: Structure, Pattern,  
and Function 79
4. Population on the Han Frontier: Numbers, Distribution,  
and Characteristics 107
5. The Making of a Han Frontier Region: Control and  
Communication in Chü-yen 129

Conclusion: Frontier, Colonization, and Empire 173

---

Major Dynasties and Periods of China 179

Notes 181

Glossary 223

*Han-chien* Terms 233

Selected Bibliography 239

Index 293

About the Author 301