

GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY ON DECENTRALISM

This bibliography was begun in 1975 and has been added to each year. Although still incomplete, it seems preferable to make it available in this form including some partial listings rather than to have it unavailable. The annotations provided come from a variety of sources and are intended to be helpful but not definitive. When known, the original date of publication is given first and the most recent date of publication is given last. Works dealing mainly with technological issues, fiction, periodicals, and other bibliographies have been excluded. Personal favorites are marked with an *.

AN INTRODUCTORY PARABLE

Strolling along the shores of a lake, a development planner met a fisherman stretched out happily in the warm sun. He asked, "Why are you not out on the lake fishing?"

"I caught enough fish yesterday to last me for three days," was the sleepy reply.

"But if you fish today, you could earn extra money from selling the fish."

"True, but why should I earn extra money?"

"Because with more money you could buy a larger fishing boat with a motor. "

"True, but why should I have a large boat with a motor?"

"Because with it you could catch many more fish and have much more money."

"True, but why should I catch more fish and have much more money?"

"Because with that money you could hire others to work for you so you need not go out fishing."

"True, but what would I do if I did not have to go out fishing?"

"Then you could enjoy life and lie in the sun all day."

"True, but that is what I am doing now."

Adapted from several sources

- Alexander, Christopher. 1976. A Pattern Language .
One of a trilogy on design theory. Emphasizes system levels and system needs.
- Alyea, Paul & Blanche. 1956. Fairhope 1894-1954. (U. Alabama, 1956).
Covers the community near Mobile based on the single tax principles of Henry George.
- Altshuler, Alan A. 1970. Community Control: The Black Demand for Participation in Large American Cities. (Indianapolis: Pegasus).
An overview and interpretation of black power movements and efforts at local control from the standpoint of municipal government and politics.
- American Friends Service Committee. 1972. Taking Charge: Achieving Personal and Political Change Through Simple Living. (Bantam Books, 1977) (Simple Living Collective, AFSC, San Francisco)
- Anderson, Wilbert L. 1906. The Country Town: A Study of Rural Evolution. (N.Y.C.: Arno, 1972)
"...depopulation of rural American towns caused by the industrial revolution. Contends that large cities have captured the extreme rich and poor of rural society while the great middle class . . . can lead the country to social reconstruction With the introduction of rural free delivery, telephone , and electric power, the rural town can easily survive the Industrial Revolution."
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- Arnold, Eberhard. 1967. Why We Live in Community. (Farmington, Pa: Plough Press, 1967)
On the Bruderhof Communities.
- Arnold, Emmy. 1964. Torches Together: The Beginnings and Early Years of the Bruderhoff Communities. (Rifton, N.Y.: Plough, 1971)
Semi-autobiographical.
- Arreteau, Philippe. 1973. "Can the Luxury of Personal Freedom be a Reward for Work?" from Impact of Science on Society, Vol 23, NO. 4.
"A personal perspective on work/leisure separation."

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- Barbar, Jurgensen. 1980. Living More with Less: A Pattern for Living. (Scottsdale, Pa.: Herald Press)
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Societal organization of a decentralized society compared to a potentially decentralized U.S.A. Conflict between a decentralized traditional society and modernization.
- Barker, Sir Earnest. c. 1910. The Discredited State.
An early political science leader on decentralism. Stimulated later work by Cole & Lasky.
- Barnes, Peter (ed.) 1975. The Peoples Land. (Emmaus, Pa.: Rodale Press, 1975)
A collection of land reform readings from the U.S. Mildly radical. More rhetoric than facts.
- Beam, Maurice. 1964. Cults of America (NYC: MacFadden-Bartell, 1964)
- Beame, Hugh & Peter Gould. 1973. Home Comfort: Life on the Total Loss Farm (NYC: Saturday Review Press, 1973)
A failed commune in New England in the mid 1960's.
- Beer, Stafford. Designing Freedom, (Wiley, 1974).
The former assistant to Allende on societal change and transformation for maximizing freedom and decentralism.
- Bek, William G. 1909. "The Community at Bethel Missouri and its Offspring at Aurora, Oregon." German American Annals, ms. no. 7, (Sept. 1909), pp. 257-276 & 306-328.
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- Berg, Peter. 1982. Figures of Regulation: Guides for Rebalancing Society with the Biosphere. (San Francisco: Planet Drum Foundation)
On Bio-regionalism. The need to find and establish cultural rules and values to support biorgional thought and practice.
- Berneri, Marie Louise. Journey Through Utopia. (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1950)
- Berry, Brian J.L. (ed) Urbanization and Counterurbanization (Beverly Hills: Sage, 1976).
"To what extent have social and political differences around the world combined to produce different strategies of deliberate urbanization, and how effective have these strategies been? Contributors assess the ways in which counterurbanization has begun to replace urbanization as both a process and a planning goal.
- Bestor, Arthur E. 1950. Backwoods Utopias 1663-1829. (Philadelphia: 1950)
- Bettelheim, Bruno. 1969. The Children of the Dream (NYC: MacMillan, 1969)
A psychological analysis of Israeli Kibbutzim.
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- Bookchin, Murray. 1974. The Limits of the City (NYC: Harper Colophon, 1974)
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- Bookchin, Murray. Post-Scarcity Anarchism.
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 "...lays out his basic philosophy, emphasizing the waste inherent in our tendency to concentrate production far from consumer markets."
- *Borsodi, Ralph. 1933. Flight from the City. (NYC: Harper Colophon, 1972)
 Autobiographical coverage of his own move from NYC, the School for Living in Suffern, the Dayton Homesteading program under N.R.A., plus some good technical information. Polemical in spots.
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- *Borsodi, Ralph. 1974. "Flowboy Interview," Mother Earth News, No. 26, March 1974.
 A brief overview of his life and philosophy including the various Schools for Living and his new monetary system. Quiet, radical economics.
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 A political science approach sometimes philosophical and dry. Covers Walden Three, Koinonia, Reba Place, Bruderhof, New Harmony, Sunrise Hill, Llano, Brook Farm, etc. Authoritative. Chaps 2 & 3 especially good.
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- Bromfield, Louis. 1947. Malabar Farm. (NYC: Ballantine, 1947)
Rich refugees from France come back to their Ohio roots. His dogs and his movie star friends plus his earnest attempts to understand and build self-sufficient farming in a worked out Ohio valley. Pretentious but sound.
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Strong arguments and information about soil, manures, self-sufficiency, etc. Polemical in spots and occasionally bigoted but enjoyable and useful. Note that his farm was partially supported by book and movie royalties.
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A strong conservationist argument ascribing the fall of most civilizations to loss of topsoil. A well argued and fascinating reinterpretation of history.
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- Clarke, Janine & Robin. 1972. "The Biotechnic Research Community," Futures, June 1972, pp. 168-173.
Describes a 40 acre community of professionals in England founded in 1972. Split up by 1975.
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"One of the most important statements yet made on the nature, the cause, and the possible solution of the impending environmental disaster created by technology and threatening to destroy society."

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"History of non-hierarchical community and workplace associations in Spain, 1936-39. What went right and what went wrong."
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- Ellul, Jacques. The Technological Society.
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Semi-autobiographical account of a Japanese sensei and his agricultural beliefs and practices. Several basic ideas repeated many many times.

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