

E.C. Mare
Whole Systems Design
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Professional Statement

My name is E. Christopher Mare. My professional title is “Village Designer.” I am postulating a theoretical ekistics for the 21st century. I specialize in conceptualizing, designing, promoting, and germinating sustainable human settlements at *village* scale. Since ‘village’ is an anthropomorphological, ecological climax stage that has its own self-organizing rate of development, growth, and refinement, I always focus my attention on the viability of the seed potential. I focus on the seed potential because I will not live long enough to see any of my village design projects grow to fruition; that could very well take millennia. So I begin by looking for fertile ground where I imagine a village could grow, or where I sense a village *wants* to grow, and then I proceed by planting my own seeds of pure intention. My life-long client is the goddess Gaia. I am very attentive at making sure communication is open and true between us. I continually ask for feedback to ensure that my client’s needs are being addressed. She has many delightful ways of expressing to me her wishes.

Once a ‘village seed’ has sprouted, and a core community has initiated re-inhabitation, coevolving a long-term symbiotic relationship with a particular place, sending down a firm taproot, then I take great care to nurture and guide the seedling’s early development. This is a crucial stage: How can a strong, robust, healthy village grow to ripe, abundant maturity without a strong, promising, healthy seedling-beginning? And so, I resort to systems thinking to consciously design and provide a 4-dimensional context within which the village-seedling may grow toward a teleological attractor of equifinality. My purpose is to create a ‘living system,’ an autopoietic unity that can assume a life of its own, with a capacity for reproducing itself. For this reason, I actively engage in, emphasize, reinforce and reiterate organic growth processes at every stage of a project’s development. I educate and consult with communities and individuals at any scale on the fundamental principles and concepts underlying the establishment and maintenance of sustainable human settlements, highlighting the strategies just outlined.

Homo sapiens’ mission on Earth is waxing complete. “Village Design: Ekistics for the 21st Century” is a professional practice whose purpose is nurturing, encouraging, and coaxing the naturally integrated, primordially patterned, vibrantly fertile wombs that will give birth to the next evolutionary progression of humanity. In that way, the needs and desires of my client may be fulfilled.