

How modern agriculture-based villages can contribute
to the continuity of peaceful human settlements

A modern agriculture-based village can:

A. Contribute to community and regional decision-making

- 1) by giving anyone the opportunity to experience first hand what products and innovations are basic and essential to individual, community, and regional well-being
- 2) by providing an estimate of sustainable resources carrying capacity, and therefore an indication concerning limits to population growth
- 3) by encouraging regional and international sister villages for security networks in case of natural disasters, for the benefit of exchange programs, etc.

B. Contribute comparable individual and environmental health care at less cost

- 1) by providing healthy locally grown food
- 2) by providing jobs that involve regular healthy exercise
- 3) by creating more contributing roles for the elders of the village
- 4) by creating more extended family support
- 5) by creating more easily arranged child care
- 6) by offering apprenticeship and production facilities for emotionally and physically disabled people
- 7) by reducing emotional stress relating to continuous complex crises management
- 8) by offering games, chores, village dances, fairs, celebrations, and holidays all of which provide a continued variety of positive social activities—without a need for drugs
- 9) by decreasing the need for expensive entertainment and excessive material accumulation
- 10) by decreasing criminal activity and violence, and therefore the violent means of protection required to guard against such experiences
- 11) by decreasing the welfare and human services required from the state budget
- 12) by increasing consumption of local products made without creating toxic waste
- 13) by increasing recycling and reducing consumption, and therefore reducing the state garbage disposal budget
- 14) by decreasing the number of cars on the road, and therefore the number of car-related accidents, and the amount of car-related pollution
- 15) by increasing the awareness of local healthy water resources and how maintain them
- 16) by offering job apprenticeships as university curriculum, visits for community and regional planning insight, and visits to a health resort, social center, and peace settlement— and thereby securing revenues for complex medical products and surgical services (and for other products and services that cannot be produced locally)
- 17) by offering all villagers a work environment that is relatively safe and beautiful

C. Contribute comparable agriculture productivity and employment at less cost

- 1) by legitimizing labor intensive agriculture and related village occupations
- 2) by encouraging less material consumption, and therefore making lower monetary wages possible
- 3) by offering a low cost program allowing for population shifts from high cost infrastructures in the city to low cost infrastructures in villages
- 4) by providing healthy locally grown food (and other local products), and therefore decreasing storage and transportation costs
- 5) by increasing the use of root cellars, ice houses, and smoke houses, and therefore reducing the need for refrigerators and freezers
- 6) by encouraging the use of composting, manure, and field rotation instead of expensive chemical fertilizers for soil fertility
- 7) by designating large scale farms for surplus production and possible export

D. Contribute comparable energy quality and required transportation at less cost

- 1) by encouraging the use of renewable energy such as solar power, water power, wind power, and wood
- 2) by encouraging research and development relating to the efficient use of what renewable energy resources we have
- 3) by encouraging peaceful human settlements, and therefore reducing the likelihood of the destructive consequences of war
- 4) by encouraging walking, bicycle use, and horsepower
- 5) by saving available energy-intensive transportation potential for critical needs as they arise
- 6) by revealing more where you are, and therefore reducing your need to travel elsewhere

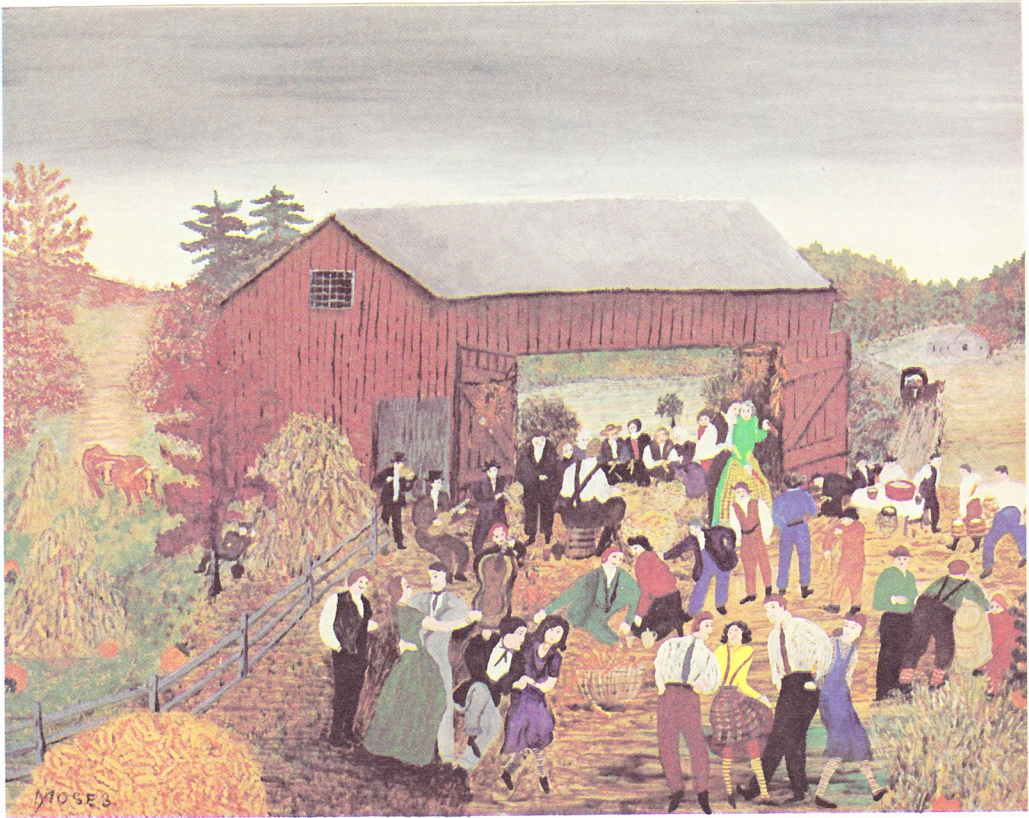
E. Contribute comparable justice and comparable illustrations of democracy at less cost

- 1) by being small enough for people to know where their resources are and who is responsible for maintaining them
- 2) by increasing local interdependence, and therefore increasing the awareness of mutually beneficial relationships
- 3) by increasing interest in local decision-making and regional planning
- 4) by encouraging a limit to excessive personal ownership
- 5) by reducing the number of court cases due to a reduction in crime
- 6) by offering apprenticeship and production opportunities at correctional facilities
- 7) by offering apprenticeship scholarships to at-risk inner city children
- 8) by making justice and democracy less complex— and therefore more accessible to people, (and to children receiving their first impressions)

- F. Contribute comparable education and research opportunities at less cost
- 1) by encouraging the continuity of peaceful human settlements
 - 2) by offering children early and continuing experience with animals and other growing things
 - 3) by increasing the opportunities for children to have daily contact with many adults they can trust in accepted village roles
 - 4) by increasing the diversity of educational opportunities
 - 5) by reducing the number of children educated by a cost-intensive infrastructure
 - 6) by locating the experimental villages at universities, and therefore encouraging comparison studies relating to nutrition, exercise, stress, pollution, social activities, criminal activity, violence, agriculture, productivity, employment, energy efficiency, scientific innovation, justice, democracy, education, art, and the incidence of war and peace
 - 7) by creating sustainable local economies
- G. Contribute comparable inspiration and diversity in artistic development at less cost
- 1) by encouraging people to make more of the products they use; by advocating handcrafted products instead of energy and cost intensive machine made products
 - 2) by encouraging the development of local traditional styles
 - 3) by encouraging villagers to recognize the cycles of the seasons (which naturally suggest cycles in individuals and cycles in cultures), and the wisdom of adapting to, rather than attempting to master, a planet generated by forces much too subtle and rooted in mystery for any creature from anywhere to have the capacity to so thoroughly understand them enough to kindly control the whole thing



"LAND HO!"



Husking Bee
Grandma Moses (1860-1961)



Maple Sugaring in Vermont
Paul Sample (1896-1974)