

Collection Summary

ID Number: CS 256

Title: Great Britain Communities

Extent: 7 Folder(s)

Span Dates: 1972-1997

Language: English

Geographic Location: Great Britain

Abstract: This collection consists of correspondence, newsletters and community descriptions.

Historical Notes: There is information about communal living and communes within Great Britain in this file. Among the communities represented are:

Lifespan Community: "Lifespan Community Collective (aka Townhead Collective) is made up of around 20 adults, 7 kids, 4 dogs and several chickens. We have 19 old railway cottages with 3 acres of land in rural Yorkshire. The Community has been formed by a collection of environmental protesters, travelers and locals. We try to live sustainably with as little impact on the environment as possible. We are into growing our own organic fruit and veg from two large communal gardens containing polytunnels and greenhouses. We also have a medicinal/kitchen herb garden and tree nursery. One of our defining features and strengths is that we produce all our own electricity from solar and wind. We aim to have hydropower at some point in the future! We also compost all our own waste. We all have our own personal spaces as well as communal areas comprising a living room, kitchen, pool room, office with internet access, a learning space, music room, workshops and kids' play-room/spaces." It began in 1978. **Sources:** [Lifespan Community](#)

Laurieston Hall: "This co-operative of around 24 people of all ages is now embarking on its fifth decade. We live in and around a huge Edwardian main house, with its walled garden, stables and cottages, surrounded by 135 acres of beautiful woods, pastures and marshland which stretch to a loch in the north. Trees we planted are now being coppiced. Living spaces use wood for heating and cooking. A hydro supply much of our electricity. From Easter to October we run a program of events (music, self-help, creative, gay, etc.), called The People Centre, which brings up to 70 extra people a week. We grow as much fruit and vegetables as we can, keep cows, pigs, hens and bees, and do most of our own maintenance. All of us pay a large portion of our rent in unwaged labor for the co-op. This means ideally spending about two and a half days a week doing what we call 'workshare'." It began in 1972. **Sources:** [Laurieston Hall](#)

Selected Search Terms

Subjects: Communal living; Collective settlements; Housing, Cooperative; Collective farms; Commune; Organic farming; Sustainable agriculture; Permaculture; Sustainable buildings; Green technology

Administrative Information

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Alternatives Journal. Los Angeles: Alternative Culture. Vol. 2, no. 17 (November 1972)	1972	Filing Cabinet	Folder 2	Filing Cabinet 13-B
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Resurgence. Devon, UK: Rodale Press. no. 88, Vol. 12, no. 4 (September/October 1981)	1981	Filing Cabinet	Folder 2	Filing Cabinet 13-B
Communes Network. Lifespan Community: Sheffield, Yorkshire. no. 38 (1978), no. 43 (1979), no. 48 (1980), no. 50 (April/May), no. 53 (July 1980), no. 55 (August 1980)	1978 - 1980	Filing Cabinet	Folder 3	Filing Cabinet 13-B
Life Span Community. Community DescriptionLifespan Community: An Introduction; Handwritten Flyer about Women's Bicycle Weekend	1984	Filing Cabinet	Folder 3	Filing Cabinet 13-B
Laurieston Hall People Centre Newsletter. Castle Douglas, S.W. Scotland. (Winter 1981), (Winter/Spring 1983/84), (1988)	1981 - 1988	Filing Cabinet	Folder 4	Filing Cabinet 13-B
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Diggers and Dreamers Guide to Communal Living. Communes Network. Sheffield, UK. 1990-1997	1990	- 1997	Filing Cabinet	Folder	7	Filing Cabinet 13-B