



# Hut-Topia: How to Create Sustainable Small Homes and Homesteads

*Christopher James Marshall*

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Hut-Topia is a place-name meaning hut for small house and utopia for ideal. You can build your own 'Hut-Topia' as inspired and wonderful as the small house that Thomas Jefferson built which founded his famous Monticello homestead!

Hut-Topia is a holistic DIY guide designed to help you on your path to creating a sustainable homestead and affordable dwelling. You'll find perspective from the history of small homes, building and zoning codes, on being a landowner, how rural living is different than urban, examples of off-grid dwellings, and much more: Part 1 Right-Sized Towns: Explains how population influences townships and shows you how to locate and research a place that will work well for your plans.

Part 2 Owner-Built Shelter: Emphasizes livable space design and the planning steps to take before building, with examples of affordable construction methods.

Part 3 Off-Grid Power, Water, and Food: Expands the design and planning in Part 2 with dozens of off-grid methods and details you can use for your homestead.

Full contents:

Preface--Sustainability in Technology, Economy, and Climate

Introduction to Small House Architecture

- 1) Hut-Topia and Other Man-Made Words
- 2) The Rough History of Small Homes in the United States
- 3) Building and Zoning Codes
- 4) Landowner vs. Renter vs. Squatter
- 5) Rural vs. Urban
- 6) Homesteads
- 7) Huts-- --Transportable Huts --Built On-Site Huts --Wheeled Huts
- 8) Tents, Trailers, and RVs

Part 1: Right-Sized Towns

- 9) Mapping Your Region
- 10) Road-Trip Research
- 11) In-fills and Suburbia
- 12) Cottage and Cluster
- 13) Tent City
- 14) Intentional Community

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- 16) How to Sketch the Details
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- 18) Construction from the Ground Up-- --Step-By-Step Construction Timing
- 19) Foundation Basics
- 20) Post and Beam, Pole-Frame, and Timber-Frame
- 21) Masonry, Straw-Bale, and Cordwood
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- 23) Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs) and Stick-Frame
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