n**EU** europa **Oikos**

Paul Leech BE BArch (Hons) RIBA MIEI WCSI Summer 2021

<http://gaia-ecotecture.eu/ecotect_paul_leech.php>



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This is a digital essay , ideogrammatic , visual , kaleidoscopic .

It concerns green flourishing networks, online etc  ; it follows extensive research collaboration and networking, with all those credited.

**edges; flows** ;**nexus**

***‘betwixt and between ‘ - flourishing*** *at the* ***EDGES****,  where* ***‘stuff happens’***

**A picture containing outdoor, sky, coming, smoke

Description automatically generated**

**“There is no vaccine for climate change”.**

Lahinch Clare Ireland 2014

It has been reliably estimated that Climate Change impacts carry

much greater threats to our human health, especially that of our

kids 'n grandkids,   by comparison with Covid 19

<https://healthpolicy-watch.news/climate-change-country-risk-behind/>

**EU** Context

[www.art-ecology.net](http://www.art-ecology.net)

**CAN** (recent national  award winner, Catalunya) has  strong Irish links:  we recently,

(just before Covid !),  spent a long arts residency there, where much of this essay content germinated . Their Director Lluís Llobet and team are keen supporters of artistic interactions, within an ecological ethos . Catalunya has many of the same issues as Ireland : incl dereliction amongst rural towns & villages, edges, interfaces ,learning experiences .

[centre.artinatura](https://www.facebook.com/centre.artinatura/) Pyrenees Catalunya

GAIA ecotecture residency @ CAN 2019 <https://www.facebook.com/centre.artinatura/>

Endosymbiotic evolution, symbiosis, is crucial to such ‘edge ecologies- that’s at the core of this creative

arts/ environment essay…………

<https://www.thoughtco.com/endosymbiotic-theory-of-evolution-1224532>

Eco Village 2000 integral with CloughJordan 1608 : www.thevillage.ie

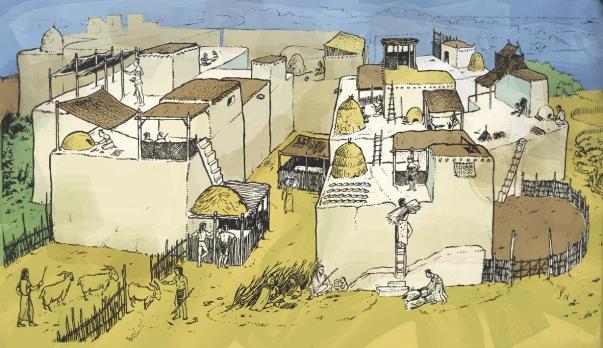
Base for [www.gaia-ecotecture.eu](http://www.gaia-ecotecture.eu)

www.thevillage.

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credit  Solearth

<https://enactivescience.com/gcp/>



**Ҫatalhöyük’   Anatolia  10,000 year old eco - town ; what we knew,  10 millennia ago !. For contemprary relevance and analysis see Prof Ian Hodder :** https://static1.squarespace.com/static/53568703e4b0feb619b78a93/t/5367981ce4b0124f24031674/1399298076240/the-entanglements-of-humans-and-things-a-long-term-view.pdf



**Doughnut Economics** :

the only credible future ?          credit -**Kate Raeworth**

LAYTOWN Ireland ECOURBANISM : **STOCHASTIC PLANNING /DESIGN**

http://gaia-ecotecture.eu/laytown\_eco\_residential\_business\_zone.php

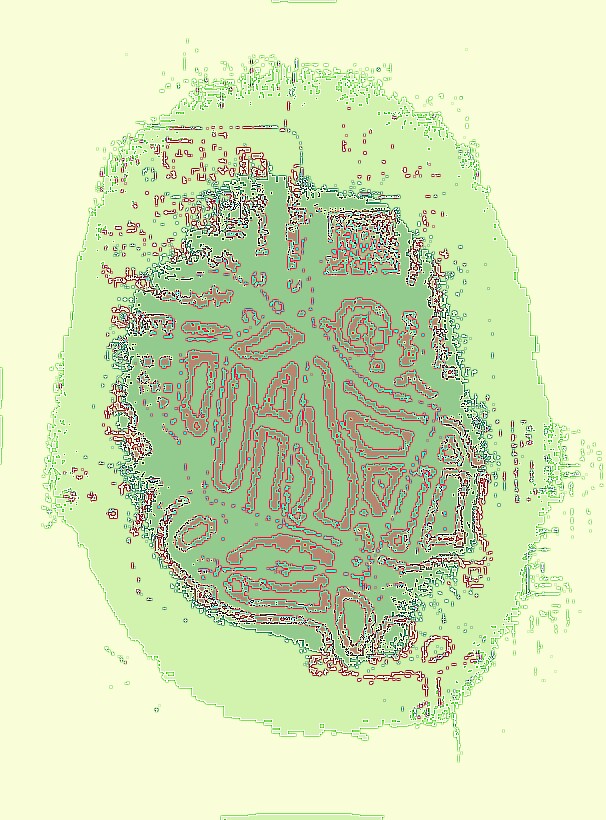
GAIA ecotecture



**woodblock study - multiple, layered uses** LAYTOWN  eco urbanism nr. SONAIRTE http://gaia-ecotecture.eu/laytown\_eco\_residential\_business\_zone.php Credit : gaia-ecotecture.eu



**Illustrative Scenario from Laytown Stochastic Structure Plan**                             gaia-ecotecture.eu



eco tec : Princeton;  our human plans ’n what happens !

<https://www.amazon.com/ECO-TEC-Architecture-Between-Storefront-Books/dp/1568981597>

Scenario Illustrated :

Laytown Stochastic Structure Plan- GAIA ecotecture Putative outcomes , navigating within free market ‘democracy’ ? Living with uncertaintly.

Re Imagining Our Towns ! see <https://www.riotsligo.ie/> ) to overcome the serious practical impediments, so clearly identified in the **'Synthesis Report'**, by Space Engagers-  one of its three Authors, Prof Orla Murphy UCD, is one of the 'ambassadors' for this New EU initiative . Town Centre Living Initiative Synthesis Report: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/86215-thetown-centre-living-initiative/>  - go straight to succinct green boxed action-items from page 62 .

Housing Agency Report by Isolde Dillon et al ,on the same generic  experiences in Denmark , France and Scotland (while the latter was still in the EU-NB it is 12 years ahead of us , on this !.) <http://www.housingagency.ie/publications/incentives-re-use-vacant-buildings-town-centres-housing-and-sustainable-communities>

Our towns are emptying of youth , and so sadly decaying - we need to bring new young  life and innovation to them, esp those on the rail-network already,  with high speed broadband , like in Cloughjordan and the Ecovillage .  I am thinking of integrated,  street-retrofit and rejuvenation at scale , in fiscally supported projects, coupled with witty, clever elegant mixed use infill,  such as Market Lane Westport .<https://coxpower.ie/projects/master-planning/market-lane,-westport.html>

<https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/projects/podcast-series-putting-town-centres-first/episode-6-orla-murphy>

<https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/projects/town-centre-health-check-programme>

**FURTHER RESOURCES**

<https://scsi.ie/rejuvenating-irelands-small-town-centres-report/>

<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2021/03/Creative_Climate_Action_Brief_final.pdf>

<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315654861_Barriers_Opportunities_for_adaptive_re-use_of_vacant_space_in_towns_Ballina_Case_Study>

A FURTHER POSSIBLE FOCUS?  :  (of many possible ) - after a Collaborative Town Centre Health Check? [lthhttps://www.heritagecouncil.ie/projects/town-centre-hea-check-programme](https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/projects/town-centre-health-check-programme) (€100,000 pilot study complete  for six towns with the goal of encouraging refurbishment of vacant and underused residential buildings- see ' Synthesis' Report).The whole generic point is a consolidated programme with economies of scale and reduced bureaucracy per property, as recommended in <https://www.housingagency.ie/publications/incentives-re-use-vacant-buildings-town-centres-housing-and-sustainable-communities>.

Mankind has ‘climbed’ into grave peril…  **BUT we are a resourceful species,**

**‘when push comes to shove’…………………………**

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