FOR RESEARCH, PLANNING AND ANALYSIS

Productive Neighborhoods: A Case Study Based Exploration of Seattle Urban Agriculture Projects Seattle, Washington

Landscape Architect:	Berger Partnership
Client:	Berger Partnership



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

growing number of clients are asking questions about incorporating urban farming into their projects. This report explores the existing urban farms in Seattle, as well as regional and national case studies, to better understand how urban farms function and the challenges they must overcome. The research seeks to share the knowledge of each site and instigate a discussion about how to expand urban farming into the Seattle food system as a reliable über local food source.

Seattle currently has 103 urban food production sites, which include urban farms, P-Patches, community gardens and school gardens, but only ten of these sites are functioning as commercial urban farms. While P-Patches, community gardens and school gardens are important components of the Seattle food system, commercial farms located in an urban area have the potential to make a large impact on the local food supply.

The urban farmers we met in Seattle are individuals with an entrepreneurial spirit and the ability to reinvent the traditional

farming model. With this comes a great amount of patience, inventiveness and perseverance to reap the rewards that urban farming brings. Urban farming needs to find a few individuals who are willing to take the leap to show Seattle how this can work on a larger scale to form an über local food system.

JURY COMMENTS

This beautifully designed booklet draws attention to the growing interest in producing food in close proximity to and within dense urban areas. It is a compelling brochure that the jury believes will stimulate much needed interest in exploring and documenting the metrics that support the benefits of urban farms to the environment and the Seattle community. The report documents the diverse typologies of urban agriculture, from residential farm stands to community supported agriculture, and illustrates new paradigms and venues for locally based commercial agriculture. The jury was impressed by the report's design and content and looks forward to further research that expands on this very valuable first step.





CREDIT: MAGDALENA CELINSKA, BERGER PARTNERSHIP

