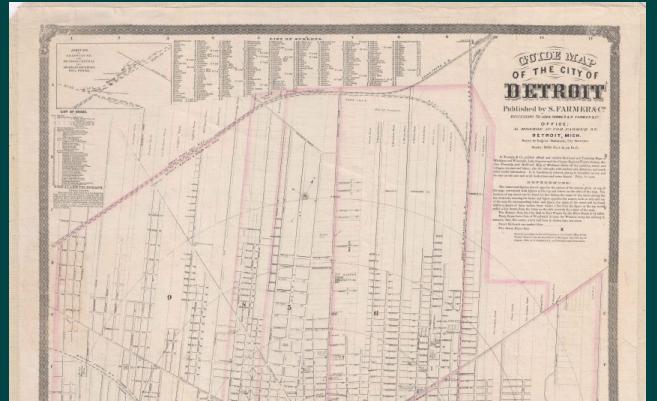


DETROIT AGRICULTURE

a brief history of agriculture in Detroit

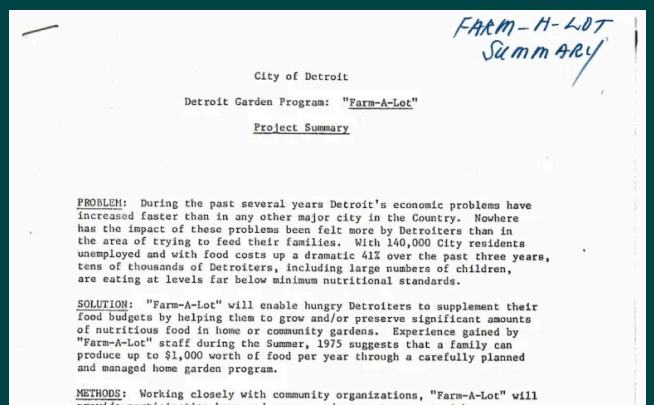
RIBBON FARMING (1700S-1800S)

- Early settlers used ribbon farming, ensuring access to waterways for trade and irrigation.
- 1840's Mayor Pingree started "Potato Patches" to help quell the economic and environmental challenges



VICTORY GARDENS (1900-1940S)

- Urbanization reduced farming, but Detroit encouraged Victory Gardens during WWI & WWII and community gardens during the Great Depression which supported food security.



RISE OF URBAN FARMING (1950S-1980S)

- Deindustrialization led to vacant lots; urban farming emerged to address food insecurity
- 1970's: City of Detroit launched the **Farm-a-Lot Program** to convert vacant land into gardens



GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT (1990S-2000S)

- 1990: Grass roots Orgs like **Detroit Black Community Food Security Network (DBCFSN)** and **Earthworks Urban Farm** emerged to address food justice and sustainability.
- 1995: **Grace Lee Boggs Center** opened promoting environmental justice advocacy and community leadership

FARM ORGS & PROGRAMS (2000S-2009)

- As grassroots movement grew resources and programs were on the rise
- 2003: **Garden Resource Program** was launched to keep consumption local and promote a food sovereign city



DETROIT AS A NATIONAL LEADER (2009-2020)

- 2009: **Detroit Food Policy Council** was established to assess the cities food systems
- 2013: Detroit passed its first Urban Agriculture Ordinance.
- 2020: The **Detroit Black Farmer Land Fund** was created to support farmers with land acquisition, infrastructure and readiness

DETROIT TODAY (2021-PRESENT)

- Today, Detroit is home to over **2000** farms and gardens
- 2024: City of Detroit appointed its first Urban Ag Director

