ABSTRACT

CREATIVE PROJECT: a landscape architectural approach to urban farming and continuous landscapes
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Urban agriculture (UA) is a growing element in cities worldwide; it is a particularly strong element in developing countries, where basic subsistence needs require a local and secure food source. Within the United States, UA has traditionally been limited to community gardens and other smaller formats. More recently, however, agricultural production in urban spaces has increased in scope and scale, and these projects frequently address issues faced by underserved urban populations. A leading benefit of UA is increased access to “organic”, locally-grown produce.

This project proposed the design of an integrated agriculture enterprise in Indianapolis, IN. The design sought to enhance community health and connectivity through the combination of closed-loop, self-sustaining farming practices and multi-functional public spaces. Additionally, the project addressed the ecological and social benefits of such a venture, including but not limited to the impacts that may be felt by
communities currently underserved by commercial food markets and with limited access to additional services and urban amenities. The design may serve as a pilot project to inspire the future development of similar spaces.