Urban Foodscapes and Greenspace Design: Integrating Grazing Landscapes Within Multi-Use Urban Parks

Dr. Shannon Davis



Designing Future Productive Landscapes



Overview

Why are grazing lands and animal-based urban agriculture **not** commonly part of cities of the Global North today?

FIRST SUBURB

What is the spatial relationship today between urban settlements and food production in Aotearoa New Zealand?

How can we **re-intergrate animal-based urban agriculture** back into our cities and settlements? **Case Study: Cornwall Park, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland**

https://www.cnu.org/publicsquare/2017/04/13/great-idea-rural-urban-transect

Why are grazing lands and animal-based urban agriculture **not** commonly part of cities of the Global North today?











Food has always been a critical part of cities and settlements

Development of railway liberated cities from spatial constraints

Agriculture was 'planned' out of cities

Eat Local Movement

Limited animal-based urban agriculture

London



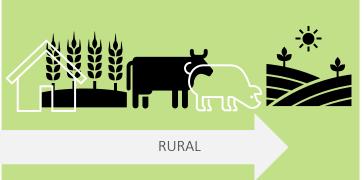
What is the spatial relationship today between urban settlements and food production in Aotearoa New Zealand?



87% of New Zealand's population lives within the 'urban zone'











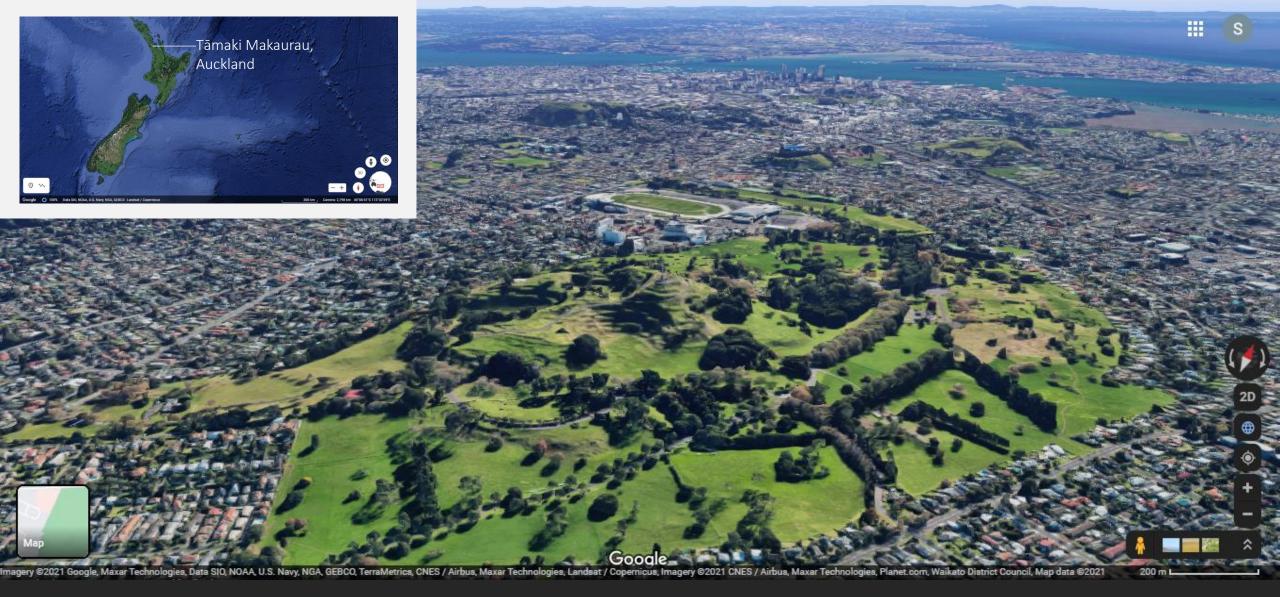
How can we **re-integrate animal-based urban agriculture** back into our cities and settlements?



Research Question

How can grazing lands, for sheep and beef production, be designed within a public urban park alongside other park uses?





Cornwall Park, Tamaki Makaurau, Auckland: Aotearoa, New Zealand





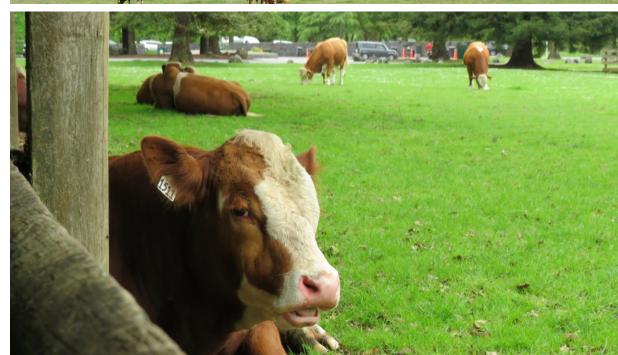






















100 Year Masterplan

Nelson Byrd Woltz & Boffa Miskell Ltd, 2014

VISION

A Park that remains the treasure of Auckland committed to providing public places for recreation, exercise, learning, cultural expression, connection to the land and to nurture, and strengthening the bonds of community. A Park that protects its sacred ground, celebrates heritage, and expresses New Zealand's agricultural roots.

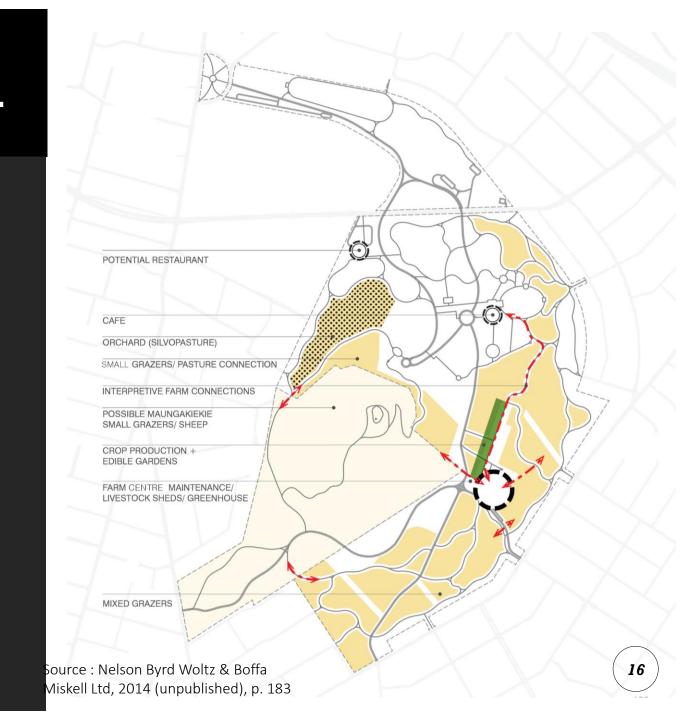


Landuse Layers



Agricultural Layer

Nga mahi ahuwhenua





On-going research - survey

Q11 Please provide a brief explanation of what you like about having grazing animals within the Park.

"It is so nice to have a working farm in the middle of the city. We love spring when the animals are calving etc and feel privileged that our children have grown up with such easy access to this aspect of nature. It is amazing that we can walk on a path that takes us right through the paddocks to be able to be 'up close and personal' with the animals" (Z1b01)

"Properly managed livestock grazing helps to reduce fire hazard by controlling the amount and distribution of grasses and other potential fuel" (Z2b05)

"Great for urban people to experience rural activities" (Z3b06)

ZONE 1

ZONE 2

ZONE 3



Auckland Council GEOMAPS https://geomapspublic.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/viewer/index.html

On-going Work

Q12 Please provide a brief explanation of what you do not like about having grazing animals within the Park

"I do sometimes worry about the impact on the animals of having such frequent human contact – and not always respectful contact although the park famers do well at trying to limit this and educate the public" (Z1b01)

"We do not like the cows grazing the park. 1) They are dangerous when calving and this is not always understood by park visitors, 2) Many paddocks are locked to the public when animals are grazing. As [the] park [is] used more and more this limits usage and results in over crowing." (Z2b13)

Q13 Please provide a brief description of any positive or negative experiences you have had with the grazing animals (sheep and cattle) within Cornwall Park

"On occasion we have discovered an animals (usually a lamb) outside its normal area or in a sickened looking state (an old steer once) which has worried us. The positive aspect of this is that we have had a great response from the farmer when we have contacted them (either in person or on the phone) which is very reassuring." (Z3b015)

On-going Work

Q10 How positive do you feel towards having grazing animals within Cornwall Park?

86% of participants responded 'Extremely positive'



