

EVOLUTION OF COMMUNITY GARDENS

The first forms

Urban gardens were created in the 1960s and 1970s to combat overbuilding, land consumption and gentrification. Early experiences led to urban regeneration and community development.

In United States

In the USA, community gardening has two faces:

Social: resistance to food waste and land consumption.

Economic: gentrification and real estate lobby operations.

During the Great Depression of the 1930s, relief gardens improved the social and economic conditions of Americans.

In the 1970s, in New York, the fiscal crisis and the abandonment of green areas led to the emergence of urban gardens managed by Land Trusts, such as the 'Trust for Public Land.'

In Europe

In Europe, 14 pioneer countries, including Great Britain, Germany and France, have created urban gardens since the 19th century.

Today, only eight countries, such as Austria and Germany, have specific laws for community gardens. These spaces promote sustainability, social integration and active citizenship.