

# SITOPIA

Rethinking our lives through food (and Covid-19)



Ambrogio Lorenzetti – Allegory of the Effects of Good Government, Siena 1338

What is a good life?



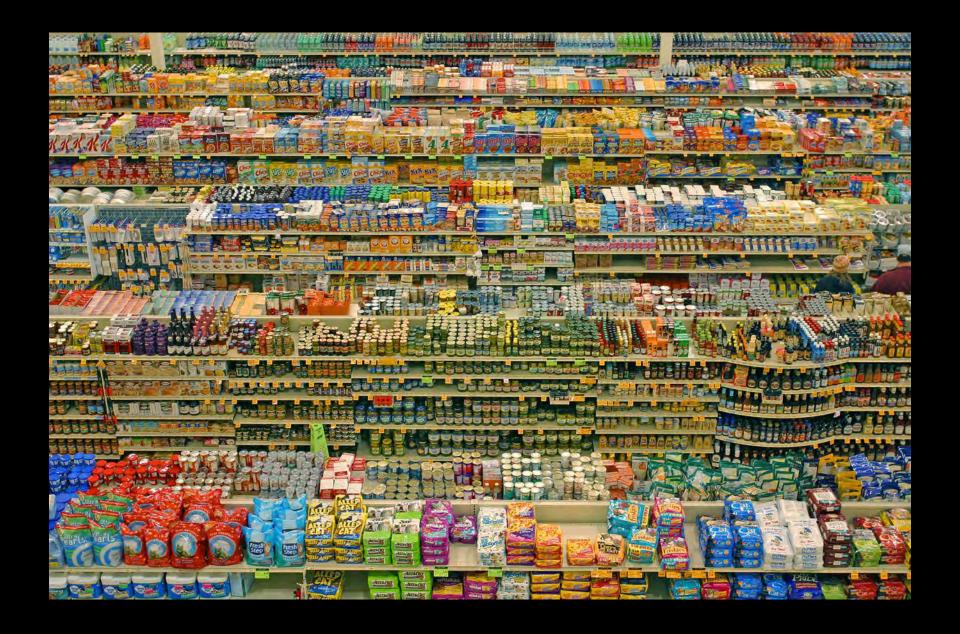
Hadza, Tanzania



London, 2020

Mato Grosso, Brazil

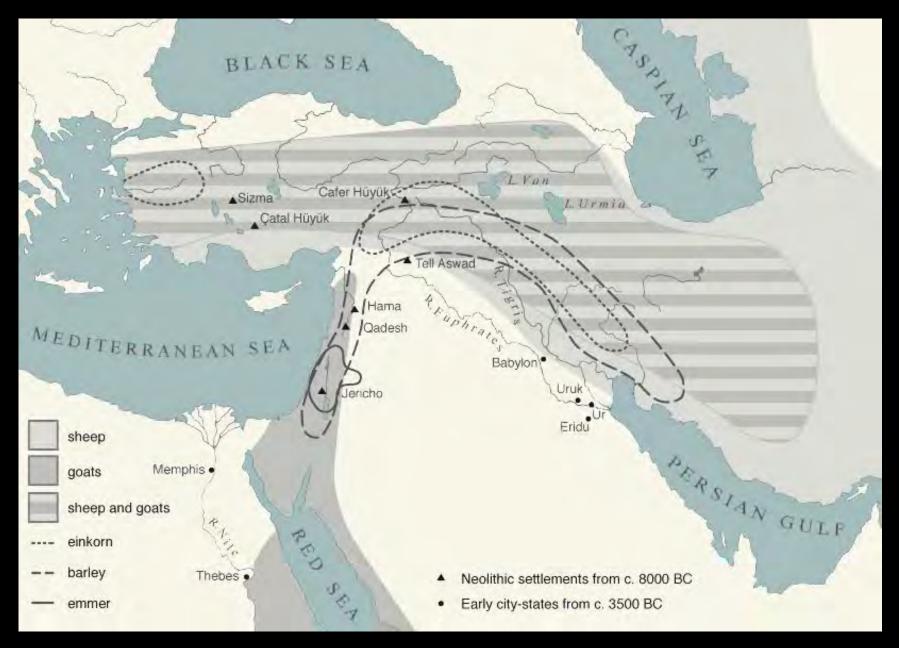
# Urban paradox



Cornucopia



London, 2020



Fertile Crescent



Ur, 2000 BCE

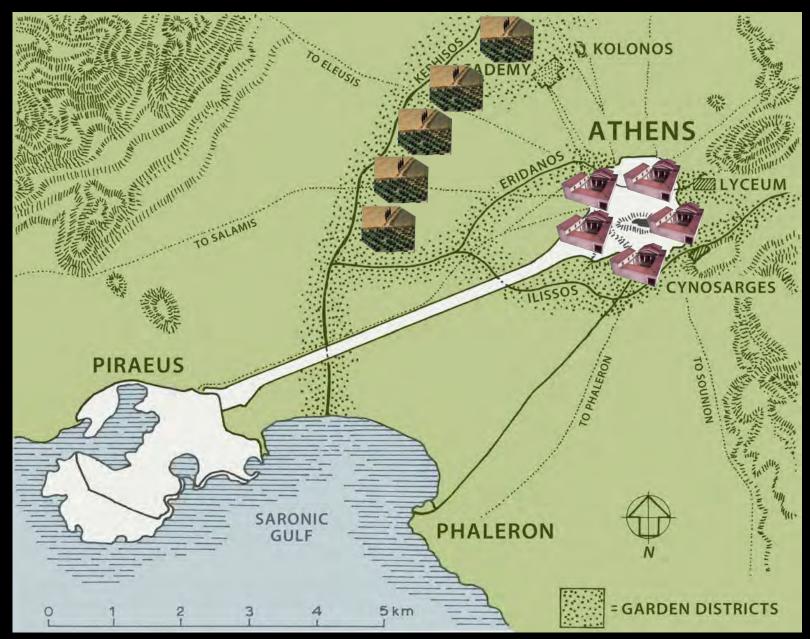
City I.0







# 'Political animals'



Athenian polis



Rome, 300 AD



Roman food miles



Johann Von Thünen – Isolated State, 1826

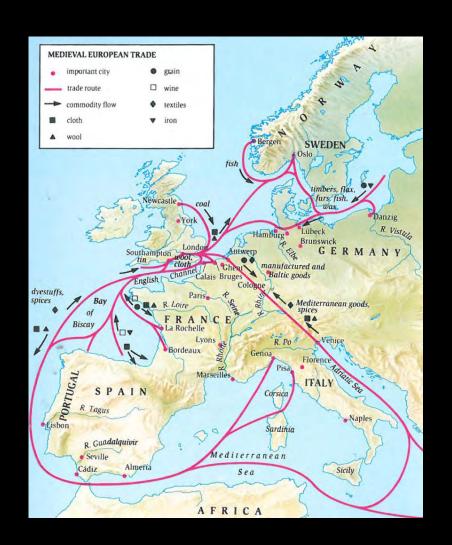
### Geography



London – Legal Quays, 1804

Paris – Port aux blés, 1782

# A Tale of Two Cities

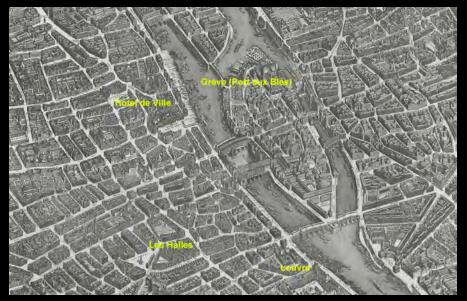




Medieval European Trade

18<sup>th</sup> century Paris 'provisioning rings' Stephen Kaplan – *Provisioning Paris* 

#### A Tale of Two Cities



Centralisation



Les Halles



'Baker of last resort'

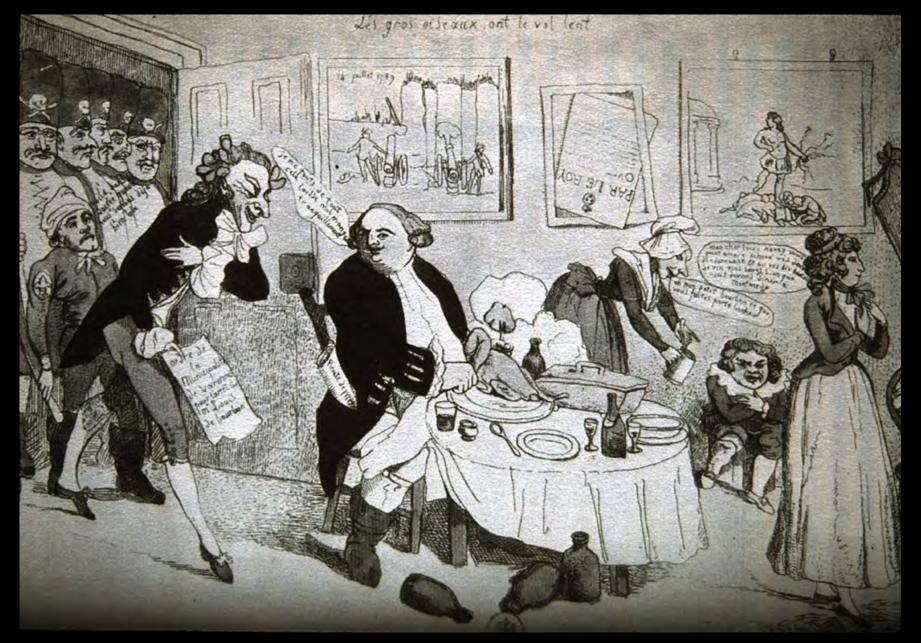




Adam Smith

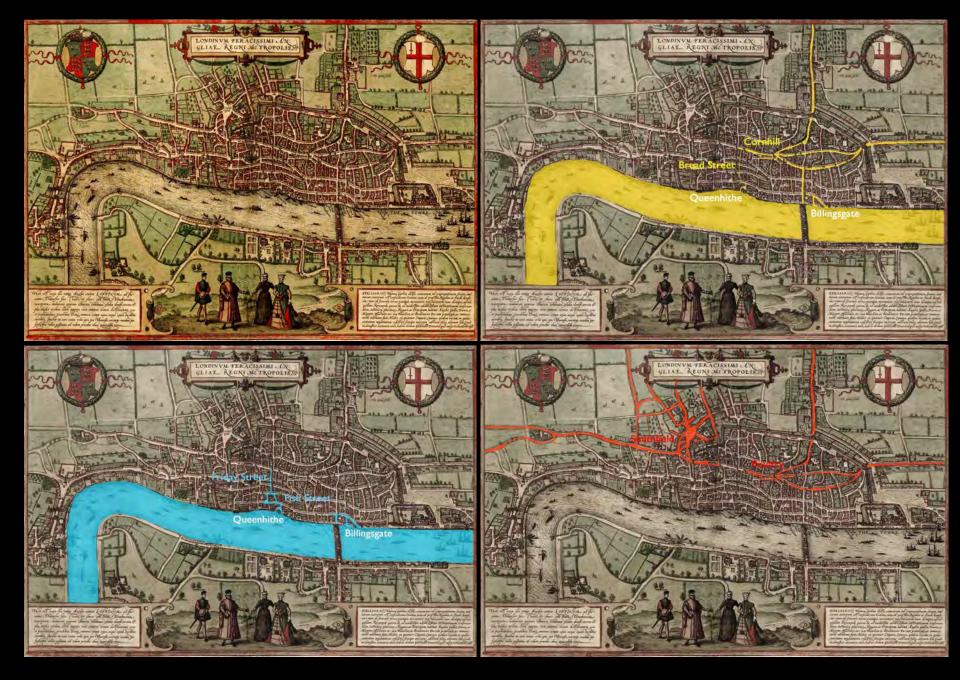
François Quesnay

## **Economics**



Fat Birds Fly Slowly

# Blame



16th century London foodways



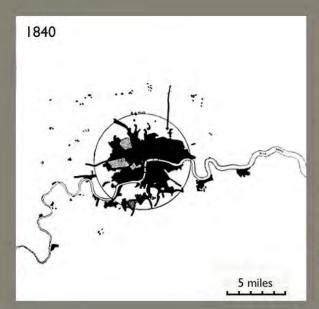
London – Smithfield Market, 1830

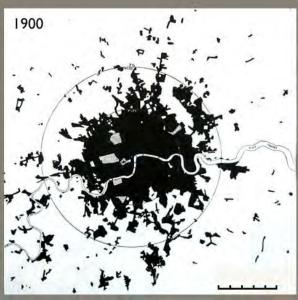
Necessary chaos



Liverpool to Manchester Railway, 1831

## Goodbye geography







Growth of London 1840-1929









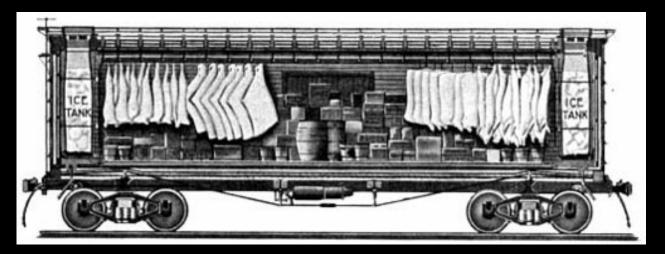
American 'Great West'

### **Transformation**



Chicago Union Stockyards, 1880

'Cheap' meat





Logistics

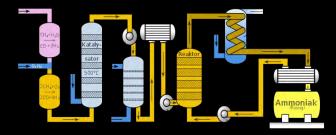


Oklahoma, 1935



Justus Liebig

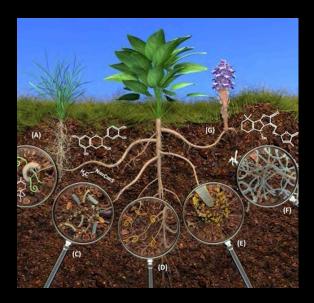




Fertilisers (Haber-Bosch)



Albert Howard



Living soil

## Industrial v Organic





'Levittown', New York 1949



'Eternal Springtime'

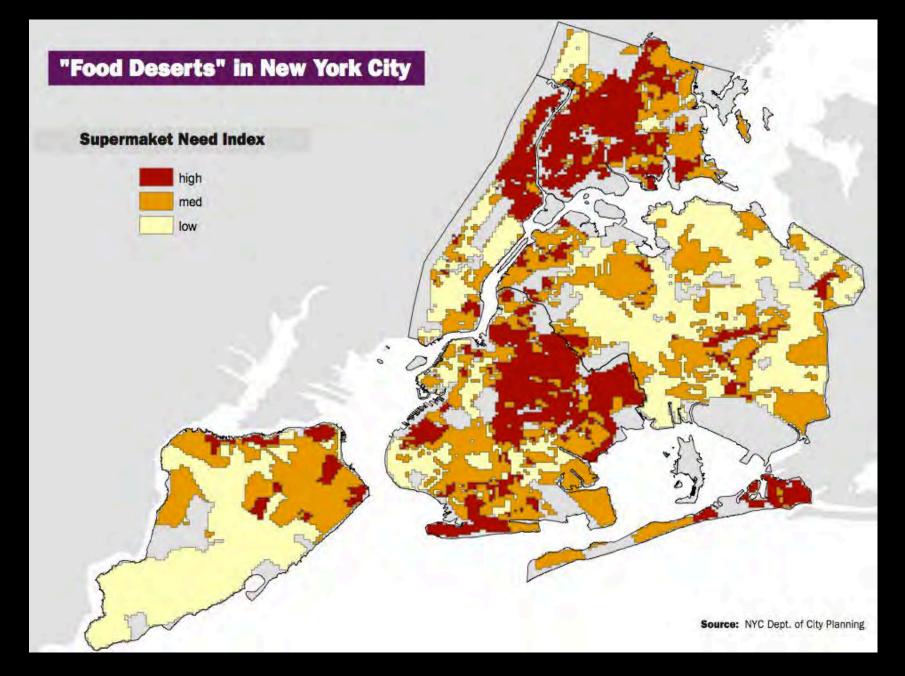


Southdale Centre, Minnesota 1956



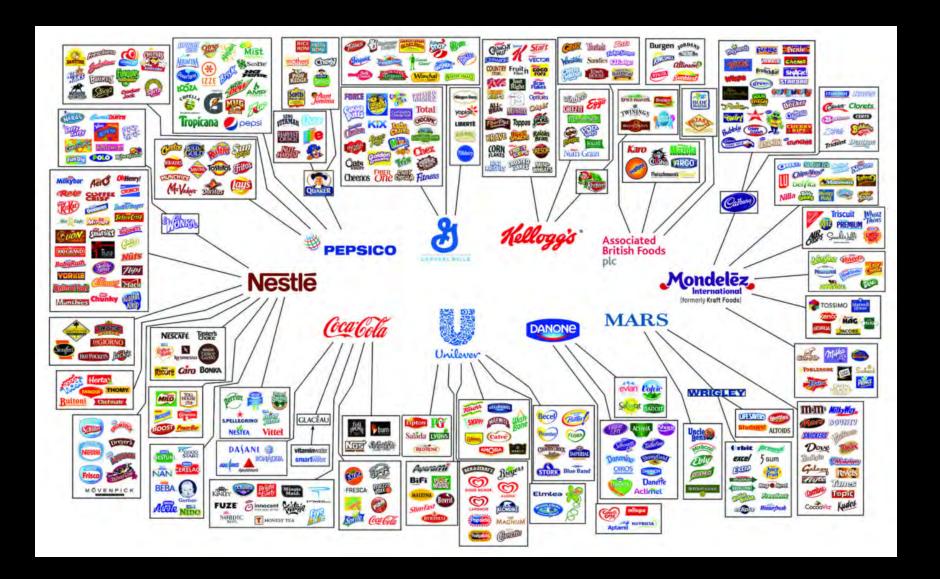
Food in boxes

#### Car town



Desertification







I/3 lost or degraded



30% food-related



70% in farming



2 billion



50% of lakes



50% wasted



1/3 harvest



10 cals for 1



55 % decline

#### Externalities



Steve Crisp



#### Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Joh...



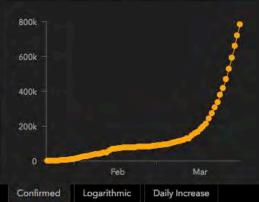


Last Updated at (M/D/YYYY)

3/31/2020 11:05:39 p.m.







Johns Hopkins 31-3-20



New Delhi, 2020



Bnagkok, 2020



Amazon, 2020



UK, 2020







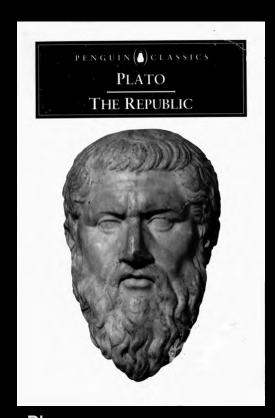
#### Resilience



Technology is the answer, but what was the question?

Cedric Price

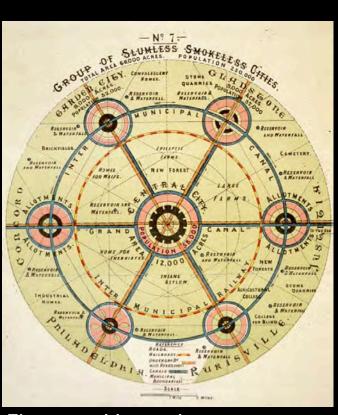
### Rethink



Plato Republic, 380 BCE



Thomas More, Utopia, 1516



Ebenezer Howard, Garden Cities of To-Morrow, 1902

























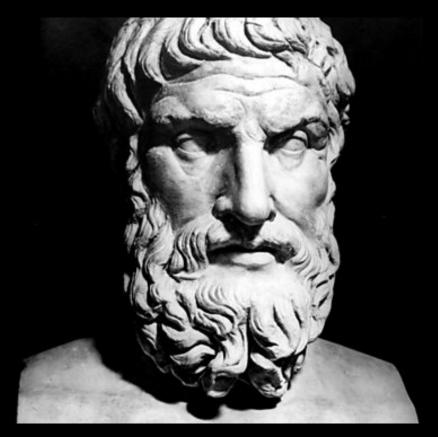


Life hack Craft

# Polarised paradigms

'Worrying about something as simple as food in the digital age is weird' – Rob Rheinhart





'Self-sufficiency is freedom' — Epicurus

## Philosophy

# Utopia = 'Good place' or 'No place'

from Greek eu, good + topos

or ou, no + topos

Sitopia = 'Food place'

from Greek sitos, food + topos, place



USA



Egypt



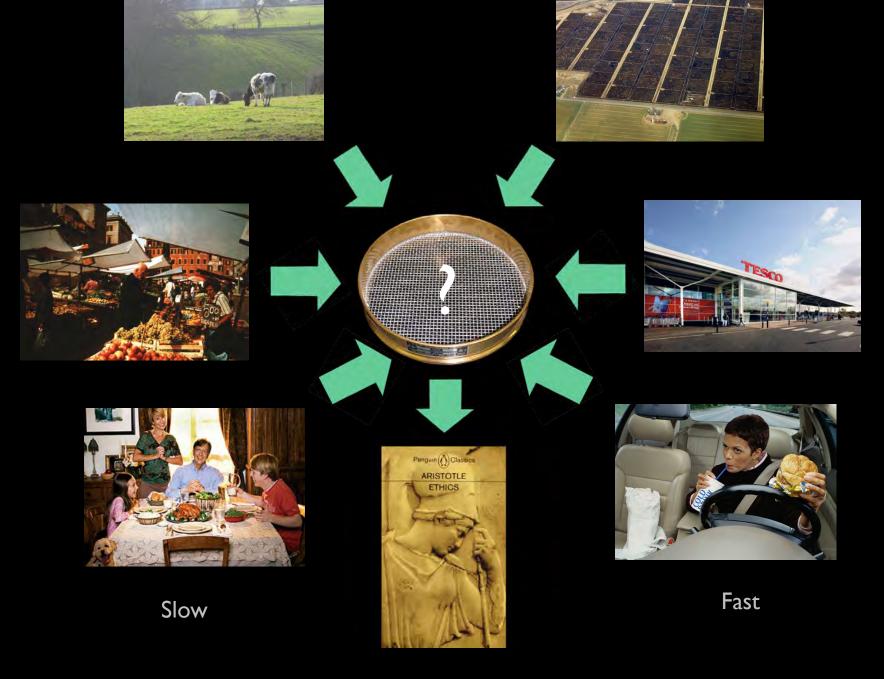
Britain



Italy

Hungry Planet
Peter Menzel and Faith D'Aluisio

Food culture



A Good Life?

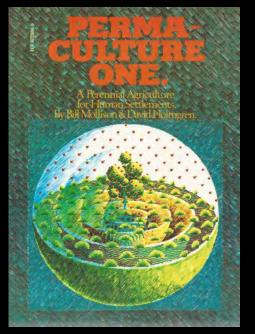






London, 1940 Havana, 2010 Detroit, 2015

### True value



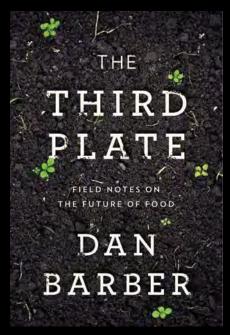
Permaculture



Forest Garden



Organic



Nature-led diet

Working with nature



Jan-Willem Grievink European Food Study

#### **Democratisation**

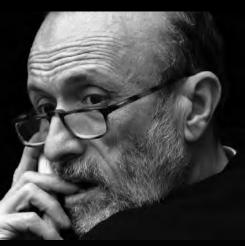


CSA – Angelic Organics, Chicago

Farmdrop, UK



Carlo Petrini



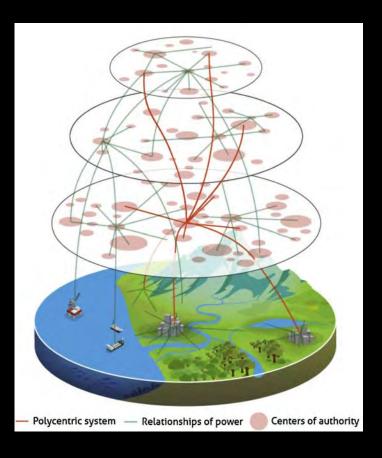


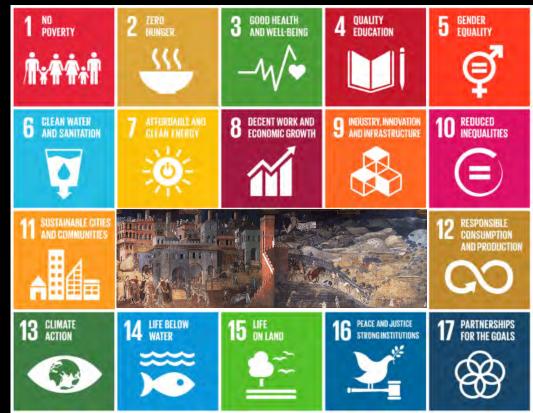
Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn



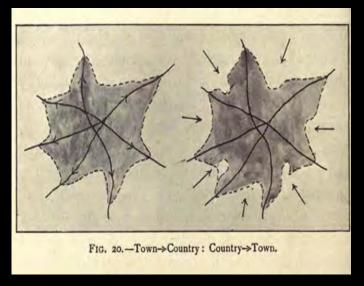
Incredible Edible Todmorden

## Co-Producing

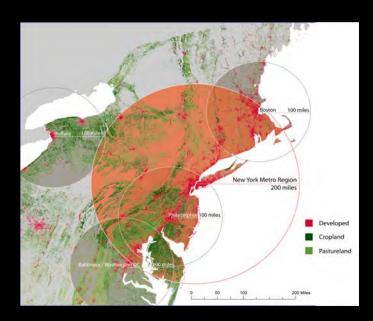




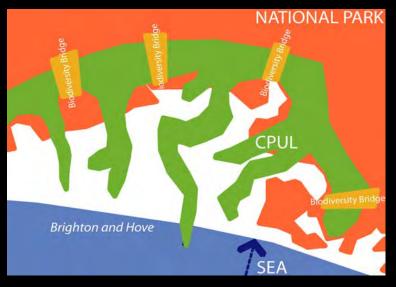
#### Governance



Patrick Geddes, Cities in Evolution, 1915



Urban Design Lab – NYC Regional Foodshed



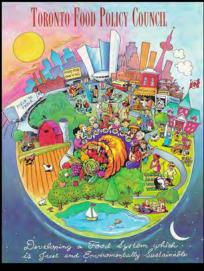
Bohn and Viljoen – CPULs



MVRDV – Almere Oosterwold

#### Neo-geographical age







Urban growing

Governance

Farmers' markets





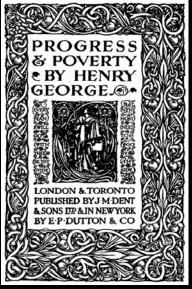


**Abattoirs** 

Food hubs

Patchwork farms

## Food planning

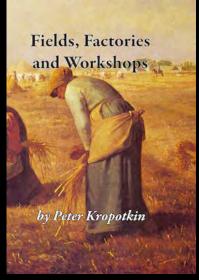


Land reform

Regenerative farming



Family farms



Infrastructure

#### Rural renaissance



British cheese, 1970



British artisanal cheese shop, 2019

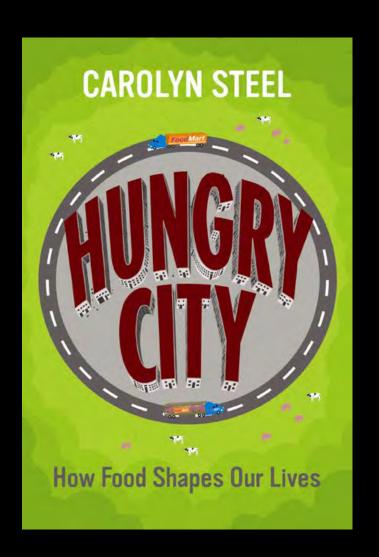
## Valuing food



A good society



Seeing through food



By the author of Hungry City

# Sitopia

Sĭtō'pĭa n. foodplace [f. Gk sitos food + topos place]



How Food Can Save the World

Carolyn Steel