

Agrihoods: The Sustainable Communities of the Future

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Agrihoods of the Past

- Act as temporary opportunities until social and financial conditions improved.
- Seen during the 1950's in post-war recovery periods
- Used out of necessity due to lack of food & resources



Abstract

With a large call for sustainable methods in construction due to current consumer interest and worries over the environment, a growing movement has developed to answer this call. This project involves a case study on agrihoods; housing developments centered around community farming. The research will be centered around the use of Freehold Communities’ in-progress 309-acre agrihood model located in Palm Springs, California known as Miralon. This, as well as information from independent third-party sources, will bring to light the numerous positive aspects involved in making communities’ sustainable though agrihood’s unique attributes. The project will touch on the possible negative aspects and challenges that have been brought forth against them. These will include challenges faced with building agrihoods, what implications it has when using them (additional labor & potential crop issues), and how sustainable these communities truly are. At the conclusion of my project, the project will provide information on agrihoods evolution, insight and collective opinions on how these agrihoods are solutions to environmental issues, the innovations in sustainability they possess, and the practicality in terms of cost and time.



Modern-Day Agrihoods

- Act as inclusive communities that facilitate food production while also providing recreation for its members
- Used for their heavy focus on sustainability, social benefit through community, and unique experiences



Miralon: Freehold Communities’ Agrihood

- Based in Palm Springs, California
- Unique Attributes: Converting former golf course into working olive groves, community gardens, and walking trails
- Includes amenity center that gives resort lifestyle to the community as well as a life-style coordinator to plan events

Sustainability Impacts

- Carbon sequestration from olive trees and ground cover
- Added shade and water efficiency
- Low maintenance costs relative to other open space planting
- Reduced need for pesticides
- Composting of olive oil byproducts
- Food Security

	Original Master Plan	Amended Master Plan
TOTAL PROJECT AREA	309 Acres	309 Acres
TOTAL UNIT COUNT	1,150 Units	1,150 Units
OPEN SPACE USES		
Golf	91 Acres	-
Orchards	-	48.1 Acres
Desert Landscaping	-	33 Acres
Gardens/Social Spaces	-	1 Acre
Dog Parks	-	0.9 Acres
Trails	-	8 Acres
Lakes	6 Acres	6 Acres
TOTAL OPEN SPACE	97 Acres	97 Acres

