



2025 - 2026
**DANNY WOO
COMMUNITY
PIG ROAST**



Historical Context

Danny Woo Community Garden has been a gathering place in Seattle's Chinatown-International District since 1975, when Bob Santos made an agreement with local property owner Danny Woo to rent the land for \$1 a year. The garden provided a space for Asian American and Pacific Islander elders to socialize, stay active, and grow vegetables that reflected their cultures.

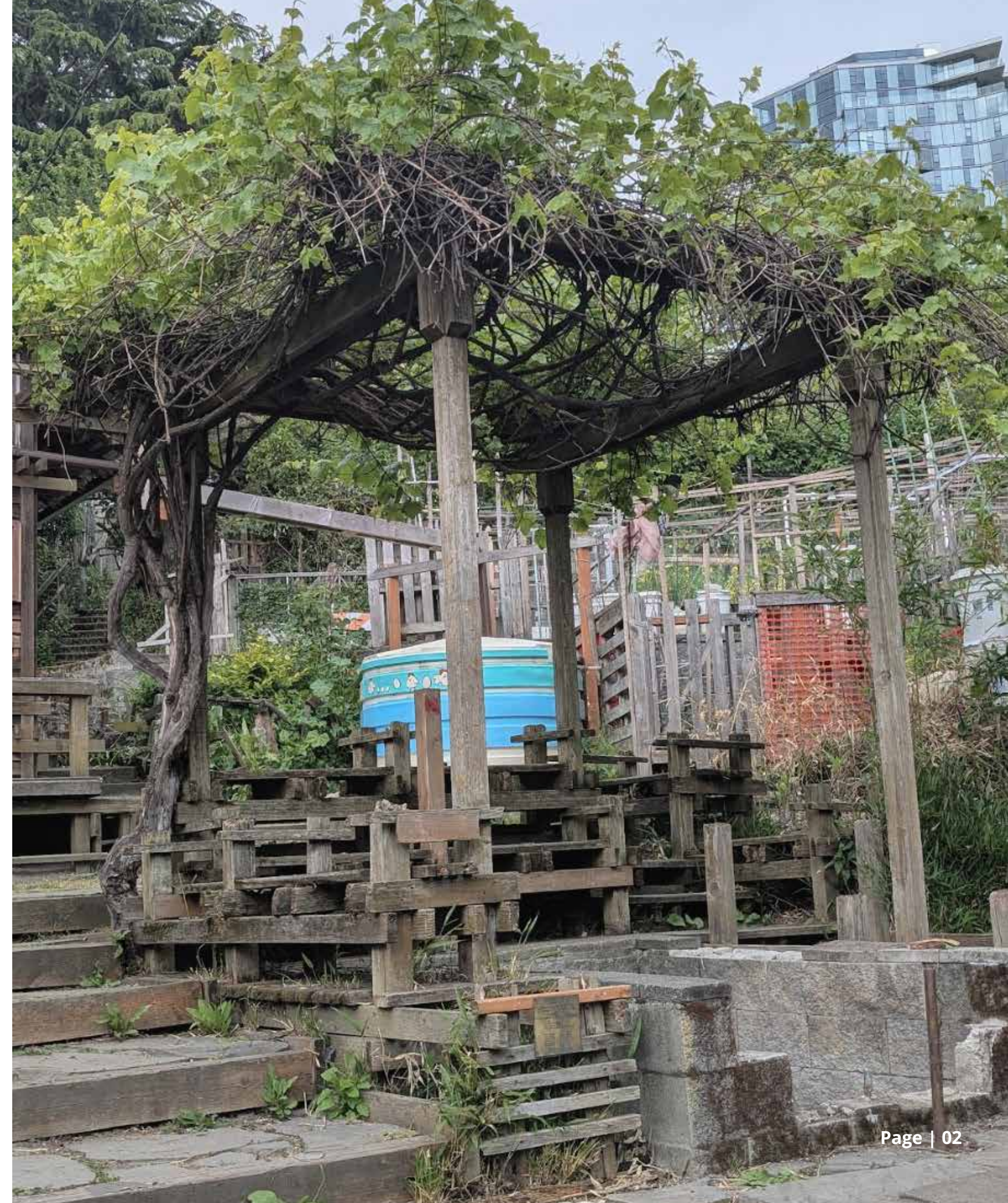
In 1976, Santos moved his annual pig roast from his backyard to the garden, beginning a tradition that continues today. Each year, volunteers gather to roast a pig overnight before coming together for a community feast the next morning.

More than a garden, the space has helped bring people of different generations and backgrounds together. For Bob Santos, it represented the community, culture, and neighborhood he worked throughout his life to protect. Today, the annual pig roast continues to honor that legacy while bringing neighbors together through food, stories, and shared memories.

The Pig Roast Pavilion

The pavilion was originally designed and built by an earlier UW design-Build team led by Steve Badanes in 1990. Over the years, the structure became an important part of the Danny Woo Community Garden and its annual events, including the pig roast. By the time our team began working on the pavilion, parts of the structure had weathered and needed repairs and improvements to remain safe and usable for the community.

The existing conditions showed the wear the pavilion had experienced over time and helped us understand why the community asked us to continue its care. Before beginning construction, we documented the existing structure and worked with the community to identify what needed to be repaired, cleaned, and rebuilt.





Community Traditions

On July 18th, the Danny Woo Community Garden hosted its 50th annual summer pig roast. We attended before beginning construction to better understand how the pavilion was used and how the community gathered around it. Volunteers roasted the pig throughout the night, preparing for the community potluck at dawn.





Preparing the Pavilion

During our first summer, we worked alongside the community to clean up and prepare the existing pavilion. We made necessary repairs and worked on the CMU block fire pit to help make the space safe and usable for the annual pig roast. This work allowed us to care for the existing pavilion while preparing it for its next chapter.

After the pig roast, we began the next stage of the project by completing the demolition of the existing pavilion. This cleared the site and allowed us to move forward with the reconstruction the following summer. Through site visits, design meetings, and hands-on work, we continued developing the project while preparing the site for construction.





Construction

After months of planning and logistics, we began construction in April. Working weekend shifts, we spent approximately 180 hours on the project, starting with a site that had been cleared and prepared for construction. We removed the remaining footings by drilling them out before setting the posts for the pavilion and benches, establishing the structure for the new space.

After all the posts were set and plumb, we began building the deck frame starting with the stairs. We then constructed the benches and decked around them throughout the pavilion. The final part of construction focused on completing the standalone benches along the west side, bringing the space together. With that, we cleaned up, moved out, and the pavillion was ready for the community to celebrate.

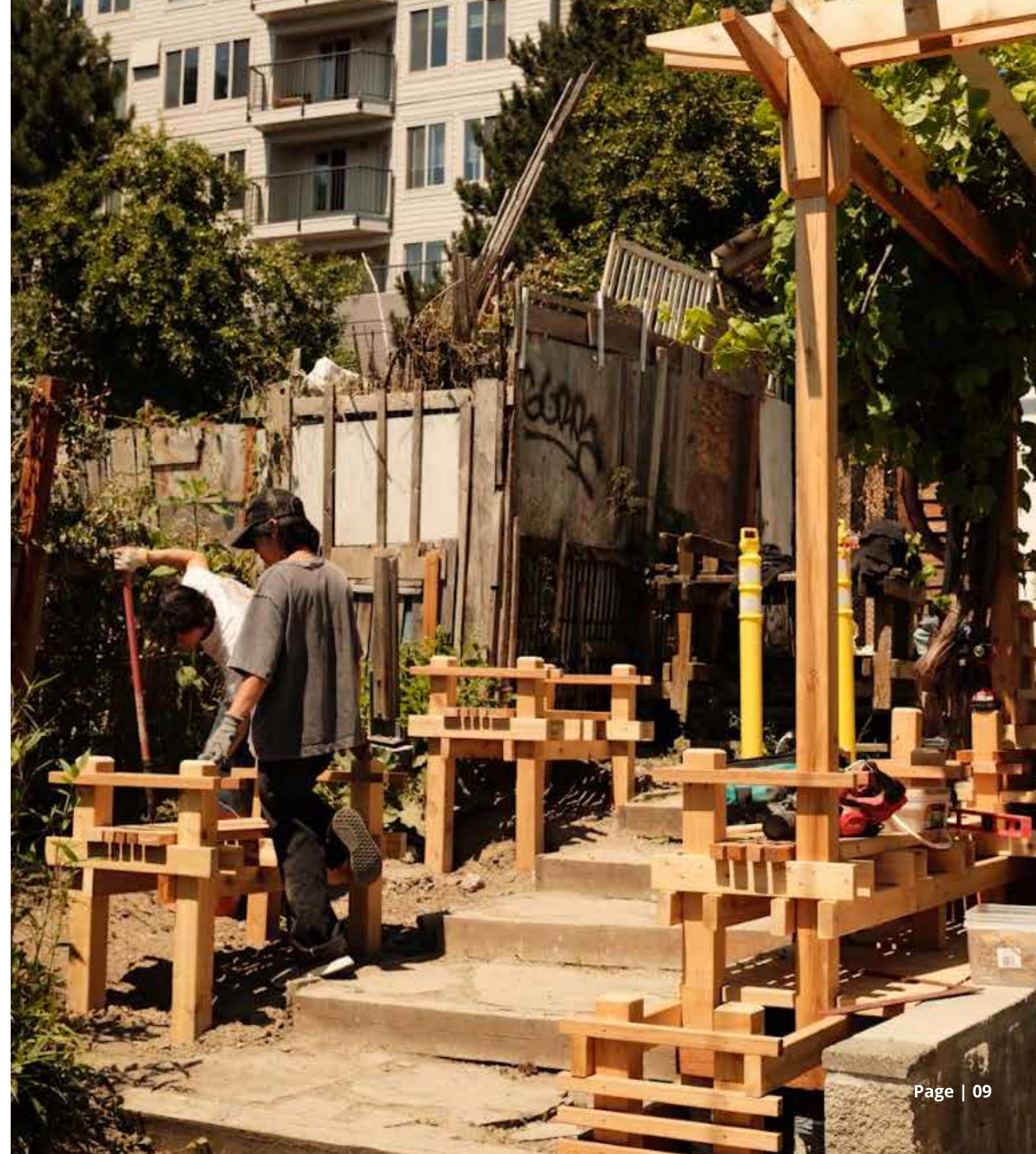






Completed Pavilion

After months of planning, building, and working together, the pavilion was completed. One of the most rewarding parts of the project was gaining hands-on construction experience and seeing our work take shape. We learned how to work with real materials, use construction tools, and solve problems on site, all while building something that would be used and appreciated by the community for years to come.





Celebration

The annual pig roast gave us the chance to celebrate alongside the community and enjoy the space we had spent months building. The pavilion was filled with people preparing food, roasting the pig, sharing meals, and gathering together throughout the day. It was special to step away from construction and experience the space with the community, seeing it become part of a tradition that had brought people together for years.





Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, knowledge, and hands to making this project possible

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Milwaukee

*Thank you to Milwaukee
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Dowbuilt

*Thank you to Dowbuilt for
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use their space and
providing us with a place
to work and build
throughout the project.*



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