

DID YOU KNOW?

FARMERETTES

Most of us have probably heard of Rosie the Riveter, but have you heard of the Farmerettes? During World War I and II, members of the Women's Land Army of America (also called Farmerettes) tended the United States' farms while workers were fighting overseas. With food scarce during wartime, keeping farms running and producing food was vital. Many of these women had never worked on farms before but pitched in to do their part for the war effort.

During World War I, Billings Farm had a unit of the Women's Land Army of America working and living on site. These pictures from 1919 show "The Woodstock Unit" of Farmerettes haying at Billings Farm and posing for photographs (see if you can recognize buildings of Woodstock's Main Street!)



Rosie the Riveter poster, WWII



A Farmerette at Billings Farm, ca. 1919 (WWI)





THE WOODSTOCK UNIT

"IN NO PREVIOUS WAR DID WOMEN PLAY SO GREAT A PART AS THEY DID IN THE WORLD WAR. NOT ONLY DID HOSTS OF THEM MAKE MUNITIONS IN FACTORIES, BUT OTHER HOSTS JOINED THE MEN IN THE PRODUCTION OF THAT OTHER SORT OF MUNITIONS—THE KIND THAT GROWS IN GARDENS."

~"The War Garden Victorious," published 1919