

GREAT DEPRESSION & WWII (1930-1945)

Photograph of the Rehoboth/ Darlington Milkmaids

The Darlington Milkmaids (originally the Rehoboth Milkmaids) posed for the camera in 1940, the year they won the Rhode Island Women's Soft Ball Championship. Made up of women from Rehoboth and surrounding towns, the team launched the career of Louise "Lou" Arnold of Pawtucket.

Arnold gained national fame, playing in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League that was featured in the 1992 film *A League of Their Own*.

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1931 The Dust Bowl forces many farmers and workers westward to seek new job opportunities.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt is elected President on the strength of his plan to bring the U.S. out of the Great Depression. **1932**

1937 Hornbine School closes due to a lack of students.

A massive hurricane hits New England, including Rehoboth. After the storm, Rehoboth men make their way through the town with axes to clear fallen debris. The town loses access to electricity and telephone service for several days. **1938**

1940 The Darlington Milkmaids win the Rhode Island State Women's Softball Championship. The Milkmaids make it all the way to the semifinals of the national tournament.

Pearl Harbor is bombed by the Japanese, and America enters World War II. Racist attitudes and unfounded fears of disloyalty lead the U.S. government to forcibly relocate thousands of Japanese Americans to internment camps. **1941**