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Autore	Willson Perry R.
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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half Title; Title Page; Copyright Page; Table of Contents; List of plates; Acknowledgements; List of abbreviations; Glossary of Italian terms and organizations; Map of Italy; Introduction; The Sezione Massaie Rurali dei Fasci Femminili; Notes; 1. Peasant women, the rural world and the Fasci Femminili; The ruralization campaign and fascist agricultural policy; The role of women in agriculture; The Fasci Femminili and rural questions; Notes; 2. Ladies in the field: women's farm education, the Unionedelle Massaie della Campagna and Domus Rustica; Agricultural education in Italy before 1933 Women's agricultural educationThe Unione delle Massaie delta Campagna; Domus rustica; Towards the future; Notes; 3. 'An Extraordinary Thing': the National Fascist Federation of Massaie Rurali; Fascist unions; Regina Terruzzi; The National Fascist Federation of Massaie Rurali; L'azione delle massaie rurali; Activities of the FNFMR; Notes; 4. 'Going to the People': the Massaie Rurali section of the Fasci Femminili; 'Going to the People' - the political project; Structure; Funding; Organizers and peasants: class hierarchies reinforced; Notes 5. 'Into Every Farmhouse and Cottage': propaganda in printThe newspaper; Pamphlets and other occasional publications; The almanac

and calendar; Delivering the message; Notes; 6.'Women with a Hundred Arms': the training programme; Rational agriculture; Competitions; Handouts; Rabbits and chickens; Intervening in the market; War, autarky and the nation; Training the trainers; Notes; 7.'At the Gates of Rome': the Sant'Alessio Training College; Aurelia Josz and the Niguarda school; The Sant'Alessio Teacher Training College; Training the Massaie leaders; Beyond training; Notes  
8.A Dopolavoro for rural women? radio, film and folkloreWelfare and leisure; Getting out; Film; Radio; North and South; Notes; 9.Recruiting for the nation: Why did three million jointhe Massaie Rurali?; Who joined?; Regional differences; The Church; Reggio Emilia; The South; Future voters; Notes; Epilogue; 1943-5; Modernization?; Political legacy; The Coldiretti; The UMC and the Coldiretti; Donne Rurali; Notes; Index

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Peasant women were the largest female occupational group in Italy between the wars. They led lives characterised by great poverty and heavy workloads, but Fascist propaganda extolled them as the mothers of the nation and the guardians of the rural worlds, the most praiseworthy of Italian women.This study is the first published history of the Massaie Rurali, the Fascist Party's section for peasant women, which, with three million members by 1943, became one of the largest of the regime's mass mobilizing organizations. The section played a key role in such core fascist campaigns as

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ISSN	1467-8306
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Disciplina	508 910.5
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