A recurring theme in 20th century Cleveland that continues to the present day is that during difficult economic periods communities of people have come together to raise food crops on city land. The working men’s farms during the Great Depression, the victory gardens during World War II, community gardens established during the years of urban renewal, and the present day market gardeners of the local food movement, all provide examples of revivals of urban agriculture as a response to economic difficulties. As more and more people try to stretch their budgets during this recession, some are turning to the backyard as the place to look for food.

The exhibit features images of commercial greenhouses, victory gardens, work relief gardens, community gardens and Cleveland Public School Horticulture Program.

More photographs, e-books and other information can be found at www.clevelandmemory.org. Free and open to the public. To register and for more information visit our website at www.urban.csuohio.edu/forum or call 216.523.7330.