



GENESEE COUNTRY VILLAGE & MUSEUM

19th-Century Occupations & Positions

- Actress—a woman who performs in a play
- Blacksmith—person who creates objects from wrought iron or steel by forging the metal, using tools to hammer, bend, and cut. Blacksmiths produce objects such as gates, grilles, railings, light fixtures, furniture, sculpture, tools, agricultural implements, decorative and religious items, cooking utensils and weapons.
- Butler—the chief male servant in a home who oversees other servants, welcomes guests, directs the serving of meals, and other household duties
- Carpenter-- a person who builds or repairs wooden structures or their structural parts.
- Cobbler—a person who makes or mends shoes and other leather goods
- Cooper—a person who makes or repairs wooden containers like buckets, firkins, caskets, or tubs
- Cook—a person who is paid to prepare food for eating
- Dressmaker—a person who is paid to make women's dresses
- Drover—a person who moves large groups of livestock from one location to another
- Farmer—a person who cultivates land or crops or raises animals
- Fur Trader—a person who hunts animals and sells their pelts
- Governess—a woman who cares for and teaches children in a private home
- Gunsmith—a person who designs, makes, and repairs small firearms
- Herbalist—a person who practices healing using herbs
- Laborer—a person who does unskilled physical labor for wages
- Laundress—a woman who washes clothing for wages
- Lawyer—a person who works for others conducting lawsuits or other matters dealing with the law
- Lumberman—a person who does or oversees the business of cutting, processing and selling lumber
- Maid-of-all-work—a woman who does general housework inside another's home for wages



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- Midwife—a woman who assists other women in the process of childbirth
- Miller—a person who grinds grain into flour
- Milliner—a person who designs, makes, trims or sells women's hats
- Missionary—a person who travels and spreads information about their religion, especially to foreign areas
- Musician—a person who plays an instrument
- Night-Soil Man-- A person whose job was to collect the contents of chamber pots (feces) in the morning from domestic households primarily in cities
- Physician—a person educated and experiences to practice medicine
- Potter—a person who makes an assortment of household items out of clay
- Seamstress—a woman who sews clothing for wages
- Shaker Brother—a man who is a member of the Shaker religion
- Stable-Hand—a person who works in a stable or farm and cares for the animals located there for wages
- Street-seller—a person who sell items while on the street, often from a cart, and travels around to different locations while selling wares
- Society Matron—a married woman, usually of a wealthy family, who holds power and influence in society
- Tailor—a man who makes clothing for men for wages
- Teacher—a person who instructs children
- Tinsmith—a person who makes or repairs things made of tinsplate
- Traveling Medicine Man—a traveling salesman who sells medicines (elixirs, miracle cures) of dubious quality. Usually travels with a group of performers and entertainers who do acts between sales pitches for the product they are selling.
- Waitress—a woman who waits on tables at a restaurant