

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 46 M 4

Location Case 45

Title The Whitney Cookery Collection

Approximate inclusive dates c. 15th - 19th century

Date of receipt 1945

Received from Estate of Helen Hay Whitney

Volume on arrival 17 manuscripts

Number of boxes (after reboxing)

Condition Fair

Restrictions None

Description

The 17 manuscripts in this collection came to the Manuscripts Division in 1945 as part of the larger Whitney Cookery Collection. The manuscripts date from the 15th century to the 19th century. Of the 17 manuscripts, 15 are English, one American and one Mexican. In addition to cookery recipes most of the manuscripts also contain medicinal recipes and remedies, as well as mixtures for cleaning solutions and other household items.

An inventory of the entire Whitney Cookery Collection was made by Lewis M. Stark and published by the Library in 1946. The first 17 entries give bibliographic descriptions of the manuscripts in the collection and these are supplemented by information in the introductory pages of the text. One of the volumes (#12) appears to have been rebound since the descriptions were made, but in general the descriptions are still accurate. As noted by Stark some of the manuscripts are of interest not only for their content, but for their calligraphy and illustrations as well. The collection as a whole has significant artifactual value due to the scarcity of surviving cookery manuscripts.

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

Cookery

Accessioned by _____ FP

Date _____ 5/12/86

of the particular edition so marked is already in the Library. A few titles in the Berg and Arents collections are separately noted, as the holdings of these two special collections do not appear in the card catalogues of the Library. Capitalization of the title pages has been followed up to 1660.

MANUSCRIPTS

- 1 Ancient cookery ms. xv century. 15 l. sm. 4to. [Collection of cookery and medical recipes] English ms., 17th-19th cent. 26 l., 116 p., 69 l. fol.
Binder's title.
For description see above.
The recipes are in several hands.
The 26 leaves preceding the paged section of recipes comprise legal records of the years 1641 and 1642. The first leaf is blank; on the second is inscribed: *Oliverus St John... juratus fuit Solicitor gen^l Dni Regis Caroli... die Veneris 29^o: Januarij 1640...* Leaf 4 is headed: *The Dockets since February 1640... of all bussines[sic] which hath passed by M^o Solicitor: St Johns.*
Bound in sheep.
Imperfect: p. 21-22, 97-98 wanting.
- 8 [Collection of medical and cookery recipes] English ms. 17th(?) cent. fol.
A fine manuscript, the majority of the recipes written in a 17th(?) century hand, with some later additions. There are four sections, paged in ms., each preceded by an index (and separated by groups of blank leaves): [Medical recipes] (20 p., 21-22 f., 23-30 p.); "Receipts for Chirurgerie" (10 p.); "Receipts for preseruinge" (25 p.); "Receipts for Cookerie" (29 p.).
Bound in contemporary black morocco, gilt; with engraved silver clasps.
- 7 Rand, Abigail.
Domestic cookery ms. English, 17th(?) cent. 66 l. 4to.
Binder's title.
With inscription on first leaf: Abigail Rand her book. First recipe also signed: Abigail Rand.
Binding, 19th century, of vellum.
- 6 MS. book of cookery recipes. English, 17th cent. 8 p.l., 84 p., 3 l., 6, 15-17 p., 8 l. 12mo.
Binder's title.
- 2 Percy, Lady Anne.
[Manuscript cookery book] English, ca. 1650. 84 l. fol.
For description see above.
- 5 Davies, Mary.
[Collection of medical and cookery recipes] English ms. 1 p.l., 140 p., 8 l. 4to.
Inscription on verso of first leaf: Mary Davies her booke 1684.
The recipes are in several hands.
Bound in contemporary limp vellum.
- 4 Morton, Lady Anne.
The Ladey Mortons Booke of Receipts, most of which shee hath experimented her selfe and are uerey good. 1693. English ms. 1 p.l., 102 p., 3 l., 103-164 p., 1 l. sm. fol.
Imperfect: p. 61-62 wanting.
In contemporary calf binding; rebacked.
- 3 Yate, Joane.
Receipt Book ye 1st. English ms., 1682. 2 p.l., (1)1-90(1) p., 14 l. 4to.
Title in ms. on front cover.
Inscription on first leaf: Joane Yate Her Booke.
Paged in ms.; p. [91] and leaves 1-12 at end blank;
Bills of fare, 1. 13-14.
In original vellum binding.
- 13 [Collection of medical and cookery recipes] English ms., 1761. 2 p.l., 79(1), (1)80-183 p., 2 l. 4to.
Inscription on first leaf: Mary Bronthead her book given her by Aunt 1761.
Paged in ms.; p. 45-96, 177-[188] blank.
Written in various hands, with numerous late additions; with partial index tipped in at front of volume.
- 14 Wilson, Elizabeth.
Cookery ms. book. English, 1824. 238 [i.e. 226] p. 8vo.
Binder's title.
Signed and dated on flyleaf: Elizabeth Wilson Ryton 6th April 1824.
Pages numbered in ms.; nos. 77-78, 190-199 omitted. Many pages blank.
Includes a few medical recipes.
Imperfect: p. 89-90 wanting.
- 9 [Collection of household recipes, miscellaneous entries, etc., in several hands] English ms., 17th-18th cent. 173 l. 12mo.
The volume, bound in contemporary calfskin, includes a philosophical treatise in Latin, headed "Compendium Ethicor Buridani," with later commentary in English; "The art of short writing," an interesting early method of shorthand; and numerous household remedies and cookery recipes. Some entries are dated, ranging approximately from 1660 to 1732.
With autographs of Robert Lilly and Robert Moore; and bookplate of Sara R. Dunn.
- 10 [Collection of medical and cookery recipes] English ms., 18th cent. 139 l. 4to.
The recipes are in several hands.
Numerous leaves are blank, and some have been cut out, leaving only stubs.
Bound in contemporary vellum.

The Whitney Cookery Collection

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- 15 Coleccion de Recetas de Cosina y Reposteria, del Vso y propiedad del Combeno[sic] de Señores Religiosas de N. Mc. Pña de la Concep^{on} Año de 1839. 2 p.l., 150 p., 60 l. front. 4to.
<first wife of George Meredith the novelist & poet> With occasional autograph notes inserted by George Meredith and Thos: Love Peacock. 1849-1850. 1 p.l., 190 f. 4to.
For description see above.
Imperfect: p. 41-44, 133-134 wanting.
- 16 Meredith, Mary Ellen.
Autograph manuscripts of dissertations on cookery, etc. By Mrs Mary Ellen Meredith
[Manuscript cook book] American, 19th cent. 30 l. 8vo.
Written in various hands, in ink and pencil. Some of the recipes are dated, ranging from 1834 to 1895.