Let’s Get Lunch:
An exhibit for the discerning palate
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Drinks and Appetizers

We all need food. Without it, we cannot survive. Yet the human relationship with food is intricate, complex, and varies widely across individuals and cultures. Our relationship with food can be at once deeply personal and private while also serving as a bridge to connect with others, sometimes meaningfully and sometimes just superficially. We've all heard the old platitude, "let's get lunch sometime," a statement upon which potential connections can either flourish or wither. Given the opportunity, food has the power to draw us in and connect us with each other, just as cookbooks can connect us to the people and cultures who created them.

Entrees

Food can also help us build communities. Shared experience helps create strong foundations between individuals and larger groups of people, and shared meals are a common avenue for those experiences. Just as food helps us build meaningful connections across groups, an understanding of the food from another culture or time helps foster deeper, meaningful understanding of those cultures and times. Cookbooks can offer a valuable way to access that potential for understanding.

Desserts

And food can simply be fun! Cooking and cookbooks can be artistic or experimental, and cooking or eating together complements and strengthens existing relationships. Meals are an excellent excuse to spend quality time with people we care about. After all, we all need food.

Case 1: Drinks & Appetizers

[Hanover, N.H.], [1971].
D.C. History TX740 .D3

The Dartmouth Wives Association was founded to help women connect with each other, and “share rewarding social, cultural and educational activities.” They compiled personal recipes into cookbooks like this one to help finance club activities.

Graham, Sylvester. A Treatise on Bread and Bread Making.
Boston: Light & Stearns, 1837.
Rare TX769 .G68
According to Sylvester, “it is the wife, the mother only,” who can feel “so deep and delicate an interest for their husbands and children’s happiness” so as to be capable of adequately preparing the bread their family consumes (using his guide, of course).


Illustrated by a local illustrator, The Bread Book helps children explore the history and traditions of bread and offers simple recipes so they “can try their own skill at one of the oldest and most satisfying human arts.”


For each month of the year, this "forager's guide" offers a selection of recipes inspired by wild ingredients. The Wild Gourmet offers guidance for would-be foragers and chefs on how to find and prepare wild foods.


Containing directions for mixing most of the beverages used in America, The Bon Vivant’s Companion offers an updated guide to mixing drinks, sprinkled with a variety of choice epigraphs: “Roses are blue, violets are pink, immediately after the thirteenth drink.”


“Jerry Thomas has traveled Europe and America in search of all that is recondite in this branch of the spirit art.” The resulting guide contains directions for mixing “all the beverages used in the United States,” as well as a manual for the manufacture of cordials, liquors and fancy spirits, by Christian Schultz.

Dartmouth fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon, would have used these recipes to provide alcohol to members and guests in the 1940's. Had Keystone been in production yet perhaps there would have been no need for such a booklet, dedicated as it is to a variety of drink recipes.

**Case 2: Entrees**

Boston Dartmouth Women’s Club.  
*Favorite Dartmouth Recipes.*  
Edited by Mrs. Ralph H. Field.  
Drawings by Ada Heimbach (Mrs. Norman Logan).  
[Boston], [between 1960 and 1969].  
D.C. History TX 715 .D37

The women of Boston Dartmouth Women’s Club “have long felt, modestly, among themselves, that much of the excellence that is Dartmouth is largely due to the fact that the wives and mothers of Dartmouth men are superb cooks.”

Dods, Matilda Lees. *Handbook of Practical Cookery.*  
London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1906.  
Miniature 66

For such a small, some may even say impractical, book, the *Handbook of Practical Cookery* manages to include recipes for almost every course as well as a philosophy of cookery.

Foreword by William Ingram.  
Presses G555be

Containing “solid sustenance for inquisitive minds, sumptuous recipes for adventurous and imaginative cooks and woodcuts to delight the eye,” *Sallets, Humbles and Shrewsbury Cakes* reproduces Elizabethan recipes and transcribes them for the modern chef.

Tuck-Thayer Wives Club, Dartmouth College.  
*The Tuck-Thayer Wives Club Cook Book.*  
[Hanover, N.H.], [1967].  
D.C. History TX715 .T83

The original Dartmouth Wives Association, the club provided an outlet for the wives of grad students to connect with each other and participate in academic life at Dartmouth. To the women who contributed the recipes, the book represents “a personal remembrance of wonderful days in Hanover.”
“Pilfered from a new system of domestic cookery written by a lady.”

Greene, Ellin. Clever Cooks; 
*a concoction of stories, charms, recipes and riddles.*
Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman.
Illus H997gr

“Start with a basic collection of clever cooks, stir in a few recipes, sprinkle in some riddles and a charm or two, and you end up with a most delightful concoction,” or, a fun book meant to help kids explore the world of food.

A Lady. *The New Domestic Cookery.*
Derby: Thomas Richardson, [between 1830 and 1839].
Rare TX 717 .L34 1830z

Written by an unnamed woman, The New Domestic Cookery offers “complete instructions for cooking every description of viands with cheapness and elegance.”

Mattimore, Jean and Clarke. *Cooking by the Clock; step by step preparation of meals.*
Illustrated by Teresa Kilham.
Alumni M434c

“For the bride who has a job it will be a treasure,” *Cooking by the Clock* aims to provide a comprehensive, step by step guide to help women prepare complete meals for their families.

1922. Vilhjalmur Stefansson correspondence.
MSS-242 Box 20

According to explorer Roald Amundsen there is “no better meat on the market. It is tender, juicy and of delicate flavor.” *Alaska Reindeer Meat* provides a variety of recipes for those interested in trying reindeer for themselves.

*The Red Door Wurst Cookbook: how to cook and enjoy our fine sausages.*
Hanover, N.H.: Red Door, [between 1970 and 1979].
D.C. History TX749 .R43
Though The Red Door no longer exists in Hanover, its collection of sausage recipes, meant to help customers bring their products to their full potential, remains offering an insight into the town’s atmosphere in the 1970’s.

_The ABC of Herb and Spice Cookery._
Decorations by Ruth McCrea.
Presses P4414abc

Offering an alphabet full of recipes, this cookbook promises that, “if your dishes seem too common, you can change them in a trice, with a dash of kitchen magic: just a bit of herb and spice!”

**Case 3: Desserts**

_Hot from the Oven._ [Sturbridge, Mass.]: [Old Sturbridge Village], [1964]
Presses S859hot

Scent has the power to refresh memories, and the scent of baking cookies has a distinctive power in particular. With this in mind, Old Sturbridge Village offers a recipe book to help tourists conjure memories of their visit once they return home.

Lincoln, Mary J. _Frozen Dainties._
NH N28 1889

According to the White Mountain Freezer Co, Mary Lincoln is the “leading authority on all matters pertaining to the culinary department of the home” and this small text is her collection of “receipts” for ice-creams, sherbets, and other frozen delicacies.

Adomeit, Ruth E. _The Little Cookie Book._
Presses E48ad

Filled with thirty-one of the author's favorite recipes, this sweet cookie-sized little book is sure to delight. The design was inspired by nineteenth century miniature books, tucked into waistcoat pockets, although this miniature edition is most likely meant for apron pockets.

Dartmouth Wives Association. _Desserts and Drinks Cookbook._
D.C. History TX773 .D3
The women of the Dartmouth Wives Association helped the wives of Dartmouth men participate in social and academic life at Dartmouth. They compiled personal recipes into numerous cookbooks to finance their pursuits.

Parloa, Maria. *Camp Cookery: how to live in camp.*
Boston, MA: D. Estes, 1878.
Rare TX823 .P25 1878

Prior to the recipes themselves, Miss Parloa offers comprehensive guidance for preparing and setting up a camp. The question remains: Would such guidance, written by a woman, be taken seriously outside of a cookbook in 1878?

New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1882.
D.C. History TX773 .B87

“Though fortune frown and skies are drear, and friends are changing year by year, one thing is always sure to please, just give him puddings such as these.”