

Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book

Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book,
1842-1918



Title Statement

Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book A Guide to the Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book, 1842-1918 Ms.2011.088

Subtitle: A Collection in Special Collections

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Profile Description

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Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Revision Description

2022-10 Updated description to person-first language when discussing enslaved people. adv

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2011.088

Unit Date

1842-1918

Language

English .

Abstract

The Macon County, AL household book keeps: a variety of recipes and outline of duties for enslaved people. Entires within the book range from 1858 to 1918. Within the pages of the book, there are also a variety of letters and clipped articles kept in a scrapbook fashion.

Creator

Carter, Zoonomia D. Hoxey, fl.1840s-1850s

Extent

0.2 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish material from Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book must be obtained from Special Collections, Virginia Tech.

Acquisition Information

Special Collections, Virginia Tech purchased the Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book in August 2010.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book was completed in October 2011.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Macon County, Alabama, Household and Recipe Book, Ms2011-088, Special Collections, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Va.

Historical Note

European settlers established Macon County, AL, in December 1832. The previous inhabitants, Creek Indians, vacated the land following the Indian Removal Act of 1830. Macon County, there after, developed into a traditional, agrarian Southern community; cotton production occurred on large plantations sustained by enslaved people.

After the Civil War, many citizens--black and white--fled in search of jobs within the industrial cities of the North and West. Today, Macon County's population consists largely of African Americans. The rural economy faces high rates of poverty.

Notable sites within Macon County include: Tuskegee University, Tuskegee National Forest, and Moton Field (the training site of the Tuskegee Airmen of WWII).

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of one household and recipe book from Macon County, AL. A variety of writers left entries within the journal, most notably Miss Zoonomia d. Hoxey Carter and Mrs. M. P. Edwards.

A majority of the collection pertains to culinary interests. There are numerous recipes for cakes and icings, "messy" doughnuts, "pickels," and breads. Some unique entries include a "Japanese Salad," "Rusk," and beer. Most of recipes contain a listing of ingredients and appropriate "method." However, some measurements maybe: unfamiliar (e.g. "saltspoon") or ambiguous (e.g. wine glass) to the contemporary chef.

Written also within the book is an elaborate "description of servants duties." Each enslaved person receives his/her own section that outlines specific tasks and times for schedules on which they should be executed. Collectively, all were responsible for: meals, the enslaver's children, other enslaved people, clean rooms, livestock, firewood, laundry, gardening, and the enslavers themselves.

Folded between the pages are also several letters of personal correspondence, poetry, prayer. Though one letter is undated, others range from 1842 to 1891.

Keywords

History of Food and Drink
Home economics

Arrangement

Arrangement

The collection is arranged by material type.

Description of Subordinate Components

Recipe Book

box 1