From the East Kingdom Cooks Guild, Field Research Division



By Brunissende Dragonette de Brocéliande, Lêretochter bî Juliana von Altenfeld

How to serve squirrels

Many in the Canton have wondered what could be the use of these proud although annoying creatures. Gladly, French cooks in the 14th century had an answer.

Escurieux: Le Ménagier De Paris, circa 1393 in the chapter "Menues choses" (small things)

Escurieux soient escorchiés, effondrés, reffais comme connins, rostis, ou en pasté : mengiés à la cameline ou à la sausse de hallebrans en pasté.

Translation: "Squirrels are skinned, gutted, trussed like rabbits, roasted or put in pastry: eat with cameline sauce or in pastry with wild duck sauce."

The German of the 16th Century though similarly:

From From Marx Rumpolt, Ein New Kochbuch, c. 1581 Transliteration and translation © 1999 by M. Grasse http://clem.mscd.edu/~grasse/GK_game1.htm

Von einem Eichhorn kanstu nemmen zum Gebraten/ eynmachen/ vnd in ein Pasteten eyngeschlagen/ vnd kalt lassen werden/ so ist es gut vnnd wolgeschmack.

Translation: "From a squirrel you can take to roast/ prepared /and folded into a pie/ and let get cold/ so it is good and well tasting."

So, now, you know what a period use would be. Cook them, preferentially in a pie

Useful references:

Le ménagier de Paris :

- in French: http://gallica.bnf.fr/scripts/ConsultationTout.exe?E=0&O=N083111
- translated: http://www.daviddfriedman.com/Medieval/Cookbooks/Menagier/

East Kingdom Cooks Guild discussion group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/EKCooksGuild/

And thanks to the Sca-cooks mailing list:

To subscribe or unsubscribe visit http://www.ansteorra.org/mailman/listinfo/sca-cooks
