



Harvard Professor to Lecture on Food History

For Immediate Release
April 24, 2018

Contact: Mark Payne, 304-346-8500
payne@wvhumanities.org

Charleston, WV — The Humanities Council is partnering with the Harvard Club of West Virginia to bring Joyce E. Chaplin, Harvard University Professor of Early American History, to give a free public lecture in Charleston. Professor Chaplin will present “Delicious! Setting the Table for a Food Exhibit” at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, in the Erma Byrd Gallery on the campus of the University of Charleston. The program is sponsored by Bailey & Glasser LLP.

The surviving menu from a 1910 Harvard University dinner at the Parker House restaurant is the focal point of a food exhibit now being developed by Professor Chaplin. Her talk uses the menu to discuss food history including changes in the basic nature of food over time, dining rituals and implements, sequence of courses served, why certain ways of eating have vanished, food and social status, and the renewed interest in local food sources that once was standard.

Joyce E. Chaplin (Ph.D. and M.A. from Johns Hopkins University, BA from Northwestern) is a former Fulbright Scholar who has taught at five universities on two continents, an island, and a maritime studies program on the Atlantic Ocean. Her reviews and essays have appeared in the *New York Times Book Review*, the *London Review of Books*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. Her most recent book is a history of around-the-world travel, *Round about the Earth: Circumnavigation from Magellan to Orbit* (2012).
