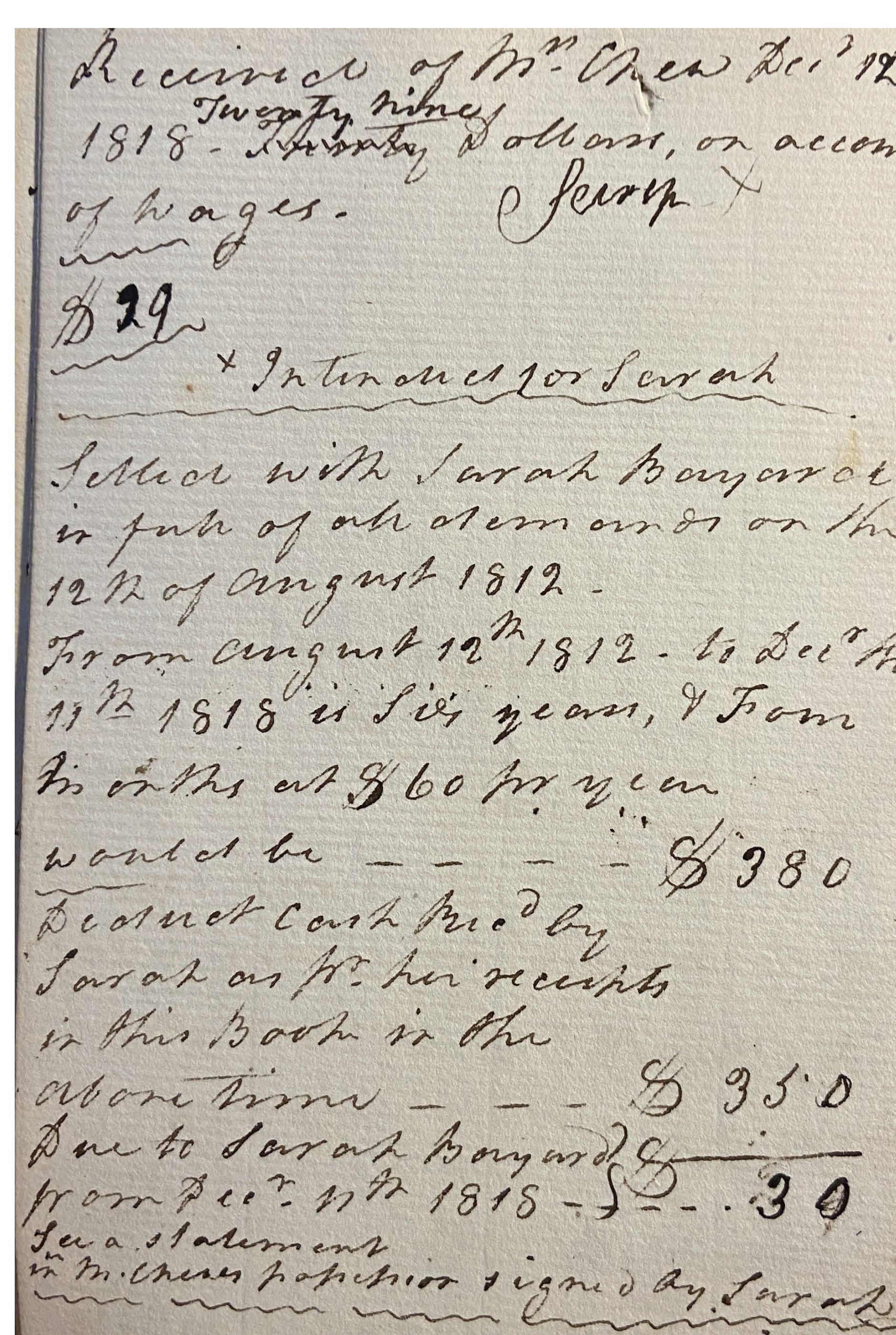


## Cooks at Cliveden Sustaining Life

A fundamental responsibility in any household is the preparation of meals. The cooks at Cliveden were most often women, whose duty included cooking food for the family and staff. The records illuminate some, but not all, of the names and lives of the women who labored as cooks over the two hundred year history of Cliveden. The women who served the Chew household during the late 18th and early 19th centuries were a diverse labor force including enslaved women Hannah and Dinah as well as hired servants Elinor Munt and Becky.

In the early 19th century Elizabeth Oswald hired Sarah Bayard as a cook. Based on payment found in Elizabeth's receipt book between August 1812 and December 1818, she paid Sarah \$60 per year for her work. Cynthia Ross labored as an indentured cook for Benjamin Chew Jr. for five months beginning in October 1810.



During the late 19th century, many young Irish women sought work in the United States. Anne Sophia Penn Chew hired largely Irish women to serve as cooks at Cliveden including Hannah Welsh, occasionally Hannah's sister Mary, Mrs. Anny Brownlee and Kate Kelly.

## Anny Brownlee

Anny Brownlee was born in Pennsylvania to parents of Irish descent. By 1880 she was married to William, the gardener at Cliveden, and had two young daughters.

1722 23	Brownlee Wm	31		1	Gardner
	Anny	24	Wife	1	Keeping house
	Jenny	4	Daughter	1	
	Mabelle	1	Daughter	1	

## Catherine Burns



In the early 20th century Catherine or Katy Burns served as a housekeeper for Elizabeth Brown Chew. Catherine and her husband James both worked for the Chews and lived both on and off the property during their tenure. She also raised five children.

top: W. Flavel The Patent Kitchener

middle: Payments to Sarah Bayard, 1818 in Elizabeth Oswald Chew's Receipt Book, Historical Society of Pennsylvania

middle: 1880 Census

bottom: Portrait of Catherine Burns