

# Mystery solved: Explorers Club meal wasn't woolly mammoth

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A piece of turtle meat is preserved in a glass jar in this photo provided by the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2016 in New Haven, Conn. Folklore says this meat was woolly mammoth or giant sloth. But

new tests performed by Yale researchers found that a hunk of flesh served at a lavish 1951 Explorers Club dinner in New York featuring "prehistoric meats" was something more mundane - turtle. (Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History via AP)

A Yale researcher says a lavish 1951 dinner in New York City promoted by the Explorers Club didn't actually include 250,000-year-old woolly mammoth, despite folklore about the event.

Nor did the feast for Explorers Club members include meat from an extinct giant sloth, as the menu promised.

A new DNA [analysis](#) from a fist-sized piece of meat that survived the soiree at a hotel has shown the morsel was actually green sea turtle meat.

The Explorers Club funded the Yale analysis and says it is pleased with the results.

Will Roseman is executive director of the organization of scientists and others devoted to protecting the planet. He notes that the mindset 65 years ago was much different.

The analysis was published Wednesday in the science journal *PLOS ONE*.

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