2016 Byzantine Greek Summer School
July 5–29, 2016

Dumbarton Oaks will offer an intensive four-week course in medieval Greek and paleography in the summer of 2016. Approximately ten places will be available, with priority given to students without ready access to similar courses at local or regional institutions. For more information about course offerings, admissions, application procedures, and accommodations and costs, please visit our website.

The Byzantine Seals Collection
A Beginner’s Guide to Sigillography

Dumbarton Oaks is home to the world’s largest collection of Byzantine seals. Have you ever wondered why seals matter or how historians use them to reconstruct the past? Watch our resident sigillographer Jonathan Shea explain and demonstrate the importance of these pieces in this month’s video feature.
“The More I Learned, the More Interested I Got”
A Conversation with Chinese Garden History Scholar Alison Hardie

As part of Dumbarton Oaks’ ongoing Oral History Project—an attempt to record and archive the scholarly and institutional memories of the researchers at Dumbarton Oaks—Anatole Tchikine, Assistant Director in Garden and Landscape Studies, sat down to interview Alison Hardie, Senior Fellow and Visiting Scholar for Fall 2015 in Garden in Landscape Studies. Hardie is a scholar of early modern Chinese social and cultural history and, in particular, the Chinese garden. In her interview, she discussed her field, her development as a scholar, and her time at Dumbarton Oaks. Read a substantial excerpt from that interview on our website.

Postcard from Berlin
News from the Dumbarton Oaks Mellon Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies

At the end of October, Mellon Fellow Jeanne Haffner attended the Haus der Kulturen der Welt’s weeklong
Wohnungsfrage Academy in Berlin—an exploration of the problem of housing on a global scale that brought together scholars, architects, and artists in a conversation on the “housing question.” She sent this dispatch about the work of the Academy, which extends well beyond the normal academic conference, along with thoughts about how its work matters at Dumbarton Oaks. You can read Haffner’s report from Berlin here.

Above: The Hufeisensiedlung or “Horseshoe Estate” in Berlin, designed by Bruno Taut, Martin Wagner, Leberecht Migge, and Ottokar Wagler (photo by Jeanne Haffner)

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**From the Archives**

75 Years Ago this Month: The First Month of Official Business

Seventy-five years ago this month, Harvard University and the U.S. National Park and Planning Commission officially received the deeds for what became the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection and Dumbarton Oaks Park. Robert Bliss wrote to his wife Mildred, “At Dumbarton Oaks you have created something very beautiful, very special both in the garden and inside the house.” Archivist James Carder offers a glimpse of the public reaction in the newspapers of the time, as well as Harvard’s first steps in creating an administrative structure for the new research institute, at our “From the Archives” blog.

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**Good Ink**

*Landscape Architecture Magazine's November 2015 issue* has warm words for the new book *Women, Modernity, and Landscape Architecture*, coedited by Sonja Dümpelmann, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and John Beardsley, Director of Garden and Landscape Studies at Dumbarton Oaks. Caroline Constant writes in her review: “Sonja Dümpelmann and John Beardsley are to be commended for bringing an abundance of lesser-known landscape production to our attention. This book should inspire further scholarly scrutiny of . . . (to repeat their phrase) ‘the place of women in
Behind the Scenes

Ioli Kalavrezou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art History in the Department of History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University, led an object-handling session at Dumbarton Oaks in a field trip this past month for her seminar “The Art of the Court of Constantinople.” Pictured here, she and her students examine the middle panel from the museum’s Triptych with the Virgin Hodegetria and Saints.

Coming Soon

DUMBARTON OAKS PAPERS 69
Now on View

Find more information about the exhibits and rotations on our website.

75 Years/75 Objects: Reinterpreting
December 3, 2015–January 3, 2016 in the Special Exhibition Gallery
Curator’s Tour on December 18 at 3 p.m.

Coming Soon: Conserving
January 5–31, 2016. Curator's Tours on January 6 and 22 at 3 p.m.

Clothing for the Afterlife: Textiles from the Pre-Columbian Collection
October 9, 2015–April 3, 2016, in the Textile Gallery

Stephens & Catherwood Revisited: Maya Ruins and the Passage of Time
Through January 2016 in the Orientation and Rare Book Galleries and online