Extended Museum Hours
Arrive Earlier, Stay Later

The Dumbarton Oaks Museum has extended its hours through 2014 and is now open from noon until 6 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Plan your visit here.
Behind the Scenes at Dumbarton Oaks

Inside the Bennett Desk

Set at the far end of the Rare Book Reading Room, the Bennett Desk complements the Neoclassical grace and lightness of the reading room, but houses books that stand apart from the rest of the garden rare book collection.

The upper bookcase contains rare works that were likely purchased by Mildred Bliss in her youth and are only seen by visitors through the cabinet’s glass door. The collection includes a first edition of Spenser’s *Faerie Queene*, a copy of the *Iliad* illustrated with pen-and-ink drawings by the sculptor Denys Puech, and a signed copy of Walt Whitman’s *Leaves of Grass*. A first edition of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* is flanked by signed letters from Harriet Beecher Stowe, a receipt for the purchase of a slave boy named Ned, and, tucked inside its cover, autographs from actors in the original stage play of the book.

The slanted cover folds down to become a writing desk and reveals drawers and cubbyholes in which Mildred Bliss placed smaller curiosities, including a matchbox-sized book of fables and a calendar with a mirror inside.

Read more about the Bennett Desk and its contents [here](#). The Rare Book Reading Room is open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays between noon and 6 p.m.


One-Month Research Stipends in Pre-Columbian Studies
Dumbarton Oaks offers one-month research stipends to scholars engaged in advanced research that would benefit from use of the library, museum, and archival collections. More information about the program can be found here.

Charles D. Cheek is an archaeologist who has excavated at the Maya sites of Kaminaljuyu, Guatemala, and Copan, Honduras. His interests are Maya architecture and iconography and urban life in historic U.S. cities.

Matt Johnston is an assistant professor of art history at Lewis & Clark College specializing in American print culture and popular culture in the nineteenth century. Most recently, he published “Hamlin Garland’s Detour into Art Criticism: Forecasting the Triumph of Popular Culture over Populism at the End of the Frontier” in The Journal of American Culture.

Thomas W. Killion, associate professor and chair of anthropology at Wayne State University, has received a research stipend this summer to work on Agency of the Dead: The Mummies of Cave Valley, Chihuahua and the Smithsonian Institution. The book, set in Mexico and the United States, examines the story of Native American human remains spirited away from burial sites in northwestern Mexico on the eve of the Mexican revolution.

Read more about Dumbarton Oaks’ summer visitors in Pre-Columbian Studies on our website.

From the Archives

A Serendipitous Cache of Vintage Photographs

The Archives, while preparing to help celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, has recently discovered a cache of twenty-nine vintage photographs in an overstuffed file cabinet.
Taken in 1943–44, these include images of the founders, Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss. These photographs also provide an unexpected but invaluable record of the kitchen in what was then the Fellows Building, with the housekeeping staff of the time: Bernice, Josephine, Rosa, and Trollie. These photographs and others provide some faces to accompany memories of the early history of Dumbarton Oaks.

In preparing to commemorate Dumbarton Oaks’ 75th, the Archives would greatly welcome any reminiscences, images, or artifacts significant to the institution’s history that readers of this newsletter might wish to share. Please contact the Archives via carderj@doaks.org.

Read more about the newly discovered photographs here.


The Dumbarton Oaks Interns’ Blog

With the arrival in June of twelve summer interns, the Dumbarton Oaks Interns’ Blog has seen a surge in activity. Visit the blog to learn about our interns, their summer projects, and their first impressions of Dumbarton Oaks.


From Garden to Kitchen

Thanks to the efforts of the Gardens and Refectory staff, the summer produce from the Kitchen Garden is being enjoyed by the community of fellows, interns, and staff at Dumbarton Oaks.

Good Ink

Asinou Across Time has been reviewed in the Bryn Mawr Classical Review.
Hans Jancke’s *Travel Report*, the first in the new Dumbarton Oaks *Ex Horto* series of historical texts in landscape architecture, has been reviewed in *Garden History*.

The *Georgetown Dish* published a piece about the Dumbarton Oaks Museum.


---

**Now on View**

![Seldom Seen](#)

*A Selection of Prints, Drawings and Decorative Art Never Before on Public Display*

**MAY THROUGH AUGUST 17, 2014**

---

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

Dumbarton Oaks  
1703 32nd Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20007

Subscribe to have The Oaks News delivered directly to your inbox each month.

www.doaks.org

©2014 Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection. All rights reserved.

unsubscribe from this list | update subscription preferences