News of Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks, Fall 1999

Website Information

Dumbarton Oaks now has a site on the Internet. You can access the site through any web browser at URL: http://www.doaks.org. You may also send e-mail to the Byzantine Studies Department at Byzantine@doaks.org.

Seals Project

The Seals Project completed preparation of volume 4 of the Byzantine Seals catalogue (The Eastern Frontier) in the summer of 1999.

Byzantine Collection (www.doaks.org/byzcollection.html)

Exhibitions:


To mark the occasion of the publication of the two final volumes of our series of coin catalogues, a special exhibition, Coinage of the Byzantine Empire, was organized by the Advisor for Byzantine Numismatics, Cécile Morrisson, the Curator of the Byzantine Collection, Susan Boyd, and the curatorial staff of the Collection. Approximately 150 coins were selected for display. They are exhibited in three vitrines entitled respectively, History and Denominations, Imperial Representations and Religious Representations. Enlarged color photographs of the coins have been included to illustrate the detail and iconography of the coins. Discussions of various aspects of Byzantine coinage are placed on the wall panels and accompanied by enlarged color photographs of coins and comparative materials.

In the spring of 2000, the Byzantine Collection plans to put up an exhibition of Early Christian and Byzantine textiles that will continue through the fall for a workshop on Byzantine textiles to be held at the end of September.

Acquisitions

This summer we made a major acquisition for the Byzantine Collection: a pair of late 11th-early 12th century gold and cloisonné enamel koliti (earring-like objects) decorated with confronted Sirens wearing crowns. Also acquired was the one surviving chain from which they would have been suspended from a crown or headdress. The latter consists of 7 small cloisonné enamel quatrefoils decorated with geometric motifs. This group of jewelry was made in Kiev in Rus and is both of very high quality and in excellent condition. They were formerly in the Adophe Stoclet Collection and were sold by one of his heirs at Sotheby's, London.

Byzantine Photograph and Fieldwork Archives (www.doaks.org/byzfieldwork.html)

An exhibition "Pilgrimage in Byzantium", organized by Natalia Teteriatnikov, will open in April, 2000. It will show major pilgrimage centers during the Middle Byzantine period, and will highlight the shrines of these centers as well as some pilgrimage tokens associated with them.
The archive of Dr. Margaret Alexander, an eminent scholar of Tunisian mosaics, who passed away recently, has been acquired. It includes photographs, negatives, slides, and research materials.

Symposium 2000

The year 2000 symposium will take place May 5- May 7 under the direction of Alice-Mary Talbot. The symposium, entitled "Pilgrimage in the Byzantine Empire: 8th-15th Centuries", will focus on shifting patterns of Byzantine pilgrimage after the Arab conquest of the Holy Land in the 7th c. It will examine such topics as the transformation of Constantinople into the new Jerusalem, the development of new saints' cults and shrines in Greece and Anatolia, pilgrimage to living holy men, and the quest for healing miracles. Please contact the Byzantine Studies program at Dumbarton Oaks (Byzantine@doaks.org) if you would like your name added to the symposium mailing list.

Colloquium, Spring 2000

On March 3-4, 2000, a colloquium will be held on "New Insights into Byzantine Monasticism: the Byzantine Monastic Foundation Documents". The colloquium is intended to mark the appearance in hard copy of the four volumes of the Dumbarton Oaks project to publish translations of all surviving Byzantine monastic foundation documents. The papers will include case studies of lines of research facilitated by easier access to the typika, in such fields as music, coinage, economic management of monastic estates, art and burial practice, as well as more general papers on issues related to monastic life in general, and the foundation documents themselves. The number of places is very limited, so please contact the Byzantine Studies program if you wish to receive an invitation.

Visiting Scholars, 1999-2000

Ioli Kalavrezou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art History at Harvard University, is spending the fall semester at Dumbarton Oaks. During her visit she will present two seminars on the Paris Psalter.

Paul Speck, professor emeritus of Byzantine history at the University of Berlin, will spend two months at Dumbarton Oaks in the spring, from March 15-May 15, 2000. He will also be giving two seminars during his visit, on the architectural patronage of Constantine I, and on Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus.

Public Lectures

Kenneth Holm, "Lords of Caesarea: Elites and the Classical City in Late Antiquity"
October 20, 1999

Philip Rousseau, "The Shepherd and the Teacher: Two Interwoven Types in Early Christianity"
March 9, 2000

Dumbarton Oaks Byzantine Publications

The following books have been published since the fall of 1998:


The following books are in press:

Studies in Byzantine Sigillography, vol. 6
D. Winfield, The Church of the Panaghia tou Arakos at Lagoudherya, Cyprus, and Its Painterly Significance
D. Sullivan, Siegecraft: Two Tenth-Century Instructional Manuals by the So-Called Heron of Byzantium
R. Greenfield, An Eleventh Century Pillar Saint: St. Lazaros of Mt. Galesion
A. Stahl, Angelo de Cartura and Donato Fontanella: Two Venetian Notaries of Fourteenth Century Crete
A. Laiou/R. Mottahedeh, The Crusades from the Eastern Perspective: Byzantium and the Muslim World

Electronic Publications

Dumbarton Oaks has begun a new initiative of placing selected publications on-line at our website. The four titles available so far are:

Byzantine Monastic Foundation Documents
P. Grierson, Byzantine Coinage, rev. ed.
N. Teteriatnikov, Mosaics of the Hagia Sophia, Istanbul: The Fossati Restoration and the Work of the Byzantine Institute
H. Maguire, Byzantine Magic

Fieldwork (www.doaks.org/project.html)

Dumbarton Oaks offers a limited number of small grants for fieldwork; please consult the application brochure on the Dumbarton Oaks website for details. These grants are not for conservation or library work. Before applying, interested scholars should contact the Director of Byzantine Studies by October 1 to determine the suitability of their projects. The application deadline is November 1.

Residencies for Graduate Students

Dumbarton Oaks has instituted a program for advanced graduate students, who are either preparing for Ph.D. exams or writing dissertations, whereby they can apply for one to two weeks of free accommodation at the Fellows Building, lunches on weekdays, and an unlimited library pass. The number of residencies that can be awarded will depend upon the availability of space in the Fellows Building. The aim is to provide access to materials that may not be available in the student’s home institution. Please contact the Byzantine Studies Department for the brochure on the application procedures.
Bliss Prize Fellowship (www.doaks.org/Blissprize.html)

This award is intended to provide encouragement, assistance, and training to outstanding college seniors who plan to enter the field of Byzantine Studies. The Bliss Prize Fellowship covers graduate school tuition and living expenses for two academic years. It also includes summer travel (up to a maximum of $5000) for the intervening summer to areas that are important for an understanding of Byzantine civilization and culture. Students who have successfully completed two years as Bliss Prize Fellows, have fulfilled all preliminary requirements for a higher degree, and are working on a dissertation will be offered a Junior Fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks. Bliss Prize candidates must be in their last year of undergraduate education or have a recently awarded B.A.; they must have completed at least one year of ancient or medieval Greek (those called for an interview will be required to take a short examination in Greek); and they must be applicants to graduate school in any field or area of Byzantine Studies. Students must be nominated by their advisors by October 15, and submit their applications by November 1.

1999-00 Fellows

1999 Summer Fellows:

Sümer Atasoy, University of Istanbul: “Bronze Lamps in the Istanbul Archeological Museum - A Catalogue”
Sarah Guberti Bassett, Wayne State University: “The Reuse of Antiquities in the Urban Decoration of Constantinople, 4th - 6th Centuries”
Salvatore Cosentino, Università di Cagliari: “Naumachia. A Byzantine Literature”

Junior Fellows:

Dimiter Angelov, Harvard University: “Imperial Ideology and Power in the Late Byzantine Empire, 1204-ca.1328”
Anastasios Papademetriou, Princeton University: “Greek Elites as Christians and Converts in Ottoman Society: 1453-1600”
Efstratios Papaioannou, Universität Wien: “Michael Psellos’ personality in the light of his Correspondence and a Critical edition of his letters”
Konstantinos Smyrannis, Université de Paris I: “The role of the great monasteries in the Byzantine Economy, from the 10th to the middle of the 14th century.”

Fellows:

Slobodan Ćurčić (spring only), Princeton University: “Architecture in the Balkans from Diocletian to Suleyman the Magnificent”
Clive Foss, University of Massachusetts, Boston: “Justinian’s Ruling Class/Syria in Transition 550-750”
Eurydice Georgantelis (fall only), Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki: “Coin Finds from Philippi”
Kiril Pavlikianov, University of Sofia: “The Byzantine, Iberian, Serbian, and Bulgarian Aristocracy in the Athonite Monasteries (950-1460)”
Alain Touwaide, Madrid Spain: “Medicine and Society in Byzantium (1261-1453)”
Witold Witakowski, Uppsala University: "Syriac Short Chronicles"

Bliss Prize Fellowship:
Gregory Paulsen, Harvard University

Turkish Museum Fellow:
Ümran Yüğrük, Efes Müzesi

1999-2000 Support of Outside Projects

Sharon E.J. Gerstel, Mark Munn: "Medieval Panakton"
Marlia Mango: "Excavations at Androna (il-Anderin), Syria"
Susan Stevens: "Excavations of a Pilgrimage Complex at Bir Ftouha (Carthage)"
Yona Waksman, Véronique François: "Towards a typological and analytical re-definition of the ceramic type Zeuxippos Ware"