Dumbarton Oaks is launching a series of translations of classic and rare texts on garden history and on the philosophy, art, and techniques of landscape architecture. The first two volumes in this series will appear in the fall of 2013. One is a travel report by the German court gardener Hans Jancke, “An Apprenticeship in the Earl of Derby’s Kitchen Gardens and Greenhouses at Knowsley, England” (1874-75), the manuscript of which is owned by Dumbarton Oaks; the other is the translation of “Die Gartenkultur des 20. Jahrhunderts” (“Garden Culture of the 20th Century”) by the German designer Leberecht Migge, which will appear on the centenary of the book’s original publication in 1913.

As a way of launching this series, Dumbarton Oaks planning a one day colloquium on the subject of "Travel and Translation." Its aim is to explore the ways that landscape design ideas are transmitted and exchanged, sometimes through literal travel and translation, and sometimes through study, absorption, and interpretation. Given that the first two titles in the translation series are German, the focus of the colloquium will be on Germany and Central Europe, with comparative talks on Italy, England, Ireland, and the United States. Confirmed speakers are David Haney from the University of Kent, who translated Garden Culture and will speak on Migge’s response to English and American ideas about metropolitan park design; Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn from Leibniz University Hannover, on Jancke’s travels in the context of the education of gardeners in the second half of the 19th century in Germany; Hubertus Fischer, also from Leibniz University Hannover, on the travels and travel reports of German court gardeners in the early 19th century, with a focus on Heinrich Ludolph Wendland; and Sandro Jung from the University of Gent, on Pückler-Muskau’s adaptation of British innovations in landscape architecture and design, as revealed both in his published and unpublished writings and in his design of Muskau Park. In addition, Finola O’Kane Crimmins from University College Dublin will address the travels of Irish revolutionaries in France and the United States; Raffaella Fabiani Giannetto from the University of Pennsylvania will discuss the transmission (and translation) of Palladian villa garden forms from Italy to the United States via England; and Kristof Fatsar from Corvinus University Budapest will speak on professional networks and knowledge transfer among gardeners in Europe in the early 19th century, focused particularly on Hungary.

Reservations are required and are first-come, first-served. Please RSVP by October 1 to: Landscape@doaks.org

The colloquium will be held at Dumbarton Oaks located at 1703 32nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. 6.0 LA CES credits. Parking not provided.