



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 29 JUNE 2016
CONTACT: Jaclyn Brown
202-337-2288 x230, JaclynBrown@dumbartonhouse.org

DUMBARTON HOUSE TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE

Dumbarton House museum and offices will temporarily close from **October 2016 to April 2017** for necessary construction on the HVAC system. **Sunday, October 23, 2016** is the last day the museum will be open for public visitation until the work is completed in 2017. After repeated failures in Dumbarton House's HVAC [heating, ventilation, and cooling] system and a careful study of the museum's 26-year-old setup, a planned upgrade to replace and improve the system is underway. Museum staff will be relocated and the collection moved offsite during the construction, but 'Dumbarton House on the Road' programs and possible hard-hat tours are currently being planned. More information will follow on these programs.

Dumbarton House has partnered with Quinn Evans Architects, Gipe Associates, Corbett Construction, Wendy Jessup & Associates, and Watson & Henry Associates for the project. This project, partially funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, will replace the current setup with a geothermal system and make improvements to the building envelope to better protect the collection, the historic structure, and the environment. The project aligns with the museum's mission to maintain this historic property, contribute to the cultural life of the surrounding community, and promote the understanding of historic preservation and of the early history of our nation. Dumbarton House strives to be a leader not only in preserving the historic structure of the museum and its collections, but also in conserving valuable environmental resources. The commitment to collections care, thoughtful facility use, and environmental sustainability are documented priorities in our Strategic Plan.

###

Dumbarton House is a Federal period historic house museum, ca. 1800, whose preserved historic structure and collection serve to educate the public about life in Washington, D.C, during the early years of the Republic. Dumbarton House serves as the headquarters of *The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America* (www.nscda.org), a women's organization that actively promotes our national heritage through historic preservation, patriotic service and educational projects. Dumbarton House is accredited by the *American Alliance of Museums*. The museum hosts a variety of public events and programs, as well as private rental events. www.DumbartonHouse.org

DUMBARTON HOUSE
2715 Q Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20007-3071
202.337.2288 · www.dumbartonhouse.org · Fax 202. 337.0348