
The Cloisters Library & Archives

Research Guide

Medieval Art Resources

The Cloisters Library & Archives

The Met Cloisters
99 Margaret Corbin Drive
New York, NY 10040

212-396-5319

For current Library hours visit
us at metmuseum.org/art/libraries-and-research-centers/the-cloisters-library-and-archive

A Selection of Fundamental Print Publications:

Barnet, Peter and Nancy Wu. [The Cloisters: Medieval Art and Architecture](#). New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art; New Haven : Distributed by Yale University Press, 2012.

Bayard, Tania. [Sweet Herbs and Sundry Flowers: Medieval Gardens and the Gardens of The Cloisters](#). New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1985. [Also freely [available online](#).]

Bjork, Robert E., editor. [The Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages](#). Oxford; New York : Oxford University Press, 2010. [Also [available online*](#)]

[Butler's Lives of the Saints](#). Westminster, MD: Christian Classics, 1990. [An alternative edition (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1985) is freely [available online](#).]

[The Catholic Encyclopedia; an International Work of Reference on the Constitution, Doctrine, Discipline, and History of the Catholic Church](#). New York: Robert Appleton, [c1907-]. [Also freely [available online](#).]

Harvey, John. [Mediaeval Gardens](#). Beaverton, OR: Timber Press, 1981.

Hourihane, Colum, editor. [The Grove Encyclopedia of Medieval Art and Architecture](#). New York : Oxford University Press, [2012].

Landsberg, Sylvia. [The Medieval Garden](#). New York: Thames and Hudson, 1996.

[The Oxford Handbook of Women and Gender in Medieval Europe](#). Oxford; New York : Oxford Univ. Press, 2013.

Rudolph, Conrad, editor. [A Companion to Medieval Art: Romanesque and Gothic in Northern Europe](#). Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2006. [Also [available online*](#)]

Stein, Wendy Alpern. [How to Read Medieval Art](#). New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2016.

Helpful Online Resources

[Gothic Ivories Project](#)

An online database of ivory sculptures made in Western Europe ca. 1200-ca. 1530 and neo-Gothic ivory pieces from the Courtauld Institute.

[Index of Medieval Art*](#)

Thematic/iconographic index of early Christian and Medieval art objects from early apostolic times to A.D. 1550, with no geographical limitations. (Formerly known as the Index of Christian Art.)

[International Medieval Bibliography*](#)

An interdisciplinary bibliography of the European Middle Ages, covering Europe, the Middle East and North Africa in the period 400-1500. The indexed material includes periodical articles, conference proceedings, essay collections, and Festschriften published worldwide from 1967 to the present.

[Mapping Gothic France](#)

A joint effort by Columbia and Vassar universities, this database of architectural sites includes photographs, floorplans, "VR tours," drawings, maps, and text.

[Resources for Medieval Art and Architecture Research](#)

Hosted by the International Center for Medieval Art

From the Met

[The Cloisters Library and Archives](#)

The Cloisters Library houses approximately 15,000 volumes encompassing medieval architecture, painting, illuminated manuscripts, stained glass, sculpture, decorative arts, medieval history, and gardens. The archives contain material relating to the history of the museum such as papers. Also held are the papers of medieval art historians Sumner McKnight Crosby and Harry Bober, art dealers Joseph and Ernest Brummer, and others. Open to qualified researchers by appointment. Email: cloisters.library@metmuseum.org

[The Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History](#), [Medieval Art Essay Collection](#)

[The Cloisters Archives Digital Collections](#)

[The Met Cloisters Instagram](#)

[The Medieval Garden Enclosed](#)

The former blog of The Cloisters gardens.

Need more help?

For additional resources, please [click here](#). For further assistance, please contact a librarian at cloisters.library@metmuseum.org.

***Visitors must be onsite at The Met Cloisters or The Met Fifth Avenue to access this resource. Met staff, volunteer tour guides, interns, and fellows may access onsite or remotely.**

Last updated 01/2023