The Metropolitan Museum of Art was originally founded in 1870 in a charter that called for a “museum and library of art.” Today, the Museum includes the main building on Fifth Avenue, as well as The Cloisters, which displays art from Medieval Europe. The Met Breuer, which highlighted modern and contemporary art, was open from 2016 to 2020.

For a brief overview of the history of The Met, begin your research on the Museum’s website: [https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met](https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met)

Press releases, news, and announcements dating from 1991 to the present can be found here: [https://www.metmuseum.org/press](https://www.metmuseum.org/press)

**The Met Fifth Avenue**  
(1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028)

**Selected Books**


- **Danziger, Danny. 2007. *Museum: behind the scenes at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.* New York: Viking.** [freely available online](https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met) through the Internet Archive; requires creation of a personal account


- **Tomkins, Calvin. 1970. *Merchants and masterpieces: the story of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.* New York: E.P.Dutton.** [freely available online](https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met) through the Internet Archive; requires creation of a personal account
Selected Journal Articles


Suggested Subject Heading Searches in Watsonline**

Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) — History
Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) — Buildings

The Cloisters
(99 Margaret Corbin Drive, Fort Tryon Park, New York, NY 10040)

Selected Books


Rorimer, James J., and Katherine Serrell Rorimer. 1972. *Medieval monuments at the Cloisters as they were and as they are* (freely available online in Watson’s Digital Collections and through MetPublications)

Selected Journal Articles


Suggested Subject Heading Searches in Watsonline

Cloisters (Museum)
Cloisters (Museum) — History
Cloisters (Museum) — Buildings
Online Resources

Watson Library Digital Collections
Click [here](#) to access Watson Library Digital Collections. This resource can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection.

Watson Library Digital Collections provides online access to some Museum publications, including the original charters, constitutions and bylaws related to the founding of the Museum, as well as press releases dating back to 1940, images of the Museum’s architecture, and permanent and special exhibition gallery views.

Historical New York Times Database
Click [here](#) to access ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times. This database is a subscription resource, and may be accessed onsite at the Museum by any researcher, or from home by any Museum staff member or volunteer.

This database provides access to a fully searchable digitized image of every page of *The New York Times* from its first issue on Sept 18, 1851 through issues published as recently as four years ago. It provides articles in downloadable PDF files as well.

Google News Aggregator
Click [here](#) to access search results for The Metropolitan Museum of Art on the Google News Aggregator. This resource can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection.

Have a question?
Reach a reference librarian at [watson.library@metmuseum.org](mailto:watson.library@metmuseum.org) or use our virtual chat service, Ask a Librarian, Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm, from the [Watsonline](#) homepage.


**To search by subject heading from the Watsonline homepage, set the dropdown to the left of the search bar to “Subject” before you run your search. Subject headings are assigned to each book by library staff to make it easier to find books that are related. It’s important that you use the correct formatting for the subject heading—otherwise you will not get any results. This is why we recommend that you start by searching broadly with keywords, and then find specific subject headings within item records that relate to your topic.**

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