

# **James J. Rorimer records, 1924-1983 (bulk 1955-1966)**

**Finding aid prepared by Celia Hartmann, with assistance from Karol Pick**

**Processing of this collection was funded by a  
generous grant from the Leon Levy Foundation**

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August 23, 2018

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives
<b>Title</b>	James J. Rorimer records, 1924-1983 (bulk 1955-1966)
<b>Dates</b>	1924-1983 (bulk 1955-1966)
<b>Extent</b>	21.39 Linear feet (49 full-size document cases, 3 half-size document cases, one card box)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>James Joseph Rorimer spent his professional career at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, beginning in 1927 as Assistant in the Department of Decorative Arts and rising through the curatorial ranks to serve eventually as Curator of Medieval Art and The Cloisters, Director of The Cloisters and Curator of Medieval Art, and Director of the Metropolitan Museum (1955-1966) until his sudden death. The records document mainly his time as Museum Director, including correspondence with institutions, organizations, donors, and trustees, clippings and other information on special exhibitions and notable acquisitions, and information on the collections and the Museum's Fifth Avenue and Cloisters buildings. They provide evidence of his immersion in the Museum's own culture and the institution's emerging centrality in the museum world, his warm personal relations with donors and patrons, and the respect with which he was regarded by both his own staff and colleagues and his professional peers worldwide.</p>

### Preferred Citation note

[Title of item], [date], Box [number], Folder [number], James Rorimer records, The Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives, New York.

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## Biographical note

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James Joseph Rorimer (1905-1966) received his B.A. in Fine Arts from Harvard University in 1927, after which he came to The Metropolitan Museum of Art to serve as Assistant in the Department of Decorative Arts (1927-1929), Assistant Curator (1929-1932), Associate Curator (1932-1934), and Curator in the Department of Medieval Art (1934-1955), and Curator of Medieval Art and The Cloisters (1938-1949). Rorimer left the Museum in 1943 to join the United States Army, where he served as Lieutenant, Captain, and later as Chief of the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section of the Seventh Army. After returning to the Museum in 1946, he eventually became Director of The Cloisters and Curator of Medieval Art (1949-1955), and Director of the Metropolitan Museum (1955-1966) until his sudden death.

His father, Louis Rorimer, was a prominent interior designer and instructor at the Cleveland School of Art, and James Rorimer developed an early appreciation for art and architecture, and learned practical artisanal skills from the craftsmen in his father's design studio. The Rorimers travelled to Europe annually, where he became familiar with the architecture and aesthetics of earlier centuries. He returned to Paris in 1921 and 1922 to study art at the École Gory.

After enrolling at Harvard University in 1923, he took courses with renowned museologist Paul Joseph Sachs and art historian Walter Cooke, and studied chemistry. After graduating in 1927, he joined the Metropolitan Museum as an assistant in the Department of Decorative Arts, was promoted in 1929 to assistant curator, and in 1932 to associate curator. He worked closely with curator Joseph Breck in the development and planning of The Cloisters, a branch of the Metropolitan devoted to the Museum's extensive medieval art collection. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., the principal benefactor of The Cloisters building and acquisitions funds, recognized Rorimer's talent as a curator, and entrusted him with the purchase and management of additional medieval art. After Breck's unexpected death in 1933, the decorative arts collection was reorganized into three smaller art departments and Rorimer was named curator of the new Department of Medieval Art. When The Cloisters opened in 1938, Rorimer was appointed as its curator as well and, with a \$10 million endowment from Rockefeller, he continued to build the collection with acquisitions including *The Unicorn* and *Nine Heroes Tapestries*, the *Sepulchral Monument of Ermengol VII*, *Count of Urgell*, the *Cloisters Cross* (so-called Bury St. Edmunds cross), the *Antioch "Chalice,"* and the *Chapter House from Notre-Dame-de-Pontaut*.

Trained both as a scientist and an art historian, Rorimer introduced new methods in the examination, restoration, and preservation of works of art, and was the first in the profession to use ultraviolet rays as a museum technology.

In 1942, Rorimer married Metropolitan Museum library employee Katherine (Kay) Newton Serrell and a year later joined the U.S. Army as an infantry private. In the

Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section of the Seventh Army (MFAA, so-called Monuments Men) he quickly rose to Lieutenant, Captain, and then Chief, from which position he worked to protect, rescue from destruction, and reconstitute European art work looted by the Nazis. His 1950 book, *Survival: the salvage and protection of art in war*, details his experiences. For his and the MFAA's accomplishments, he was awarded the Bronze Star, France's Croix de Guerre, and named a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, among other honors.

After his demobilization in 1946, Rorimer returned to The Cloisters and was named director there in 1949. In 1955 he succeeded Francis Henry Taylor (1903-1957) as director of the Metropolitan Museum. His accomplishments as director included the acquisition of Raphael's *Madonna of the Meadows*, Rembrandt's *Aristotle Contemplating the Bust of Homer*, Robert Campin's *Merode Altarpiece* and the *Apse from San Martín at Fuentidueña* at The Cloisters, and special exhibitions including the only loan of *Mona Lisa* outside of Europe. He is credited with doubling the Museum's membership and attendance, increasing staff and intensifying the involvement of the Museum's trustees, raising substantial endowment funding, undertaking the renovations of almost half the Museum's galleries, and increasing exhibition space. He was involved in many professional organizations and associations, and brought to the Museum in 1965 the first annual meeting of the International Council of Museums to be held outside Europe.

In May 1966, Rorimer died of a heart attack at home after a particularly contentious Museum board meeting. He was succeeded as director by his protégé Thomas Hoving.

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## Scope and Contents note

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The James J. Rorimer records contain documents mainly related to his time as Director of the Museum, including correspondence with institutions, organizations, donors, and trustees, clippings and other information on special exhibitions and notable acquisitions, and information on the collections and the Museum's Fifth Avenue and Cloisters buildings. They also include correspondence and reports from the professional organizations of which Rorimer was an active member and/or board member, general informational files, and materials related to Museum publications.

The records include documents created after Rorimer's sudden death, including notices to staff and the public, plans for his memorial service at The Cloisters and later memorial concert at the Museum, as well as condolence notes and correspondence with contributors to the James J. Rorimer Memorial Fund. The final series comprises personal materials donated by Rorimer's family, and includes his academic work from Harvard University, travel diaries, documents and notebooks from his MFAA service, personal correspondence of James and Kay Rorimer's, drafts of his writings, condolences received by Kay Rorimer, and materials related to his memorial service and concert.

The records provide a wide range of information on Rorimer's lifetime employment at and devotion to the Metropolitan Museum, focusing most strongly on his years as director. They document his immersion in the Museum's own culture and the institution's emerging centrality in the museum world, his warm personal relations with donors and patrons, and the respect with which he was regarded by both his own staff and colleagues and his professional peers worldwide. They are evidence of the outward-facing director's role he played, while internal Museum administration during his tenure was the purview of Operating Administrator Joseph V. Noble starting in 1956. His years as curator of medieval art at The Cloisters are documented more fully in the James J. Rorimer Papers, 1927-1966 held by the Cloisters Library.

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## **Arrangement note**

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The records are organized into six series: I. Metropolitan Museum Administration, II. Professional Affiliations, III. Speeches and Writings, IV. Honors and Awards, V. Death and Posthumous, VI. Personal

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Conditions Governing Access note**

Collection is open for research. Photographs and oversize documents should be handled with care and may require the use of gloves. Records pertaining to The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Board of Trustees, legal proceedings, donor and object information, and specific employee information are restricted, according to Museum policy.

### **Conditions Governing Use note**

Copyright restrictions apply. Consult Archives staff regarding permission to quote or reproduce.

### **Provenance**

The bulk of the James J. Rorimer records were transferred to the Museum Archives from the Office of the Director in December 1966. Additional materials were accessioned from the Office of the Secretary records in May 2013, and in December 2013 Rorimer's

daughter Anne Rorimer donated personal correspondence, condolence letters, clippings, and manuscript materials.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

James J. Rorimer Papers, 1923-1982, Smithsonian Institution, Archives of American Art

James J. Rorimer Papers, 1927-1966, Cloisters Library

James J. Rorimer Papers, 1941-1989, Archives, National Gallery of Art

Oral History Project interview with Katherine S. Rorimer, March 17-25 1994, Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives

Rorimer, James J. files, Office of the Secretary Records, Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives.

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## Indexing Terms

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### Genres and Forms of Materials

- Administrative records
- Clippings (Books, newspapers etc.)
- Correspondence.
- Diaries.
- Notebooks
- Photocopies
- Photographs
- Reports
- Writings

### Occupation(s)

- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) Director

### Subjects - People

- Noble, Joseph Veach, 1920-2007 -- Correspondence
- Parker, Harry S. -- Correspondence
- Redmond, Roland Livingston, 1892-1982 -- Correspondence
- Wrightsman, Charles B. -- Correspondence

### **Subjects - Topics**

- Havemeyer, Louisine Waldron Elder--Art collections
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) History
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) -- Administration.
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) -- Exhibitions
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) -- Management.
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.) -- Officials and employees.
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.). Dept. of Medieval Art and the Cloisters

## Series I. Metropolitan Museum Administration

## Collection Inventory

### Series I. Metropolitan Museum Administration 1927-1966, 1969 (bulk 1955-1966)

#### Scope and Contents note

The series includes correspondence from Rorimer's tenure as curator at the Cloisters and, from his years as director, with patrons, donors, trustees, Museum staff members, and professional peers. It documents his involvement in all aspects of Museum activities: acquisitions and display of the collections, special exhibitions both proposed and realized, general operations and building-related activities, and Museum publications.

#### Arrangement note

The series is arranged in ten subseries: I.A. Pre-Directorship, I.B. Collections, I.C. Correspondence, I.D. Departments, I.E. General Files, I.F. Operations, I.G. Physical Plant, I.H. Publications, I.I. Special Exhibitions, I.J. Trustees.

The first subseries documents Rorimer's curatorial work from 1927 to 1954; the following nine, arranged in alphabetical order, pertain to his directorship and concurrent activities. Materials in each subseries are arranged in alphabetical order by subject, unless otherwise noted.

#### Subseries I.A. Pre-Directorship 1927-1957

#### Scope and Contents note

The subseries contains predominantly correspondence related to Rorimer's curatorial duties at The Cloisters and documents his involvement in its planning, construction, collections, and administration as well as his warm personal relations with patron John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Correspondence (1 of 2). 1927-1928, 1946 <i>Note:</i> Correspondents include Paul Sachs, John D. Rockefeller, and Metropolitan Museum colleagues.
1	2	Correspondence (2 of 2). 1935-1955
1	3	Correspondence. Collens, Charles. November-December 1934, 1940
1	4	Correspondence. Forsyth, William. 1943-1944
1	5	Correspondence. Freeman, Margaret. April, June 1945
1	6	Correspondence. Friends. 1933-1940
1	7	Correspondence. Houghton, Arthur. 1951
1	8	Correspondence. Museum business. 1934-1949 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.

Flat-file

## Subseries I.B. Collections

19/drawer 1	4	Correspondence. Museum business. Oversize organizational plan. [1930s] <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 1, folder 8.</i>
Box		
1	9	Correspondence. Potter, Margaret. 1953, 1954
1	10	Correspondence. Rebay, Hilla. June 15, 1951
1	11	Correspondence. Rockefeller, John D. Jr. 1931-1952
1	12	Correspondence. Rockefeller, John D. Jr. 1938-1952 <i>Note: Re: Cloisters.</i>
1	13	Correspondence. Rough, Ralph. June 11, 1954
1	14	Correspondence. Taylor, Francis Henry. 1940-1957 <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 1.</i>
47	1	Correspondence. Taylor, Francis Henry. Oversize. 1940, undated <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 1, folder 14.</i>
1	15	Correspondence. Winlock, Herbert. 1935, 1939
1	16	Curatorship. Congratulations. October 1933
1	17	Preservation. 1928-1935
1	18	Preservation. Publications. 1925-1930
1	19	Report on Medieval Department. 1943 <i>Note: Prepared in response to Francis Henry Taylor's January 1943 report on the Museum.</i>

## Subseries I.B. Collections 1932-1972 (bulk 1952-1966)

## Scope and Contents note

The subseries includes information on collections-related administration including security, lighting, display, and conservation as well as specific acquisitions and donors, and materials considered for acquisition. Clippings and correspondence document the Museum's record-breaking \$2.3 million purchase at auction of Rembrandt's *Aristotle Contemplating the Bust of Homer* in 1961, as well as the acquisition and installation of the *Apse from San Martín at Fuentidueña* at The Cloisters. Negotiations with the Spanish government to acquire the apse began in 1935, stalled, resumed in 1952, and were finalized in 1957. The records include a detailed inventory of the apse's stones, numbered for reconstruction onsite at The Cloisters, and correspondence with general contractors Vermilya-Brown regarding the installation.

## Related Archival Materials note

A film of the Fuentidueña apse's reconstruction at The Cloisters is available at <http://www.metmuseum.org/metmedia/video/collections/med/fuentidueña-apse>

Box	Folder	
50	1	Acquisitions. Purchase, bequest. 1942-1951

## Subseries I.B. Collections

		<i>Note:</i> This folder contains object-specific information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	2	1 Cini Foundation January-March 1963
	2	2 Collectors' Club. 1956-1959
	2	3 Conservation. Silver treatment. 1954-1960
	2	4 Conservation. Stone preservation. 1954-1966
	2	5 Conservation. Stone preservation. 1955-1972
	2	6 Conservation. Stone preservation. Clippings. 1952, 1964-1966
	2	7 Conservation. von Godin, Wilhelmine (1 of 3). 1932, 1936-1950
	2	8 Conservation. von Godin, Wilhelmine (2 of 3). 1951-1955 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 2.
	47	2 Conservation. von Godin, Wilhelmine (2 of 3). Oversize materials. [1951] <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 2, folder 8.
	2	9 Conservation. von Godin, Wilhelmine (3 of 3). 1956-1965
	2	10 Crillon Room. 1947, 1958-1960 <i>Note:</i> Oversized plan has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file		
19/drawer 1	4	Crillon Room. Oversize plan. 1960 <i>Note:</i> Oversize plan removed from box 2, folder 10.
Box		
2	11	Croome Court. April 1958-May 1960 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
51	1	Damage and loss. 1956-1966 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains object-specific information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.  <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder.
Flat-file		
19/Drawer 1	4	Damage and loss. Oversize. <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 51, folder 1.
Box		
51	2	Deaccessioned material. 1964, 1965 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains object-specific information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
2	12	DeGroot, Adelaide Milton. 1956-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
51	4	Demotte Inc. 1948

## Subseries I.B. Collections

- Note:* This folder contains privileged legal information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
- |    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 2  | 13 | DePeyster. 1958  |
| 3  | 1  | Display, lighting. 1953-1954   |
| 3  | 2  | Disposal. Catalogs. 1955-1956  |
| 3  | 3  | Disposal. Correspondence. February 1955-February 1965<br><i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.                    |
| 3  | 4  | Drey Gallery. August-September 1960  |
| 3  | 5  | Etruscan sculptures. 1961-1962<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 3.<br><br><i>Note:</i> Material for article on forgeries for Museum <i>Papers</i> article. |
| 47 | 3  | Etruscan sculptures. Oversize 1961, 1962<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 3, folder 5.   |
| 3  | 6  | Fakes and forgeries. 1958, 1961-1966   |
| 3  | 7  | Frauds and forgeries. Lefkowitz Commission. 1964-1966  |
| 4  | 1  | Fuentidueña apse. Architects, installation. 1957-1962<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 4.  |
| 47 | 4  | Fuentidueña apse. Architects, installation. Oversize. 1958<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 4, folder 1.   |
| 4  | 2  | Fuentidueña apse. Background information, correspondence. 1955-1957  |
| 4  | 3  | Fuentidueña apse. Clowes, Alan. 1958, 1961   |
| 4  | 4  | Fuentidueña apse. Correspondence. 1958-1961<br><i>Note:</i> Mostly in Spanish.<br><br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 5.                                     |
| 47 | 5  | Fuentidueña apse. Correspondence. Oversize.<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 4, folder 4.  |
| 4  | 5  | Fuentidueña apse. Early negotiations. 1935-1958<br><i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.                          |
| 47 | 6  | Fuentidueña apse. Inventory of stones. [1958]  |
| 4  | 6  | Fuentidueña apse. Opening ceremonies. April-June 1961  |
| 50 | 2  | Funds. 1944, 1959, 1960, 1963<br><i>Note:</i> This folder contains object-specific information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.                                  |
| 4  | 7  | Gold; "Pompeo Leoni working on a bust of Phillip II." 1955, 1956   |
| 4  | 8  | Hearst Collection. 1956-1965   |

## Subseries I.B. Collections

*Note:* Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.

	4	9	K.J. Hewett, Ltd. November, December 1963
	4	10	Howard, Mrs. Howell (Loretta Hines). 1958-1966 <i>Note:</i> Re: Neapolitan creche and angel tree decorations.
	4	11	Inventories. September-November 1956
	51	5	Jandolo, Aldo. December 15, 1965 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains object-specific information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	4	12	Jansen. September 1960-February 1961. <i>Note:</i> Dealer. See also Wrightsman Rooms
	4	13	Johnson Collection. 1962, 1965, 1966
	4	14	Kevorkian Foundation. 1955-1956 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1	4		Kevorkian Foundation. Oversize. February 24, 1955 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.  <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 4, folder 14.
Box			
	4	15	Kevorkian Foundation. From Francis Henry Taylor files. 1946, 1952, 1954 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	4	16	Kirstein, Lincoln. 1959-1961, 1966 <i>Note:</i> Re: his collection of Japanese prints. Also mention of his being executor of estates of Elie Nadelman, Gaston Lachaise, and Pavel Tchelitchev.
	4	17	Kirtlington Park Room. 1952, 1954, 1956 <i>Note:</i> Includes correspondence with dealer Frank Partridge and Co.
	4	18	Samuel H. Kress Foundation. 1958-1962 <i>Note:</i> Oversize floor plan has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.  <i>Note:</i> Includes information on Croome Court and Kress catalogue.
Flat-file			
19/drawer 1	4		Samuel H. Kress Foundation. Oversize floor plan. 1952 <i>Note:</i> Oversize plan removed from box 4, folder 18.
Box			
	4	19	Labels. 1955-1961, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 7.

## Subseries I.B. Collections

47	7	Labels. Oversize material. 1955 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 4, folder 19.
4	20	<i>The Lady with the Primroses</i> (1 of 2). 1965-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.  <i>Note:</i> This work's formal title is <i>Lady holding a bunch of flowers to her breast</i> , but the name by which it was popularly described at the time is used here.
5	1	<i>The Lady with the Primroses</i> (2 of 2). 1966
5	2	<i>The Lady with the Primroses</i> . Press. October 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversized material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file 19/drawer 1	4	<i>The Lady with the Primroses</i> . Press. Oversize. 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 5, folder 2.
Box		
5	3	Lehman, Adele L. (Mrs. Arthur). 1964-1965
5	4	Martin, Alastair Bradley. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 8.  <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
47	8	Martin, Alastair Bradley. Oversize material. November 1960 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 5, folder 4.
5	5	May, Mrs. Joseph M. March 31, 1960 <i>Note:</i> Re: The Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. May collection of miniature antique silver.
5	6	McMullan, Joseph V. 1955-1958, 1965
47	9	Morgan collection. 1947, 1955, 1962
5	7	Morse, Earl. 1957, 1964, 1965
5	8	Museum of the City of New York. Arnold collection. February, March 1958
5	9	Pomponne Room. 1960
5	10	Pre-Columbian. 1965-1966 <i>Note:</i> These materials predate the establishment of the Department of Primitive Art in 1969.
5	11	Purchases. 1942-1951 <i>Note:</i> From Director Francis Henry Taylor's files; includes information on bequests and other acquisitions.  <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
5	12	Recent accessions. 1959-1961

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

	5	13	Rembrandt <i>Aristotle with a Bust of Homer</i> . Black and white photographic prints and negatives. [1961-1962]
	5	14	Rembrandt <i>Aristotle with a Bust of Homer</i> . Correspondence. Congratulations, poems, autograph requests. November-December 1961
	5	15	Rembrandt <i>Aristotle with a Bust of Homer</i> . Correspondence. Donation thank you. November 1961-January 1962
	5	16	Rembrandt <i>Aristotle with a Bust of Homer</i> . Correspondence. Trustee gifts, special thank you. December 1961-January 1962
	5	17	Rembrandt <i>Aristotle with a Bust of Homer</i> . General. October 1961-April 1964 <i>Note:</i> Includes Parke-Bernet auction report on the sale, and ticket #1 to auction room, reserved for Rorimer.
	5	18	Rembrandt <i>Aristotle with a Bust of Homer</i> . General, complaints. 1961-1963
	5	19	Salmann, George. January 22, 1958
	6	1	Schieffelin, William J. 1962, 1964
	6	2	Schiff, John M. 1957, 1964 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	6	3	Security. Offsite storage. 1961-1963, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file			
19/Drawer 1		4	Security. Offsite storage. Oversize. [1961-1965] <i>Note:</i> Oversized material removed from box 6, folder 3.
Box			
	6	4	Timken bequest. October 1959-May 1960, 1962 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence 1941-1966 (bulk 1955-1966)

## Scope and Contents note

The subseries includes correspondence received from Museum trustees, donors, and patrons as well as art dealers and the general public. Correspondence from staff members at museums in the United States and overseas attests to both the Museum's position of primacy in international art culture and Rorimer's deeply respectful and warm personal relations with his professional peers. They provide an overview of current staff members at museums worldwide at this time and issues of common interest, including personnel, collections management, acquisitions, exhibitions, and conservation. The Director's Office folders include correspondence of Rorimer, his secretary Gillian Schacht, and Executive Assistants Cecily Kerr and Harry S. Parker III, during summers when Rorimer vacationed in Ohio and while he traveled overseas. Letters of congratulations Rorimer received on being named Director were organized by types of correspondent, presumably by Schacht. Some correspondence after Rorimer's death was handled by Executive Assistant Harry S. Parker III. Notable correspondents include such donors as George Blumenthal's widow Ann Robertson, and members of the Rockefeller, Havemeyer, and Webb families.

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

Box	Folder	
6	5	Abegg, Werner and Margaret. General. 1957-1962
6	6	Abegg, Werner and Margaret. Patterns book. 1956-1963
6	7	American Arbitration Association, American Institute of Architects, Art Students League, Alfred Auerbach Associates. 1956-1965
6	8	American Institute of Interior Designers. 1964-1966
6	9	Andrus, Vincent. July 14, 1958
6	10	Avnet, Lester. 1964-1966
6	11	Baruch, Bernard M. 1959-1966
6	12	Bass, John. 1958-1966 <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.</i>
Flat-file		
19/Drawer 1	4	Bass, John. Oversize. 1964, 1966 <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 6, folder 14.</i>
Box		
6	13	Cailleux, Jean de. 1959, 1962 <i>Note: Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.</i>
6	14	Callisen, S.A. May 28, 1951
6	15	Canaday, John. June 9, 1959
6	16	Chorley, Kenneth. April 18, 1958
6	17	Christie, Lansdell K. 1962-1966 <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 10.</i>
47	10	Christie, Lansdell K. Oversize. <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 6, folder 19.</i>
6	18	Clark, Tony. November 17, [1960s]
6	19	Coremans, Paul. 1957
6	20	Cotnareanu, Leon. January 1966
6	21	Cox, Warren, E. June 1959
6	22	Crane, Mrs. W. Murray (Josephine). 1959 <i>Note: Re: Salvador de Madariaga.</i>
6	23	Cresap, McCormick and Paget. September 1955
6	24	Cummings, Nathan. October 1962-June 1966 <i>Note: Mostly regarding collection of Peruvian pottery.</i>  <i>Note: Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.</i>
6	25	Darlington, Gilbert. April 24, 1956
6	26	Dartmouth College. April 1961
6	27	David-Weill, D. April 15, 1963

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 6 | 28 | DeBecker, Mme. Rene. 1958                     |
| 6 | 29 | Delacorte, George T. 1957-1966                |
| 6 | 30 | Delacorte, Malcolm. September, October 1965   |
| 6 | 31 | deRothschild, Baron Edmond. September 6, 1957 |
| 6 | 32 | Director's office (1 of 2). 1956-1963         |
| 7 | 1  | Director's office (2 of 2). 1964-1966         |
- Note:* Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
- Note:* Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after July 30, 2049, at the discretion of Archives staff.
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|---|---|--|
| 7 | 2 | Directorship. Congratulations. Architects, decorators, painters, musicians, sculptors. August-September 1955 |
| 7 | 3 | Directorship. Congratulations. Art dealers. August-November 1955   |
| 7 | 4 | Directorship. Congratulations. Art patrons and collectors. July-September 1955                               |
| 7 | 5 | Directorship. Congratulations. Axes to grind, cranks. August-October 1955                                    |
| 7 | 6 | Directorship. Congratulations. College and university professors. August, November 1955                      |
| 7 | 7 | Directorship. Congratulations. Friends, A-J. August 1955   |
| 7 | 8 | Directorship. Congratulations. Friends, K-Z. August 1955   |
| 7 | 9 | Directorship. Congratulations. Metropolitan Museum employees and ex-employees. July-September 1955           |
| 8 | 1 | Directorship. Congratulations. Museum curators and directors, A-L. September-October 1955                    |
| 8 | 2 | Directorship. Congratulations. Museum curators and directors, M-Y. September-October 1955                    |
| 8 | 3 | Directorship. Congratulations. Press. August-October 1955  |
| 8 | 4 | Directorship. Congratulations. Trustees. August 1955   |
- |    |    |                           |
|----|----|---------------------------|
| 47 | 11 | Donson, Jerome. 1954-1965 |
|----|----|---------------------------|
- Note:* Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after August 1, 2041, at the discretion of Archives staff.
- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 8 | 5 | Douglass, Mrs. G.A. 1958, 1959               |
| 8 | 6 | Duveen Bros. September 29, 1958              |
| 8 | 7 | Einstein, Lewis. 1962-1965                   |
| 8 | 8 | Eriksen, Svend. August 1963-August 1964      |
| 8 | 9 | Faison, S. Lane, Jr. October 1957-March 1958 |
- |    |   |                      |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 51 | 9 | Fong, Wen. 1965-1966 |
|----|---|----------------------|
- Note:* Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 12.
- Note:* See also I.D. Departments. f. Far Eastern Art, 1955-1966.

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

*Note:* This folder contains sensitive personnel information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy. It may be accessed on or after June 2051, at the discretion of Archives staff.

47	12	Fong, Wen. Oversize. 1954-1964 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 51, folder 8.
8	10	Ford, Mrs. Henry II (Ann). 1957, 1958
8	11	Foster, Henry J. March 22, 1956
8	12	Frelinghuysen, Mrs. P.H.B. (Adeline Havemeyer). 1957, 1961, 1963
8	13	Gallagher, Edward J., Jr. 1957-1965
8	14	Garbisch, Edgar W. 1961-1966
8	15	Gregory's Old Master Gallery. 1961-1964
8	16	Griffith, Beatrice Cox. 1960-1962
8	17	Hann, George R. 1960-1965
8	18	Harvard University. 1963-1966
8	19	Hirshhorn, Joseph. H. May 1960-May 1966
8	20	Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. 1965 <i>Note:</i> Primarily with Prof. Millard Meiss re: contribution to a Metropolitan Museum catalogue.
8	21	Isaacs, Lewis M., Jr. January-February 1956
8	22	Ittleson, Henry, Jr. 1957-1964 <i>Note:</i> Includes discussion of export licenses for a Cezanne painting.
8	23	Jonas, Mrs. H. Harris. December 9, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Curator Theodore Rousseau's memo on desirable items for the Museum from Mrs. Jonas's collection.
8	24	Kaplan, J.M. August, November 1964 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
8	25	Kennedy, Mrs. John F. (Jacqueline Bouvier). April 1963-December 1964 <i>Note:</i> See also I.C. f. U.S. president, May 1962.
8	26	Kessel, Mrs. Lawrence. September 26, 1956
8	27	Kidder Smith, G.E. 1958-1965
8	28	Kofler, Ernst E. 1958, 1964, 1965
8	29	Kramarsky, Siegfried, collection. September 8, 1960
8	30	Lamon, Dr. Austin. January 1962
8	31	Lasker, Mrs. Albert D. 1957, 1960, 1963-1964
8	32	Lieber, Alexander (Sandy). 1963, 1964
8	33	Liechtenstein, Prince of. 1956-1959
8	34	Lohse, Bruno. 1941, 1946, 1957
8	35	Love, C. Ruxton. May, December 1962

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

8	36	May, Mrs Herbert A. (Marjorie Merriweather Post). 1961-1966
8	37	May, Morton D. January 1961 <i>Note:</i> Re: proposed exhibition of German Expressionist paintings.
8	38	McGregor, Jack. 1958-1963 <i>Note:</i> McGregor served as Executive Assistant to Rorimer and, later, as director of the M.H. deYoung Museum, San Francisco.
8	39	McMahon, Mrs. A. Philip (Audrey); Konchaki, Fahim. 1965, 1966
8	40	Mela, Mrs. Franz J. (Paula). 1958, 1959 <i>Note:</i> Her late husband had sourced ironwork for the Museum's collection.
8	41	Moore, Mrs. Paul. 1956, 1960
8	42	Murphy, Mrs. David Edward (Katherine Prentis). 1958, 1965
8	43	Museums. Foreign. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize correspondence has been removed to box 47, folder 13.
47	13	Museums. Foreign. Oversize clippings. 1965, 1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 8, folder 43.
9	1	Museums. United States. A-L. 1955-1966
9	2	Museums. United States. M-S. 1956-1965
9	3	Museums. United States. T-W. 1956-1965
9	4	Museums. Baltimore. Walters Art Gallery. 1957-1963
9	5	Museums. New York City. Cooper Union. 1956-1964
9	6	Museums. Ft. Worth. Kimbell Art Foundation. 1964-1966
9	7	Museums. San Francisco. M.H. De Young Museum. 1956-1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	4	Museums. San Francisco. M.H. De Young Museum. Oversize 1960 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 9, folder 7.
Box		
10	1	Neuberger, Roy. September 1956, December 1961
10	2	<i>New York Times</i> . 1958, 1959 <i>Note:</i> Predominantly correspondence with publisher Arthur Hays Sulzberger.
10	3	Parsons, Harold Woodbury. 1956-1962
10	4	Partridge & Sons. 1956-1966
10	5	Patterson, Richard. 1966
10	6	Paul, C. Michael. 1964-1966
10	7	Pitcairn, Raymond. 1965, 1966
10	8	Plenderleith, Elizabeth. 1962-1966
10	9	Plowden, Mrs. Helen H. 1949-1953, 1957-1958
10	10	Pope, Mrs. John A. (Annemarie). September, November 1965

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

- Note:* Re: International Exhibitions Foundation.
- |    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 10 | 11 | Price, Frederic Newlin. 1955, 1959   |
| 10 | 12 | Public comments (1 of 2). 1956-1964<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 14.   |
| 47 | 14 | Public comments (1 of 2). Oversize material. 1956-1964<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 10, folder 12.   |
| 10 | 13 | Public comments (2 of 2). 1965-1966  |
| 10 | 14 | Duchess of Richelieu. 1958-1965  |
| 10 | 15 | Robertson, Ann (Mrs. Ralph K.; previously Blumenthal) (1 of 2). 1955-1958  |
| 10 | 16 | Robertson, Ann (Mrs. Ralph K.; previously Blumenthal) (2 of 2). 1959-1966  |
| 10 | 17 | Rockefeller, Abby (Mrs. Jean Mauzé). February, March 1963  |
| 10 | 18 | Rockefeller Center. October 19, 1965   |
| 11 | 1  | Rockefeller, David. 1960, 1961, 1964   |
| 11 | 2  | Rockefeller Foundation. 1956, 1964   |
| 11 | 3  | Rockefeller, John D., Jr. 1947, 1952, 1961-1964<br><i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.<br><br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 15. |
| 47 | 15 | Rockefeller, John D., Jr. Oversize. 1952, 1961<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 11, folder 3.  |
| 11 | 4  | Rockefeller, Mrs. John D., Jr. 1945, 1960-1965   |
| 11 | 5  | Rockefeller, John D., III. 1956-1965   |
| 11 | 6  | Rockefeller, Laurence; Winthrop. 1960; 1957-1963   |
| 11 | 7  | Rockefeller, Nelson. 1957, 1960-1966   |
| 11 | 8  | Rodgers, Mr. and Mrs. Richard. 1963-1965   |
| 11 | 9  | Roebing, Mrs. John A. 1958<br><i>Note:</i> Re: her request for information on restoring fire damage to a church in Bernardsville, New Jersey.  |
| 11 | 10 | Roosevelt, Eleanor. 1960-1961  |
| 11 | 11 | Roosevelt, Mrs. Kermit. February 2, 1959; January 7, 1960  |
| 11 | 12 | Rosen, Mrs. Walter T. 1957-1965<br><i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.  |
| 11 | 13 | Rosenberg, James N. 1949, 1955-1966<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 16.   |
| 47 | 16 | Rosenberg, James N. Oversize. 1957<br><i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 11, folder 13.   |

## Subseries I.C. Correspondence

11	14	Rosenberg & Steibel. 1956, 1958, 1964, 1966
11	15	Ross, Marvin. 1955-1958, 1962
11	16	Saarinen, Mrs. Aline B. 1956-1958
11	17	Sachs, Arthur. November 1955
11	18	Sachs, Paul J. 1956, 1965
		<i>Note:</i> Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after June 2041, at the discretion of Archives staff.
11	19	San Francisco Civil Service Commission. May, June 1959
11	20	<i>Saturday Review</i> . October, December 1962
11	21	Schaeffer Galleries. February 1961
11	22	Schwartz, Hermann. 1965-1966
11	23	Sedgwick, Francis M. 1957-1958
11	24	Selz, Georges. March 1965
11	25	Silberman Galleries. November 5, 1959
11	26	Simon, Norton. 1963-1966
		<i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 17.
47	17	Simon, Norton. Oversize. June 1965
		<i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 11, folder 26.
11	27	Stone, Edward Durrell. 1961, 1966
11	28	Spingold, Nate B. 1956, 1957, 1960, 1961
11	29	Staff. Mayor, A. Hyatt. September 1957
11	30	Steegmuller, Francis. 1955-1961
11	31	Stern, Louis E. 1962, 1964
11	32	Stralem, Donald S. September 1960, February 1963
11	33	Straus, Mrs. Herbert N. (Therese K. [Teddy]). 1959-1966
11	34	Streeter, Edward. June 28, 1956
11	35	Sykes, Charles T.; Golik, Edwin. 1962, 1963
		<i>Note:</i> Original file title was "Miscellaneous."
11	36	Thannhauser, Justin K. 1960, 1965, 1966
11	37	Topic-Mimara, A.M. October 1962
		<i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
12	1	Torres, Arcadio. 1957-1960
12	2	U.S. Department of State. 1962-1963
12	3	U.S. president. 1961-1965
		<i>Note:</i> Includes an invitation to the White House for May 11, 1962, as well as notes signed and/or handwritten by First Ladies Lady Bird Johnson and Jacqueline Kennedy.
12	4	Verlet, Pierre. 1957-1964

**Subseries I.D. Departments**

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12	5	Vermilya-Brown Co. February-March 1964 <i>Note: Re: Photographs of the Blumenthal house with patio in situ.</i>
12	6	Vogel, Edwin. 1957, 1959, 1965
12	7	von Kienbusch, Carl Otto. September-October 1955
12	8	Warburg Fund. 1958-1965
12	9	Warwick, Earl of. 1957, 1962-1965 <i>Note: Includes correspondence with T.P. Grange re: attribution of a Van Eyck painting.</i>
12	10	Waterbury, Florence. May 3, 1965
12	11	Watson, Mrs. Thomas J. (Jeannette Kittredge). 1956-1966
12	12	Watson, Thomas J. 1955, 1959, 1960
12	13	Webb, Mrs. J. Watson (Electra Havemeyer). 1957-1966 <i>Note: See also I.H. ffs. Havemeyer memoirs, 1960-1963.</i>
12	14	Webb, Mrs. Vanderbilt (Aileen Osborn). 1956, 1964
12	15	Whitney, Mrs. George (Martha Beatrix Bacon). 1958, 1962-1963
12	16	Whiting, Mrs. Giles. 1961, 1963, 1966
12	17	Wickes, Mrs. Forsyth (Marion Arnot Haven). 1957, 1961, 1965
12	18	Widener, George D. 1957-1959, 1966
12	19	Wildenstein, Georges. 1958-1953
12	20	Wildenstein Gallery. 1957-1963
12	21	Wilson, R. Thornton. 1954-1966
12	22	Wolfe, Alan Lloyd. April-May 1961
12	23	Wright, Mrs. William Coxe (Charlotte Dorrance). 1957, 1961
12	24	Yale University. April 7, 1964 <i>Note: Letter from Vera Ostoia, Department of Medieval Art, to Sumner McKnight Crosby re: information on a capital from St. Denis.</i>
12	25	Young, Mrs. Robert (Anita O'Keeffe). 1959, 1961, 1965
12	26	Zalstem-Zalessky, Prince Alexis. 1960-1965
12	27	Zorach, William. 1956-1957
12	28	Zoumboulakis, Byron Th. December 1963

**Subseries I.D. Departments 1947-1966 (bulk 1955-1966)****Scope and Contents note**

The subseries includes correspondence and reports received from Museum curators and staff members regarding acquisitions, display, loans, conservation, and deaccessions. They document the decisions made by curators in many of the Museum's departments and the mid-20th century rhythm of their professional schedules. These involved annual summer travel to meet donors and dealers, evaluate potential purchases and loans, and visit museums, collections, and historical sites in the United States and overseas. There is significant correspondence from Curator of European Paintings Theodore Rousseau, Jr., and Associate/Assistant Curator Claus Virch.

## Subseries I.D. Departments

Various department names changed during Rorimer's tenure at the Museum. Folder titles reflect those variations where applicable.

Box	Folder	
12	29	American Art. 1956-1966
12	30	American Wing. 1955-1966
12	31	Arms and Armor. 1955-1965
13	1	Costume Institute. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 18.
47	18	Costume Institute. Oversize. 1959-1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 13, folder 1.
13	2	Costume Institute. Party of the Year. 1955-1966
13	3	Development and Promotion. 1959-1963
13	4	Drawings. 1960-1966 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.  <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
13	5	Education and Museum Extension/ Education. 1956-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file 19/ Drawer 1	4	Education and Museum Extension/ Education. Oversize. 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 13, folder 5.
Box		
13	6	Egyptian Art. 1957-1965 <i>Note:</i> See also II. Professional Affiliations. f. U.S. National Committee for the Preservation of Nubian Monuments, 1959-1967.  <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
13	7	European Paintings (1 of 2). 1949, 1954-1960 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
13	8	European Paintings (2 of 2). 1961-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversized materials have been removed to box 47, folder 19.  <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
47	19	European Paintings (2 of 2). Oversize. 1961-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 13, folder 8.

## Subseries I.D. Departments

13	9	Far Eastern Art. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> See also I.C. Correspondence. f. Fong, Wen, 1965-1966.  <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.  <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 20.
47	20	Far Eastern Art. Oversize. <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 13, folder 9.
14	1	Greek and Roman Art. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
14	2	Junior Museum. 1957-1966
14	3	Lending collection/Slide Library. 1952, 1958-1965 <i>Note:</i> Includes Rorimer's June 12, 1957, note that he brought back a complete catalogue of the Marburg photographs taken by the Nazis in France during World War II.
14	4	Library. 1958-1964
14	5	Medieval Art and The Cloisters. 1947, 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	4	Medieval Art and The Cloisters. Oversize. <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 14, folder 5.
Box		
14	6	[Medieval Art and] The Cloisters. 1956-1965 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
14	7	Membership. 1955-1966
14	8	Membership. Dues. 1965-1966
14	9	Music/Musical Instruments. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize floor plan has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 4.  <i>Note:</i> Privileged donor-related information has been removed from this folder and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	4	Music/Musical Instruments. Oversize floor plan. July 1, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize floor plan removed from box 14, folder 9.
Box		
14	10	Music/Musical Instruments. Winternitz, Emanuel. 1955-1968
14	11	Music/Musical Instruments. Winternitz, Emanuel. Publications. 1956, 1960, 1963
14	12	Near Eastern 1955-1957

## Subseries I.E. General Files

		<i>Note:</i> Original file notes that this is "Prior to merge with Ancient Near East [Department], June 30, 1959."
14	13	Near Eastern. 1955-1959 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 21.
47	21	Near Eastern. Oversize. <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 14, folder 13.
14	14	[Near Eastern] Islamic Art. 1957-1966
14	15	Near Eastern/Ancient Near Eastern. 1959-1966 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
15	1	Prints. 1957-1965
15	2	Public Relations. 1956-1965
15	3	Publications. <i>Bulletin</i> , general. 1960-1966
15	4	Publications (1 of 2). 1948-1959 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 22.
47	22	Publications (1 of 2). Oversize. February 5, 1958 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 15, folder 4.
15	5	Publications (2 of 2). 1960-1966
15	6	Publications. American Wing, American Art. 1960-1966
15	7	Publications. Far Eastern Art, Near Eastern Art. 1960-1966
15	8	Publications. Greek and Roman Art. 1960-1965
15	9	Publications. Medieval Art and The Cloisters. 1960-1966
15	10	Publications. Paintings, Western European Arts. 1961-1966
15	11	Publications. Prints. 1962-1966
15	12	Renaissance and Post-Renaissance Art/Western European Art. 1949, 1956-1966
15	13	Registrar. 1954-1957, 1961-1965
15	14	Technical Laboratory/Conservation. 1955-1962 <i>Note:</i> Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
		<i>Note:</i> Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after January 2043, at the discretion of Archives staff.

**Subseries I.E. General Files 1942-1966 (bulk 1952-1966)****Scope and Contents note**

The subseries consists of subject files of interest to the Director's Office including clippings and externally produced information on Museum activities, documentation of initiatives such as evaluation of the Cooper Union collections prior

## Subseries I.E. General Files

to its planned dispersal, relations with city and state government, and information on nonprofit organizations and funding sources. It also includes procedural information on issues including taxation, finance, insurance, and the importation of artwork.

Flat-file	Folder	
19/ Drawer 1	5	Advertising. 1961
Box		
16	1	Appraisals. October 1959, January 1963
16	2	Art Dealers Association of America. 1963-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
16	3	Art market. 1961-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	5	Art market. Oversize. 1961-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 16, folder 3.
Box		
16	4	Asia Society. 1956, 1957, 1965
16	5	Atomic activation analysis. 1966
16	6	Benefactors. 1962, 1965
16	7	Berenson, Bernard. Will, clipping. September 13, 1945; October 1, 1956
16	8	Candidates. Requests for suggestions. 1958-1966
16	9	Charity campaigns. 1956-1965 <i>Note:</i> Includes Fund for Greater New York, to which Metropolitan Museum employees could contribute.
16	10	City of New York. Board of Education. 1957-1959
16	11	City of New York. Departments of Commerce and Public Events, Parks; Office of Cultural Affairs. 1956-1965
16	12	City of New York. Mayor's office. 1958-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	5	City of New York. Mayor's office. Oversize. 1958-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 16, folder 12.
Box		
16	13	Clippings. <i>Choir screen from the Cathedral of Valladolid.</i> 1957-1958 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	5	Clippings. <i>Choir screen from the Cathedral of Valladolid.</i> Oversize. 1957-1958 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 16, folder 13.
Box		

## Subseries I.E. General Files

	16	14	Clippings. Cloisters. 1950-1958 <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.</i>
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1		5	Clippings. Cloisters. Oversize. 1950-1958 <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 16, folder 14.</i>
Box			
	16	15	Clippings. General. Undated <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.</i>
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1		5	Clippings. General. Oversize. 1950s-1960s <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 16, folder 15.</i>
Box			
	16	16	Clippings. Junior Museum. 1957-1964 <i>Note: Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 23.</i>
	47	23	Clippings. Junior Museum. Oversize. 1957-1964 <i>Note: Oversize clippings removed from box 16, folder 16.</i>
	16	17	Clippings. Metropolitan Museum publications. 1955-1963
	16	18	Clippings. "The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." 1962-1964 <i>Note: Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.</i>
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1		5	Clippings. "The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Oversize. 1962-1964 <i>Note: Oversize clippings removed from box 16, folder 18.</i>
Box			
	16	19	Clippings. Rorimer, James J. 1942, 1944, 1955-1966 <i>Note: Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 24.</i>
	47	24	Clippings. Rorimer. Oversize. 1955, 1964-1965 <i>Note: Oversize clippings removed from box 16, folder 19.</i>
	16	20	Clippings. <i>September Morn.</i> 1957
	17	1	Cooper Union collection. Final report. 1964
	17	2	Cooper Union collection. Notes, Milliken report. 1962, 1963
	17	3	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. American Wing, Arms and Armor, Egyptian Art, Far Eastern Art, Greek and Roman Art, Near Eastern Art, European Paintings, Pre-Columbian Art, Western European Art. 1963
	17	4	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. Costume Institute. September-December 1963 <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.</i>
Flat-file			

## Subseries I.E. General Files

19/ Drawer 1	5	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. Costume Institute. Oversize. [1963] <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 17, folder 4.
Box		
17	5	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. Drawings, Prints. 1959, 1961, 1963
17	6	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. Textiles. October 1963
17	7	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. Textiles. List I. Wanted in New York. [1963]
17	8	Cooper Union collection. Preliminary departmental reports. Textiles. List II. Not wanted in New York. [1963]
17	9	Cooper Union collection. Press relations, releases, clippings. July-December 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize clippings have been removed to box 47, folder 25.
47	25	Cooper Union collection. Press relations, releases, clippings. Oversize. 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize clippings removed from box 17, folder 9.
17	10	Cooper Union collection. Staff schedules, correspondence. June-December 1963
17	11	Distinguished visitors. 1955-1962
17	12	Distinguished visitors. 1963-1966
17	13	Estates and bequests. 1958-1961 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
17	14	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Arts Councils of America. 1965 <i>Note:</i> The organization hosted a meeting at the Metropolitan Museum in November 1965.
17	15	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Background. 1962-1966 <i>Note:</i> See also I.E. ffs. Government and the Arts, 1961-1966.  <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 26.
47	26	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Background. Oversize. October 21, 1962 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 17, folder 15.
18	1	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Ford Foundation. Clippings and publications. 1960-1965
18	2	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Ford Foundation. Correspondence. 1957-1964 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 27.
47	27	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Ford Foundation. Correspondence. Oversize. May 1957 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 18, folder 2.
18	3	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Fund for the Republic. October-November 1955

## Subseries I.E. General Files

	18	4	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Guggenheim, John Simon, Foundation. 1952-1965
	18	5	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. James Foundation. 1957-1958, 1964
	18	6	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Lincoln Center. 1956-1959 <i>Note:</i> Re: possible disposition of Crosby Brown musical instrument collection.
	18	7	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Loeb Fund. 1955, 1962, 1965
	18	8	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. National Endowment for the Arts. May-June 1965 <i>Note:</i> These materials were accessioned from the Office of the Secretary Records.
	18	9	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. Putnam Foundation. 1956
	18	10	Foundations and nonprofit organizations. UNESCO. Reports and printed matter. 1955-1964
	18	11	Gold outflow. Clipping. May 3, 1965
	18	12	Government and the arts. American Council of Learned Societies. 1961-1965
	18	13	Government and the arts. Clippings. 1961-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file			
19/	Drawer 1	5	Government and the arts. Clippings. Oversize. 1963, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 18, folder 13.
Box			
	18	14	Government and the arts. Correspondence. 1962, 1965-1966 <i>Note:</i> Documents with privileged legal information have been removed from this file and are restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	47	28	Government and the arts. Government grants and civil rights. October 1966
	18	15	Government and the arts. Legislation. 1965
	19	1	Government and the arts. Reports. 1963-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file			
19/	Drawer 1	5	Government and the arts. Reports. Oversize. 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 19, folder 1.
Box			
	19	2	Governments. Foreign (including United Nations). 1956-1965
	47	29	Gulbenkian Collection. March 1953
	19	3	Industrial design. Memo to Board of Trustees. [1955-1966]
	19	4	Insurance. 1959-1965
	19	5	International Council on Museums (ICOM). Export regulations (1 of 2). 1961-1963
	19	6	International Council on Museums (ICOM). Export regulations (2 of 2). 1964-1966
	19	7	Microfilming. PMLA preprint publication. September 1964
	19	8	Moss, Stanley. 1963-1965

**Subseries I.F. Operations**

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19	9	Museum practices. Standards. 1958, 1959
19	10	New York state government. Acts. 1962-1964
19	11	New York state government. Clippings. 1960-1963
19	12	New York state government. General, labor issues. March 1962-October 1965
19	13	New York state government. Printed materials. 1963-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
19	14	Press. 1955, 1963-1966
19	15	Sales and rental information. 1949-1964
20	1	Tax. Deductions. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
20	2	Tax. Deductions. Clippings. 1956-1962
20	3	Tax. Exemption. 1963, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
20	4	Tax. Excise. 1950
20	5	Tax. Foundations. 1962, 1965
20	6	Tax. Leave and travel. ACLS newsletter. April 1965
47	30	Tax. Tariff laws. 1959
20	7	Tax. 30%. 1961-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
20	8	Television. 1952, 1964
20	9	U.S. government. Embassies abroad. 1956, 1960, 1963, 1964

**Subseries I.F. Operations 1932-1966 (bulk 1955-1966)****Scope and Contents note**

The subseries includes procedural information on the operations of noncuratorial departments and activities, such as human resources, visitor services, and photographic permissions. Correspondence received by the Director's office and referred to other departments highlights Joseph V. Noble's role in handling operational details within the Museum as Operating Administrator. The records document the Museum's affiliation with New York University's Institute of Fine Arts (IFA) museum training program and include applications from students as well as information on programs and schedules. Rorimer served on the IFA Advisory Board starting in December 1956.

Box	Folder	
20	10	Broadcasting. Unidentified script. May 11, 1956
20	11	Cocktail party (May 21, 1959). May 1959 <i>Note:</i> This event was hosted by the Rorimers at the Museum.

## Subseries I.F. Operations

	20	12	Directorship. Expense accounts. 1959, 1961
	20	13	Information requests. Technical information for the public. 1947, [1950s]
	20	14	Labor. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Privileged legal information has been removed from this folder and is restricted according to Museum Archives access policy.
	20	15	Mail referrals from the Office of the Director (1 of 3). 1961-1962
	20	16	Mail referrals from the Office of the Director (2 of 3). 1963-1964
	20	17	Mail referrals from the Office of the Director (3 of 3). 1965-1966
	20	18	Morgan Guaranty Trust. Fees. 1962 <i>Note:</i> Oversize plat map has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1		5	Morgan Guaranty Trust. Fees. Oversize plat map. January 23, 1959 <i>Note:</i> Oversize plate map removed from box 20, folder 18.
Box			
	20	19	Motion pictures. 1955-1962
	20	20	New York University. 1956-1965 <i>Note:</i> Predominantly on Institute of Fine Arts.
	21	1	New York University museum training program II, III (1 of 2). 1955-1965 <i>Note:</i> Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after January 2051, at the discretion of Archives staff.
	21	2	New York University museum training program II, III (2 of 2). 1965-1967 <i>Note:</i> Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after January 2051, at the discretion of Archives staff.
	21	3	Notices. All staff. October 1956-November 1966
	21	4	Opinions on works of art. Policies. 1932, 1945, 1963, 1964
	21	5	Outgoing memos. 1958-1966
	21	6	Outside events at the Museum. 1958-1966
	21	7	Permission for publication. April 17, 1961
	21	8	Photographic documentation. 1955, 1961-1965
	21	9	Registrar and catalogue departments. Report by Maurice F. Tauber. 1961
	21	10	Sales and bookstore. 1957-1965
	21	11	Sample letters. 1958, 1960, 1964
	21	12	Scholz, Janos. 1958, 1964
	51	25	Security. Cloisters cash register. August 1966 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains sensitive personnel-related information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	21	13	Security. West Point. 1956-1958

**Subseries I.G. Physical Plant**

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21	14	Staff. Employment regulations. 1925, 1947, 1959-1965 <i>Note: All-staff memos on employment issues.</i>
21	15	Staff. Lecturing and teaching. 1960-1961
21	16	Staff. Priest, Alan. 1959-1962
21	17	Staff. Retirement, insurance, and medical plans. report by Towers, Perrin, Foster & Crosby. August 1965
21	18	Staff. Tenure. 1932, 1955
21	19	Staff. Travel grants. May, October 1966
21	20	Staff. Trent School scholarship. June-September 1963
22	1	Staff housing. 1959, 1961, 1964, 1966
22	2	Staff meetings. August 1955-December 1961
22	3	Staff Policy Committee. 1955-1960
22	4	Transit strike. January 1965, July 1966
22	5	Visitor services. Admission charges. 1952, 1962-1965 <i>Note: Oversize material has been removed to box 47, folder 31.</i>
47	31	Visitor services. Admission charges. Oversize. November 1965 <i>Note: Oversize material removed from box 22, folder 5.</i>
22	6	Visitor services. Attendance. 1954-1966
22	7	Visitor services. Attendance. Computech survey. 1959
22	8	Visitor services. Catering. Robert Day-Dean. 1955-1964
22	9	Visitor services. Group visit requests. 1962, 1965
22	10	Visitor services. Information desk. New York Arts Calendar. September, October 1964
22	11	Visitor services. Information services. 1955, 1958
22	12	Visitor services. Monday closing and opening. 1958-1964
22	13	Visitor services. Monday closing and opening. Effects on Museum departments. August-October 1959
22	14	Visitor services. Restaurant: Horwath & Horwath report. December 1962-January 1963
22	15	Year end gift acknowledgments. 1963, 1965, 1966 <i>Note: Sensitive donor-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.</i>  <i>Note: See also I.D. f. Development and Promotion, 1959-1963.</i>

**Subseries I.G. Physical Plant 1952-1966, 1969****Scope and Contents note**

The subseries contains reports, correspondence, and photographs pertaining to the Fifth Avenue and Cloisters buildings and galleries, including the installation and display of collections and their physical maintenance. The photographs

**Subseries I.H. Publications**

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document the buildings' physical extent and Fifth Avenue surroundings prior to the extensive building program instituted in the 1970s by Rorimer's successor, Thomas Hoving.

Box	Folder	
22	16	Altman Collection galleries. 1952-1965
22	17	Architects. Brown, Lawford, and Forbes. 1954-1966
22	18	Architects. Eggers & Higgins. December 1965, January 1966
22	19	Captain's office. 1955-1962 <i>Note:</i> Documents with sensitive personnel information have been removed from this folder. Restricted documents may be accessed on or after January 2044, at the discretion of Archives staff.
23	1	Cloisters. Black and white photographic prints and negatives. [1960s]
23	2	Concerts. Memos. 1956-1964
23	3	Fifth Avenue exterior. Black and white photographic prints. [1962]
23	4	Fifth Avenue exterior construction. Black and white photographic prints. [1960s]
23	5	Fifth Avenue interiors. Fallen arches. Black and white photographic prints. [1962]
23	6	Fifth Avenue interiors, restaurant. Black and white photographic prints and negatives. [1962]
23	7	Fire prevention. 1955, 1958
23	8	Gallery benches. 1953-1954
23	9	Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium. Operations and bookings. 1954-1966
23	10	Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium. Physical plant. 1952-1955
23	11	Greek and Roman galleries. 1958, 1959
23	12	Lighting. 1952-1959 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 32.
47	32	Lighting. Oversize. 1953, 1955, 1959 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 23, folder 12.
23	13	Medieval galleries. Installation. Black and white photographic prints and negatives. [1960s] <i>Note:</i> These are labeled as being Rorimer's photographs.
23	14	Parking lot. 1955-1963
23	15	Olmsted Brothers. 1957-1963 <i>Note:</i> Predominantly about landscaping at The Cloisters.
23	16	Plants. March 12, 1965
23	17	Willis, Harold B. July 1957 <i>Note:</i> From the architectural firm Collens, Willis & Bechonert re: original plans for The Cloisters.

**Subseries I.H. Publications 1955-1966**

## Subseries I.I. Special Exhibitions

**Scope and Contents note**

The subseries includes information on publications of and about the Metropolitan Museum. These include the September 1965 special edition of *Apollo* focused on the Museum, Louisine Havemeyer's memoirs *Sixteen to sixty; memoirs of a collector*, privately printed for her family by the Museum and distributed to selected patrons, collecting institutions, and libraries, and the Museum's *Art seminars in the home* series published by Book of the Month Club. Rorimer's own publications are included in Series III. Speeches and Writings.

Box	Folder	
24	1	<i>Apollo</i> . September 1965 special issue. Comments and thank you letters. September-November 1965
24	2	<i>Apollo</i> . September 1965 special issue. Correspondence. 1964-1965
24	3	Book of the Month Club. <i>Art seminars in the home</i> . Comments. 1958-1965 <i>Note</i> : Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	5	Book of the Month Club. <i>Art seminars in the home</i> . Comments. Oversize. February 1962 <i>Note</i> : Oversize material removed from box 24, folder 3.
Box		
24	4	Book of the Month Club. <i>Art seminars in the home</i> . Correspondence. 1955-1966
47	33	Harvard University Press. 1956-1960
24	5	Havemeyer memoirs. October 1961-February 1966
24	6	Havemeyer memoirs. Correspondence with Mrs. Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen (Adeline Havemeyer). November 1960-February 1962
24	7	Havemeyer memoirs. Requests fulfilled correspondence with Miss Mason. October-December 1961
24	8	Havemeyer memoirs. Thank you letters. November 1961-March 1963
51	27	Miniatures catalog. August, September 1965 <i>Note</i> : This folder contains privileged financial information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
24	9	<i>Toledo Blade</i> . June 1956 <i>Note</i> : Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 5.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	5	<i>Toledo Blade</i> . Oversize printer's proofs. June 1956 <i>Note</i> : Oversize materials removed from box 24, folder 9.
Box		
24	10	UNESCO catalogue of color reproductions. 1960-1964
24	11	University of California Press. 1961

**Subseries I.I. Special Exhibitions 1951-1966 (bulk 1956-1966)****Scope and Contents note**

## Subseries I.I. Special Exhibitions

The subseries documents special exhibitions at the Museum during Rorimer's directorship, including both those realized and some only proposed but never mounted. Most notable is documentation of the loan to the Museum of *Mona Lisa* in 1964, representing the only time the painting had travelled out of Europe and the last time it left the Louvre Museum. The records include press clippings, correspondence with officials at the Louvre and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., as well as invitations, photographs, and sample merchandise created for the month-long exhibition. Although the press clippings are organized by type of outlet, there is significant repetition among them and researchers are encouraged to look at the entire run for a complete picture of press coverage of the exhibition and its times.

Box	Folder	
25	1	"Ancient Sculpture from India." Clippings. February 1965
25	2	"Ancient Sculpture from India." Correspondence. April 1963-July 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 47, folder 34.
47	34	"Ancient Sculpture from India." Oversize. April 1964 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 25, folder 2.
25	3	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Administration, New York City and French officials. December 1962-May 1963 <i>Note:</i> Includes sample of red velvet used in display.  <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 48, folder 1.
48	1	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Administration, New York City and French officials. Oversize. March, April 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 25, folder 3.
25	4	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Black and white photographic prints. February 1963
25	5	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Complaints, congratulations. March 1963
25	6	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Dinner invitations, reception correspondence. December 1962-February 1963
25	7	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Dinner speeches. January-February 1963
25	8	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Merchandise. December 1962-March 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
Flat-file 19/ Drawer 1	6	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Merchandise. Oversize print, linen towel. [February 1963] <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 25, folder 8.
Box		
25	9	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Press releases. December 1962-March 1963
25	10	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Press. Print. January-July 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
Flat-file 19/ Drawer 1	6	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Press. Print. Oversize galley proof, clipping. January, February 1963

## Subseries I.I. Special Exhibitions

*Note:* Oversize materials removed from box 25, folder 10.

Box		
25	11	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Press. Television. December 1962-February 1963
25	12	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Press. Radio. December 1962-February 1963, 1966 <i>Note:</i> Includes a February 1963 interview with Jack McGregor on the "Thrifty Shopper" program from WVPO, Stroudsburg, PA. The original magnetic tape is restricted due to its fragility. A digitized version created at the Museum in 2014 is available at <a href="http://libmma.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16028coll4/id/19824">http://libmma.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16028coll4/id/19824</a> .
25	13	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Press. Correspondence, arrangements. December 1962-April 1963
25	14	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Publications and reproductions. December 1962-March 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	6	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Publications and reproductions. Oversize printer's proofs. January 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 25, folder 14.
Box		
25	15	"The <i>Mona Lisa</i> by Leonardo da Vinci." Special visitors, general queries, poems. January-February 1963
26	1	Proposed. Art from Canadian museums. August 1962-February 1963
26	2	Proposed. Art treasures of Turkey. 1951-1953, 1955-1966
26	3	Proposed. Artist-craftsmen of New York (Cooper Union). 1960-1964 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.  <i>Note:</i> Includes black and white photographic prints.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	6	Proposed. Artist-craftsmen of New York. Oversize poster. January 1960 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 26, folder 3.
Box		
26	4	Proposed. Italian masterpieces. June-December 1956 <i>Note:</i> Oversize press release draft has been removed to box 48, folder 2.
48	2	Proposed. Italian masterpieces. Oversize press release draft. October 8, 1956 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 26, folder 4.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	6	Proposed. Gislebertus, sculptor of Autun. February 1963
Box		
48	3	Proposed. Mural painters. May 1958

**Subseries I.J. Trustees**

	26	5	Proposed. Polish art. October 1961-July 1966
	26	6	Proposed. 7000 years of Iranian art (Smithsonian Institution). November 1961-July 1964
	26	7	Proposed. Various. 1956-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize clipping has been removed to flat file, 19, drawer, folder 6.
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1		6	Proposed. Various. Oversize clipping. May 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 26, folder 7.
Box			
	26	8	"Sport in Art." 1955, January-May 1958 <i>Note:</i> Oversize press release has been removed to box 48, folder 4.
	48	4	"Sport in Art." Oversize press release. February 10, 1955 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 26, folder 8.
	26	9	Summer loan exhibitions. 1960-1963 <i>Note:</i> Object- and donor-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	26	10	"Three Centuries of American Paintings." Clippings. December 1964-April 1965
	26	11	"Three Centuries of American Paintings." Correspondence. April 1964-April 1965 <i>Note:</i> Object- and donor-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
	26	12	Various. 1959-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1		6	Various. Oversize. 1952, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 26, folder 12.

**Subseries I.J. Trustees 1952-1966 (bulk 1955-1966)****Scope and Contents note**

The subseries consists of correspondence from Trustee Committees and individual Metropolitan Museum trustees, the latter often warmly personal. Extensive correspondence from Metropolitan Museum President Roland Redmond documents his months of travel in summers during Rorimer's directorship. Notable is the extensive correspondence from Charles Wrightsman and that related to documentation of his collection, including publication of the collection's catalogue in 1966. Text for the catalogue was written by Francis Watson at the Wallace Collection, and Carl C. Dauterman, Metropolitan Museum Curator of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts. Administrative Assistant Jack McGregor catalogued the collection and handled much of the research and procedural details related to its publication.

**Conditions Governing Access note**

## Subseries I.J. Trustees

*Note:* Records pertaining to Charles and Jayne Wrightsman are restricted during the lifetime of the subject.

Box	Folder	
27	1	Astor, Mrs. Vincent (Brooke). 1961-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 48, folder 5.
48	5	Astor, Mrs. Vincent (Brooke). Oversize clipping. January 15, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 27, folder 1.
27	2	Baker, Walter. 1955-1966
51	28	Committees. Advisory Committee on American Art. Meeting minutes. June 1952-June 1964 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains Board-specific information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
27	3	Committees. Architecture. 1955, 1963-1966
27	4	Committees. Budget. Correspondence. 1964-1965
27	5	Committees. Fellowships. March-September 1964
27	6	Committees. Library. Correspondence. June, December 1958
51	29	Committees. Pensions. 1963-1966 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains privileged financial information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
27	7	Committees. Purchasing. Curators' appropriations. June, October 1964
27	8	Committees. Purchasing. Hofstatter "Virgin." Correspondence. 1964-1965
27	9	Committees. Purchasing. "St. Sebastian." April-December 1964
27	10	Committees. Purchasing. Purchases study (1960-1965). February 2, 1966
27	11	Dale. Chester. 1956-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to box 48, folder 6.
48	6	Dale. Chester. Oversize clippings. 1963, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 27, folder 11.
27	12	Dillon, C. Douglas. 1957-1965
27	13	Dilworth, J. Richardson. 1961-1966
27	14	Houghton, Arthur A., Jr. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
Flat-file 19/ Drawer 1	6	Houghton, Arthur A., Jr. Oversize clippings. September 1964, May 1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 27, folder 14.
Box 27	15	Lehman, Robert. 1955-1960 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
Flat-file 19/ Drawer 1	6	Lehman, Robert. Oversize clippings. 1957, 1959

**Series II. Professional Affiliations**

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*Note:* Oversize materials removed from box 27, folder 15.

**Box**

27	16	Lehman, Robert. 1961-1966
27	17	Redmond, Roland L. (1 of 7). 1955-1957
27	18	Redmond, Roland L. (2 of 7). 1958-1959
28	1	Redmond, Roland L. (3 of 7). 1960-1961
28	2	Redmond, Roland L. (4 of 7). 1962
28	3	Redmond, Roland L. (5 of 7). 1963
28	4	Redmond, Roland L. (6 of 7). 1964
28	5	Redmond, Roland L. (7 of 7). 1965-1966
28	6	Rogers, Francis D. September 1962-October 1965
51	30	Rosters. 1964-1969 <i>Note:</i> This folder contains privileged Board-related information and is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.
28	7	Sulzberger, Arthur H. 1955-1958, 1960-1965
28	8	Untermeyer, Irwin. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.

**Flat-file**

19/ Drawer 1	6	Untermeyer, Irwin. Oversize clipping. 1963 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 27, folder 8.
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**Box**

29	1	Various. Aldrich-Olds. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.
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**Flat-file**

19/ Drawer 1	6	Various. Aldrich-Olds. Oversize clipping. April 17, 1964 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 29, folder 1.
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**Box**

29	2	Various. Page-Williams, groups. 1955-1966
29	3	Whitehouse, Mrs. Sheldon (Mary). 1956-1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 6.

**Flat-file**

19/ Drawer 1	6	Whitehouse, Mrs. Sheldon (Mary). Oversize clipping. January 13, 1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 29, folder 3.
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**Series II. Professional Affiliations 1932-1967 (bulk 1952-1966)****Scope and Contents note**

## Series II. Professional Affiliations

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The series documents Rorimer's extensive extra-Museum involvement with professional organizations in the areas of museum administration, most notably the American Association of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, and the International Council on Museums. It also documents his service on local committees, including the New York City-based Cultural Institutions Group, which he chaired from 1962-1963. For the 1964 New York World's Fair, he sat on the Board of Directors and served on the Sculpture Committee, together with Museum of Modern Art Director René d'Harnoncourt and Brooklyn Museum Director Thomas Buechner.

### Related Archival Materials note

Metropolitan Museum of Art records regarding International Council of Museums, 1951-1965. Metropolitan Museum of Art Archives.

Box	Folder	
29	4	American Association of Museums. Constitution and by-laws. Revisions and corrections. 1952, 1957, 1960, 1961
29	5	American Association of Museums. Council correspondence (1 of 2). 1956-1962 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 7.
48	7	American Association of Museums. Council correspondence (1 of 2). Oversize. 1959 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 29, folder 5.
29	6	American Association of Museums. Council correspondence (2 of 2). 1963-1966
29	7	American Association of Museums. Meeting agendas and minutes (1 of 2). 1956-1959
29	8	American Association of Museums. Meeting agendas and minutes (2 of 2). 1960-1962, 1966
30	1	American Association of Museums. Reports. 1925, 1956-1965
30	2	American Federation of Arts. 1956-1963, 1966
30	3	Asia Society. Annual meeting minutes. December 9, 1960
30	4	Association of Art Museum Directors. Annual meeting minutes (1 of 6). 1957, 1958
30	5	Association of Art Museum Directors. Annual meeting minutes (2 of 6). 1959, 1960
30	6	Association of Art Museum Directors. Annual meeting minutes (3 of 6). 1961, 1962
30	7	Association of Art Museum Directors. Annual meeting minutes (4 of 6). 1963, 1964
30	8	Association of Art Museum Directors. Annual meeting minutes (5 of 6). 1965
30	9	Association of Art Museum Directors. Annual meeting minutes (6 of 6). 1966
30	10	Association of Art Museum Directors. Committee reports, publications. 1932, 1948, 1956-1966
31	1	Association of Art Museum Directors. Correspondence. 1956-1966
31	2	Corning Glass Works Foundation. 2nd Corning Conference (May 18-20, 1961). May 1961
31	3	International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). 1965
31	4	International Council on Museums (ICOM). 1958-1966
31	5	International Council on Museums (ICOM). Committee on International Exhibitions. 1957, 1961-1964
31	6	International Council on Museums (ICOM). U.S. Committee. 1957-1966
31	7	Landmarks Preservation Commission. 1964-1965

## Series II. Professional Affiliations

*Note:* Oversize clippings have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.

Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1	7	Landmarks Preservation Commission. Oversize. 1966	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 31, folder 7.
Box			
31	8	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. City matters. 1962-1963	
31	9	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. Notices and administrative matters. 1962-1963	
31	10	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. Pre-Rorimer chairmanship. 1961-1962	
32	1	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. Pre-Rorimer chairmanship. 1960-1962	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 8.
48	8	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. Pre-Rorimer chairmanship. Oversize. 1960-1962?	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 32, folder 1.
32	2	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. State and federal matters. 1962-1963	
32	3	New York City. Cultural Institutions Group. Various. 1962-1963	
32	4	New York State. Advisory Committee on Museum Resources. 1960-1965	
32	5	New York State. Association of Museums. 1959-1966	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 9.
48	9	New York State. Association of Museums. Oversize. 1962-1965	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 32, folder 5.
32	6	New York World's Fair Sculpture Committee. 1960-1962	<i>Note:</i> Oversize certificate has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1	7	New York World's Fair Sculpture Committee. Oversize certificate of election to Board of Directors, New York World's Fair 1964-1965 Corporation. Undated	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 32, folder 6.
Box			
32	7	New York University. Institute of Fine Art Conservation Center. 1958-1965	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 10.
48	10	New York University. Institute of Fine Art Conservation Center. Oversize. [1963]	<i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 32, folder 7.
32	8	Photography in the Fine Arts. February 24, 1961	<i>Note:</i> Disbound album of black and white photographs.
32	9	Point State Park (Pittsburgh). Sculpture selection. June, September-November 1959	
32	10	Rome Center for the Study of Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (UNESCO). 1960-1966	
32	11	U.S. Information Agency. 1961, 1962, 1964	
32	12	U.S. National Committee for the Preservation of Nubian Monuments. 1959-1967	

## Series III. Speeches and Writings

## Series III. Speeches and Writings 1927-1966 (bulk 1929-1946)

## Scope and Contents note

The subseries documents the range of organizations and locations at which Rorimer made presentations during his directorship, including openings at the Metropolitan Museum and The Cloisters. These are arranged by organization type, and are in alphabetical order by organization within the folders, as originally done probably by Rorimer's executive assistant Gillian Schact. They include typed presentations as well as notecards and handwritten notes.

The subseries also includes drafts, notes, and final versions of his professional writings including his 1931 *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*, published by the Museum, as well as collection-related articles. Folders related to his 1950 book *Survival: the salvage and protection of art in war* contain predominantly publication-related clippings as well as correspondence and queries seeking information on the restitution of looted materials. Some of these were motivated by the 1962 publication of Frederick Morton's *House of Rothschild*, which mentioned Rorimer's role in restituting collections looted from the Rothschild family by the Nazis.

Box	Folder	
33	1	Speeches. Colleges, schools, university clubs. 1956-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 11.
48	11	Speeches. Colleges, schools, university clubs. Oversize. May 4, 1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 33, folder 1.
33	2	Speeches. Corporate annual meetings. 1960-1965
33	3	Speeches. Coty Awards. 1955-1965
33	4	Speeches. Learned societies. 1958-1964
33	5	Speeches. Metropolitan Museum openings. 1955-1965
33	6	Speeches. Museums and libraries. 1956-1965 <i>Note:</i> Includes black and white photographic prints.  <i>Note:</i> Includes comments at opening of the <i>Apse from San Martín at Fuentidueña</i> at The Cloisters, and ICOM at the Museum.
33	7	Speeches. New York State. 1955-1965
33	8	Speeches. <i>New York Times</i> Youth Forum. March 12, 1956
33	9	Speeches. Personal appearances. 1956, 1960, 1962, 1965
33	10	Speeches. <i>Politika</i> interview. August 6, 1962
33	11	Speeches. Senate and House Subcommittee on Arts and Humanities. March 3, 1965
33	12	Speeches. Unidentified addresses, quotations. [1960s]
33	13	Speeches. Various. 1955-1966 <i>Note:</i> Includes list of speeches delivered 1955-1958 and various recurring engagements.
33	14	Lectures. "Fakes," Museum II. Black and white photographic prints. 1964
34	1	Writings. Barnard, Monroe and Harold D. Ellsworth's "Scientific analysis of art." June 3, 1929

## Series III. Speeches and Writings

- Note:* This work included Rorimer's technique of ultraviolet examination along with other scientific approaches.
- 34 2 Writings. "A corbel from the Palazzo Strozzi designed under the influence of Antonio Pollaiuolo." 1930, 1931
- 34 3 Writings. Modern Danish decorative arts. 1927  
*Note:* Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 12.
- 48 12 Writings. Modern Danish decorative arts. Oversize. 1927  
*Note:* Oversize material removed from box 34, folder 3.
- 34 4 Writings. "Portable ultra-violet ray apparatus". Manuscript, reprint. February 1, 1936  
Published in *Museum News*.
- 34 5 Writings. *The restoration of mediaeval sculpture*. Manuscript. 1936
- 34 6 Writings. *The restoration of mediaeval sculpture*. Manuscript draft. Undated
- 34 7 Writings. *The restoration of mediaeval sculpture*. Correspondence with museum professionals. 1936-1939
- 34 8 Writings. *The restoration of mediaeval sculpture*. Photographs. [1936]
- 34 9 Writings. *Survival*. Clippings. 1950  
*Note:* Oversize clippings have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
- Flat-file  
19/ Drawer 1 7 Writings. *Survival*. Clippings. Oversize. 1950  
*Note:* Oversize materials removed from box 34, folder 9.
- Box
- 48 13 Writings. *Survival*. Abelard Press contract, royalty statement. 1950, 1952
- 34 10 Writings. *Survival*. Correspondence and inquiries. 1950-1956  
*Note:* Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 14.
- 48 14 Writings. *Survival*. Correspondence and inquiries. Oversize. 1956, 1964  
*Note:* Oversize material removed from box 34, folder 10.
- 34 11 Writings. *Survival*. Photographs. 1946-1950  
*Note:* Includes black and white photographic prints.
- 34 12 Writings. "Ultra-violet rays and a Minoda di Fiesole problem." Reprints. October 1933
- 34 13 Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Announcement address list. 1932
- 48 15 Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Background research and information. 1927-1931, undated
- 34 14 Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Bibliography. 1929
- 34 15 Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Captions. 1929  
*Note:* Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
- Flat-file

## Series III. Speeches and Writings

- 19/ Drawer 1      7      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Captions. Oversize. 1929  
*Note:* Oversize material removed from box 34, folder 15.
- Box
- 34      16      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Corning Glass Works. 1929-1932
- 34      17      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Correspondence (1 of 3). 1929-1939  
*Note:* Oversize clipping removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
- Flat-file
- 19/ Drawer 1      7      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Correspondence (1 of 3). Oversize. January 31, 1931  
*Note:* Oversize clipping removed from box 34, folder 17.
- Box
- 35      1      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Correspondence (2 of 3). 1929-1943, 1951
- 35      2      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Correspondence (3 of 3). 1962-1965
- 35      3      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Draft (1 of 2). 1929
- 35      4      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Draft (2 of 2). 1929
- 35      5      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Draft. Complete edited. 1929
- 35      6      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Draft. Notes. 1929  
*Note:* Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
- Flat-file
- 19/ Drawer 1      7      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Draft. Notes. Oversize.  
*Note:* Oversize material removed from box 35, folder 6.
- Box
- 35      7      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Draft. Various. 1929
- 35      8      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Equipment A-I. 1929-1946  
*Note:* Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 16.
- 48      16      Writings. *Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art*. Equipment A-I. Oversize. 1929-1946  
*Note:* Oversize material removed from box 35, folder 8.

## Series IV. Honors and Awards

36	1	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Equipment L-Z. 1929-1941
36	2	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Equipment. Micrographics. 1927-1928
36	3	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Illustrations from <i>Scientific American</i> July 31, 1929
36	4	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Illustrations. Correspondence. September 1931
48	17	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . International Conference for the Study of Scientific Methods for the Examination and Preservation of Works of Art. League of Nations International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation. October 1930
36	5	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Letters of congratulations. 1929-1948
36	6	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Microphotographs. [1929]
36	7	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Outside discussion. 1929-1931
48	18	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Plates. [1929]
36	8	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Portable ultraviolet ray box. Correspondence. 1930-1940
36	9	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Publicity. 1929-1932 <i>Note</i> : Oversize clipping has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
Flat-file 19/ Drawer 1	7	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Publicity. Oversize. July 20, 1930 <i>Note</i> : Oversize clipping removed from box 36, folder 9.
Box		
36	10	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Second writing. [1929]
36	11	Writings. <i>Ultra-violet rays and their use in the examination of works of art</i> . Third writing. 1929

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**Series IV. Honors and Awards 1927-1967 (bulk 1955-1965)**
**Scope and Contents note**

The subseries documents Rorimer's academic achievements, honorary degrees and professional recognitions received following his Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section (MFAA) service and during his directorship, as well as posthumous awards presented to his family following his sudden death in 1966.

## Series IV. Honors and Awards

**Arrangement note**

Individual honors and awards are organized chronologically, followed by folders of grouped awards and citations.

Box	Folder	
37	1	Clippings. 1940, 1941, 1957, 1962-1965 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	7	Clippings. Oversize. 1952, 1962 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials removed from box 37, folder 1.
Box		
48	19	Awards. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Diploma, cum laude. June 23, 1927
48	19	Awards. Republic of France. Croix de Guerre with Silver Star, for exceptional services in the liberation of France. June 27, 1945
48	19	Awards. United States Treasury Department, Washington, DC. Service as Minute Man in Greater New York War Bond Pledge Campaign. [1940s]
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	7	Awards. University School, Cleveland, OH. Diploma, commencement program; 18th annual alumni award dinner. June 15, 1923; May 4, 1965
19/ Drawer 1	7	Awards. Ordre National de Legion d'Honneur, France. Certificate; invitation to investiture ceremony. November 3, 1945; February 27, 1947
Box		
48	19	Awards. Art and Antique Dealers League of America, New York, NY. Honorary membership. April 15, 1946
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	7	Awards. International Institute for the Conservation of Museum Objects. Election to fellow. February 27, 1953
19/ Drawer 1	7	Awards. Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien, Stockholm, Sweden. Election to foreign corresponding member. November 2, 1954
Box		
48	19	Awards. Century Association, New York, NY. Resident membership. February 2, 1956
48	19	Awards. American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Boston, MA. Election to fellow. May 9, 1956
48	19	Awards. Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH. Honorary doctorate of humanities. June 13, 1956
48	19	Awards. Columbia University, New York, NY. Honorary doctorate of humane letters. June 4, 1957 <i>Note:</i> Includes black and white photographic prints.
48	19	Awards. Hamilton College, Clinton, NY. Honorary doctorate of fine arts. June 9, 1957
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	7	Awards. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY. Election to fellow in perpetuity; benefactor (posthumous); fellow in perpetuity (Katherine Serrell Rorimer). March 8, 1960; March 20, May 9, 1967

## Series V. Death and Posthumous

19/ Drawer 1	7	Awards. Order of the Dannebrog, Copenhagen, Denmark. Nomination as Commander. February 24, 1961 <i>Note:</i> Includes Kay Rorimer note that the insignia was returned to the Danish Consul general in September 1966, per statutes requiring return on decease of the recipient.
Box		
48	19	Awards. Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH. Election as fellow for life. January 30, 1962
48	19	Awards. Adelphi College, Garden City, NY. Honorary doctorate of fine arts. June 12, 1963
48	19	Awards. New York University, New York, NY. Honorary doctorate of fine arts. June 10, 1964
48	19	Awards. American Institute of Architects, Chicago, IL. Honorary membership (posthumous). June 27, 1966
37	2	Awards. Honorary degrees. 1956-1959 <i>Note:</i> Includes black and white photographic prints.
48	19	Honors. American Society for Friendship with Switzerland. Certificate of esteem and appreciation. 1965
37	3	Honors. Citations, correspondence. Various. 1930, 1939, 1940, 1955 <i>Note:</i> Oversize materials have been removed to flat file, drawer, folder.
48	19	Honors. City of New York. Honor citation for work as fine arts chairman of New York-Tokyo Sister City Affiliation. April 25, 1962
37	4	Honors. Ohioana Library Association. Career medal. September 1962 <i>Note:</i> Includes black and white photographic print.
37	5	Honors. Sterling Silversmiths Guild. Cultural Leadership Award. 1962

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**Series V. Death and Posthumous 1966, 1967**
**Scope and Contents note**

The series includes Museum notices of Rorimer's sudden death on May 11, 1966, sent to staff members, the press, personal friends, and professional colleagues, and condolence letters received by the Museum. It also includes planning materials from his May 16 memorial service at The Cloisters and April, 1967, memorial concert at the Museum that featured the Musica Aeterna Chamber Orchestra and organist E. Power Biggs, as well as the memorial tribute published in the June 1966 issue of the *Metropolitan Museum Bulletin*. Some of the material originated with the Administrative Committee formed after Rorimer's death to carry on Museum business before the appointment of a new director. Members included Museum Treasurer J. Kenneth Loughry, Operating Administrator Joseph V. Noble, Curator of Renaissance and Modern Art John G. Phillips, Curator of Paintings Theodore Rousseau, Jr., and Trustee and President Arthur A. Houghton, Jr., in an ex officio capacity. The subseries complements materials relating to his death and obsequies donated by his family and now included in Series VI. Personal and Family.

Box	Folder	
37	6	Clippings. May-December 1966

**Series VI. Personal and Family**

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37	7	Condolences. A-M. May-June 1966
37	8	Condolences. N-Z. May 1966
37	9	Contributions to memorial fund. May-June, December 1966
37	10	Correspondence. Executive assistant Harry S. Parker III. May-June 1966
37	11	Memorial service, The Cloisters (May 16, 1966). May 11-27, 1966
37	12	Memorial concert (April 2, 1967). September 1966-April 1967
37	13	Memorial tributes. <i>Art Journal</i> , ICOM. 1966
37	14	Memorial tributes. <i>Metropolitan Museum Bulletin</i> . 1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
19/ Drawer 1	7	Memorial tributes. <i>Metropolitan Museum Bulletin</i> . Oversize. 1962 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 37, folder 14.
38	1	<i>Metropolitan Museum Bulletin</i> commemorative issues. May-September 1966
38	2	Metropolitan Museum notices and press releases. May 11-20, 1966
38	3	Notifications to museum directors. May 11-12, 1966
38	4	Notifications to selected friends. A-L. May 1966
38	5	Notifications to selected friends. M-Z. May 1966
38	6	Obituaries, memorial service. May 1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to box 48, folder 20.
48	20	Obituaries, memorial service. Oversize. May 1966 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 38, folder 6.
38	7	Selection Committee correspondence. May-December 1966

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**Series VI. Personal and Family 1924-1983 (bulk 1924-1966)****Biographical Note**

James Rorimer's father, Louis Rorimer, was a prominent interior designer and instructor at the Cleveland School of Art. His firm, Rorimer-Brooks, served a clientele of wealthy Cleveland residents, as well as commercial customers including the Statler hotels in Detroit, St. Louis, Boston, and Buffalo, NY, and the Hotel Pennsylvania in Manhattan. The Rorimer family - Louis, his wife Edith, son James, and daughter Louise - lived for a time at the elegant Cleveland residential hotel Wade Park Manor and built Rorycrest, a summer home and farm near Chagrin Falls, Ohio. They traveled extensively in Europe and the Middle East while James was a student at Cleveland's independent University School. Louise, who lived with James in New York after his graduation from Harvard University, married violinist and composer Samuel Dushkin in 1936. Louis Rorimer died in 1939 at age 67.

Soon after James and Kay Rorimer's 1942 marriage, he joined the U.S. Army and served in the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Section responsible for restituting European art looted by the Nazis. He rose to Chief of the Section before returning to civilian life as curator of medieval art at The Cloisters in 1946. After he was named Director of the Metropolitan Museum in 1955, the couple entertained extensively, both at their apartment and at the Museum, and his cooking skills were noted in newspaper and magazine coverage. Kay and the Rorimers' children Anne and Louis would

## Series VI. Personal and Family

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spend part of each summer at the family farm in Ohio. When their parents traveled without them, Anne and Louis were sometimes supervised by Rorimer's executive assistant Cecily B. Kerr.

### Scope and Contents note

The series includes correspondence, especially from Rorimer's mother, as well as friends and other family members, and personal notes from John D. Rockefeller and Charles Collens. Letters to and from his future wife Katharine Newton Serrell begin in the early 1930s, continue through their engagement and marriage, and include microfilmed V-mail correspondence received while he was in Europe in 1944 as well as letters sent from New York while she summered at the family farm in Ohio.

Also included are travel diaries documenting Rorimer's European trips as a student as well as those taken with his family. Notable among these is a 1964 cruise of the Dalmatian coast on Charles and Jayne Wrightsman's yacht M.V. *Radiant*, among whose guests was also Jacqueline Kennedy. The cruise is also recorded in both black and white and color snapshots.

Notes and academic writings from Rorimer's years at Harvard University predate the writings included in Series III. Speeches and Writings. The materials from his MFAA service include examples of the small notebooks on which he recorded locations and amounts of artwork found, and individuals and institutions providing information, as well as documentation of his basic training. Notable are his much-folded orders giving him free travel, with whomever else he needed, to hasten the return to France of art stolen by Germany and currently in the American zone of occupation.

Materials pertaining to his sudden death in May, 1966 include condolence letters, cards, and telegrams sent directly to his widow, as well as the guest book from his memorial service held at the Cloisters and photographs collected for the memorial tribute published in the June 1966 issue of the *Metropolitan Museum Bulletin*. This material complements Series V. Death and Posthumous, which includes condolences received at the Museum as well as planning for his memorial service and concert.

Box	Folder	
38	8	Clippings. 1930s, 1947, 1950, 1955 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material has been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.
Flat-file		
19/ Drawer 1	7	Clippings. Oversize. <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 38, folder 8.
Box		
38	9	Clippings. <i>Harvard Alumni Bulletin</i> . 1957
38	10	Cloisters. Opening, sketch. 1938
38	11	Correspondence. Family (1 of 2). 1925-1927
38	12	Correspondence. Family (2 of 2). 1962-1963 <i>Note:</i> Includes description of visit to Winthrop Rockefeller's Winrock estate, Arkansas.
38	13	Correspondence. Maxon, John. 1958, 1959
38	14	Correspondence. Redmond, Lydia. 1956
38	15	Correspondence. Redmond, Roland. 1952, undated
38	16	Correspondence. Robinson, Mrs. Edward; Lucy Kingsley Porter. August, October 1933 <i>Note:</i> Re: sudden deaths of Joseph Breck and A. Kingsley Porter.

## Series VI. Personal and Family

- 38 17 Correspondence. Rorimer, Kay. V mail messages. July 1944-June 1945  
*Note:* Also includes letters from Kay's father.
- 38 18 Correspondence. Rorimer, Kay. 1952-1954
- 38 19 Correspondence. Rosine, Raoul. 1960
- 38 20 Correspondence. Serrell, Katherine [Kay Rorimer]. 1930s-1942
- 39 1 Correspondence. Various (1 of 13). 1928
- 39 2 Correspondence. Various (2 of 13). 1932
- 39 3 Correspondence. Various (3 of 13). 1933  
*Note:* Predominantly Mrs. Louis Rorimer.
- 39 4 Correspondence. Various (4 of 13). 1934
- 39 5 Correspondence. Various (5 of 13). 1935
- 39 6 Correspondence. Various (6 of 13). 1936
- 39 7 Correspondence. Various (7 of 13). 1937
- 39 8 Correspondence. Various (8 of 13). 1938
- 39 9 Correspondence. Various (9 of 13). 1939
- 39 10 Correspondence. Various (10 of 13). 1940
- 39 11 Correspondence. Various (11 of 13). 1940
- 39 12 Correspondence. Various (12 of 13). 1942
- 39 13 Correspondence. Various (13 of 13). 1943
- 39 14 Correspondence. To Louis Rorimers. 1924-1926
- 40 1 Death and posthumous. Cloisters memorial service. Guest book. May 16, 1966
- 40 2 Death and posthumous. Cloisters memorial service. Notices. May 1966
- 40 3 Death and posthumous. Condolences. A, B. May 1966
- 40 4 Death and posthumous. Condolences. C, D. May 1966
- 40 5 Death and posthumous. Condolences. E, F. May 1966
- 40 6 Death and posthumous. Condolences. G. May-October 1966
- 40 7 Death and posthumous. Condolences. H, I. May 1966-February 1967
- 41 1 Death and posthumous. Condolences. K, L. 1966
- 41 2 Death and posthumous. Condolences. M. 1966
- 41 3 Death and posthumous. Condolences. N, O. 1966
- 41 4 Death and posthumous. Condolences. P. 1966
- 41 5 Death and posthumous. Condolences. R. 1966
- 41 6 Death and posthumous. Condolences. S. 1966
- 41 7 Death and posthumous. Condolences. T, U, V. 1966
- 41 8 Death and posthumous. Condolences. W-Z. 1966
- 49 - Death and posthumous. Condolences. Index of correspondents. May 1966
- 41 9 Death and posthumous. Correspondence. 1966  
*Note:* Includes thanks yous sent to Kay Rorimer for memorial service programs that she mailed out.
- 41 10 Death and posthumous. Correspondence. Parker, Harry S. III. June 1966

## Series VI. Personal and Family

- 41 11 Death and posthumous. James J. Rorimer Memorial Fund. Contributors. 1966-1968
- 41 12 Death and posthumous. Memorial concert. Correspondence. April 1967
- 41 13 Death and posthumous. Obituaries. Mayor, A. Hyatt. June 1966
- 41 14 Death and posthumous. Programs and mailings. 1966, 1967
- 42 1 Diaries (1 of 14). 1920
- 42 2 Diaries (2 of 14). June 26-September 20, 1921
- 42 3 Diaries (3 of 14). September 21, 1921-April 19, 1922
- 42 4 Diaries (4 of 14). April 24-July 12, 1922
- 42 5 Diaries (5 of 14). July 13-August 7, 1922
- 42 6 Diaries (6 of 14). June 19-July 6, 1923
- 42 7 Diaries (7 of 14). September 19-December 15, 1923
- 42 8 Diaries (8 of 14). June 14-July 22, 1924
- 43 1 Diaries (9 of 14). 1936, 1939
- 43 2 Diaries (10 of 14). 1940-1942, 1949
- 43 3 Diaries (11 of 14). 1950-1952, 1954
- 43 4 Diaries (12 of 14). 1955-1958
- 43 5 Diaries (13 of 14). 1960-1963
- 43 6 Diaries (14 of 14). 1964-1966
- 43 7 Diaries. Notebooks. 1960-1964
- 43 8 Diaries. Sketchbook, Florence. [1920s]
- 43 9 Diaries. Travel notes, Spain. [1920s]
- 44 1 Family. Dushkin, Louise Rorimer. 1936-1963
- 44 2 Family. General. [1950s]
- 44 3 Family. Rorimer, Kay. Correspondence. Biographical information on Rorimer. 1966-1984  
*Note: Includes corrections to entry in Dictionary of American Biography and rebuttals to Merchants and Masterpieces.*
- 44 4 Family. Rorimer, Kay. Correspondence. Forsyth, William. June 1974  
*Note: Re: Rorimer and Joseph Brummer.*
- 44 5 Family. Rorimer, Kay. Correspondence. Metropolitan Museum. General. 1961, 1969-1983  
*Note: Object-specific information in this folder is restricted, according to Museum Archives access policy.*
- 44 6 Family. Rorimer, Kay. Correspondence. Metropolitan Museum trustees and donors. 1966-1974  
*Note: Includes correspondence from Nathan Cummings, Brooke Astor, Robert Lehman.*
- 44 7 Family. Rorimer, Kay. Correspondence. Robertson, Ann. 1967-1973
- 44 8 Family. Rorimer, Kay. Necklace. Black and white photographs. Undated
- 44 9 Family. Rorimer, Kay Newton Serrell. Engagement and wedding announcements. October, November 1942
- 44 10 Family. Rorimer, Louis. Clippings, obituaries. 1932-1939, undated  
*Note: Oversize materials have been removed to flat file 19, drawer 1, folder 7.*

## Series VI. Personal and Family

Flat-file			
19/ Drawer 1	7	Family. Rorimer, Louis. Clippings, obituaries. Oversize. 1932, 1935 <i>Note:</i> Oversize material removed from box 44, folder 10.	
Box			
44	11	Family. Rorimer, Louis, Jr. 1965	
44	12	Harvard. Academic work. Various. [1924-1927] <i>Note:</i> Includes card of introduction to Miss Frick, Morgan Library, Felix Warburg, Philip Lehman, and Metropolitan Museum of Art.	
44	13	Harvard. Art History notes. [1924-1927]	
44	14	Harvard. "Charlotte," chivalrous literature. [1924-1927]	
44	15	Harvard. Correspondence. [1924-1927]	
44	16	Harvard. Geology notes. [1924-1927]	
44	17	Harvard. Italian 2. [1924-1927]	
44	18	Harvard. Notes. [1924-1927]	
45	1	Harvard. "Some problems in the study of the decorative frescoes in Italy." Edited ms (1 of 3). 1927	
45	2	Harvard. "Some problems in the study of the decorative frescoes in Italy." Edited ms (2 of 3). 1927	
45	3	Harvard. "Some problems in the study of the decorative frescoes in Italy." Edited ms (3 of 3). 1927	
45	4	Metropolitan Museum employment. 1927-1955, 1962	
45	5	Metropolitan Museum telephone directory. October 1964	
48	21	Military service. Basic training documents, authorization to travel to retrieve stolen art, records of service and separation. 1943-1955	
45	6	Military service. Diaries. Basic training. 1943 <i>Note:</i> Contains two notebooks.	
45	7	Military service. Diaries. Basic training. 1943 <i>Note:</i> Contains four notebooks.	
45	8	Military service. Diaries. MFAA. 1943-1945 <i>Note:</i> Contains four notebooks.	
45	9	Travel. Dalmatian cruise. Summer 1964	
45	10	Travel. Egyptian trip. Black and white photographic negatives. 1959	
45	11	Travel. Europe: Hermitage, Cuxa. Black and white and color photographic prints. 1961-1963	
46	1	Travel. European museum view postcards. [1940s]	
46	2	Travel. Museums. Black and white and color photographic prints. 1962, 1964	
46	3	Travel. Museums Sweden, Holland, San Francisco, unidentified. Black and white and color photographic prints. 1951-1964	
46	4	Travel. Museums. Unidentified. [1960s]	
46	5	Travel. Notes, black and white and color photographic prints and negatives. 1958-1964	

**Series VI. Personal and Family**

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48	22	Travel. Passports and visas. 1921, 1926, 1937, 1946, 1967
46	6	Travel. Philadelphia Museum. Black and white photographic prints. [1960s]
46	7	Travel. Photographic negatives. 1962-1964