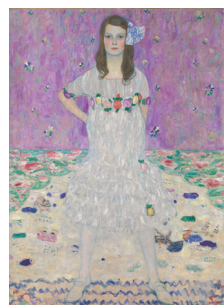




9 Gallery 638, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Philips Koninck (Dutch, 1619–1688)
Wide River Landscape, ca. 1648–49
 Oil on canvas
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of Edith Neuman de Végvár, in honor of her husband, Charles Neuman de Végvár, 1963 (63.43.2)



10 Gallery 818, 19th- and Early 20th-Century European Paintings and Sculpture, 2nd floor
 Claude Monet (French, 1840–1926)
The Parc Monceau, 1878
 Oil on canvas
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, The Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. L. Hunt, Purchase Fund, 1959 (59.142)



11 Gallery 829, 19th- and Early 20th-Century European Paintings and Sculpture, 2nd floor
 Gustav Klimt (Austrian, 1862–1918)
Mäda Primavesi (1903–2000), 1912
 Oil on canvas
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of André and Clara Mertens, in memory of her mother, Jenny Pulitzer Steiner, 1964 (64.148)

It was the goal of the MFAA to save all monuments, artworks, and objects, regardless of their country of origin:

“To save the culture of your allies is a small thing. To cherish the culture of your enemy, to risk your life and the life of other men to save it, to give it all back to them as soon as the battle was won . . . it was unheard of, but that is exactly what [the] Monuments Men intended to do. . . . It couldn’t be just a duty; it had to be a passion.”

Robert Edsel, *The Monuments Men*, pp. 254–255.

For more, see the online itinerary

The Monuments Men at the Met: Treasures Saved During World War II
www.metmuseum.org/monumentsmen

In the Footsteps of the Monuments Men: Traces from the Archives at the Metropolitan Museum

See selected documents, letters, and other correspondence related to James Rorimer and the Monuments Men. On view through March 13, 2014, Thomas J. Watson Library, 1st floor

Sources and Further Reading

Robert Edsel, *The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves, and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History* (New York: Center Street, 2010).

“James J. Rorimer.” *The Metropolitan Museum of Art Bulletin* 25, No. 1, Part II (Summer 1966).

Lynn H. Nicholas, *The Rape of Europa: The Fate of Europe’s Treasures in the Third Reich and the Second World War* (New York: Vintage Books, 1995).

James J. Rorimer, *Survival: The Salvage and Protection of Art in War* (New York: Abelard Press Inc., 1950).

Monuments Men Foundation www.monumentsmenfoundation.org

This itinerary is produced in conjunction with the February 2014 release of *The Monuments Men* feature film.

The MONUMENTS MEN at the Met Gallery Itinerary



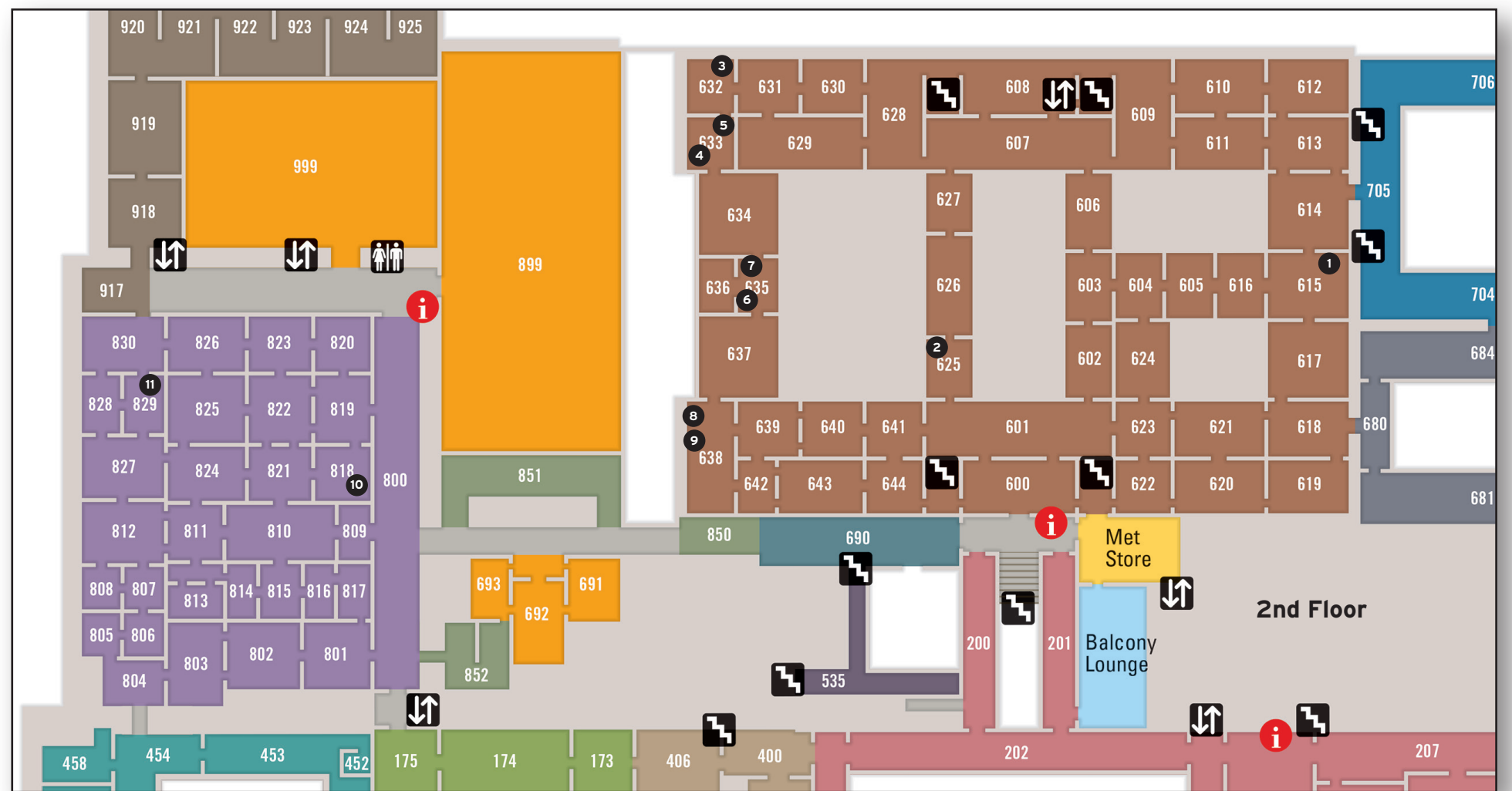
Cover: Lieutenant James J. Rorimer, former director of the Metropolitan Museum, at left, with Sergeant Antonio T. Valin, examines recovered objects. Neuschwanstein, Germany, May 1945 (detail). Photograph by U.S. Signal Corps

 **The Metropolitan Museum of Art**
 1000 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10028-0198
www.metmuseum.org

Use this guide to find selected works of art in the Metropolitan Museum’s collection saved by the Monuments Men, a group of unlikely heroes, who risked their lives to preserve Europe’s cultural treasures in the midst of World War II combat. These important paintings narrowly escaped destruction and were restituted to their rightful owners. Without the courage, determination, and foresight of the Monuments Men, they would not be in the Met’s collection today.

THE MONUMENTS MEN were 345 men and women representing thirteen nations, who volunteered for service in the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives program, or MFAA, created in 1943 as part of the Civil Affairs and Military Government Sections of the Allied armies. In a race against time, and under mandate from President Franklin D. Roosevelt and General Dwight D. Eisenhower, this group of museum directors, curators—including the Met’s James Rorimer, who eventually became the Museum’s director—artists, architects, and archivists joined the front lines and worked tirelessly to protect Europe’s monuments and greatest cultural treasures from both the destruction of the War and seizure by Adolf Hitler and the Nazis. Their role in preserving five million looted cultural treasures stands without precedent.

In the galleries, see selected treasures saved by the Monuments Men:



1 Gallery 615, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Jean Siméon Chardin (French, 1699–1779)
Soap Bubbles, ca. 1733–34
 Oil on canvas
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Wentworth Fund, 1949 (49.24)



2 Gallery 625, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Giovanni di Paolo (Giovanni di Paolo di Grazia) (Italian, 1398–1482)
The Adoration of the Magi, ca. 1460
 Tempera and gold on wood
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, The Jack and Belle Linsky Collection, 1982 (1982.60.4)



3 Gallery 632, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Thomas de Keyser (Dutch, 1596/97–1667)
A Musician and His Daughter, 1629
 Oil on wood
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of Edith Neuman de Végvár, in honor of her husband, Charles Neuman de Végvár, 1964 (64.65.4)



4 Gallery 633, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Jan van der Heyden (Dutch, 1637–1712)
The Huis ten Bosch at The Hague and Its Formal Garden (View from the East), ca. 1668–70
 Oil on wood
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of Edith Neuman de Végvár, in honor of her husband, Charles Neuman de Végvár, 1964 (64.65.3)



5 Gallery 633, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 David Teniers the Younger (Flemish, 1610–1690)
Guardroom with the Deliverance of Saint Peter, ca. 1645–47
 Oil on wood
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of Edith Neuman de Végvár, in honor of her husband, Charles Neuman de Végvár, 1964 (64.65.5)



6 Gallery 635, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Abraham van Beyeren (Dutch, 1620/21–1690)
Still Life with Lobster and Fruit, probably early 1650s
 Oil on wood
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of Edith Neuman de Végvár, in honor of her husband, Charles Neuman de Végvár, 1971 (1971.254)



7 Gallery 635, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Jan Weenix (Dutch, ca. 1641?–1719)
Gamepiece with a Dead Heron ("Falconer's Bag"), 1695
 Oil on canvas
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Rogers Fund, 1950 (50.55)



8 Gallery 638, European Paintings, 1250–1800, 2nd floor
 Jan van Goyen (Dutch, 1596–1656)
Castle by a River, 1647
 Oil on wood
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Gift of Edith Neuman de Végvár, in honor of her husband, Charles Neuman de Végvár, 1964 (64.65.1)

Metropolitan Museum curator James Rorimer was one of the many men and women selected to serve in the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives program:

"To most soldiers, war was circumstance. But to someone like James Rorimer, it was the mission of a lifetime. Hitler had fired a shot across the bow of the art world in 1939, when the blitzkrieg of Poland included units tasked with the deliberate theft of art and destruction of that country's cultural monuments. . . . James Rorimer had no intention of sitting at a desk while art history was unfolding before him."

Robert Edsel, *The Monuments Men*, pp. 74–75.