



# ArchivesSpace

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## Lynn Thorndike papers 4079401

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

### Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor  
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027  
Business Number: (212) 854-5153  
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365  
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URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Thorndike, Lynn, 1882-1965
<b>Title:</b>	Lynn Thorndike papers
<b>ID:</b>	4079401
<b>ID:</b>	MS#1242
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1902-1963
<b>Physical Description:</b>	60 linear feet 124 boxes 1 flatbox, 2 mapcase drawers
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English , Latin .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Lynn Thorndike papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Professor of history at Columbia University. Columbia University A.M., 1903; Ph.D., 1905.

Born in Lynn, MA on 24 July 1882, Thorndike was an authority on medieval history and science. He taught history at Columbia University from 1924 until 1952, when he retired as professor emeritus. He was a fellow of the Medieval Academy of America and helped to found the History of Science Society. Thorndike was also president of the American Historical Association from 1954 to 1955. His major work, *A History of Magic and Experimental Science*, consists of eight volumes. Thorndike also wrote college textbooks, including *The History of Medieval Europe*; *Place of Magic in the Intellectual History of Europe*; *A Short History of Civilizations*; and *Michael Scott*, a biography of a medieval scientist published in 1965. He died in New York on 28 December 1965.

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## Summary

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Papers of Thorndike, consisting of correspondence, manuscripts, diaries, notes, photocopies of medieval scientific manuscripts, glass slides, books, pamphlets, and reprints. The correspondence relates to his scholarly research and publication in the field of the history of medieval science. Also, some family and personal correspondence. One half of the collection consists of photostatic copies of manuscripts Thorndike indexed in his major work, A CATALOGUE OF INCIPITS OF MEDIAEVAL SCIENTIFIC WRITINGS IN LATIN (1963), the first draft, final copy, galley proofs, related correspondence, and extensive card files of notes used in compiling the work. There is also a typescript of the 1937 edition. Thorndike's 76 volumes of personal diaries, 1902-1963, detail his daily activities, appointments, trips abroad, and lists of reading. In addition there are his other manuscripts for journal articles and book reviews.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor

Columbia University, Mail Code 1127

535 W. 114th St.

New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

### Revision Description

Legacy finding aid created from Pro Cite. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2010-03-30 2019-05-20

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection has no restrictions.

### **Reproduction Note**

Type of reproduction--Photostatic copies in part

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

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### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Thorndike, Lynn. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1963. Accession number--M-63.

### **Processing Information**

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 09/--/89.

Processed in 1963; Revised by Bernard Crystal, 1972; Revised by Bernard Crystal, 12/1980

### **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Lynn Thorndike, 1963. Bequest of the estate, 1965. Gift of Robert Thorndike, 1980.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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- Science -- History
- Science, Medieval -- Research
- Manuscripts, Latin
- Scholarly publishing
- Diaries
- Slides (photographs)

- Historians
- College teachers

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## Publications About Described Materials

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Thorndike, Lynn and Pearl Kibre. A Catalogue of Incipits of Mediaeval Scientific Writings in Latin. Cambridge, Mass. : The Mediaeval Academy of America, 1937 (also 1963 revised edition).

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Texts in the History of Natural and Occult Sciences

#### Scope and Contents

The numbers below refer to descriptions published in *Medievallia Humanistica*. Volume 13, 1960 and *Progress of Medieval and Renaissance Studies in the United States and Canada*. Bulletin No. 20, 1949.

Title/Description	Instances
No. 1 - No. 7	box 1
No. 8 - No. 17	box 2
No. 18; 19; 22; 24 - 25	box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
[For 20, 21, 23 see Mapcase]	
No. 27, 29 - 38	box 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
[28 not received; for 39 see Mapcase]	
No. 40 - 49	box 5
No. 50 - 54	box 6
No. 55 - 60; 63 - 69	box 7
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
[61 & 62 not received]	
No. 71 - 75	box 8

**Scope and Contents**

[70 not received]

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No. 76 - 89	box 9
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No. 90 - 98	box 10
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No. 100 - 102; 104 - 109; 111 - 119	box 11
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**Scope and Contents**

[For 103 & 110 see Mapcase]

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No. 120 - 125; 127 - 142	box 12
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**Scope and Contents**

[126 not received]

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No. 143 - 155	box 13
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No. 156 - 166; 167 - 175	box 14
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**Scope and Contents**

[126 not received]

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No. 176 - 190	box 15
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No. 191; 192; 194 - 204; 206 - 210; 212	box 16
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**Scope and Contents**

[211 not received; for 193; 205; 210 see Mapcase]

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No. 213 - 218; 220 - 226; 228 - 231; 234 - 244	box 17
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**Scope and Contents**

[219 missing, see microfilm; 232, 233 see Mapcase]

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No. 245; 246; 248 - 252; 254 - 262; 264 268; 270 - 272; 274; 279 - 283; 291; 293 - 295; 297 - 298	box 18
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**Scope and Contents**

[253; 269; 275 - 277; 288 are missing see microfilm;  
247; 263; 273; 278; 284 - 288; 290; 292; 296; 299 see  
Mapcase]

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No. 300 - 310; 312	box 19
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**Scope and Contents**

[311 missing see microfilm]

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No. 313 - 322; 324; 326 - 328; 330; 331; 333 - 340; 346 - 349	box 20
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**Scope and Contents**

[323; 325; 329; 332; 341 - 345 are missing see microfilm]

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No. 350; 352 - 358; 360 - 369 box 21

**Scope and Contents**

[351 missing see microfilm; 359 see Mapcase]

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No. 370 - 380; 383; 385 - 388; 390 - 392; 396 - 408 box 22

**Scope and Contents**

[381; 382; 384; 389; 395 are missing see microfilm; 393 see Mapcase]

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. First Draft [1], 1963 ed. box 23

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. First Draft [2], 1963 ed. box 24

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. First Draft [3], 1963 ed. box 25

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. First Draft [4], 1963 ed. box 26

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Final Copy [1], 1963 ed. box 27

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Final Copy [2], 1963 ed. box 28

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Final Copy [3] & miscellaneous correspondence, 1963 ed. box 29

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Galley Proof [1], 1963 ed. box 30

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Galley Proof [2], 1963 ed. box 31

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Index [1], 1963 ed. box 32

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Index [2], 1963 ed. box 33

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Typescript [1], 1937 ed. box 34

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*Incipits of Medieval Scientific Writings in Latin*. Typescript [2], 1937 ed. box 35

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Notes fro revised edition of *Magic*, etc. box 36

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Reprints, etc. box 37



Articles in preparation, etc.	box 38
Miscellaneous	box 39
Ancient & medieval history	box 40
Index to 1937	box 41
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Note Cards	box 44
Note Cards	box 45
Note Cards	box 46
Miscellaneous notes	box 47
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Card Files : Authors SAM - VINC	box 60
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Card Files: Dates 1660 -	box 72
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Card Files: Subjects, Clo - Lau	box 82
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Card Files: MSS - Authors/Titles, A & B	box 85
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Card Files: MSS - Authors/Titles, Joh - Ra	box 87
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Card Files: Incipits, Quib - Z	box 94
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Card Files: Miscellaneous Typescripts	box 100
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Correspondence, 1903 - 1923	box 101
Correspondence, 1917 - 1925	box 101
Correspondence, 1933 - 1939	box 102
Correspondence, 1939 - 1943	box 102
Correspondence, 1944 - 1947	box 102
Correspondence, 1948 - 1951	box 103
Correspondence, 1951 - 1955	box 103
Correspondence, 1955 - 1958	box 103
Correspondence, 1950 - 1960	box 104
Correspondence, 1960 - 1962	box 104
Christmas Cards, 1961	box 104
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Materials before 1500 still in use, notes, lists, indices, etc.	box 105
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1951/1952 Bibliography 17th century notes written up	box 106
Stetton & Silvestre offprints	box 106
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Reviews of magic & experimental science	box 109
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16th century (8 x 10 notes), etc. mostly combined in IV-VI	box 109
Magic IX Medicine	box 110
MacMillan Co. correspondence	box 110
<i>Historical Outlook</i> articles	box 110
Miscellaneous 1950s/1960s	box 111
Secondary schools (History, Latin, English)/University administration	box 111
Reprints	box 112
Old notes mainly written up not from mss., arranged alphabetically	box 112
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Alchemy	box 113
Lectures, 2nd half	box 114
Historiography 16th-18th centuries	box 114
France mms. catalogs by cities	box 114
Notes on mss. (no matters after 1500 now in this file)	box 114
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Letters current to 1961	box 115
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Houghton Mifflin re. <i>History of Magic</i>	box 116
Rufinus Rotograph notes, etc.	box 116
Hist. 223 (suppl. or dup. material)	box 117
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## Series II: Books

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<i>Science and Thought in the 15th Century</i>	box 119
<i>The Sphere of Sacrobosco and its Commentators</i>	box 119
<i>History of Astrology, Astronomy, and Mathematics</i>	box 119
<i>Studies in Medieval Latin Mss. 4 volumes</i>	box 120
<i>Essays in Intellectual History</i>	box 120
<i>Papers in Early Modern History</i>	box 120
<i>Article on the History of Medicine, 1953-1959</i>	box 120
<i>Reprints Through 1937 3 volumes</i>	box 120
<i>Reprints Through 1937 3 volumes</i>	box 120
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<i>Renaissance</i>	box 121
<i>Miscellaneous Early Modern</i>	box 121
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