ArtHist net

Papers / estate of Sir John Pope-Hennessy

Adrienne DeAngelis

Hello--

Does anyone on this list know where the papers of the late Sir John Pope-Hennessy now reside?

I am an art historian, currently a visiting assistant professor at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. My dissertation was on the sculptor and poet Danese Cattaneo, and his works and sculpture in Venice and Florence remain my primary interests. At this time I am working on several portrait bust studies; a first article in that area was published in last December's Burlington Magazine: "Danese Cattaneo's portrait bust of Girolamo Giganti."

I am not interested in Pope-Hennessy's private papers; to be perhaps overly-specific, I am interested in his collection of photographs of sculpture and any notes he may have made on them. For example, he opposed an attribution to DC of a bronze bust now in the V&A by comparing it to two other busts, one in Vienna and another that as far as anyone knows has never been seen in outside of a blurry photograph published many years ago by someone else.

I know that he left a portion of his saleable estate to a former assistant and that most if not all of his books were sold, but I have never heard anything about his papers. I hope that you or someone on the list and enlighten me--and probably a great number of other people as well. Thank you very much.

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Reference:

Q: Papers / estate of Sir John Pope-Hennessy. In: ArtHist.net, Nov 22, 2002 (accessed Oct 19, 2025), https://arthist.net/archive/25306.