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## The Sculpture of Anna Hyatt Huntington in the Syracuse University Art Collection

Myrna Garvey Eden

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JOAN OF ARC

Bronze, 1¼ times life. 1915. Riverside Drive and 93rd Street, New York, New York.  
Anna Hyatt Huntington, Sculptor

# THE COURIER

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# *The Sculpture of Anna Hyatt Huntington in the Syracuse University Art Collection*

by Myrna Garvey Eden

Anna Hyatt Huntington (1876-1973), one of the foremost American sculptors of her time, presented a large quantity of her personal and professional papers and sculpture to Syracuse University. In addition to the Huntington Manuscript Collection located in the George Arents Research Library at Syracuse University, the University owns diverse and numerous examples of her art. These statues, numbering over sixty pieces, represent a variety of subject matter, mood, and grouping completed throughout a career that spanned seventy years of artistic activity. Her general approach continued the French naturalistic tradition of Barye, Frémiet, and Falguière.<sup>1</sup> Although both wild and domestic animals were Mrs. Huntington's favorite subjects, she also created portrait busts and vigorous studies of the human form which are also part of the Syracuse University collection.

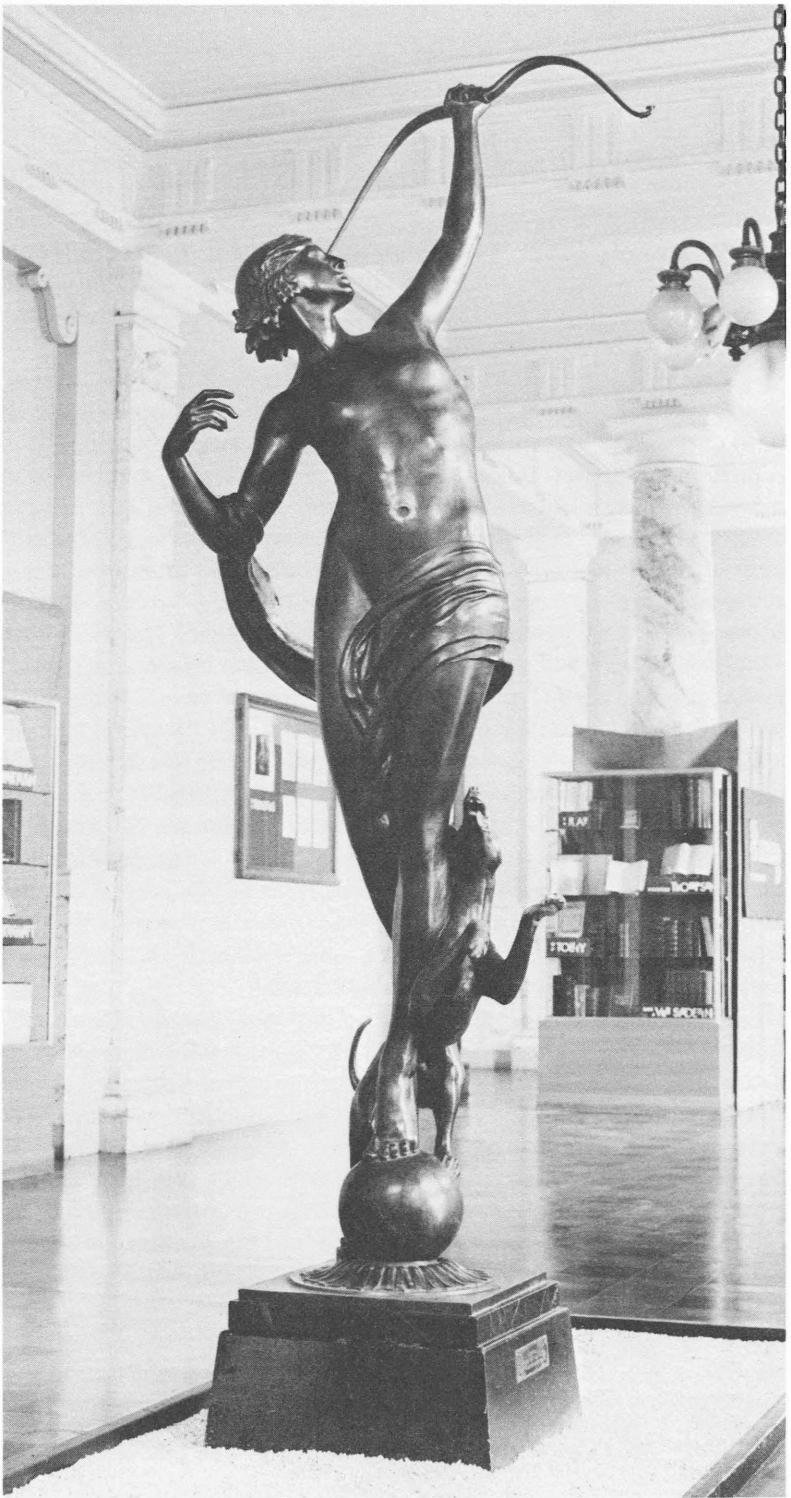
Mrs. Huntington's eminence in her profession was internationally recognized. Among the highest of her honors are the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor from France, 1922; the Grand Cross of Alfonso the XII from Spain, 1929; and in this country, the Gold Medal from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, 1930; and the National Sculpture Society's Medal of Honor. The Union of the Women of the Americas (*Union de Mujeres Americanas*) elected Mrs. Huntington "Woman of the Americas" in 1958. *Who's Who in America* elected her "Outstanding Woman of 1960."

At the height of her career in 1923, Anna Hyatt married Archer Milton Huntington, poet-philanthropist, and adopted son of Collis Potter Huntington, the railroad magnate.<sup>2</sup> Archer Huntington was the founder of many cultural institutions including the Hispanic Museum in New York City. Their marriage marked the beginning of a personal and cultural partnership of over thirty years. Inspired by her husband's translation of the epic poem on *El Cid Campeador*, Mrs. Huntington created a monumental equestrian and sculpture group in honor of this hero for the terrace of the Hispanic Museum. Replicas stand in Seville, Spain; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and in San Francisco, and San Diego, California.

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<sup>1</sup>Despite the French influence, Mrs. Huntington intended to create an indigenous American sculpture. In an interview I conducted on May 14, 1975 with Mrs. Huntington's nephew, Mr. A. Hyatt Mayor, Curator Emeritus of Prints at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Mr. Mayor stated the following: "She [Anna Hyatt Huntington] consciously tried to start a school of American sculpture." – M.G.E.

<sup>2</sup>Personal records of Archer M. Huntington are also in the George Arents Research Library at Syracuse University.



DIANA  
Bronze, 99 high. 1932. Carnegie Library Lobby, Syracuse University.

Both Mrs. Huntington and her husband were public benefactors and among the great patrons of the arts in America. Because ecology and the preservation of wild-life were major concerns of the Huntingtons, they gave Syracuse University 13,000 acres of forest land in the central Adirondacks near Newcomb, New York to be held in trust for the New York State College of Forestry. They later added 2,000 acres to the gift. Together they founded and developed Brookgreen Gardens in South Carolina, one of the finest collections of American sculpture of the late nineteenth century and pre-World War II period in this country. Many other museums and institutions were amply endowed by the Huntingtons.

The full range of Mrs. Huntington's sculpture, from the heroic equestrian monument to the poised ferocity of tigers or the graceful portrayal of a playful fawn, is distributed throughout the collections of over two hundred museums in the United States and in parks and gardens of major cities throughout the world. Syracuse University, however, is the educational institution to which Mrs. Huntington contributed the most extensive amount of her work. A number of her works have been exhibited or are currently on display at the University.

In the 1930s Mrs. Huntington gave the University the first of many gifts of her art – an eight-foot high bronze Diana with bow and hound; it is still on display in the lobby of Carnegie Library.

Among the papers in the Anna Hyatt Huntington Collection at Syracuse University is the following letter concerning the statue, sent to Mrs. Huntington from her poet-playwright friend, Maxwell Anderson:

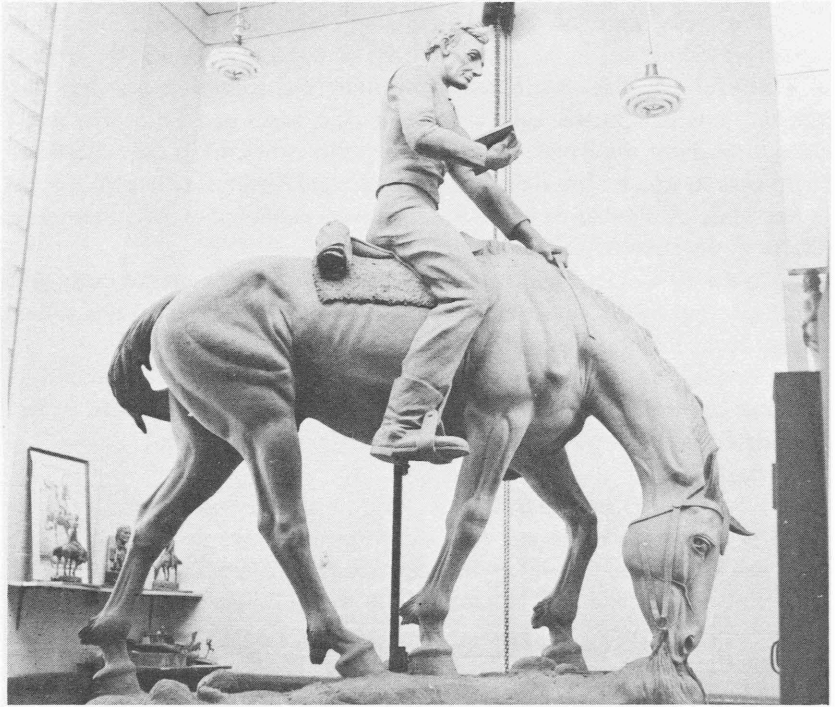
Dear Anna –

Your Diana did haunt me – and I had to get up that night to try to put her on paper – for she wouldn't let me sleep. And I'm not easily conquered by bronze women. I'm sending the hand-written copy and shall be proud if you want to show it in facsimile.

For Anna Hyatt Huntington's Diana  
*Now you have shot your arrow at the Sun,  
little Diana, and the god caught you there –  
the living wind still in your up-blown hair,  
your eyes burnt back from staring hard upon  
the target of the glory of high noon –  
caught and immured you in his burnished air  
forever, a too valiant challenger,  
lifting the empty sockets of the moon.*

*Had you walked soberly your forest shade  
and hid your virgin lustre under cloud  
and let your bow hang at the eaves unstrung  
you had not died so light and fierce a maid,  
nor, dying, gone to join the mutinous crowd  
of beautiful blind rebels who died young.*

Maxwell Anderson



#### THE YOUNG LINCOLN

Bronze, 18 high. 1963. Room 208, Bray Hall, Syracuse University.

This is the model for the "Young Abe Lincoln on Horseback" (Bronze, 14 ft. high. 1963) given to Syracuse University in 1974, now located on the campus of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry adjacent to the Syracuse University campus.

During the 1960s Mrs. Huntington gave Syracuse University more pieces in bronze and aluminum, including portrait busts of Don Quixote; Archer Huntington, Anna's husband; and several small-scale bronze equestrian statues.



View of Lincoln's hand from THE YOUNG LINCOLN model on preceding page.

In 1974, after Mrs. Huntington's death, Syracuse University received a bequest of six large-scale pieces of sculpture together with many other smaller pieces in bronze, stone, aluminum, plaster, and clay. The largest of the six pieces is a fourteen-foot, two-ton bronze statue, "Young Abe Lincoln on a Horse," which was installed November, 1974, on the main campus of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, where it is on permanent loan from Syracuse University. Another statue, which she entitled, "L'Orage,"<sup>3</sup> stands in the lobby of William B. Heroy Geology Laboratory. The third piece, a statue of Saint Francis of Assisi, is on extended loan to the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse where, during the winter of 1974, it was on display. A replica of the bronze standing relief of Joan of Arc created for the French Chapel in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City is also included in the gift. Two smaller figures in bronze, "Father Cañas" and "Collis Potter Huntington" complete the group of six.

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<sup>3</sup>This is one of several versions.





**L'ORAGE**  
Bronze, 49 high. Lobby, Heroy Hall, Syracuse University.

## **A List of Sculpture by Anna Hyatt Huntington in the Syracuse University Art Collection**

Following is a catalogue of the sculpture of Anna Hyatt Huntington in the art collection of Syracuse University. The collection, although comprehensive, is lacking in works of Mrs. Huntington's early period. The list includes completed pieces, studies, models, and sketches, some of which were done in preparation for larger works.

This list is in the chronological order of Syracuse University accession dates. The titles in square brackets have been supplied by the compiler of the list. No date is given for works for which the date of execution has not been traced. Measurements are designated in inches; height precedes length and depth in all cases. Those pieces for which no location is given are in the care of the University Art Collection, Sims Hall.

*Diana*, 1932

Bronze, 99 high, Carnegie Library Lobby  
Gift of Archer M. Huntington. 19.18

*Study for Diana*, ca. 1932

Aluminum, 33½ high  
Gift of the artist. 19.43

*Archer M. Huntington*, 1924

Bronze, 23½ high  
Gift of the artist. 60.12

*Don Quixote*, 1946

Bronze, 23 high, Bird Library: Arents Reading Room  
Model for equestrian statue at Brookgreen Gardens, South Carolina  
Gift of the artist. 60.13

*Queen Isabella on Muleback*, 1959

Bronze, 20 high  
Gift of the artist. 60.14

*Sybil Ludington on Horseback*, 1959

Bronze, 17 high  
Model for equestrian statue at Carmel, New York  
Gift of the artist. 60.15



Two Medals: AFRICA, Bronze, 3-3/8 diam. WATER HOLE, 3-1/2 diam.  
These are mounted together on a mahogany block, 6½x10½. At Syracuse University.

*The Young Lincoln*, 1963

Bronze, 18 high, Bray Hall: Room 208

Model for equestrian statues at New Salem, Illinois; Salzburg, Austria; Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey; and Syracuse University, New York

Gift of the artist. 64.107

*Goat's Head*

Bronze, 12 high

Gift of the artist. 64.267

*Diana*, 1950

Aluminum, 31 high

Gift of the artist. 64.268

*Donkey Head*

Bronze, 9½ high

Gift of the artist. 64.326

*Foot of a Goose*

Nickel, 7 high

Gift of the artist. 65.99A

*Foot of a Deer*

Nickel, 4½ high

Gift of the artist. 65.99B

*The Young Jackson*, 1965

Plaster, 29¼ x 32 x 7

Model for equestrian statue at Lancaster, South Carolina, birthplace site

Gift of the artist. 65.159

*Father Cañas*, 1965

Plaster, 21½ x 17 x 10

Gift of the artist. 65.160

*Captain Putnam*, 1965

Plaster, 21 x 14½ x 3¾

Model for equestrian statue at Redding, Connecticut

Gift of the artist. 65.161

*Hand of the Artist*, 1935

Aluminum, 2½ x 12½

Gift of the artist. 65.162

*Two Commemorative Medals:*

*William Dean Howells*, 1920, Bronze, 3¼ diam.

*Joan of Arc*, 1919, Bronze, 2½ diam.

Gift of the artist. 69.244-245

*Fish Hawk*, 1935

Bronze, 16 high, Heroy Hall: Room 112

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.2

*Swan Stretching Wing*, ca. 1935

Bronze, 22 long

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.3

*Faun and Goat*, 1950

Bronze, 37 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.4

*A Waif*, 1965

Bronze, 14 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.5

*Two Medals:*

*Water Hole*, Bronze, 3½ diam.

*Africa*, Bronze, 3-3/8 diam.

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.6-7

N.B. 74.6 and 74.7 are mounted together on mahogany rectangle 6½ x 10½.

*Monkeys Crouching*

Bronze, 12 long

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.8

*Louis Auslander*, 1952

Aluminum, 10½ long

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.9

*Victory*

Aluminum, 20 x 16

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.10

*[Horse on Oval and Rectangular Base]*

Stained plaster, 17½ x 12 x 5½

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.11

*[Old Horse on Rectangular Base]*, 1937

Stained plaster, 14 x 12½ x 5½

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.12

*[Old Horse Grazing on Rectangular Base]*, 1937

Stained plaster, 14 x 15

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.13





**FISH HAWK**  
Bronze, 16 high. 1935. Room 112, Heroy Hall, Syracuse University.

*Study for the Storm*

Stained plaster, 15½ high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.14

*Model for Torch Group* (nude male figure leaning down from back of excited horse), ca. 1955

Stained plaster, 31 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.15a

*Model for Torch Group* (nude male figure reclining with arm raised), ca. 1955

Stained plaster, 15½ x 21

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.15b

N.B. 74.15a and 74.15b are models for equestrian statue at University of Madrid, Spain.

*Model for Sybil Ludington Monument*, ca. 1956

Plaster, 20 high

Model for equestrian statue at Carmel, New York

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.16

*Baby Centaur*, ca. 1936

Stained plaster, 21 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.17

*[Crouching Deer on Flat Rectangular Base]*

Stained plaster, 9½ x 5

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.18

*[Standing Doe]*

Stained plaster, 9½ high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.19

*[Doe with Head Thrown Back]*

Stained plaster, 11½ high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.20

*[Seated Dog]*

Stained plaster, 11 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.21

*[Crouching Dog]*

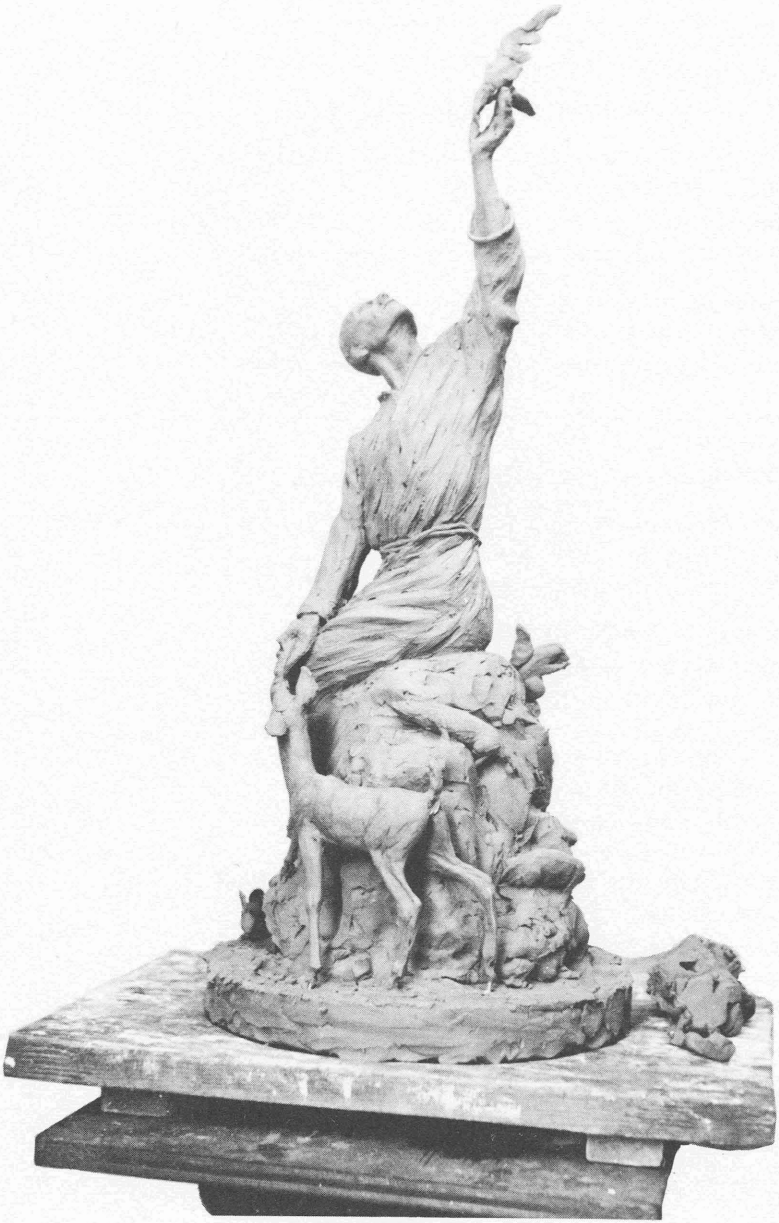
Stained plaster, 16 long

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.22

*[Two Mountain Lions Crouching]*

Stained plaster, 7 x 13

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.23



**SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

**Bronze, 63 high. 1962. On extended loan from Syracuse University to the Everson Museum of Art of Syracuse and Onondaga County.**



*[Seated Bear on Rectangular Base]*

Stained plaster, 10 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.24

*[Terrain Base for Unidentified Figure]*

Plaster, 4½ x 14

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.25

*Model for a Tabernacle* (head of saint, cross, two seated figures, architectural framework)

Stained plaster, 11 x 8½

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.26

*Collis P. Huntington*, ca. 1926

Plaster, 16 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.27

*[Female Death Mask]*

Plaster, 10 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.28

*Head of Lincoln*

Plaster, 7 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.29

*Run and Play Darling*, ca. 1967

Stained plaster, 14½ high, Heroy Hall: Room 101

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.31

*[Crouching Draped Female Figure with Raised Arms]*

Stained plaster, 10 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.32

*[Seated Figure of Mendicant on Three-Step Base]*, 1963

Bronzed plaster, 11¾ high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.33

*Henry P. Davison*, ca. 1926

Grey stone, 26 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.35

*[Mendicant Friar Holding a Lamb]*

Clay, 12½ high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.36

*[Bear Erect on Hind Legs Against Tree Trunk]*

Clay, 12 high

Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.37



**DON QUIXOTE**

Bronze, 23 high. 1946. George Arents Research Library Reading Room, Syracuse University.

*Model for Saint Francis of Assisi*, ca. 1962  
Clay, 14 high  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.38

*Model for Fly Time* (standing cat)  
Clay, 15 high  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.39

*[Goat Biting Its Back]*  
Clay, 6¼ high  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.40

*[Male Figure Carrying Sack on Head with Second Figure  
Crouching Behind]*  
Clay, 14 x 5  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.41

*Young Abe Lincoln on a Horse*, 1963  
Bronze, 14 feet high, Campus: State University of New York  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, New York  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.67

*Father Cañas*, 1965  
Bronze, 42 high, Sims Hall: Outer Front Hallway  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.68

*Saint Francis of Assisi*, 1962  
Bronze, 56¼ high  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.69

*Joan of Arc*, 1922  
Bronze, 63 high  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.70

*L'Orage (The Storm)*, remodeled 1963  
Bronze, 49 high, Heroy Hall Lobby  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.71

*Collis Potter Huntington*, ca. 1964  
Bronze, 28 high, Sims Hall: Outer Front Hallway  
Model for a statue in Christopher Newport Park, Newport  
News, Virginia  
Gift of the Estate of Anna Hyatt Huntington. 74.72