

Coe Hall Frame Survey

Title: Portrait of Marchese Lomellini
Location: Great Hall
Frame Type: Wood; Gesso; Gold leaf; Paint
Maker/Date: Unknown Maker/Early 20th C.
Examiner: Eric Price

Dimensions: 103" x 66"
Moulding Dimensions: 5 1/2"W x 4"D

Description

The frame is nearly identical to the frame for Marchessa Lomellini. The frame was examined on the wall. The large frame is constructed with a mitered and profiled front moulding attached to a lap joint backing frame which creates the rabbet. The frame has an flat insert with an arched top and ogee profile lower corners. The moulding has a deep outer cove and a wide frieze on the inside. The frieze is decorated with scraffito foliate design which is continued on the spandrels of the insert. The remainder of the frame is gold leaf.

Condition

The frame has a grime layer. The gesso is lifting extensively on the front edge and the sight edge with scattered losses. The gesso flaking appears worst on the left side center. The wood backing frame is separating from the front moulding on the left side. The painting was varnished in the frame. Some gesso losses are overpainted.



Painting Installation

The face of the painting contacts the bare wood rabbet and appears to be attached with a varnish layer.

Treatment Recommendations

Proposal One: Consolidate unstable, flaking gesso. Remove grime. Fill gesso losses. Gild and tone all repairs.

Proposal Two: Consolidate gesso on site.

PRIORITY: HIGH

TIME COMMITMENT: Proposal One: 100+ hours.

Proposal Two: 15 hours on site.