Primary Maker: Joseph Wilton
Title: William Pitt, the Elder, First Earl of Chatham (1708–1778)
Date: ca. 1770
Medium: Marble
Dimensions: Overall: 71 x 29 x 29 in. (180.3 x 73.7 x 73.7 cm)
Credit Line: Gift of Mr. Simon F. Mackie
Object Number: 1864.5

Object Name: Statue
Classification: SCULPTURE

Curatorial Remarks:
This statue of William Pitt was commissioned by the colonists of New York to commemorate the English statesman who had lobbied Parliament successfully on their behalf for the repeal of the Stamp Act. The statue stood at the intersection of Wall and William Streets. After the British took possession of New York City in the fall of 1776, they decapitated the friend of the colonists and broke off his arms. The statue was removed from Wall Street in 1788.

Physical Description:
Portrait (full-length)

Inscribed: Painted on back: "S-54"
Markings: On plaque: "MARBLE STATUE OF WILLIAM PITT (LORD CHATHAM) / THIS STATUE WAS ERECTED BY THE COLONY OF NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 7, 1770 AT THE INTERSECTION OF WALL AND WILLIAM STREETS IT WAS MUTILATED BY THE BRITISH SOLDIERS SOON AFTER THEIR OCCUPATION OF THE CITY IN 1776. JOSEPH WILSON, SCULPTOR"

Related Objects: