

Revealing portrait of Nelson's 'son' who was killed under his command

THIS portrait miniature depicting Captain Edward Thornbrough Parker (1778-1801), a favourite protégé of Admiral Lord Nelson, who referred to him as his 'son', has recently been discovered in the Parker family's collection.

Identified by Nelson specialist **Martyn Downer**, it is the only known image of the young officer who was killed under Nelson's command aged just 23.

"Seeing Parker's face for the first time is a very exciting moment for scholars and enthusiasts of Nelson," says Martyn, former director at Sotheby's London who discovered the Alexander Davison collection of Nelson relics in 2001, which sold at auction for over £2m.

"His intimate friendship with junior officer Parker has intrigued and frustrated generations of biographers. One Victorian writer even wildly suggested that Parker was father to

the child of Nelson's mistress Emma Hamilton. Discovery of this touching portrait finally completes a gallery of images of the most important people in Nelson's life."

The miniature is the star of a one-day loan exhibition of naval miniatures organised by specialist miniatures dealer **Claudia Hill** of **Ellison Fine Art** at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, London on Monday November 4

"The exhibition is my way of trying to open the eyes of new collectors through naval history, and by holding it at the Royal Thames Yacht club and inviting members to the show, I thought it would be a way of introducing people to the art of portrait miniatures," says Claudia.

Entrance is by complimentary ticket only and the exhibition is open from 4-9pm only.

www.ellisonfineart.com

