

PATRICK JEFFERSON



Item	REGENCY MODEL OF A LION POSSIBLY CARVED FROM THE WATERLOO ELM
Date	England, <i>post</i> 1818.
Provenance	Private collection, near Bath, Somerset.
Dimensions	Height 3 3/8" (8.5cm) Length 6 1/4" (16cm) Depth 3 5/8" (9.2)
Description	<p><i>Recumbent, tail folded over, on an oval plinth; possibly from a table cabinet.</i></p> <p>This carving of a lion may have been created from the remains of the Elm adjacent to where Wellington issued the final order to advance at the end of the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. The few surviving pieces of this relic were rescued after it was felled in 1818 by John Children (1777–1852), (see Geoffrey de Bellaigue, 'The Waterloo Elm', <i>Furniture History</i> XIV (1978), pp. 14-18 and Judith Goodison, <i>The Life and Work of Thomas Chippendale Junior</i>, pp. 284-87; 289-91; figs. 139-43).</p> <p>Children commissioned Thomas Chippendale Junior (1749-1822) to make two chairs, one for George IV, the other for himself, which he subsequently presented to the Duke of Wellington; another, perhaps the prototype, is in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; the Duke of Rutland had a fourth version made from part of the Waterloo Elm given to him by Children; and another model was commissioned for Edward Vernon Utterson (1777-1856). Children commissioned several items for himself, including a worktable (possibly that sold Christie's London, 10 May 2006, lot 140) and a table cabinet surmounted by a similar lion (sold Christie's London, 6 July 2000, lot 10)³. The few remaining small pieces of elm were then dispersed, from which a handful of articles were made which may include: a quaich for Sir Walter Scott at Abbotsford; another table cabinet surmounted by a similar lion (sold Phillips Edinburgh, 28 March 1997, lot 237); and conceivably this lion.²</p>
Price	£2,900

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Fig. 1



Fig.2



Fig.3