Portrait medallion

Place of origin: Etruria (made)
Date: 1779 (designed)
1779 (made)
Artist/Maker: Hackwood, William (modeller)
Josiah Wedgwood and Sons (maker)
Materials and Techniques: Jasperware
Museum number: 3513-1855
Gallery location: Ceramics, Room 138, The Harry and Carol Djanogly Gallery, case 13, shelf 8

Descriptive line
Jasperware portrait medallion of Admiral Augustus Keppel, probably modelled by William Hackwood, made at the factory of Josiah Wedgwood, Etruria, Staffordshire, 1779

Physical description
Jasperware portrait medallion of Admiral Augustus Keppel.

Dimensions
Height: 9.8 cm Conversion from imperial, Width: 7.9 cm Conversion from imperial

Museum number
3513-1855

Object history note
Keppel was one of the Admirals of the British Fleet during the American War of Independence. Accused of misconduct, he was brought before a court martial and acquitted. When news of this reached London on 11th February 1779, he at once became a national hero. Wedgwood was quick to respond to and exploit such political events. Initially he had difficulties finding a suitable portrait of Keppel to copy, and on 1st March he complained that he could have sold ‘thousands at any price’. Within two weeks of this date a model had been prepared and the portrait already put into production.

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O149270/portrait-medallion-hackwood-william/