



# Twentieth Century Portrait

The client's Father during active service, the Italian Campaign, World War II

This portrait dates from the Italian Campaign during World War II; it is reputed to be by an Italian Count and shows the client's father. It is painted in oil on a plywood support.

Cleaning, the removal of a dirty varnish layer, made a considerable difference to the appearance of the painting. It did, however, allow underlying streaking to become more prominent. The streaking is thought to be glue from within the plywood panel which over time has leached through to the surface of the painting. The material is particularly hard, making it difficult and potentially damaging to remove. Following discussions with the client it was decided to leave the streaking which lent the painting a 'worn' appearance, an aspect not at odds with its historical context.

Other than this the condition of the paint layer and support was good, the only other minor work required was to fill a number of small holes around the perimeter where the painting had been screwed into an inappropriate frame.

