

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GRAFTON, John

?London 1749 – South Carolina 1775

The Grafton who sent a flower piece to the Royal Academy in 1774 from 121 Blackman Street, London may be the artist recorded as arriving in Carolina in 1774 aged 25, and known from an advertisement in the *South Carolina and American general gazette* of 4.XI.1774, where he is described as “Portrait Painter, late pupil to Sir Joshua Reynolds, of Leicester-Fields, London.... he is in every respect qualified, to Teach Drawing, and will engage to make any Person that has had some instruction in Drawing, or has at least Genius for Painting, capable of taking their own, or any Person’s likeness with Crayons in less than three months.” The same journal carried a notice (21–28.VII.1775) of sale of the effects of this limner following his death on 4.VII.1775; it consisted “of most articles generally used in that Business”.

Bibliography

Peter Wilson Coldham, *The complete book of emigrants, 1751–1776*, Baltimore, 1993, p. 213; Rutledge 1949; Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

J.3564.101 A flower piece, crayons, Royal Academy 1774, no. 105