

**Charles Cornwallis, Lord Brome**  
**1761**  
**Sir Joshua Reynolds**  
**Oil on canvas**

Cornwallis (1738-1805) was an influential military and political figure. He is probably best remembered as a general in the American War of Independence, especially his surrender of Yorktown to a besieging force of American and French troops in 1781.

In 1761, when his portrait was painted, he was fighting in Europe, in the Seven Years War, and was promoted to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel of the 11th Foot. In 1760 he had also become MP for Wye, in Kent. In 1762 he succeeded his father as 2nd Earl Cornwallis.

This portrait came to the Port Eliot estate through marriage of Cornwallis' daughter Lady Jemima Cornwallis to Edward Granville Eliot, 3rd Earl of St Germans in 1824.

