

Napoleon

Napoleon's Career



General

Emperor of
most of Europe

Artillery
Officer

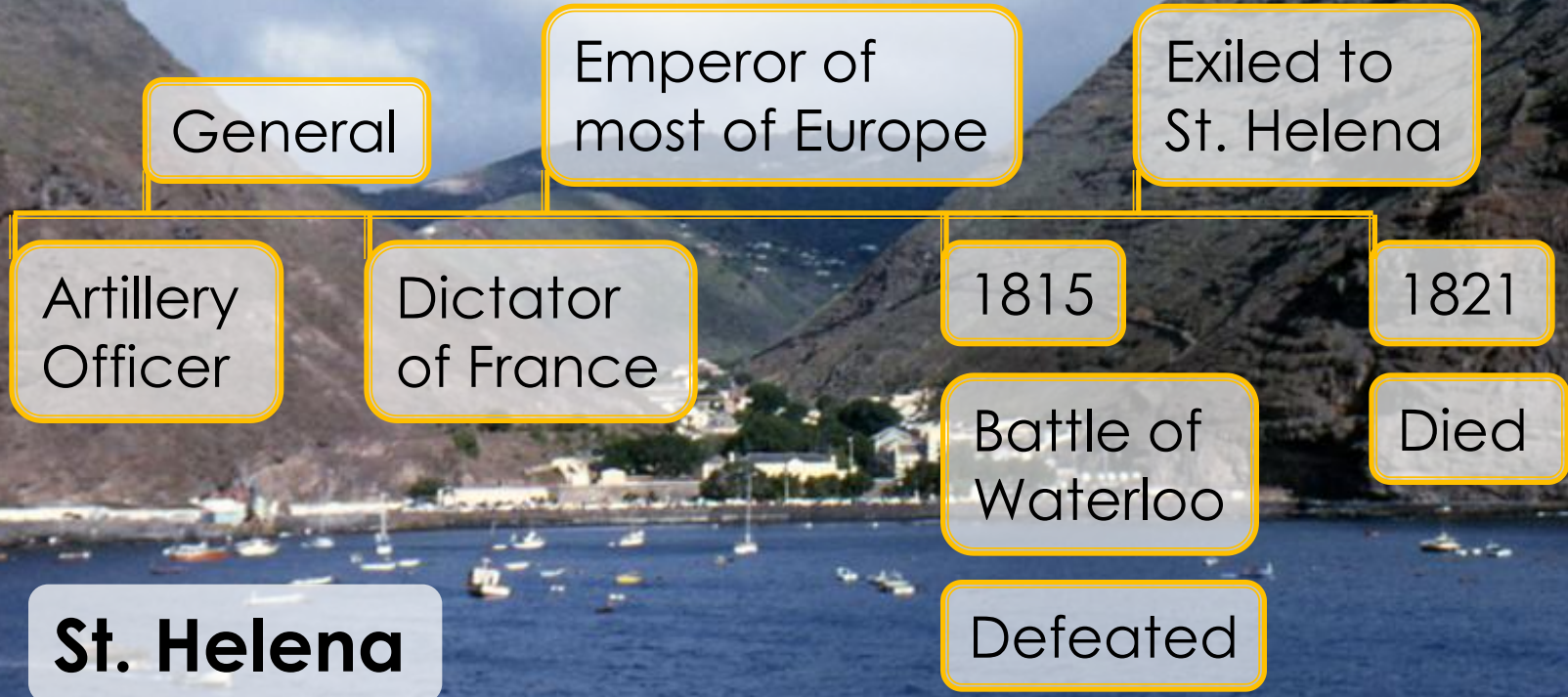
Dictator
of France

1815

Battle of
Waterloo

Defeated

Napoleon's Career



Napoleon's death

Died in his fifties



Respectable age

Rumors: murdered?

No evidence



Buried



No exhumation allowed

Napoleon's death

Artefacts



Hair samples

19th century



After the death of famous people



Some of their hair was kept as souvenir

Napoleon's hair

NAA carried out in 1952



Presence of arsenic



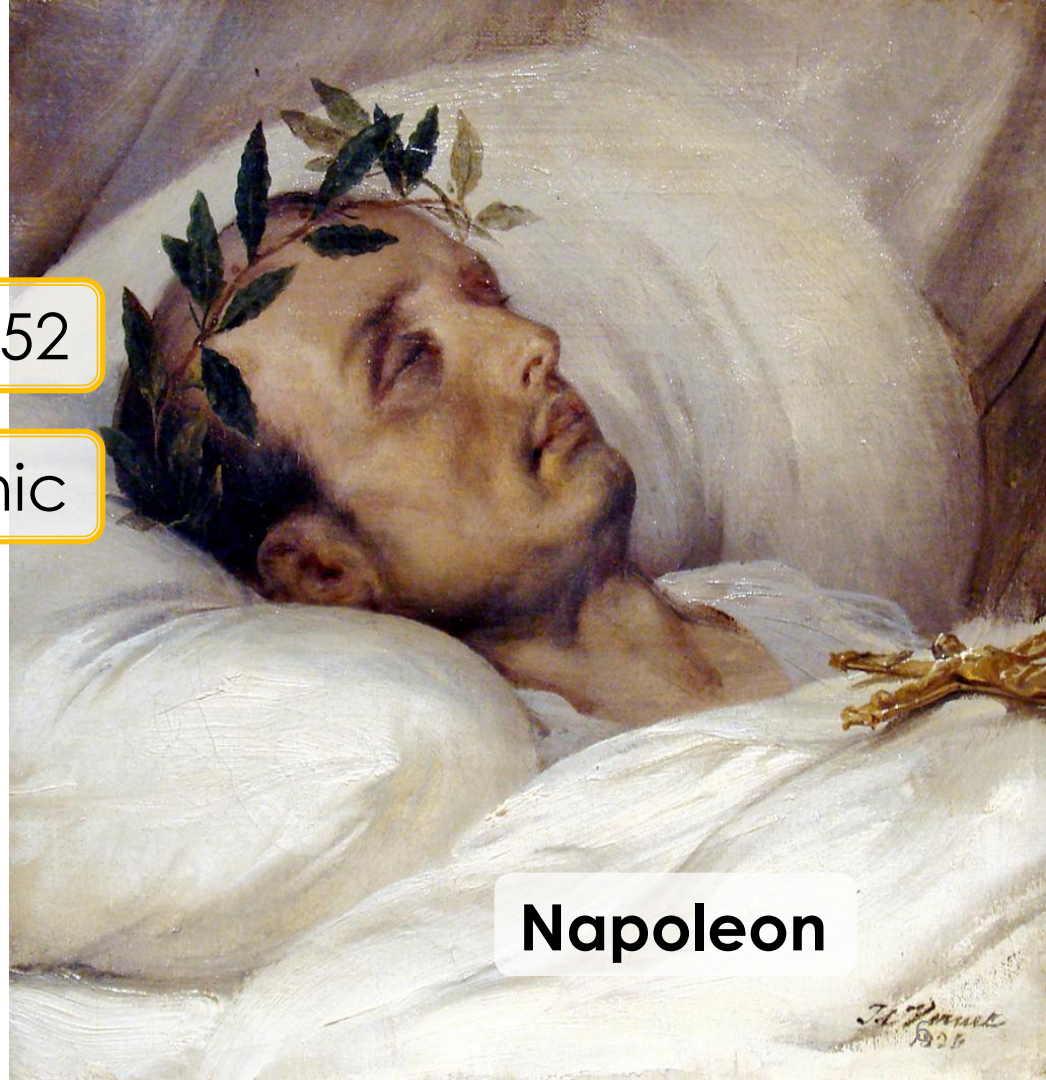
Murdered?



Motive?



British?



Napoleon

Napoleon's hair

NAA carried out in 1952



Presence of arsenic



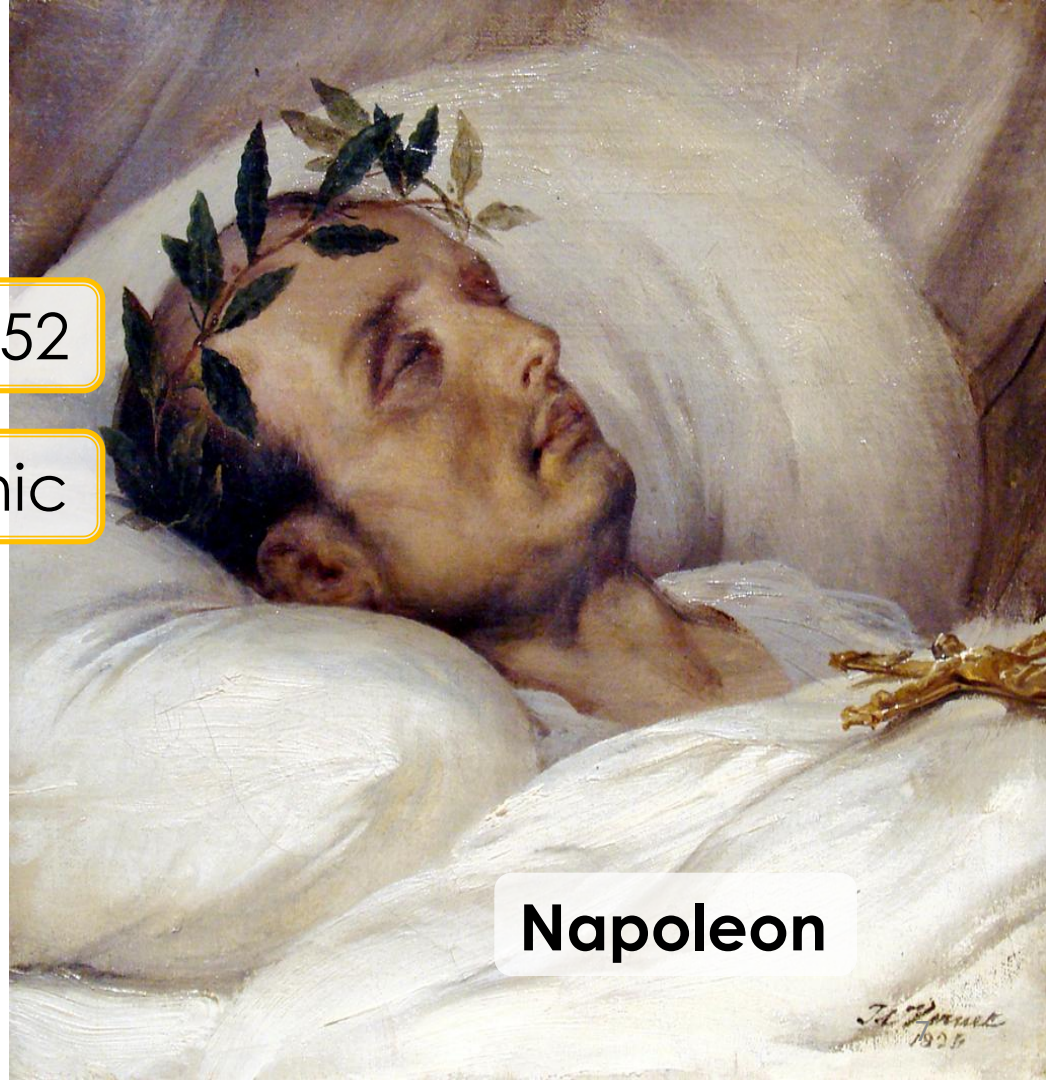
Murdered?



Motive?



Or French?



Napoleon

J. L. David
1826

Newcastle, 1980

Dr. David Jones



“What colour was
Napoleon’s wallpaper?”

Someone knew what color the wallpaper was

Also had a sample of the wallpaper

St. Helena



Port of call



Napoleon's house is a tourist attraction



Tourists tore off a piece of wallpaper



Souvenir

St. Helena

Arsenic from Wallpaper?

Historic sample



Cannot destroy it

SEM-EDX



Non-destructive



Analyze specific
microscopic objects

Arsenic from Wallpaper?

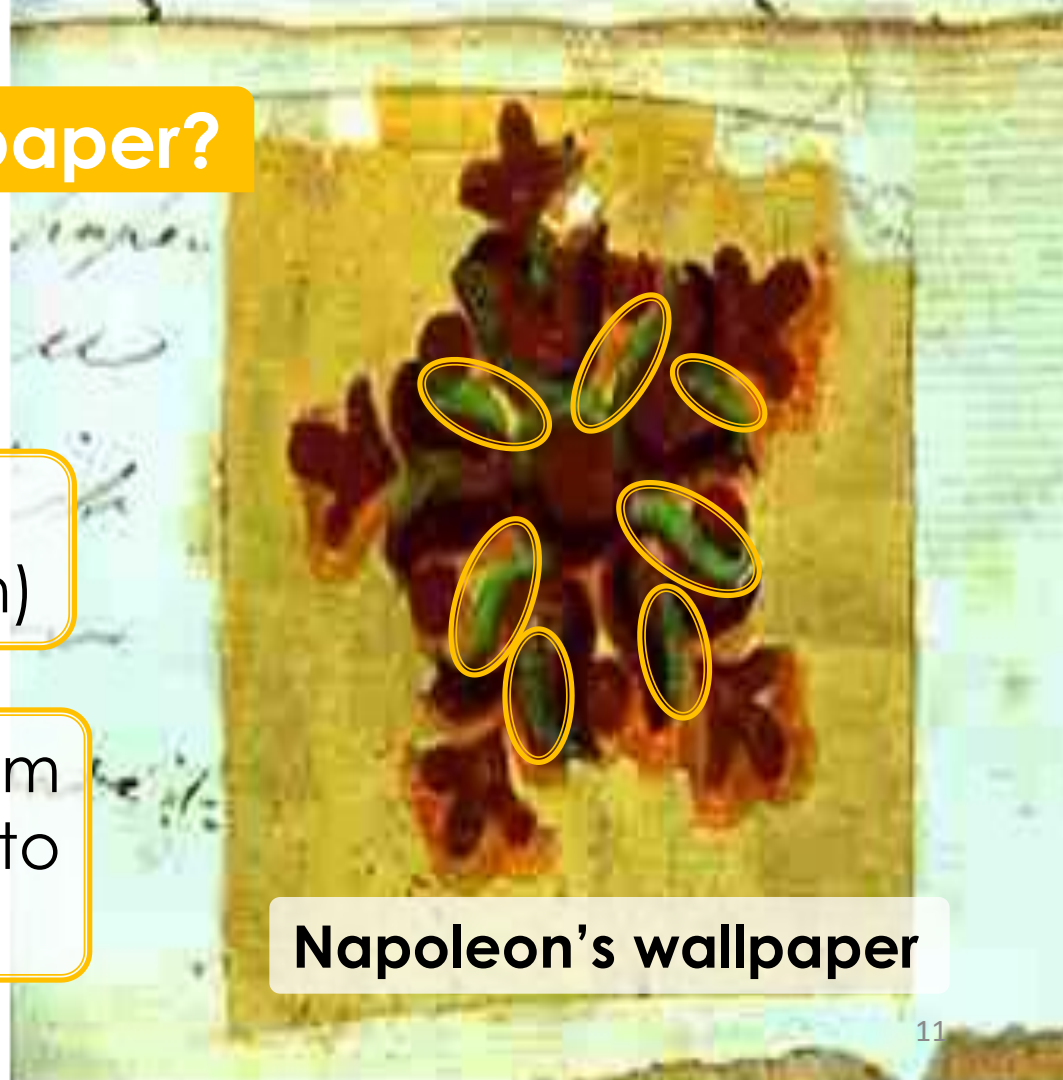
Green pigments



Copper arsenite
(Scheele's Green)



How did it get from
the wallpaper to
Napoleon?

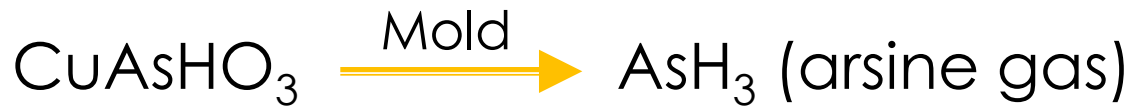


Napoleon's wallpaper

Arsenic from Wallpaper?

Green pigments

St. Helena's climate breeds mold



Arsine gas breathed in by Napoleon

Who Killed Napoleon?

Autopsy results



Stomach cancer

DNA

Fingerprints

Fibre Analysis

Poison

Blood

Who Killed Napoleon?

Autopsy results

Eyewitnesses



Attendants recorded what they saw

Who Killed Napoleon?

Autopsy results

Eyewitnesses

Doctors?



Treated him with mercury chloride