

## Text beneath the drawing of Quex Mansion - 1781

Quekes or Quex, a venerable Mansion, but like most others of the same Rank, is going fast to ruin, is situated about three quarters of a mile E. S. E. of Birchington, which Town was anciently the Manor, as this was the Seat of the Quekes, which family ended in a Daughter who was married to Mr Crispe, of Stanlake, in Oxfordshire, who coming to dwell in this Isle, his Posterity became so prosperous and flourishing that Henry Crispe was Sheriff of Kent, and being knighted, had such an Influence upon the Inhabitants that he was styled *Regulus Insulae Thaneti* iat - 'The little King of the Isle of Thanet'. At this House, King William the third used to reside, till the winds favoured his embarking for Holland. A room said to be the Bedchamber of this Royal Guest is still shewn. His Guards encamped in an adjoining enclosure.

At present it is much neglected, the wind & weather penetrating through most of the apartments (particularly those westward of the Porch) which have been the principal Apartments, the tiles are blown off in many places, many of the Windows broke, & no part of it inhabited (or, indeed, fit to be) but a small portion at the east end and by a Mr Neame (a farmer) not more remarkable for his stupidity than his insolence to strangers, who might wish to ask a few trifling questions. And is the miserable charge of the Mansion, once not inferior to any for the Hospitality of its Owners. A few years probably will reduce this building to what may be seen eastward of the porch, as it is in agitation to pull it down, they have already demolished a fine suit of Apartments at the North-West corner this Summer & as any of the inhabited parts of the building wants repair or purchasers for the materials can be procured, the rest will share the same fate. The whole of the building is of brick except the large stone projecting Window at the S. E. corner of the bottom & the Window at the S. W. corner, which seem to be of more ancient Date than the rest.

[Version with line breaks to match original copy]