

PORTRAITS in QUEX HOUSE - Christopher's Study

There are two portraits on the walls of Christopher Powell-Cotton's old study in Quex House depicting Robert Abbot of Birchington. He was Parish Clerk to All Saints Church for 46 years and died on the 5th January 1815, aged 86. Both portraits are about 9 inches high by 7 inches wide.

On a label on the reverse of one is written:

"Robert Abbot - died January 5th 1815 - Aged 86 years
who served 46 years as Parish clerk at Birchington Isle of Thanet"

On the reverse edge of the portrait, written on the top of the frame are the words:

"Abbot - the Parish Clerk, Birchington, Isle of Thanet"

The other portrait is possibly of **Gilbert Stringer** who died in 1826 aged 89. He had been Master of the Crispe Charity School in Birchington for 33 years, Perpetual Parish Officer for 37 years and Treasurer to the Thanet Union Workhouse for 30 years, all at the same time. Each job provided him with a small salary and the Master's job possibly provided him with a very small pension.

The two men would have known each other well, so it is apt that they stand each side of the fireplace on the study wall.