

THE ENTRANCE AND STAIRCASE OF THE TOWN HALL

Before the visitor to the Town Hall reaches the Assembly Room on the first floor, which contains the bulk of the Parish's art collection, there is a series of portraits of the 19th and 20th century Constables hanging on the main staircase.

These portraits of the elected head of Jersey's capital have recently been expanded by the addition of a number of portraits, some of which had previously been consigned to a back stairwell. When the decision was taken to put the entire group together it was discovered that three former 19th century Constables were unrepresented altogether. Research by the photographic section of the Société Jersiaise led to the recovery of these 'missing Constables', in photographs that are among the earliest examples of the form.

A selection of the 19th and 20th century Constables are included in this guide. More information is available from the Parish.



Pierre Le Sueur (1845 - 1853), was elected unopposed when his predecessor became a Jurat; Jurats were members of the States of Jersey at the time, along with the Parish Rectors. St Helier was then a town with major problems, bursting at the seams during the greatest population boom the Island has ever seen and lacking any proper sanitary facilities. Despite the reluctance of ratepayers to sanction the significant costs involved, Le Sueur instituted and went on to complete a substantial network of sewers. He embarked on a process of widening the town's streets, inaugurated a fire service and prosecuted many landlords whose properties had turned into slums. He also interposed himself between an angry mob and the mills during the 1847 bread riots. He died young while still in office and an obelisk was erected in his memory in Broad Street.

Pierre Le Sueur (1845 - 1853)
Lithograph, 1860s
24 x 39cm