



Nicholas Le Quesne (1853-1856)
Silver Gelatin Print, 1850s
 27 x 47cm



Phillipe Aubin (1858 - 1861)
Silver Gelatin Print, 1860s
 27 x 47cm

Nicholas Le Quesne appears on the landing in a portrait that is the earliest known example of photography in the Parish collection. These early daguerreotype images required an exposure of about twenty seconds, which meant the subject needed to remain completely still for the image to avoid being blurred which is why he is steadying himself by holding onto a chair. The rapid improvement in commercial photography at the time can be seen by comparing the quality of this portrait with the one of Philippe Aubin, elected two years after him, photographed in the same studio.

Philippe Baudains was an advocate who served for two periods, having retired in 1896 due to illness before successfully standing again following his recuperation, but not before a bust – in Parade Gardens – was commissioned in recognition of his contribution to the Island. The responsibilities of Constable at the time included the power to send those under arrest to be prosecuted or to let them off with a warning; in his time he interviewed over 2000 people. As a member of the States Assembly he was responsible for the introduction of voting by secret ballot, opening the markets in Halkett Place, the Public Library and the States Chamber. The brass tablets in the Assembly Room listing the Constables from 1529 were also his idea.



Philippe Baudains (1884 - 1896, 1899 - 1905)
Silver Gelatin Print, 1900s
 31 x 47cm