

= Bregowine =

Bregowine (or Bregwine or Bregwin ; died August 764) was a medieval Archbishop of Canterbury . Little is known of his origins or his activities as archbishop , although a number of stories were told about his possible origins after the Norman conquest in 1066 . There are no records of him prior to his becoming archbishop . He possibly owed his elevation to the Kentish monarch . The records after his elevation to Canterbury are mainly about disputes over land , but knowledge of his time in office is hampered by the destruction of many of the contemporary records . After his death , he was considered a saint and a life about him was written in the 12th century .

= = Life = =

Various stories have been told about Bregowine 's origins , including that he was a nobleman and a continental Saxon who converted to Christianity and came to Canterbury because of the saintly reputation of Theodore of Tarsus . Others say that he owed his elevation to King Æthelbert II of Kent , but all these stories rest on works that were written after the Norman conquest of England in 1066 . There are no contemporary records of Bregowine before he was archbishop . It does not appear , however , that he was of Mercian origins like his predecessors Tatwin and Nothhelm .

Whatever his upbringing , Bregowine was consecrated as archbishop on 27 September 761 . His election took place in a brief period when Kent was free of Mercian dominance between 756 and 764 , so the story that he owed his election to Æthelbert does fit with the time frame . He wrote letters to Archbishop Lul of Mainz which still exist , and which discuss an earlier meeting between the two men . Other activities as archbishop are recorded in surviving charters . One records that he protested at the loss of a church at Cookham that was confiscated by King Cynewulf of Wessex sometime after 760 . Another surviving charter from Dunwald , a thegn of King Æthelbert , concerning land in Canterbury , records that Bregowine consented to the gift of land . Unfortunately , many of the early charters of the diocese of Canterbury are lost , which restricts knowledge of Bregowine 's activities as archbishop .

Bregowine died in 764 and was originally buried in the baptistry in Canterbury , but his remains were moved to the choir of Canterbury Cathedral in 1123 . This followed an attempt in around 1121 to remove his remains to another monastery , which came to nothing . The remains were placed by the altar of St Gregory in the south transept , after having been briefly placed in the north transept . Bregowine was later considered a saint , with a feast day of 26 August , although Florence of Worcester , a 12th @-@ century writer , recorded his death date as 24 August . Other sources record the death date as 25 August . His life was later written by Eadmer in the 12th century .