

Green

The surname of GREEN has the ancient arms depicted here, dating from the 8th and 9th centuries. The name originated in Belgium and France and members of this name were of the French nobility (Comtes). A noted family that probably first came into England in the wake of the Norman Conquest of 1066, settling in the Oxford area. In France the name was spelt de la GRENE. In England the name means the dweller near the village green. A name known to every small town and village throughout England, and listed in almost all medieval documents. Local names usually denoted where a man held his land, and indicated where he actually lived. Early records of the name mention Geoffrey de Grene of the County of Kent in 1188. Richard de la Grene of the County of Norfolk was documented in the year of 1200. Petrus del Grene was listed in the Yorkshire Poll Tax of 1379. Willelmus del Grene, *ibid.* Master John Grene, was documented as the chancellor of Moray in 1463. An interesting person of the name was Charles Green (1785-1870) the English balloonist, born in London. From 1821 until 1852 he made 527 balloon ascents, one in 1858 to 27,146 feet. The earliest hereditary surnames in England are found shortly after the Norman Conquest of 1066 and are of Norman French origin rather than native English. On the arrival of the Normans they identified themselves by references to the estates from which they came in northern France. These names moved rapidly on with their bearers into Scotland and Ireland. Others of the Norman Invaders took names from the estates in England which they had newly acquired. Mary Anne Everett Green born in 1818 was the English historian, born in Sheffield. She calendared the papers of the reigns of James I (1857-58) and Charles II (1860-68). She completed the calendar of the state papers of Queen Elizabeth I and edited the Commonwealth papers of 1875 until 1888. She died in 1895. In many parts of central and western Europe, hereditary surnames began to become fixed at around the 12th century, and have developed and changed slowly over the years. As society became more complex, and such matters as the management of tenure, and in particular the collection of taxes were delegated to special functionaries, it became imperative to distinguish a more complex system of nomenclature to differentiate one individual from another.

ARMS - Per pale 1st gules three wings (demi) or two and one; 2nd gules an antique gold crown in fess

CREST - A gold antique wing

MOTTO - - PARATUS SUM - I AM PREPARED