

Perry

The surname of PERRY was a locational name 'the dweller by the pear tree'. Local names usually denoted where a man held his land, and indicated where he actually lived. The name was brought into England in the wake of the Norman Conquest of 1066. Early records of the name mention Henry de Pieri of the County of Kent in 1176. Walter atte-pyrie of the County of Oxfordshire was documented in the year 1273. Roger de la Peyre of the County of Cambridgeshire in 1300. Edward de Pery of Yorkshire, was listed in the Yorkshire Poll Tax of 1379. Richard de la Pirie of the County of Oxfordshire in 1488. Most of the European surnames in countries such as England, Scotland and France were formed in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The process had started somewhat earlier and had continued in some places into the 19th century, but the norm is that in the tenth and eleventh centuries people did not have surnames, whereas by the fifteenth century most of the population had acquired a second name. At first the coat of arms was a practical matter which served a function on the battlefield and in tournaments. With his helmet covering his face, and armour encasing the knight from head to foot, the only means of identification for his followers, was the insignia painted on his shield and embroidered on his surcoat, the flowing and draped garment worn over the armour. The rise of surnames, according to the accepted theory, was due to the Norman Conquest of 1066 when Old English personal-names were rapidly superseded by the new christian names introduced by the Normans. Of these, only a few were really popular and in the 12th century this scarcity of christian names led to the increasing use of surnames to distinguish the numerous individuals of the same name. Some Normans had hereditary surnames before they came to England, but there is evidence that surnames would have developed in England even had there been no Norman Conquest. The development of the feudal system made it essential that the king should know exactly what service each person owed. Payments to and by the exchequer required that debtors and creditors should be particularized, and it became official that each individual acquired exact identification. Later instances include Daniel Perry and Elizabeth Pye who were married in London in 1619 and Thomas, son of William Perry, was baptised at St. Peter, Cornhill, London in 1644.

ARMS - Argent on a pile vert three pears stalked and leaved or

CREST - A gryphon sejant wings elevated or the wings fretty vert and resting the dexter claw upon a mascle gold

MOTTO - - RECTE AGENS CONFIDO
While acting uprightly - I am confident