# THE HISTORY OF CHURCH PREEN: IN THE COUNTY OF SALOP

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The History of Church Preen: In the County of Salop by Arthur Sparrow & Ernest Arthur Ebblewhite

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#### **ARTHUR SPARROW & ERNEST ARTHUR EBBLEWHITE**

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#### THE HISTORY

OF

### CHURCH PREEN,

THE COUNTY OF SALOP.

ARTHUR SPARROW, F.S.A.

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ERNEST ARTHUR EBBLEWHITE,

THE RESTREE ASCRESSIONAL ASSOCIATION.

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#### EDITORIAL NOTE.

As one who was closely associated with the late Mr. Sparrow in his literary work and had the honour of his personal friendship, I have been asked by his daughter, Miss Edith Sparrow, to revise these sheets for the press: a task which I have gladly undertaken. Mr. Sparrow took the keenest possible interest in this "History", and devoted much time and skill to its details; and I have tried to make my own small share of the work worthy of my dear friend.

ERNEST A. EBBLEWHITE.

London, August 13th, 1898.

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#### PREFACE.

This little book has been written at intervals of leisure during a busy life, and I am quite aware how very incomplete it is, in every way, especially as to the early history of Preen; but I have done my best to be accurate, and to secure this I have made many searches in the Record Office, the British Museum, the Bodleian, the Diocesan Records of Hereford, the Hundred Rolls of Edward I, and other available sources of information. But, above all, I owe most to Eyton, especially as to the early history of Preen, and I cannot help expressing my sense of the herculean labour he undertook when he commenced to write The Antiquities of Shropshire, a work that must always stand by itself among the records of the county.

I must thank Professor Earle for his most interesting letters as to the derivation of the name of "Preen", and my acknowledgments are due also to Professor Rhys. The illustrations are chiefly reproduced from drawings and photographs, which I owe principally to the kindness of my niece, Miss F. J. Fowke, and my daughter; but I must not forget to thank Miss Beddoes, of Hereford, for her most interesting drawing of Preen Church, which has enabled me to show the Church as it was before restoration. I am also indebted to Miss Ecroyd, of Credenhill, for a most charming drawing showing the east end of the Church.

Lastly, I must thank my friend Mr. Ernest A. Ebblewhite, F.S.A., for his invaluable assistance.

ARTHUR SPARROW.

Preen Manor, Shrewsbury, January 15th, 1898.

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TO

MY DAUGHTER,

EDITH.