

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF WORCESTER: OR,
"WORCESTER GUIDE" IMPROVED WITH
A DESCRIPTION OF THE NEIGHBOURING
VILLAGES, AND SEATS. THAT ARE
MOST WORTHY OF NOTICE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649034338

A brief history of Worcester: or, "Worcester guide" improved with a description of the neighbouring villages, and seats. That are most worthy of Notice by R. G.

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R. G.

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Marianne Cowan

A BRIEF
HISTORY
OF
WORCESTER;

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"WORCESTER GUIDE" IMPROVED:

WITH

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE

NEIGHBOURING TOWNS, VILLAGES,
AND SEATS,

That are most worthy of Notice.



FIFTH EDITION,

With considerable Additions and Improvements,

Embellished with elegant Copper Plates.



WORCESTER,

PRINTED BY J. TYMBS:

And may be had of the Booksellers in Worcester, Ludlow,
Kidderminster, and Birmingham.

Sold also by G. R. WARD, Paternoster Row,
London.



1806.

George & Co. Worcester 1806

PREFACE.

THE utility, convenience, information, and amusement, which works of this nature are calculated to afford, is generally admitted; but more particularly so by the traveller and man of business, whose time and inclinations will not admit of perusing the more extensive and elaborate productions of a similar nature.—To these, and the public, the Editor would, with the greatest deference, submit the present work, which is derived from the most authentic sources, and rendered with a faithfulness on which they may rely:—he therefore hopes, it will be found, upon the whole, as

PREFACE.

adequate to the purpose of general information,
and satisfactory to the curious, as the size and
nature of the work will possibly admit.

R. G.

Worcester, 1806.



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The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

In the second section, the author outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze the data. This includes both primary and secondary data collection techniques. The primary data was gathered through direct observation and interviews, while secondary data was obtained from existing reports and databases.

The third section details the statistical analysis performed on the collected data. This involves the use of descriptive statistics to summarize the data and inferential statistics to test hypotheses. The results of these analyses are presented in a clear and concise manner, highlighting the key findings of the study.

Finally, the document concludes with a discussion of the implications of the findings. It suggests that the results have significant implications for the field of study and provides recommendations for further research. The author also acknowledges the limitations of the study and offers suggestions for how these can be addressed in future work.

HISTORY
OF
WORCESTER,

&c. &c.

ETYMOLOGY.

THE origin of celebrated cities is not less obscure, than the first production of the rivers, on which their commerce and splendour depend; and yet the antiquary, as well as the naturalist, will be warm and confident—the one, as if he had traced all the secret syphons that feed the fountain; the other, as if he had turned up foundation-stones, inscribed with the name of the prince that laid them. But after the strictest search into history, it certainly proves a matter of difficulty at the present period, to investigate with any accuracy or precision, the ancient name of the city of Worcester. It is unquestionably of great antiquity; for we find it mentioned in various authors by different appellations, during the time it was under the dominion of the Saxons. Writers, however, in general, during those dark periods,

were by no means exact in the regularity of their orthography, and hence arises the uncertainty in which the origin and ancient state of our cities is involved. Worcester is called by the Welch, *Caerwrangon*, i. e. a fortified city; by the Saxons it was written *Wigaerne*, signifying "the warrior's lodge," the hero's place of retirement; others deduce the etymology from *Wic*, as the hills encompass it from the east to the Severn. It was, as some writers relate, probably built by the Romans (said to be founded by Constantius Chlorus) who, to prevent the incursions of the Britons on the opposite side of the Severn, planned cities as fortresses on the eastern bank. But without venturing etymologies, founded upon learned conjecture, or the fanciful interpretations of individuals, which are so various on this subject, we shall content ourselves with the most probable and true derivation of the present name of Worcester, from Domesday-Book, where it is written *Wircestre*, the station or camp under the hill; its termination, *cestre* (agreeable to the celebrated Camden) plainly denoting it to be a fortified place, as we find no exception whatever of the kind in the whole kingdom.