

the Commandery museum including the 15th-

Arguably one of their most important projects,

The Commandery

Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove.

Guesten Hall Ruins

(© WCC Charles Archive)

To read more about the Guesten Hall, scan here:

Removal of the Guesten Hall roof at Holy Trinity Church, 1969 The Guesten Hall, 1867

restored to form the New Guesten Hall at

Trinity Church, Shrub Hill and then sympathetically

timber roof was first adapted for reuse at Holy since demolition in 1862. This arch-braced, open

century roof structure has been salvaged twice

Guesten Hall – a building whose outstanding 14th-

These ruins are the in-situ remains of the medieval

conceal earlier timber-frames. Victorian shop fronts in the City Many of the later Georgian and

demolition in the mid-1970s. The building was saved from survivals of medieval Worcester; as 'one of the most remarkable (forming a huge Gothic arch) to the central building truss 1400, Freddie Charles referred Believed to date to around another early timber-frame. sabid eniblind sint to abaşaf much altered, the Georgian While the ground floor appears

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the building evidence for dating provide some of the abessed ay ui moulded wall post Curved brace and

Street, scan here:

Lion and 103 High

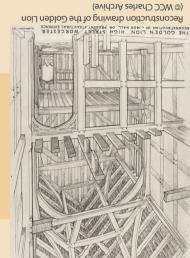
about the Golden

To read more



house dating to the early 15th century. Fully restored Golden Lion Inn is a three-bay medieval merchant's Hidden behind the 18th-century façade of the former

Golden Lion



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ponses or pubs so the original features can be observed

Many of these buildings are open to the public as coffee

practice and the wealth of historic archive material

themselves, their association with the Charles family

Explore the Past blog (www.explorethepast.co.uk) or

and a number of blog posts featuring some of the

scan the QR codes to find out more about the buildings

buildings you can see on the trails, are available on the

details of the project to catalogue the Charles Archive

co.uk/project/charles-archive/DroitwichTrail. Further

Droitwich trail can be found at www.explorethepast.

More details about the Timber-Framed Buildings of

iconic timber-framed buildings from the

and conserved many of Worcester's most whose architectural practice recorded of FWB 'Freddie' and Mary Charles,

Centre was inspired by the life and works

This short walk around Worcester City

1950s to the 1980s.

visit these sites.

and enjoyed.

to look out for' as you

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Timber-framed Buildings of

💴 1-2 The Shambles

Another building referenced by the Charles Archive is the former J & F Hall, Ironmongers, built in the 17th-century. This timber-framed house and shop would originally have extended further along the Shambles frontage giving it an L-shaped plan, but was partially replaced by a 19th-century building, before full demolition in the 1960s.



1-2 The Shambles in 1951 (Worcester City Conservation Photograph Collection)



You might also like to visit:



43-49 St John's (A 15th-century hall house)

To read more about the Charles' practice involvement. scan here:



While you're here:

Two more fascinating timber-framed buildings that you will pass along the trail are open to the public as museums and are well worth a visit.



Tudor House Museum, Friar Street

A beautiful 16th-century building full of unique features and fascinating stories

www.tudorhouse.org.uk

The Greyfriars, Friar Street

A late medieval merchant's house, tree-ring dated to 1489. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/greyfriars-house-and-garden

F.W.B ('Freddie') and Mary Charles

Specialising in timber-framed conservation and innovative repair, the Charles practice campaigned to conserve timber-framed buildings from the often ravaging effects of post-war regeneration and educate the public about our built heritage. Freddie was one of the founding members of the Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings, near Bromsgrove.

Many of the photographs, plans and drawings presented in this leaflet are publically accessible at Explore the Past in the Hive, Worcester. (www.explorethepast.co.uk/project/ charles-archive). Thanks to funding from Historic England, The Charles Archive has been electronically catalogued; a digital photographic archive of important material has also been created and made accessible via the Archaeology Data Service and Worcestershire and Worcester City Historic Environment Records.

To read more about cataloguing the archive, scan here



For more in-depth information why not explore Freddie and Mary's work in more detail in Charles. F.W.B, 1967, Medieval cruck-building and its derivatives: a study of timber-framed construction based on buildings in Worcestershire in the Society for Medieval Archaeology's Monograph no 2 and F.W. B Charles & Mary Charles, 1984, Conservation of Timber Buildings.

Explore the Past







www.explorethepast.co.uk/project/charles-archive

Worcester

A walking trail inspired by the life

and works of F.W.B 'Freddie'

& Mary Charles



44 Friar Street

Survey work before restoration in 1984 revealed that this late 16th-century house once had a jetty at first floor level and was originally gabled over the street. The original façade was reinstated based on this evidence.



surviving fragments of 16th-century wall paintings inside on the first floor, partly uncovered during restoration.



building may have looked in the 16th century



structural condition (© WCC Charles Archive)



Nash House

This jettied house was built in 1605 for Alderman John Nash, a wealthy clothier and twice Mayor of Worcester. While this building was not the subject of restoration by the Charles practice, it did provide their office space for many years. These photographs were included in the Charles Archive and show the building prior to restoration by architect Henry Gorst.

Nash House prior to restoration (© WCC Charles Archive)



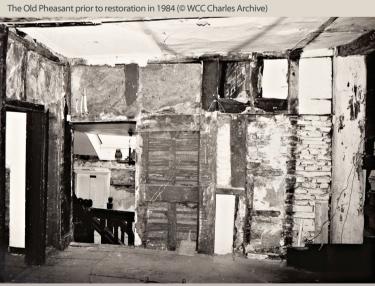


The Old Pheasant

Restored in 1984, the Pheasant was originally built in the late 16th century as a large town house, becoming an inn at the end of the 18th century.



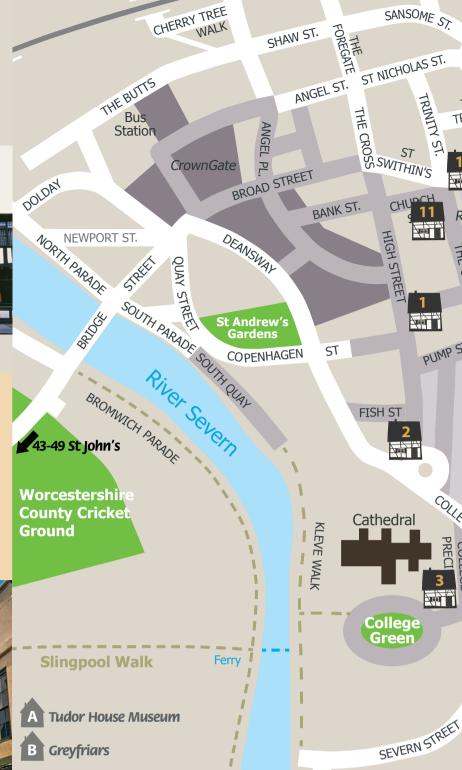
The carved and gilded console brackets to the carriage drive



King Charles House

Part of a large merchant's house, built for William Blagden and Richard Durant, King Charles House dates to 1577. The jettied upper storey was restored by FWB Charles in 1986, following a major fire which destroyed the roof. The original jetty had been removed in the 19th century and was reinstated by the Charles practice from surviving evidence.

This building is traditionally the place from which King Charles I escaped after the Battle of Worcester in 1651.





The Plough

The Plough is likely to have been built in around 1600 and was sadly demolished to make way for City Walls Road in 1972. According to Freddie Charles the building had been 'horribly Victorianised' but he was able to reconstruct how it may have looked when first built by observing the building during demolition.

To read the full story of the Plough Inn,

The Plough in 1951 (Worcester City Conservation Photograph Collection)





20 Mealcheapen Street

LOWESPILL

NMARKET MARTIN'S GATE

PROVIDENCE

CARDEN STREET

SIDBURY

IIII

FOUNDRY ST

Fort Royal **Park**

TRINITY

HEAPEN

Reindeer

Court

CHARLES

ST.

UNION

ST.

KING ST.

PUMP ST.

COLLEGESTREET

Built as a shop and house in the mid-16th century, number 20 is another very striking example of a full restoration by the Charles Practice. Built as a shop and house between 1500 and 1550, this building was part of a thriving retail street close to the bustling Cornmarket. The building was clad in brick during the 18th-century but the 19th-century shop front was removed during restoration due to structural concerns.



Clasped purlin roof with curved windbraces

Design for reconstruction to 20 Mealcheapen Street (FWB Charles)



timber pegs in timber-framing, characteristic of the **Charles practice** restoration works following historic practice









King Charles House after the fire