

Place name "Würmersheim"

The place name "Würmersheim" has absolutely nothing to do with the worm depicted in the local coat of arms.

Also the explanation with the Middle High German name Werinher (Werner) might be speculation.

Ethymologically the name goes back with great certainty to Celtic-Franconian word stems.

The Celtic word "Mar/Mer/Mor" means "marshland". This Celtic word stem can be found in Würmersheim and e.g. also in Marbach, Marburg, Marschlandschaft, in Mörsch and also in Durmersheim.

And the worm?

"Würm" refers to source/stream, e.g. in Würmlingen, Würm (river near Pforzheim) or Worms.

Place names ending on -heim are usually places which first formed as farms ("homes") during the Franconian occupation of the land (up to approx. 600) or which were subsequently traditionally named as such in these regions.

Thus the name "Würmersheim" can be interpreted as "Heim an einem Bach im Sumpfland - Home near a stream in the marshland". This translation corresponds to the topographical situation of Würmersheim in the flood area of the Rhine and at the Federbach.

As in other places, the place name was subject to various changes in spelling. That might have phonetic reasons, because in earlier times it was written as spoken or heard. Often, spelling mistakes were made in transcriptions and copies of documents and plans.

1156 Wirmeresheim

1278 Wirmersheim, Germany

1291 Wirmensheim, Germany

1335 Wirmersheim, Germany

1454 Wirmerßheym

1459 Wirmersheym

1468 Wormer's minnow

1683 Wuermersheim

1788 Wirmersheim (district plan 1788)

1800 ff. Würmersheim