Title of Data Collection: Name, residence, vote and occupation for the 1852 & 1857 Sheffield General Elections

This file has includes minor alterations made by the History Data Service

Contents

Title: Name, residence, vote and occupation for the 1852 & 1857 Sheffield General Elections

Types of information: record number, name of voter, township 1852, qualifying address 1852, vote 1852, township 1857, qualifying address 1857, vote 1857, occupational description, main occupational code 1852, secondary occupational code 1852, main occupational code 1857, secondary occupational code 1857.

Strengths and weaknesses: Strengths – complete transposition from printed poll books; Weaknesses – created as one large file as opposed to linked files

Time period: 1852 & 1857

Periodicity of the data: Determined by the election

Name of the country, region, county, town or village covered: Sheffield, Yorkshire, England

Types of spatial units: Individual, township, qualifying address, vote, and occupation.

Language: English

Provenance

i) Who created the data collection and why?

Dr Alan White of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of East London, input the bulk of the data. Over the past eight years, as part of their final year research methods assessment, a number of undergraduate students have worked, under the supervision of Dr White, in the Guildhall Library linking entries in the pool books to entries in commercial directories. Catherine Arthur was involved as a research assistant coding occupations over the period September 1998-April 1999. Her time was funded by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of East London.

The data was created to investigate the claim made by Martin J. Wiener in *English Culture and the Decline of the Industrial Spirit: 1850-1980* (CUP: 1982) that Tory political support was inimical to the growth of industrial capitalism. An ancillary aim of the project was to explore the political allegiance of the membership of the Sheffield Club. In order to achieve both of these aims the Poll books for the 1852 and 1857 Sheffield elections were input and the entries linked to occupational data in local commercial directories

ii) How was the data collection created?

Input began in 1985 using the then current version of dBase. As revisions of this software were released, the data set was upgraded. In 1998 the data set was converted to MS Access98 and recently to Access2000 *(History Data Service note: the version available to users is in Microsoft Access97 format, or tab delimited text).*

The data was originally created in files that reflected the ward structure of the poll books and by year. Later these files were merged to allow the analysis of political swings across the two years.

iii) Which sources were used to create the data collection?

The Poll Book of the Sheffield Election, July 6th and 7th 1852, Leader, Printer, Independent Office, Sheffield (nd). Brotherton Collection, Leeds University, UK.
The Poll Book of the Sheffield Election, March 27th and 28th, 1857, Leader, Printer, Independent Office, Bank Street, Sheffield (nd). Brotherton Collection, Leeds University, UK.
General Directory of the Town and Borough of Sheffield by William White, William White, Sheffield, 1849. The Guildhall Library, London, UK.
General Directory of the Town and Borough of Sheffield by William White, William White, Sheffield, 1852. The Guildhall Library, London, UK.
Post Office Directory of Sheffield with the Neighbouring Towns and Villages, Kelly & Co, London, 1854. The British Library, London, UK.
General Directory of the Town and Borough of Sheffield by William White, William White, Sheffield, 1856. The Guildhall Library, London, UK.
General Directory of the Town and Borough of Sheffield by William White, William White, Sheffield, 1860. The Guildhall Library, London, UK.
Robert J. Morris, 'Occupational Coding: Principles and Examples', *Historical Social Research*, Vol. 15, No. 1, 1990, 3-29

The poll books were input in full and later edited to remove, at the level of the individual, those multiple qualifying addresses where the franchise was not exercised. In cases where multiple addresses existed and an individual voted this entry was retained. In cases where multiple addresses existed and an individual did not vote at all one entry was chosen at random.
The spelling of names has been checked for consistency using ward, qualifying address and occupation as controls, and the following procedure applied:

Where an individual voted twice (illegally) both votes have been retained.

Where the poll book and the commercial directory differ the spelling of the poll book is used in the name field and the alternative spelling is recorded in the occupational description field.

Where the two poll books differ in the spelling of a name the 1852 spelling is used in the name field and the 1857 given in the occupational description field.

The following coding scheme are used:

Township (1852 & 1857)

A = Attercliffe

BB = Brightside Bierlow
E = Ecclesall Bierlow
NH = Nether Hallam
S = Sheffield
UH = Upper Hallam
Blank field = Not registered in that year

Vote 1852

H = George Hadfield (Liberal)
HO= Hadfield and William Overend (Conservative)
nv = no vote
O = Overend
P = John Parker (Liberal)
PH = Parker and Hadfield
PO = Parker and Overend
PR = Parker and John Arthur Roebuck (Liberal)
R = Roebuck
RH = Roebuck and Hadfield
RO = Roebuck and Overend
Blank field = not registered in 1852

Vote 1857

H = Hadfield
HO = Hadfield and Overend
nv = no vote
O = Overend
R = Roebuck
RH = Roebuck and Hadfield
RO = Roebuck and Overend
Blank field = not registered in 1857

Occupational Description

NL = Not listed (that is, no entry in a commercial directory). Where an entry for the relevant address does exist this has been given in brackets. In all cases the description has been transcribed as it is given in the relevant directory. The year in brackets is the year of the relevant directory from which the entry is taken.

Occupational coding 1852 & 1857

10 = Farmer
11 = Market Gardener/Nurseyman/Seedsman
12 = Care of livestock
20 = Quarries and extractive industries
30 = Chemist and druggist
31 = Butcher, fishmonger, poulterer and game dealer
32 = Tailor, hatter and milliner

33 = Baker and confectioner

34 = Grocer, greengrocer and fruiterer

35 = Shopkeeper

36 = Dealer, factor and maltster (Foodstuffs)

37 = Dealer, broker & factor (non-foodstuffs)

38 = Draper, haberdasher, mercer, hosier & glover

39 = Other, distribution and/or processing of semi-finished goods

40 = Transport (e.g. cab owner, coach owner)

45 = Merchant (e.g. coal, iron, steel, warehouse, wine & spirit)

46 = Banker

47 = Agents travellers

48 = Clerks & bookkeepers (e.g. bookkeeper, clerk, manager, warehouseman)

50 = Manufacturer

51 = Converter/refiner (base metals)

52 = Converter/refiner/caster/plater (precious metals)

55 = Small scale industrial production (e.g. blade forger, bone etc cutter & presser, brick maker, cooper, cutter, file cutter, filesmith, forger, general cutler, maker)

56 = Small scale consumer goods production (e.g. watchmaker, boot & shoe maker, print maker, engraver, spectacle maker, chaser, brush maker)

57 = Journeyman

59 = Merchant manufacturer

60 = Professional (e.g. accountant, architect, artist, auditor, broker, civil engineer, estate agent, land agent, managing director, share broker, surveyor)

61 = Medical

62 = Legal

63 = Religion

65 = Education

66 = Service (e.g. sexton, keeper, collector)

67 = Capital (e.g. pawnbroker)

68 = Miscellaneous

70 = Builder & mason

71 = Activities ancillary to building (e.g. slater, joiner, painter, paperhanger, plasterer, plumber, bricklayer, carpenter)

80 = Brewer

81 = Beer retailer & beer house

82 = Public house, hotel, licensed victualler

85 = Books and publishing (e.g. bookbinder, bookseller, newsagent, printer, publisher, stationery)

95 = National Government (e.g. army, collector of taxes, registrar of births/deaths)

96 = Local Government (e.g. Collector of local rates, poor law officer)

98 = Not listed

99 = Not stated (e.g. Esq., Gent, Mr)

Where an individual has more than one occupation they have two codes. The codes are allocated in the order that the occupations are given in the relevant directory.

iv) Structure

History Data Service note: The database contains four tables, three of which have been created by the History Data Service from information in this document. There are 7,905 records. Each

record has 13 fields. Each record represents an individual. The first field in each record is a unique identifying number.

The fields, and their characteristics, are as follows:

1) Number – Unique case number. Numeric data. Field size: long integer
2) Name - Name of individual. Text data. Field size: 33
3) Township 1852 – Where the individual either i) cast a vote or ii) had a qualifying property but failed to cast a vote. Text data. Field size: 2.
4) Qualifying address 1852 – Self-explanatory. Text data. Field size: 30.
5) Vote 1852 – Self-explanatory. Text data. Field size: 2.
6) Township 1857 – Where the individual either i) cast a vote or ii) had a qualifying property but failed to cast a vote. Text data. Field size: 2.
7) Qualifying address 1857 – Self-explanatory. Text data. Field size: 30.
8) Vote 1857 – Self-explanatory. Text data. Field size: 2
9) Occupational description - The profession of each individual as shown in the relevant commercial directory. Text data. Field size: 255.
10) Oc 52/1 – First occupational coding for 1852. Number data. Field size: 2
11) Oc 52/2 – Second occupational coding for 1852. Number data. Field size: 2
12) Oc 57/1 – First occupational coding for 1857. Number data. Field size: 2
13) Oc 57/2 – Second occupational coding for 1857. Number data. Field size: 2

In all cases, a blank field indicates an individual did not have an entry in relevant poll book.

v) Terms and conditions

The copyright is held by Dr Alan White.