



Census Records

Local Studies Genealogy Guide No. 2

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Newcastle Libraries

Newcastle
City Council 

- There has been a census of England and Wales every decade since 1801 with the exception of 1941. However, only those census records for 1841 and later are of genealogical value.
- Census information is subject to the “100 years rule” to protect confidentiality, therefore census records are available for 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901.
- The original census enumerators’ books are in the Public Record Office, but most libraries and/or record offices have copies of the census returns for their own areas.
- Arrangement is by Registration District, Registration Sub-district and finally Enumeration District. Each Enumeration District is prefaced by a description of the area it covers.

1841 Census

Information is minimal compared with later censuses and original records were often completed in pencil making them difficult to read.

Relationships between individuals are not given, nor are exact places of birth. In the penultimate column “Y” means that the individual was born in the county in which the census is taking place, “N” means born elsewhere in England or Wales. In the final column “S” means born in Scotland, “I” in Ireland, and “F” born abroad. For people aged over 15 the age is often rounded to the nearest 5 years below, i.e. 23 may be recorded as 20.

Other abbreviations frequently encountered are:-

- F.S.** - female servant
- M.S.** - male servant
- Ind.** - of independent means
- N.K.** - not known
- J.** - Journeyman (day labourer)

1851-1891 Censuses

- Often more detailed than that for 1841, giving:- the relationship of each individual to the head of the family, age, marital status, trade/profession, town and county of birth.
- Original records were written in ink so tend to be easier to read than those for 1841.

CENSUS RECORDS IN NEWCASTLE CITY LIBRARY

Cover the present area of the City. In order to achieve completeness they include some areas outside of the City boundary now in North Tyneside and Northumberland.

The Registration Districts covered are:-

1841

Newcastle - All Saints, Byker, St. Andrew, St. Nicholas, Westgate
North Tyneside and Northumberland - Bedlington, Blyth, Earsdon, Longbenton, Morpeth, North Shields, Ponteland, Stamfordham, Tynemouth, Wallsend

1851-1891

Newcastle - All Saints, Byker, St. Andrew, St. Nicholas, Westgate
North Tyneside and Northumberland - Longbenton, Ponteland, Stamfordham

INDEXES FOR CENSUS RECORDS HELD IN NEWCASTLE CITY LIBRARY

1: Newcastle City Libraries Indexes (1 for each issue of the census 1841-1881)

Arranged in 2 sections:-

(i) A-Z by street name, indicating film reel number, registration district and enumeration district.

Example:-

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>Reel No.</u>	<u>R.D.</u>	<u>E.D.</u>
Nursery Cottage	C1a	St. Andrew	12
Oaks Place	C5	Westgate	3
Oakwood Cottage	C3	Byker	1

3: Bell, G. 1841 Census returns for Walker township in the parish of Longbenton.

Piece No. HO 107/822/4-5 Enumeration Districts 9-13

Arranged in 2 sections both of which indicate **S** (enumeration district), **F** (folio), **P** (page number) and **B** (if born in the county): -

1) By address, listing name, age, occupation, number of people in the household & place of birth.
Example: -

S	F	P	Address	Surname	First Name	Age	Occupation	B
4	28	6	Engine street 1	Mayfield	William	25	Pudler of iron	N
				Mayfield	Mary	23		Y
			Engine street 1	Reid	Mary	24	Shopkeeper	Y
				Reid	Sarah	9		N
				Reid	Joseph	6		Y
				Smith	William	3		Y

2) By surname listing age, occupation & place of birth. Example: -

Surname	First Name	Age	Occupation	B	S	F	P
Patterson	John	1		Y	4	33	16
	William	12	Labourer	N	4	32	15
Pattison	Bridget	35	Ind.	Y	5	39	1
Payne	Mary	55		Y	5	43	9
	William	25	Engineer	Y	5	43	9
Pearson	Ann	56		Y	5	10	12

4: Northumberland and Durham Family History Society Index to the 1851 Census for Northumberland

*** Vol. 7 Newcastle St. Nicholas**

Registration district 552/3. Piece Number HO 107/2406 Folio 1-470

***Vol. 8 Newcastle St. Andrew**

Registration district 552. Piece number HO 107/2405 Folio 1-507

***Vol.10 Newcastle Westgate**

Registration district 552/1 Piece Number HO 107/2404 Folio 1-630

***Vol.11 Newcastle All Saints**

Registration district 552/3 Piece Number HO 107/2407 Folio 1-731

***Vol.12 Newcastle Byker**

Registration district 552/5 Piece Number HO 107/2408 Folio 1-367

Arranged in family groups A-Z by surname. Lists names and ages of individuals. Indicates folio number. Street and place name index with folio number.

Example:-

DODS.
Jane.21. 78
DODSHON.
Will.43. Susana.38.
Louisa. L.8. 64
DODSON.
Geo.26 15
DODSON.
Henrieta. A.19. 65

***Vol.9 Longbenton, Walker, Killingworth and Weetslade**

Registration district 553/4 Piece Number HO 107/2411 Folio 1-288

Arranged A-Z by surname. Indicates relationship to head of household, marital status, age occupation, place of birth.

Page and folio numbers are indicated.

Example:-

GRAY	Elizabeth	CO	14	House Servant	Newcastle	23	187
	Frances	WI	M 53		NBL Donkin Houses	8	204
	George	HD	M 55	Coal Miner	DUR Wilemooh?	21	239
	George	HD	M 44	Linseed Oil press	NBL Budle	1	131
	George	SO	U 13	Coal Miner	NBL Newcastle	21	239
	George	SO	6		NBL Longbenton	2	132
	Hannah	SV	14	House Servant	NBL Killingworth	24	212

*** = Also on Microfiche**

5: Northumberland and Durham Family History Society Name Index to 1851 census returns for St. Nicholas' Parish

Piece Number HO 107/2406 Folio 1-470

Arranged A-Z by surname, indicating age and folio number

Example:-

BRANNAN.

James.39, Cath.40, Jon.2. 130

BRASS.

Thos.18. 375

BRAUN.

Mary.38 334

BRECKEN.

Jo.35 439

BRECKINS.

Marg.28. 334

6: Northumberland and Durham Family History Society Index to the 1871 census for the Parishes of St. Nicholas & St. John Westgate and Elswick (microfiche)

Contains 7 separate alphabetical indexes, 1 for each of the piece numbers RG 10/5069- 5075. Each piece covers a different part of Westgate Township. The final piece also covers part of Elswick.

Lists streets included within each piece number.

Each list is arranged by surname with first name, address, relationship to head of household, age, occupation, and place of birth.

Folio number and enumerators returns are also indicated.

Example:-

12	SMITHS	George	1-2 Lower Pontleand Tce	GS 5 ...	Newcastle NBL
84	SMITHSON	Andrew	27-29 Stone St.	SO 4 ...	Newcastle NBL
84	SMITHSON	Elizabeth	27-29 Stone St.	WI 39 ...	Newcastle NBL
84	SMITHSON	Robert	27-29 Stone St.	SO 3 ...	Newcastle NBL
84	SMITHSON	Robert	27-29 Stone St.	HD 30 Engine Fitter	Newcastle NBL
87	SMYTH	David	68-66 Stone St.	SO 2 ...	Millfield NBL

9: Bell, G. 1891 Census returns for Walker township in the parish of Longbenton

Piece number RG 12/4231 Enumeration Districts 1-5 and part of RG 12/4232

Enumeration Districts 6-8

Arranged by surname in ascending order of age with first name, relationship to head of household, marital status, occupation and place of birth.

Indicates enumerator's schedule number, folio and page numbers.

Example:-

HAMILTON	Alexander	SO		13	Scholar	NBL Walker	2	52	36
	Alexander	HD	M	44	Labourer Shipyard	IRL	2	52	35
	Eliza. A.	DA		9	Scholar	NBL Walker	2	52	36
	Hugh H.	SO	S	19	Moulder	NBL Walker	2	52	36
	Jane	DA		16	Servant	NBL Walker	2	52	36
	Jane	WI	M	43		IRL	2	52	35
	Martha	DA	S	21	Dressmaker	NBL Walker	2	52	36

10: Lee, J. 1891 Census returns for Byker Sub-District

Piece number RG 12/4213-4219

Arranged by surname indicates RG and Folio number

Example:-

BEDSON B98; G14

INDEXES FOR CENSUS RECORDS NOT HELD IN NEWCASTLE CITY LIBRARY

* = Microfiche copy

1. Cook, P. R. Index to the census returns for Felton

Vol.1 1841 & 1851

Vol.2 1861 & 1871

Vol.3 1881 & 1891

Northumberland and Durham Family History Society Index to 1851 census for Northumberland and Durham

Northumberland

Vol. Number:

- 1 Hartburn, Netherwitton, Longhorsley, Hebburn, Mitford, Meldon, River Green
- *2 Seghill, Backworth, Burradon, Earsdon
- *3 Morpeth
- *4 & 5 Bedlington
- *6 Tynemouth
- *13 Wallsend, Willington, Howdon
- *14 Chirton, Preston, Murton
- *15 North Shields
- *16 Tweedmouth
- *17 Rothbury, Elsdon
- 21 Warkworth, Shilbottle, Lesbury
- 22 Alnwick
- 23 Embleton, Longhoughton, Howick

Durham

- 7 Gateshead
- 8 Houghton Le Spring
Bishopwearmouth (2 Vols.)
Chester Le Street
Stanhope

South Tyneside

- 1 South Shields, Boldon, Westoe, Cleadon, West Boldon, St. Hilda, Harton, East Boldon, Union Workhouse, Harton Colliery, Whitburn, East Jarrow, West Harton
- 2 Jarrow, South Shields, St. Hilda, Holy Trinity, Westoe, Monkton, Hedworth

3. Harding, D. Transcript & index to the 1851 Census for North West Durham

4. Thirkell, P.R.G. Index to the 1851 census for :-

- Bellingham
- Castle Ward, Ponteland
- Haltwhistle
- Hexham

5. Northern Forebears Index to 1861 census for Northumberland

- * Part 1 Bywell sub-district
- * Part 3 Stamfordham sub-district

6. Silksworth Heritage Group Index to the 1881 census of Silksworth

Tyne and Wear Archives Index to 1891 census for Tyne & Wear

Northern Forebears Index to 1891 census for Northumberland

- * Part 1 Ponteland Sub-district - Castle Ward

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