This user guide lists rate books available here and is arranged by the 5 present-day metropolitan areas which constitute Tyne and Wear - Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council, Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council, South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council and Sunderland City Council.

Within each of these sections the rate books are arranged by the name of the originating authority eg Newcastle Corporation, Walker Parish etc. A note has also been made of the type of rate book available eg poor rate, water rate etc.

Please enquire about access to any unlisted collections.

Rate books

Rates and Rating

A rate is a levy for local purposes based on an assessment of the yearly value of property. Rates of various kinds were levied spasmodically in different places of the country from at least the 14th century. Compulsory rating throughout the country had its origins in the 1601 Act for the Relief of the Poor. Once the principle of compulsory rating had been introduced, its use was extended to a variety of purposes eg repair of the highways, repair of gaols etc.

Rate books contain lists of householders and/or owners with an assessment of the value of their properties and the amount to be collected from them. They can be a useful source of information for local historians and also family historians especially before the first census becomes available in 1841 and also after 1911, the year of the last available census.

GATESHEAD MBC

Birtley
Poor rates 1848, (CP.BI)

Blaydon UDC
General rates, 1919, 1921, 1924 (T315)

Boldon UDC
Dunston
District and general rates, 1946 (T213)

Gateshead CBC

Gateshead Civil Parish
Poor rates, 1860 (CP.GA)

Gateshead High Ward
Poor rate assessment, 1749 (3415/cj/1/19)

Gateshead Poor Law Union
see Whickham District, Gateshead Poor Law Union

Heworth
Valuation list (CP.GA)

Marley Hill
see Whickham UDC

Ryton UDC
Poor and general, 1914, 1918, 1920-21;

Stella Ecclesiastical Parish
Special cemetery rates, 1899-1935 (T213)

Swalwell
see Whickham UDC

Whickham Civil Parish
Poor rates, 1828-1834 (CP.WH), 1677-1759, 1759-1817, 1835-1837 (MF901-902)
Whickham Highways, surveyors accounts including rate assessments, 1845-51 (CP.WH)
1860-1875 (T213 + MF)

Whickham District, Gateshead Poor law union
Poor rates, 1851-52, 1854-80, 1882-93,
1895-96, 1898-1905 (T213)

Whickham UDC
General district rates, 1876-79, 1881-92, 1894-1905, 1941
general and poor rates, 1906, 1911, 1914, 1921, 1926
district and poor rates, Whickham, Swalwell and Marley Hill, 1946, 1951 (T213)

Winlaton Parish
Poor rates, 1853 (T214)
Winlaton Township

NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL

All Saints Parish
Poor rate assessment books, 1767-1774, 1779-1796, 1801-1803, 1810-1811, 1829-1830, (183) and 1805-1811 (465) and 1788, 1793-4, 1798, 1803-04, 1810, 1830 (466); Church repair rates, 1787-1797 (465 + MF)

Pandon Ward, overseers accounts, 1797-1808; poor rates, 1802, 1805, 1811-1812, 1830-1831; church rate, 1809-1810; Lamp and watch rates, 1808, 1815, 1820-1821 (183) and 1830-1832 (IC.LW1)

Pilgrim ward, lamp and watch rates, 1815, 1820-21, 1823-24 (183) and 1806, 1830-1831 (IC.LW1) rate assessments, 1861, 1880 (183)

Quayside ward, Overseer's accounts, 1796-1812; poor rates, 1797-1801; church rate, 1802 (183)

Sandhill ward, lamp and watch rates, 1815, 1820-21, 1824 (183) and 1830-1832 (IC.LW1); poor rates, 1821, 1829, 1830; rate assessments, 1831-1833, 1838-41, 1850-51, 1853, 1860-61, (183)

Arthur's Hill Ward see Newcastle Corporation

Benwell see also Newcastle Corporation Assessments, 1870, 1880-81, 1900 (183 + MF)

Byker see also Newcastle Corporation Assessments, 1731-1819, 1826-31, 1840-41, 1849-51, 1860-61, 1870-71, 1880, 1890-91 (183) (St Anthony's district) 1905-06 (205/158)

Coxlodge Poor rates, 1880-84, 1890-91, 1901 (UD.NB)

Dene Ward see Newcastle Corporation

Eastern Division Lamp and watch rates [within], 1815-16, 1820-24, 1830-34 (IC.LW2)
Elswick
Assessments, 1850, 1860-61, 1880; Self-contained tenements, 1870 (183)
Rate book 1880-81, poor rates 1890 (205/179,160)
Southern District, poor rates, 1906 (183) 1914-15 (542)
Northern District, poor rates, 1906 (183)

Fawdon
Poor rates, 1891-1896 (UD.GO)

Heaton see also Newcastle Corporation
Assessments, 1860-61, 1890 (183)

Jesmond see also Newcastle Corporation
General, 1880-1881 (593 + MF);
assessments, 1851, 1861, 1870-71, 1877, 1880-81, 1900 (183)
poor rates 1890 (205/159)

Gosforth UDC
General and poor rates, 1911, 1921, 1928 (UD.GO)

Newburn UDC
General rate books, 1913-14, 1919, 1921, 1936, 1938, 1941, 1945, 1951, 1959, 1961-63,
1971 (UD.NB);
Rating valuation lists, 1935, 1939-47 (T656 unlisted)

Newcastle Corporation
Rates ledger 1895-96 (205/162);
General rates, 1942-43 (T597 unlisted - MF only)
rates, 1926-57 including Arthur’s Hill, All Saints, Benwell, Byker, Dene, Heaton, Jesmond,
Stephenson, St Andrew’s, St Anthony’s, St Nicholas’, and St Thomas Wards (542);
Rates cess, Newcastle Gaol, 1830 (183)

Pandon Ward see All Saints Parish

Pilgrim Ward see All Saints Parish

Quayside Ward see All Saints Parish

Sandhill Ward see All Saints Parish

St Andrews Parish see also Newcastle Corporation
Assessments, 1811, 1818, 1821, 1830-31, 1838-1841, 1850-52, 1860-61, 1870, 1906,
(183);
Lamp and watch rate [within], 1812-13, 1815-16, 1820-24, 1830-34 (IC.LW1 + MF)
St John's Parish
Rate assessment rough book 1808 (205/228)
Collection books, 1829-1831; assessments, 1838-41, 1850-51, 1854-55, 1860, 1870-71, 1880, 1889-1901, 1903-07 (183);
Lamp and watch rate, [within] 1815-16, 1820-34 (IC.LW1 + MF)
See also Westgate Township

St Nicholas Parish
Poor rate assessment, 1754 (43); collection books, 1742, 1747, 1752-54, 1756-58, 1760-62, 1765-1777, 1779-88, 1790-96, 1800-1801, 1810, 1817, 1820;
church rate, 1745-51, 1753, 1758, 1762, 1766, 1768, 1773, 1777, 1799-1800, 1810, 1815, 1820-21;
assessments, 1801-02, 1829-30, 1870, 1880, 1904-05, 1910-11, (183 + MF);
Lamp and watch rates [within], 1808-11, 1815-16, 1820-24, 1830-34 (IC.LW1)

St Nicholas Ward see Newcastle Corporation

South Gosforth
Poor rates, 1883-84, 1887-93, 1900-01 (UD.GO)

Stephenson Ward see Newcastle Corporation

Walker Parish
Highways rates, 1858-65; 1866-1882, 1866-69, 1870-79;
Private improvement rate, 1868-71 (183)

West Division
Lamp and watch rates [without], 1815-16, 1820-24, 1830-33 (IC.LW2)

Westgate Township
Lamp and watch rates, 1861 (CP.WG/3)
General & improvement rate book 1867-68 (205/164)
Rate book 1900-01 (205/161)

NORTH TYNESIDE MBC

Camperdown Parish
Poor and general, 1905 (643)

Chirton
Poor rates, 1847 (T171), 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890-91, 1900 (T22)

Cullercoats Township
Poor rates, 1890-92, 1900-01, 1905-07 (T22)
Longbenton UDC
Poor and general/poor, 1918, 1925, 1939-40 (T279);
general and water rates, 1938-40, 1941-42, 1945-46, 1951-52 (T279, 643)

North Shields
Poor rates, 1816-1848 (T171); 1819, 1841-44, 1847-50, 1860,1870-71, 1880-81, 1890, 1900 (T22), 1847 (T45)

Preston Township
Poor rates, 1860, 1869, 1880-82, 1890-91,1900-01, 1909 (T22)

Tynemouth Township
Poor rates, 1813-1847 (T171); 1819,1835-36,1842, 1844, 1847-51,1860,1870-71,1880-81,1890-91 1900-01 (T22); 1835, (T45);
general rates, 1852-53, 1860-61, 1870, 1880-81, 1890-91 (T22 + MF)

Wallsend
Poor rates, 1838-39; (T14) 1862-1865 (259);
general rates, 1955-61 (T14)

Weetslade UDC
General rates, 1914 (T274);
poor/general and water, 1927-36 (643)

Whitley Bay
General rate books, 1956;
Water rate books, 1910-11, 1938-47 (MB.WB)

SOUTH TYNESIDE MBC

Boldon Parish
Poor, lighting and special expenses, 1914-15, 1920-21;
general rates, 1927, 1928, 1932, 1938, 1941, 1945, 1952 (UD.BO)

Boldon Colliery Parish
Poor, lighting and special expenses, 1914 -15;
general, 1927, 1928, 1932, 1938, 1941, 1945, 1952 (UD.BO)

Harton
Poor, lighting, general expenses, c1920, (UD.BO)

Hebburn UDC

Hedworth
Poor rates, 1855/56 (T23)
Hedworth, Monkton and Jarrow Township
Poor rates, 1887-88, 1895, 1900 (263)

Jarrow
Monocton General rates, 1914, 1919 (T23); poor rates, 1895-1906 (263)

South Shields
General, districts 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 1914, 1914/5, 1924/5, 1929/30, 1939/40, 1952/3;
added district, 1924/5, 1929/30;
District 5, 1939/40, 1961/2;
District 1, 2, 3, 4, 1961/2, 1970/71, 1973/4;
District L, 1973/4 (T180)

Westoe Township
Poor rates, 1879 (T180)

Whitburn Parish
Poor, lighting and special expenses, 1914-15, 1920;

SUNDERLAND CITY

Bishopwearmouth
Poor rates, 1844, 1850, 1860-61, 1870, 1880, 1890;
borough rates, 1860, 1870; rural police rate, 1860/61 (T26);
lighting and paving rates, 1828 (209)

Bishopwearmouth Parish
Poor rates, 1802-05, 1812-1831 (209)

Chester-le-Street RDC
Water rates, 1913-15 (RD.CS)

East and Middle Herrington Civil Parish
Lighting and watching rates, 1910-1922 (CP.EMH)

Ford
poor rates, 1903, 1913 (T12)

Great Eppleton Civil Parish
Poor rates, 1914-1915 (CP.GE)
Herrington
General, 1938/9 (T12)

Hetton
Poor rate assessment, 1837 (T18)

Houghton-Le-Spring Civil Parish
Poor and water rates, 1914 (CP HS)

Houghton-le-Spring UDC
General rate books, 1961-62 (UD.HS)

Hylton
General rates, 1903, 1904, 1913, 1914, 1924, 1938/39 (T12)

Little Eppleton Civil Parish
Poor rates, 1862-1866 (CP.LE)

Monkwearmouth
Poor rates, 1860, 1890/91 (T26)

Monkwearmouth Shore
Poor rates, 1842/43, 1844-46, 1850, 1860, 1880, 1890/91 (T26)

Monkwearmouth Township
Poor rates, 1781-1834, 1837;
overseers accounts and poor rates, 1776-86, 1799-1806 (209)

Moorsley Township
Poor rates, 1821-37 (T18)

Newbottle Civil Parish
Poor, lighting and special, 1914 (CP.NE)

Offerton Civil Parish
Poor rates, 1914 (CP.OF)

Ryhope
Poor, general and special, 1884-1894, 1903-1904, 1914, 1924 (T12)

Silksworth
General rates, 1938/9, 1948/9 (T12)

Silksworth Civil Parish
Poor rates, 1914; special purposes, 1914 (CP.SI)

Southwick Township
Poor rate assessment, 1837-38 (CP.SO)
Sunderland Parish
Poor rates, 1779-81, 1789?-92, 1797-1802, 1805-07, 1814-18 (209)

Sunderland near the Sea
Poor rates, 1838, Jan 1850, March 1850, 1851, 1860, 1870, 1890/1 (T26)

Sunderland RDC

Tunstall
Poor and special rates, 1851, 1873-74, 1878-82, 1884-88, 1890-91, 1893-94, 1904, 1914, 1924; general rates, 1902, 1938/9 (T12)

Usworth Civil Parish
Highways rates, 1858-1864 (CP.US)

Warden Law
Poor rates, 1913-1915 (CP.WL)

Washington UDC

West Herrington Civil Parish
Poor, lighting and special, 1914 (CP.WHG)

West Rainton Civil Parish
Poor and special expenses, 1914, 1926 (CP.WR)

OUTSIDE TYNE & WEAR

Durham
Highways and county rates, 1704-1752 (3415/cj/2)

List of licensed premises in Sunderland, Blackhill, Middlesbrough, Spennymoor and Stockton with poor rate assessment and excise license duty 1909-10 (1210)

June 2011