

Descriptive List

Identity Statement

Reference Code: IE CCCA/YTR/PB

Title: Youghal Electoral Poll Books and Registry List

Dates: Feb. 1830 - Aug. 1837 (1846)

Level of description: Series / Item

Extent: 7 items

Context

Creator(s):

Youghal Town and Borough

Archival History

The Youghal town records, consisting of the records of Youghal Corporation, Town Commissioners and Urban District Council, including the present series, were transferred to the Archives by Youghal Urban District Council from 1973-1988.

Administrative & Biographical History

The town and sea -port of Youghal dates back to the 13th century and consisted of almost 12,000 inhabitants in 1837. The ancient Corporation of Youghal, styling themselves "The Mayor, Bailiffs, Burgesses and Commonality of the Town of Youghal" recognised their authority to govern locally from the charter of James I of 1609-10. In c.1830 Commissioners for Lighting and Cleansing were elected, under the Lighting of Towns (Ireland) Act 1828, and were responsible for lighting streets (including the gas works), appointing watchmen, cleansing and sweeping the streets, wells, water supply, fire engines, closing of dangerous grates, cellars etc, naming of streets and numbering of houses. Commissioner costs were met by rates on property worth over £5. As a chartered Borough, Youghal Borough supplied 2 members ('Burgesses') to the Irish Parliament up to the Act of Union and thereafter 1 member to the Westminster parliament. Electors were originally the Corporation and Freemen but this was revised to include £10 householders and to exclude non-resident Freemen in 1832, possibly under the Representation of the People (Ireland) Act 1832. A new extended borough boundary was made in 1832, under the Parliamentary Boundaries (Ireland) Act 1832. Thereafter Youghal Borough elected mainly Liberal and later Home Rule candidates. An unreformed and unrepresentative body by the advent of the 19th Century, Youghal Corporation's authority and dominance was undermined by the Irish Reform Act of 1836 and the Corporation was finally abolished by the Municipal Corporations Act of 1840. Youghal was created an Urban Sanitary Authority in 1879 under the Public Health (Ireland) Act 1878. In 1895 Youghal adopted the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act 1854 thus Town Commissioners were elected replacing those of the 1828

Act. Under the 1898 Local Government Act, all urban sanitary authorities became Urban District Councils.

Content & Structure

Scope & Content

Electoral Poll Books, and Registry List of voters for Youghal Town and Borough. Of interest to the study of local and parliamentary elections in the early 19th century.

1. (Feb. 1830)

Poll book for election of Youghal Lighting and Cleansing Commissioners (10pp)

2. [1830]

Fragment of Poll book for Youghal Lighting and Cleansing Commissioners (3pp)

3. (1832)

Poll book for election of Youghal Lighting and Cleansing Commissioners (2pp)

4. (1832-1846) Youghal Borough Registry List (of voters), with names grouped alphabetically. Several hundred names are recorded. (c.45pp)

5. (January 1832)

Poll Book for (Westminster) Parliamentary Election by the Borough of Youghal.
(7pp)

6. (January 1835)

Poll Book for (Westminster) Parliamentary Election by the Borough of Youghal held at the Courthouse. (18pp)

7. (August 1837)

Poll Book for (Westminster) Parliamentary Election of 1 burgess to represent the Borough of Youghal held at the Courthouse, Youghal, 2 August 1837; (19pp)

(See the List of Items and Descriptions below for more detailed descriptions).

System of Arrangement

Chronological

Conditions of Access & Use

Access: Open by appointment to those holding a current readers ticket.

Language: English

Finding Aids: Descriptive list

Allied Materials:

Related Material

CCCA:

Youghal Town Records

Youghal UDC records

Archivists Note:

Brian McGee

Archivist, CCCA

November 2010

List of Items and Descriptions

1. (Feb. 1830)

Poll book for election of Youghal Lighting and Cleansing Commissioners (Under the Act 9 George 4th Cap. 82.). Held at the Mall House, Youghal on 17 Feb 1830. With list of 31 candidates, recording by whom proposed and seconded for nomination. Gives voters name, occupation, residence. With table of votes for each of the c.31 candidates and final declaration by Mayor Samuel Allwyn of the 21 commissioners duly elected and the total number of votes for each of the 21 candidates (10pp)

2. [1830]

Fragment of Poll book for Youghal Lighting and Cleansing Commissioners Giving register number, voters names, occupation (mainly blank) and whether for or against the [motion]. 'Clear Majority of 23 for Lighting and Cleansing', signed Samuel Allwyn, Mayor and Chairman. (3pp)

3. (1832)

Poll book for election of Youghal Lighting and Cleansing Commissioners Held at the Mall House, Youghal on 3 Feb 1832. With list of 33 candidates, recording by whom proposed and seconded for nomination. Benjamin Jackson Chairman of the present Commissioners presiding; 10 candidates withdrew and as a poll was not demanded '...by Ten qualified Voters as required by the Act...the undernamed Twenty One Candidates ...were unanimously elected Commissioners...'. Lists the 21 elected Commissioners. Signed also by John Jenkins Poll Clerk. (2pp)

4. (1832-1846)

Youghal Borough Registry List (of voters), with names grouped alphabetically. Several hundred names are recorded. Gives Number, Name of Freeholder/Leaseholder/Rent Charger/Freeman/Free Burgess/Householder; Place of Abode; Situation of Freehold; Name of Landlord (mostly blank); In What Right Registered; Names of Lives of other Tenure (this column seems to contain some entries recording casting of votes in 1837) ; Place and Date of Registry (mainly Youghal but Middleton, Fermoy, Mallow and Cork are also mentioned): Such as, '1.Eager, Alexander; North Main Street Youghal...£10 householder...Youghal 20th Oct 1832'. Most voters are registered as either £10 Householders or Freemen. (c.45pp)

5. (January 1832)

Poll Book for (Westminster) Parliamentary Election by the Borough of Youghal. With declaration by Sheriff of County Cork Richard Oliver Aldworth and declaration by Mayor/Returning Officer James Ellis Green, concerning nominations and record of voting for nominations. Candidates are Roger Green Davis of Aghadoe (nominated by Thomas [Daunt] and Thomas John Jr.) and John O'Connell, Merrion Square Dublin (nominated by Joseph James Beresford and Richard Gregg White). Also proposed was Daniel O'Connell, Barrister at Law, Derrinane Abbey, Co. Kerry; 'The Liberator', (proposed by Rev. John Russell and William Gardner). Daniel O'Connell is recorded as having resigned the nomination following a 'shew of hands in favour of John O'Connell'.

With declarations of appointments and oaths for Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer Benjamin Jackson, and Poll Clerk John Jenkins (also Town Clerk). Gives Voter Number; Voters Names; Residence; Description/title; Property; In What Right Registered; Value; Candidate Names and record of votes by each voter. Observations and Objections such as whether the Qualification Oath was administered. Voters are mainly £10 Householders and Freemen. 2 days of polling recorded. Records that John O'Connell (a Repealer / Liberal) was elected to represent Youghal Town and Borough in Parliament, following the resignation of Davis from the contest, on 29 January 1832. (7pp)

6. (January 1835)

Poll Book for (Westminster) Parliamentary Election by the Borough of Youghal held at the Courthouse. On precept of Sheriff of County Cork William Hare Lord Viscount Ennismore, Declaration is made by Matthew Hayman, Mayor/Returning Officer concerning nominations and record of voting for nominations. Candidates are John O'Connell Esq., Merrion Square, Dublin (nominated by James Kearney and Dominick Philip Ronayne) and Thomas Berry Cusack Smith Esquire, City of Dublin (nominated by Roger Green Davis and Richard Giles). Another nomination, for Feargus O'Connor, was unsuccessful. Thomas Forsayeth Barrister appointed Assessor of Election. With declarations of appointments and oaths for Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer John Caulfield Irwin, Poll Clerk John Pollock, and oath of Deputy Clerk of the Peace Harmer Bond to faithfully administer (qualification) oaths and declarations by those professing the Roman Catholic religion. Gives Voter Number; Voters Names; Residence; Description/title; Property; In What Right Registered; Value; Candidate Names and record of votes by each voter; Observations and Objections such as "Tendered for Mr. Nicol, Bribery Oath administered; Objection; Objection Overruled". 4 days of polling recorded. O'Connell (a Liberal) is declared elected on 16 Jan 1835 by 137 votes to 130. (18pp)

7. (August 1837)

Poll Book for (Westminster) Parliamentary Election of 1 burgess to represent the Borough of Youghal held at the Courthouse, Youghal, 2 August 1837; (similar to 5. and 6.above); Declaration by Mayor/Returning Officer William Andrew Lambe, on precept of the High Sheriff Sir George Goold, concerning nominations and record of voting for nominations. Candidates are William Nichol of Liverpool, Merchant (nominated by Richard Smith of Ballinatra and Roger Green Davis) and Mr. Frederick John Howard Esquire (a Liberal, nominated by Capt. Henry Parker and Doctor George Gumbleton). Declarations of appointments and oaths for Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer John Rowland Smith, Poll Clerk John Jenkins Esq. and Poll Inspectors and Cheque Clerks. Also Oath of Deputy Clerk of the Peace to faithfully administer (qualification) oaths and declarations by those professing the Roman Catholic religion. Gives Voter Number; Voters Names; Residence; Description/title; Property; In What Right Registered; Value; Candidate Names and record of votes by each voter; Observations and Objections, such as, whether the Qualification Oath was administered. 5 days of polling recorded. Howard is elected by 158 votes to 150 on 3 August 1837. (19pp)
