Marine Technology Special Collection, Newcastle University, United Kingdom

British Shipbuilding Database: Introduction

This authoritative database covers British-built or British-engined ships from the mid-19th century to date. Core data is recorded for 80,000 ships. Compiled by Professor Ian Buxton and John Raper with more detailed information continually being added to 130 fields containing ship machinery and construction and disposal data.

British Shipbuilding Database: Holdings

The Database is only available for consultation within our Special Collection room under supervision of our staff. Copies of the Database are not available for purchase. The Database is not yet available online via Internet.

Contents of and searching the Database: The database can be searched for information on ships as built, by name and changes of name, date, builder, type, machinery, etc. It can also generate statistics on all ships meeting specified criteria, e.g. built in a certain period, a particular region, by ship type, yard, etc.

British Shipbuilding Database: Example Enquiries

Typical questions include:-

- When was the tanker BRITISH ADMIRAL built, by whom and what were her principal characteristics? Answer: There were three such name ships 1917, 1947, 1965; details are available on each.
- How many passenger ships did Swan Hunter build after WW2, plus names and tonnages?
- What are the most powerful diesel engined ships built before WW2?
- What were the construction dates and cost of the liner QUEEN MARY?
- My great grandfather was master of the ferry TYNEMOUTH. What happened to her?
- Armstrong build many warships on the Tyne. Which were built at Elswick, which at Low Walker, and which at Naval Yard?
- How does the tonnage of ships built on the North East Coast compare year by year with the Clyde?
- What was the most serious cause of losses of ships in the 19th century compared with the 20th century?
- I have a photograph of a sailing ship but can only make out four letters of the name. What ship might that be?
- A newspaper reported an unnamed ship launched at Sunderland on 3 July 1886. What ship might that be?
- I am interested in tugs/dredgers/floating docks. What information has BSD got on those types?

British Shipbuilding Database: Example pages

[in preparation]

How to contact the Collection:

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