Digitisation and Place Information

Humphrey Southall

(Great Britain Historical GIS/ University of Portsmouth)

Outline

- This is a short presentation making two points:
- A wealth of information about places in Britain is now available online, making it possible to base small-scale historical research projects entirely on online resources
- But much detailed work is still needed to enable the fullest use to be made of all this material
  - Presentation uses the example of the village of Sawley, near Harrogate in Yorkshire, drawn from a first year course I run

Sawley, North Yorkshire

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 54.105090°N 1.621900°W

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Sawley is a village and civil parish in the Harrogate district of North Yorkshire, England. It is about 4 miles (6.4 km) west of Ripon.

External links

Media related to Sawley, North Yorkshire at Wikimedia Commons

This *Harrogate* location article is a *stub*. You can help Wikipedia by *expanding it*.

Categories: Villages in North Yorkshire | Civil parishes in North Yorkshire | Harrogate geography stubs

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Sawley

Sawley	
OS grid reference	SE248677
Civil parish	Sawley
District	Harrogate
Shire county	North Yorkshire
Region	Yorkshire and the Humber
Country	England
Sovereign state	United Kingdom
Post town	RIPON
Postcode district	HG4
Police	North Yorkshire
Fire	North Yorkshire
Ambulance	Yorkshire
EU Parliament	Yorkshire and the Humber

Sawley shown within North Yorkshire

List of places: UK · England · Yorkshire

Wikipedia article for Sawley, North Yorkshire: Before

Sawley, North Yorkshire

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 54.105090°N 1.621900°W

This article **does not cite any references or sources**. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. *(December 2006)*

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List of places: UK · England · Yorkshire	

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Wikipedia article for Sawley, North Yorkshire: Before

- Each student in my first year course is assigned a different Wikipedia *stub* article, like this, to expand
- Each article is about some village in northern England they have never visited
- NB they are editing the actual Wikipedia articles, live

Sawley, North Yorkshire

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 54.105090°N 1.621900°W

Sawley is a village and civil parish in the Harrogate district of North Yorkshire, England. It is about 4 miles (6.4 km) west of Ripon. From this position, the Yorkshire Dales are to the west and the North Yorkshire Moors and coast are to the east. The village is location within Nidderdale, an area of outstanding natural beauty. Sawley is one of 27 parish councils who represent the interests of the people who live in the area.[1]

In the 1870s, Sawley was described as "a township-chapelry, with a village and four hamlets, in Ripon parish, W. R. Yorkshire."[2] The township's four hamlets were Cowbush, Hungate, North Pastures, and Rispleth.[3]

Contents [hide]

1 History
2 Present day
3 Places of interest
4 References
5 External links

History [edit]

Sawley dates back to the Saxon era[4] where it gained its name from Old English and the Anglian dialect. From this period, Sawley is directly translated as "Willow-tree wood".[5] The village is thought to have been the main source of stone for the construction of Fountains Abbey in the 10th century. The world heritage site which is now maintained by

[text obscured] the Burgshire Hundred of the West Riding of [text obscured] thane, with 40 ploughlands, a meadow of 85 [text obscured] Lord was Ealdred, Archbishop of York St [text obscured] w Archbishop of York, Thomas of Bayeux,

[text obscured] been involved in several changes regarding these districts and boundaries. In 1946, the parish was transferred to the Claro registration district. During this same change, Sawley had a boundary change where part of the area was transferred to the parish of High and Low Bishopside. During this time, the total population which was transferred was 20. Sawley remained part of the Claro registration district until 1998 when it was abolished. From this point, Sawley has been part of the North Yorkshire registration county.[9]
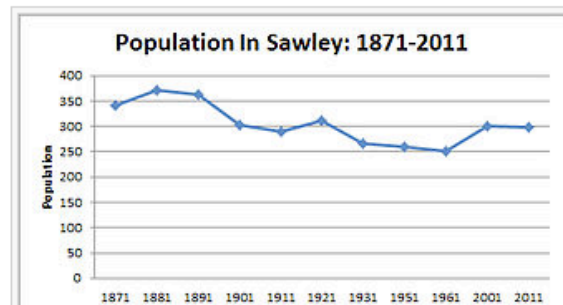
Census data of Sawley dates back to 1871, with the earliest total population figure being 341.[10] The population has been relatively constant with the highest population record being in 1881 with 372 and the lowest available data being in 1961 with 251. According to the 2011 census, Sawley had a population of 299.[11] This is only one less than the 2001 census where the population was 300.

Historically, Sawley's industry was mainly based in agriculture with 36.7% of the working population working in this industry.[12] This has dropped in the following years with agriculture now only accounting for 12% of Sawley's industry, based on 2011 census figures.[13] The decline in agriculture follows a similar pattern to the rest of Britain with a major decline in agriculture due to increased trade as well as a shift towards secondary industry and tertiary industry.[14] This now means that the main

Population In Sawley: 1871-2011
[chart showing population from 1871 to 2011, y-axis Population 0–400]
1871 1881 1891 1901 1911 1921 1931 1951 1961 2001 2011

Sawley

● Sawley shown within North Yorkshire

OS grid reference	SE248677
- London	190 mi (310 km) SSE
Civil parish	Sawley
District	Harrogate
Shire county	North Yorkshire
Region	Yorkshire and the Humber
Country	England
Sovereign state	United Kingdom
Post town	RIPON
Postcode district	HG4
Police	North Yorkshire
Fire	North Yorkshire
Ambulance	Yorkshire
EU Parliament	Yorkshire and the Humber
UK Parliament	Skipton and Ripon

List of places: UK · England · Yorkshire

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Wikipedia article for Sawley, North Yorkshire: After

Sawley, North Yorkshire

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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Sawley

References [edit]

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Wikipedia article for Sawley, North Yorkshire: References

- The students are **banned** from visiting "their" village
- Nothing in Portsmouth libraries
- So research must be entirely online

as well as a shift towards secondary industry and tertiary industry.[14] This now means that the main

1871 1881 1891 1901 1911 1921 1931 1951 1961 2001 2011

Placename data for Sawley from Survey of English Place Names

BBC Domesday material for Sawley

DOMESDAY RELOADED

Home | Story of Domesday | Using Domesday | Contact Us

D-block GB-424000-465000

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1986

LOCAL HISTORY SAWLEY HALL

Sawley Hall was built in 1770,one of only two Georgian houses built on a hill because there was a supply of water.It was first built as a Dower house for Lord Grantley's wife.Four families have owned it-the Nortons,the Wormaulds,the Barrans,and since 1962, the Fattorinis. In 1935 there were 1800 acres,in 1985 there are 80.There are beautifully and exquisitely laid-out gardens.In 1935 there were 21 servants,now there are none, just a housekeeper and a gardener. There is a fire pond.There is a cock-pit,hidden deep in a wood and sur-rounded by two walls.There is a unique water pump driven by six horses.It also served to grind corn and to saw wood.They still have their own water supply pumped by electricity.Sawley Hall is not open to the public.

Pictures from this D-block

VIEW OF SAWLEY ACROSS FIELDS - 1986

ANNUAL SPORTS - 1986

WATER PUMP - 1986

Written accounts from this D-block

Housing Tourism

Education Village School

Map of the area

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1986 **2011**

Go: **North** | **West** | **South** | **East**

Search the Domesday Site

Type place/postcode

○ Place   ○ Content

What is Domesday?

In 1986 the BBC launched an ambitious project to record a snapshot of everyday life across the UK for future generations. A million volunteers took part... read more here

In 2011 the BBC published the survey online and for six months invited updates to the photographs and text to celebrate the 25th anniversary.

Shortly afterwards the website was added to The National Archives' UK Government Web Archive.

If you are reading this via UK Government Web Archive, then the original Domesday search

A vision of BRITAIN THROUGH TIME

Monumental trees

Main page | Species | Countries | Photos | Community | More

Add new tree | Upload photos | Comment

🐦 Tweet

Giant sequoia near the border of the Sawley Hall, West and East Groves in Sawley

There is one giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*) near the border of the Sawley Hall, West and East Groves in Sawley (county of North Yorkshire).

The area around Sawley near Ripon is real Redwood Country, there are several groves of Sequoiadendron Giganteum on the Sawley Hall Estate. This distance photo shows groves that I have named East Grove and West Grove, Sawley Hall itself is a three storey imposing country house that must be around 45 to 50 feet to the roof top. You can see the scale of the East Grove trees from this photo, they are to the side and behind the house. They must be circa 45 metres, 150 feet give or take a few feet and in a very exposed position on top of a hill.

The girth of this tree is not known. This tree was planted around the year 1864 ± 10, which makes it around 149 ± 10 years old (Conifers, Dec 2, 2012).

🌐 Show on map · ✏ Edit data of this tree · Add new measurement · ✖ Remove · Edit data of this location

Location 1

[Top of page]

Monumental Trees for Sawley (!)

Office for National Statistics

Neighbourhood Statistics

2011 Key Statistics for Sawley from Neighbourhood Statistics

Area: Sawley (Parish) 🛈

Key Figures for 2011 Census: Key Statistics 🛈

Map this data (opens a new window)

[Print this table] Download the table **.CSV** format **under 1MB** [Download this table]

Variable	Measure	Sawley 🛈	Harrogate (Non-Metropolitan District) 🛈	Yorkshire and The Humber 🛈	England 🛈
2011 Population: All Usual Residents (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	Count	[3] 299	157,869	5,283,733	53,012,456
2011 Population: Males (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	Count	[3] 144	77,037	2,598,078	26,069,148
2011 Population: Females (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	Count	[3] 155	80,832	2,685,655	26,943,308
2011 Density (number of persons per hectare) (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	Rate	[3] 0.3	1.2	3.4	4.1
All Households (Households, Mar11)[1] 🛈	Count	[3] 128	67,169	2,224,059	22,063,368
All households who owned their accommodation outright (Households, Mar11)[1][2] 🛈	%	[3] 49.2	37.4	30.6	30.6
All households who owned their accommodation with a mortgage or loan (Households, Mar11)[1][2] 🛈	%	[3] 25.8	33.7	33.5	32.8
Very Good Health (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	%	[3] 47.8	50.6	45.6	47.2
Good Health (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	%	[3] 34.4	33.8	34.4	34.2
Day-to-Day Activities Limited a Lot (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	%	[3] 5.7	6.6	9.1	8.3
Economically Active; Employee; Full-Time (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	%	[3] 33.2	40.8	37.0	38.6
Economically Active; Employee; Part-Time (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	%	[3] 16.8	14.9	14.6	13.7
Economically Active; Self-Employed (Persons, Mar11)[1] 🛈	%	[3] 21.8	13.3	8.4	9.8

Area Map
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Area: Sawley (Parish)

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Choose another table from the list

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Association of Research Observatories
CLIP

A vision of
BRITAIN
THROUGH TIME

A vision of Britain between 1801 and 2001.
Including maps, statistical trends and historical descriptions.

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Administrative unit
Sawley CP/Tn

Parish-level Unit

Historical statistics

Population

Industry

Housing

Boundary map

Census reports

Chart view | Table view | Definition & source information

Year	Population 20 years earlier	Population 10 years earlier	Current Total Population
1881		341 ◄	372 ◄
1891		372 ◄	362 ◄
1901		362 ◄	303 ◄
1911		303 ◄	289 ◄
1921		289 ◄	312 ◄
1931		312 ◄	265 ◄
1951	245 ◄		260 ◄
1961		260 ◄	251 ◄

Population data for Sawley 1881-1961 from Vision of Britain

How to reference this page:

GB Historical GIS / University of Portsmouth, Sawley CP/Tn through time I Population Statistics I Total Population, *A Vision of Britain through Time.*

URL: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10466830/cube/TOT_POP

Date accessed: 29th June 2013

35 YORKSHIRE—WEST RIDING—Parishes. AREA; HOUSES, 1841, 1851; [Div. IX.

18

No of District	No of Subdist	SUBDISTRICT	No of Parish	Parish, Township, or Place	Area in Statute Acres	HOUSES 1841			HOUSES 1851			POPULATION PERSONS					
						Inhabited	Uninhabited	Building	Inhabited	Uninhabited	Building	1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851
		490 PATELEY BRIDGE—(continued)															
490	2	PATELEY BRIDGE		Ripon, part of Parish—* a													
			1	High and Low Bishopside (w) aa Township	5813	397	60	-	382	37	2	1487	1619	2072	1849	1937	1862
			2	Bewerley - b Township	5872	271	28	-	257	18	-	1075	1220	1408	1310	1329	1265
				...rt of Parish—bb ...oss - bb Township	6340	113	33	-	77	44	-	467	610	600	601	576	339
				...ute, part of Parish—c ...waite with Township	1960	59	9	-	62	3	-	229	291	309	304	281	303
				...n with Darley Township	2480	155	20	-	158	16	-	554	637	648	742	725	718
				...t of Parish—† a ...- cc Township	5290	138	1	-	145	7	1	592	710	777	698	695	673
				...lzard part of Par—†d ...h-with-Winsley d Tp	5470	192	5	1	219	5	1	449	480	675; 86	943; 93	1138; 81	1162; 65
				...- e Extra Par	900	14	-	-	13	1	-	-	-				
		491 RIPON ee															
491	1	MARKINGTON		Ripon, part of Parish—* a													
			1	Bishop Thornton - f Township	3027	120	12	1	134	4	-	359	517	647	614	610	601
			2	Sawley - - g Township	3203	103	3	-	98	9	-	438	489	490	499	527	450
			3	...field Township	1334	28	-	-	27	1	-	122	119	123	146	132	125
			4	Markingfield-Hall - h -	602	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	15
			5	Ingerthorpe - Township	510	7	-	-	7	1	-	46	39	44	48	46	44
			6	Markington with-Wallerthwaite Township	3056	108	3	-	114	8	1	389	435	457	487	510	528
			7	Bishop Monkton - Township	2089	110	18	-	108	12	-	363	480	479	576	460	435
			8	Westwick - - Township	412	3	-	-	3	-	-	20	22	27	30	18	15
			9	Burton Leonard - - Parish	1739	108	18	1	114	6	-	352	433	518	553	455	457
			10	South Stainley with Cayton Parish	1800	43	1	-	45	3	-	217	216	232	243	226	247

Population data for Sawley 1801-51 from Hist-Pop (Essex)

18

35 YORKSHIRE—WEST RIDING—Parishes.   AREA; HOUSES, 1841, 1851;   [Div. IX.

No of District	No of Subdist	SUBDISTRICT	No of Parish	Parish, Township, or Place	Area in Statute Acres	In habited (1841)	Un in hab ted (1841)	Build ing (1841)	In habited (1851)	Unin habted (1851)	Bu ld ng (1851)	1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851
430	2	PATELEY BRIDGE		430 PATELEY BRIDGE—(continued)													
				Ripon, part of Parish—* a													
			1	High and Low Bishopside (w) aa Township	5813	397	60	–	382	37	2	1487	1619	2072	1849	1937	1862
			2	Bewerley – b Township	5872	271	28	–	257	18	–	1075	1220	1408	1310	1329	1265
				...art of Parish—bb													
				...oss – bb Township	6340	113	33										339
				...te, part of Parish—c													
				...waite with Township	1960	59	9										303
				...le with Darley Township	2480	155	20										718
				...of Parish—† a													
				... cc Township	5290	138	1										673
				...lzcard part of Par —†d													
				...h-with-Winsley d Tp	5470	192	5										1162
				... e Extra Par	900	14	–										65
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			2	Sawley – g Township	3203	103	3	–	98	9	–	438	489	490	499	527	450
			3	...field Township		28	–	–	27	1	–	122	119	122		132	125
			4	Markingfield-Hall – h	602	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	27	15
			5	Ingerthorpe Township	510	7	–	–	7	1	–	46	39	44	48	46	44
			6	Markington with Wallerthwaite Township	3056	108	3	–	114	8	1	389	435	457	487	510	528
			7	Bishop Monkton Township	2089	110	18	–	108	12	–	363	480	479	576	460	435
			8	Westwick Township	412	3	–	–	3	–	–	20	22	27	30	18	15
			9	Burton Leonard – Parish	1739	108	18	1	114	6	–	352	433	518	553	455	457
			10	South Stainley with Cayton Parish	1800	43	1	–	45	3	–	217	216	232	243	226	247

Population data for Sawley 1801-51 from Hist-Pop (Essex)

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www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/14171 ▾
SAWLEY, a township-chapelry, with a village and four hamlets, in Ripon parish, W. R. Yorkshire; 4½ miles ... GB Historical GIS / University of Portsmouth, History of Sawley, in Harrogate and West Riding | Map and ... Some places near Sawley:.

Towns and Villages Around Harrogate | Sawley - Visitoruk
www.visitoruk.com/Harrogate/sawley-C592-V24613.html ▾
Sawley, ten miles northwest of Harrogate, is a long straggling village. ... old timber-framed houses decided to settle on the drier ground near to where the church ...

Sawley Hall - Places & People
www.parksandgardens.org/places-and-people/site/6840 ▾
Sawley Hall, Harrogate, England ... The Ordnance Survey map of 1909 shows Sawley Hall with its surrounding ... Historical County: West Riding of Yorkshire ...

About - Sawley.org
www.sawley.org/about.htm ▾
A Brief History ... Sawley lies 6 miles to the West of Ripon, near to the ruins of Fountains Abbey and the famous Studley Water Gardens and ... In 1905, 19 men voted against Harrogate Corporation's offer to supply piped water to the village.

Sawley, North Yorkshire - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sawley,_North_Yorkshire ▾
Sawley is a village and civil parish in the Harrogate district of North Yorkshire, England. ... 1 History; 2 Present day; 3 Places of interest; 4 References; 5 External links .... Near the border of Sawley Hall, there is a great sequoia, one of 3,052 ...

FINDABLE: looking for historical information about Sawley via Google

Our high ranking in Google comes not from Search Engine Optimisation tricks but from having a very formal semantic structure

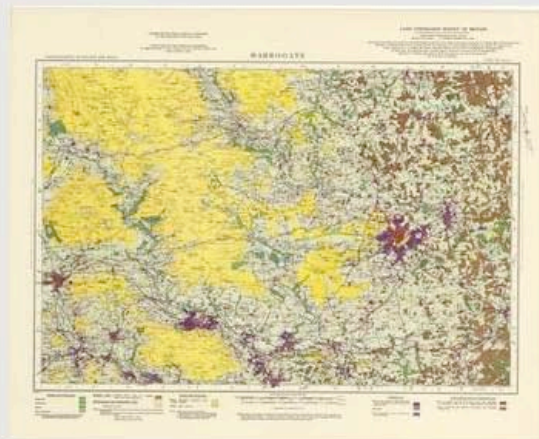**FINDABLE:** looking for historical information about Sawley via Google

Our high ranking in Google comes not from Search Engine Optimisation tricks but from having a very formal semantic structure

… and being this *findable* leads to massive usage

"Google for old maps": Old Maps Online

"Google for old maps": Old Maps Online

The Curators' 100 (http://www.bl.uk/100websites/top100.html):

- [Scotland.org](#) - Everything from science to sport, Burns to bagpipes plus living and working in Scotland today - a window into life in Scotland
- [Twitter](#) - An amazing source of historical data with every tweeter helping to build up a picture of the world at large - the challenge here is how to capture it
- **[Old Maps Online](#) - Overlays digitised images of historical maps onto modern maps - this type of visual search is revolutionising the way in which we conduct historical research and will be invaluable for future researchers wishing to dive through layers of history geographically**
- [Shit London](#) – A crowdsourced project which encourages Londoner's to send in snaps of the humorous and sometimes drab details of the city, capturing images which would otherwise be overlooked

By contrast, Social Explorer
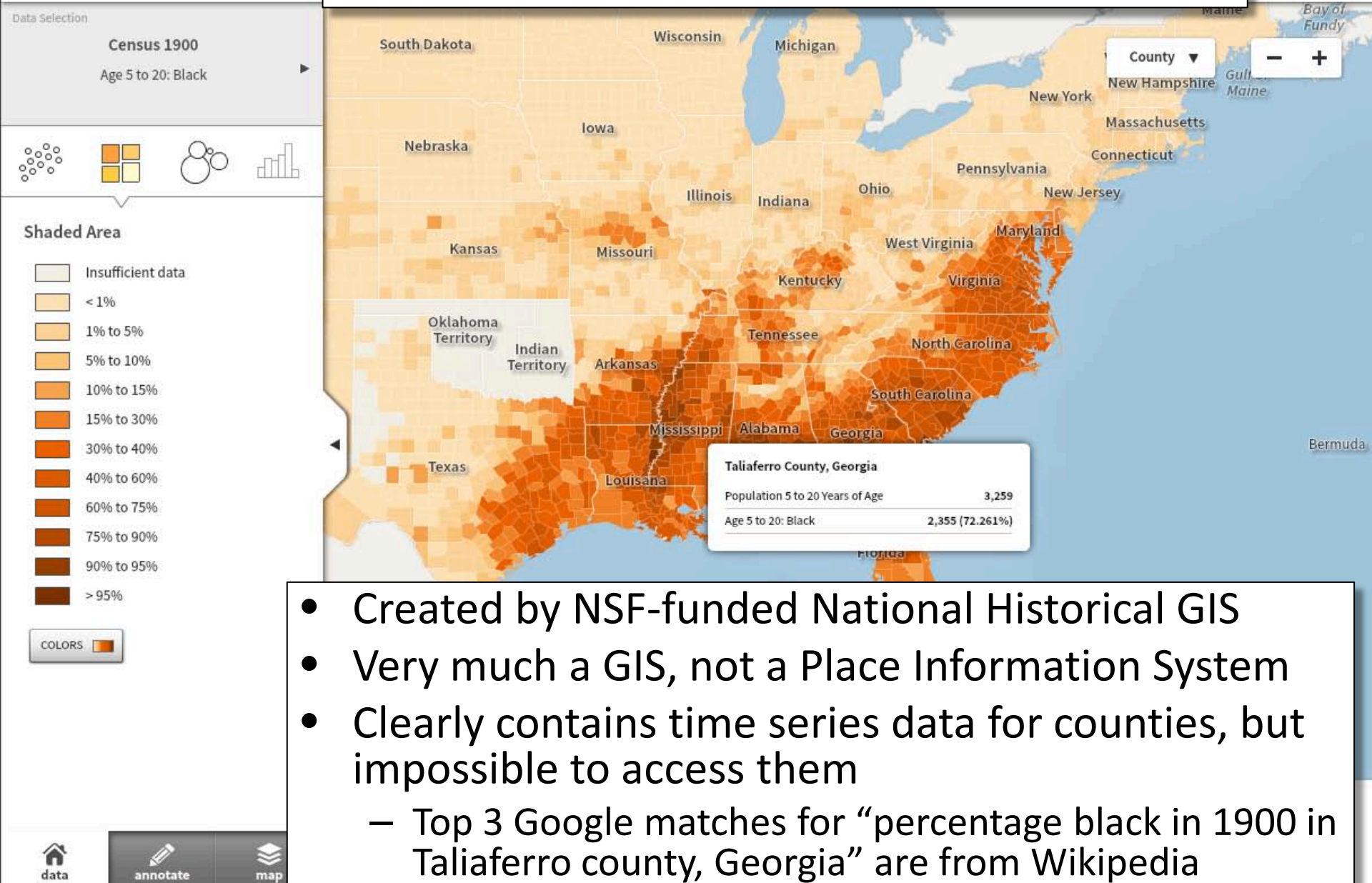
- Created by NSF-funded National Historical GIS
- Very much a GIS, not a Place Information System
- Clearly contains time series data for counties, but impossible to access them
  - Top 3 Google matches for "percentage black in 1900 in Taliaferro county, Georgia" are from Wikipedia

Rate of Population Change (% over previous 10 years)

- < -8.22
- -8.22 - -2.53
- -2.53 - 2.2
- 2.2 - 7.48
- 7.48 - 17.24
- > 17.24
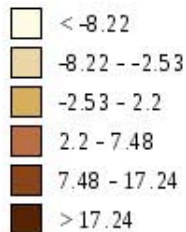
We only present the rate of population growth where we can be sure that changes do not result simply from boundary changes.

In the early 19th century, the most obvious areas of rapid growth were in the industrial districts of Lancashire, where cotton textiles had grown rapidly during the 18th century, and of South Wales. However, other areas also grew rapidly: during the 1810s and 1820s. The fens of northern East Anglia expanded as drainage schemes turned marshes into fertile farmland, while seaside resorts on the south coast developed well before the coming of railways.

By the mid-19th century, the north-east of England was
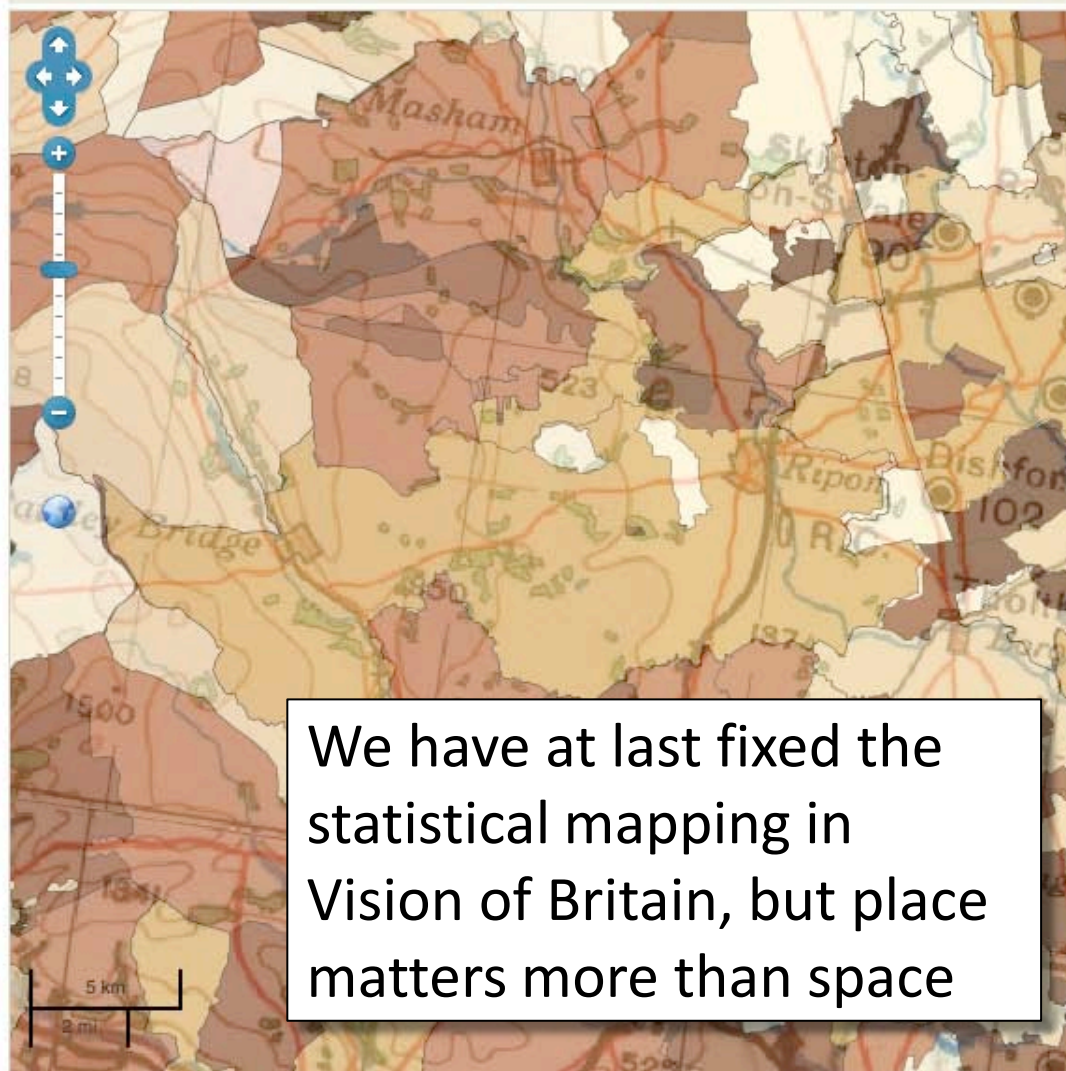
Options (reloads page)

Available rates: Rate of Population Change (% |

Unit type: Parish–level Unit

Date: 1911

Base layer: Great Britain 20th Century

Bigger Map

5 km

2 mi

Currently showing:
Rate of Population Change (% over previous 10 years) in 1911 for Parish-level Unit

We have at last fixed the statistical mapping in Vision of Britain, but place matters more than space

What is not available online for Sawley:

- Nothing from the Victoria County Histories:

Home   **By term**

Yorkshire, West Riding

Status: Active, 0 volumes produced, 1 parish history produced

- Nothing from a range of pre-1800 statistical surveys, despite much AHRC and ESRC money having gone into transcription projects

CITABLE: URLs for web pages about Sawley

- Wikipedia:
  - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sawley,_North_Yorkshire
- Vision of Britain (work funded by "Embedding" project in 2010-11):
  - http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/14171
  - http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/unit/10466830/cube/TOT_POP
- Hist-Pop (Essex University):
  - Census of Great Britain, 1851, Population tables, I. Number of the inhabitants in 1801, 1811, 1821, 1831, 1841 and 1851. Vol. II BPP 1852-53 LXXXVI (1632) 18
  - http://histpop.org/ohpr/servlet/PageBrowser?path=Browse/Census%20%28by%20date%29/1851&active=yes&mno=28&tocstate=expandnew&display=sections&display=tables&display=pagetitles&pageseq=221&zoom=3
- Neighbourhood Statistics (ONS site for 2011 census):
  - http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=3&b=11128217&c=sawley&d=16&e=62&g=6454419&i=1001x1003x1032x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1372519501953&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2538&nsjs=true&nsck=false&nssvg=false&nswid=1616
  - It turns out parts of the above URL can be left out – but can you guess which?

```xml
- <rdf:Description rdf:about="#">
    <cc:license rdf:resource="http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/uk/"/>
  - <dc:rights rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
      (c) 2012. Published under the Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 UK: England &amp; Wales License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/uk/).
    </dc:rights>
    <dc:description rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">Some descriptive text to go here.</dc:description>
    <dc:title rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">Query result for SAWLEY</dc:title>
    <dc:date rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#dateTime">2013-06-29T16:19:03.947Z</dc:date>
  - <dc:creator rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
      Great Britain Historical GIS, University of Portsmouth, UK.
    </dc:creator>
  </rdf:Description>
- <auo:VOB_Place rdf:ID="VOB_Place_SAWLEY14171">
  - <rdfs:comment rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
      SAWLEY, a township-chapelry, with a village and four hamlets, in Ripon parish, W. R. Yorkshire; 4½ miles N W by W of Wormald-Green r. station, and 5 S W of Ripon.
      Post-town, Ripon. Acres, 3, 203. Real property, £2, 933. Pop., 446. Houses, 96. The manor, with S. Hall, belongs to H. Wormald, Esq. The living is a p. curacy in the diocese of
      Ripon. Value, £126.* Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of R. The church isplain. Charities, £15. (In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales)
    </rdfs:comment>
  - <auo:hasNearbyPlace>
    - <auo:VOB_Place rdf:ID="VOB_Place_14425">
        <auo:hasPlaceId rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2
        <rdfs:label rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/X
      </auo:VOB_Place>
    </auo:hasNearbyPlace>
  - <auo:hasNearbyPlace>
    - <auo:VOB_Place rdf:ID="VOB_Place_12382">
        <auo:hasPlaceId rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#int">12382</auo:hasPlaceId>
        <rdfs:label rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">EAVESTONE</rdfs:label>
      </auo:VOB_Place>
    </auo:hasNearbyPlace>
    <geo:lat rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSch
  - <auo:isInContainer>
    - <auo:VOB_Place rdf:ID="VOB_Place_WESTRIDING"
        <rdfs:label rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/X
      </auo:VOB_Place>
    </auo:isInContainer>
  - <auo:hasUnit>
    - <auo:VOB_Unit rdf:ID="VOB_Unit_10466830">
        <auo:hasUnitStatus rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.or
        <auo:hasUnitId rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/20
        <rdfs:label rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/X
      </auo:VOB_Unit>
    </auo:hasUnit>
    <rdfs:label rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLS
  - <auo:hasNearbyPlace>
    - <auo:VOB_Place rdf:ID="VOB_Place_12741">
```

LINKABLE & EMBEDDABLE:

- Organising information so that computers can find and work with it
- This is some of our information about Sawley from Vision of Britain, but presented as RDF/XML, a language of the semantic web

```xml
-<rdf:RDF>
  -<wikibase:Item rdf:about="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439">
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="nl">Sawley</rdfs:label>
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">Sawley, North Yorkshire</rdfs:label>
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="pl">Sawley</rdfs:label>
      <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="nl">Sawley</skos:prefLabel>
      <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">Sawley, North Yorkshire</skos:prefLabel>
      <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="pl">Sawley</skos:prefLabel>
      <schema:name xml:lang="nl">Sawley</schema:name>
      <schema:name xml:lang="en">Sawley, North Yorkshire</schema:name>
      <schema:name xml:lang="pl">Sawley</schema:name>
      <schema:description xml:lang="nl">North Yorkshire</schema:description>
  </wikibase:Item>
  -<schema:Dataset rdf:about="http://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Special:EntityData/Q2342439">
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439"/>
      <cc:license rdf:resource="http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/"/>
      <schema:version rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer">50892779</schema:version>
      <schema:dateModified>2013-06-15T18:51:50Z</schema:dateModified>
  </schema:Dataset>
  -<schema:Article rdf:about="http://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sawley_(North_Yorkshire)">
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439"/>
      <schema:inLanguage>nl</schema:inLanguage>
  </schema:Article>
  -<schema:Article rdf:about="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sawley,_North_Yorkshire">
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439"/>
      <schema:inLanguage>en</schema:inLanguage>
  </schema:Article>
  -<schema:Article rdf:about="http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sawley_(North_Yorkshire)">
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439"/>
      <schema:inLanguage>pl</schema:inLanguage>
  </schema:Article>
</rdf:RDF>
```

Sawley as RDF/XML, from Wikidata

http://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Special:EntityData/Q2342439.rdf

```
- <rdf:RDF>
  - <wikibase:Item rdf:about="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439">
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="nl">Sawley</rdfs:label>
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="en">Sawley, North Yorkshire</rdfs:label>
      <rdfs:label xml:lang="pl">Sawley</rdfs:label>
      <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="nl">Sawley</skos:prefLabel>
      <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">Sawley, North Yorkshire</skos:prefLabel>
      <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="pl">Sawley</skos:prefLabel>
      <schema:name xml:lang="nl">Sawley</schema:name>
      <schema:name xml:lang="en">Sawley, North Yorkshire</schema:name>
      <schema:name xml:lang="pl">Sawley</schema:name>
      <schema:description xml:lang="nl">North Yorkshire</schema:description>
    </wikibase:Item>
  - <schema:Dataset rdf:about="http://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Special:EntityData/Q2342439">
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439"/>
      <cc:license rdf:resource="http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/"/>
      <schema:version rdf:datatype="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#integer">50892779</schema:version>
      <schema:dateModified>2013-06-15T18:51:50Z</schema:dateModified>
    </schema:Dataset>
  - <schema:Article rdf:about="http://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saw
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/ent
      <schema:inLanguage>nl</schema:inLanguage>
    </schema:Article>
  - <schema:Article rdf:about="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saw
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/ent
      <schema:inLanguage>en</schema:inLanguage>
    </schema:Article>
  - <schema:Article rdf:about="http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sawley_(North_Yorkshire)">
      <schema:about rdf:resource="http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q2342439"/>
      <schema:inLanguage>pl</schema:inLanguage>
    </schema:Article>
</rdf:RDF>
```

Sawley as RDF/XML, from Wikidata

RDF as a lingua franca, enabling us to jointly build ….

http://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Special:EntityData/Q2342439.rdf

The Linked Open Data Cloud

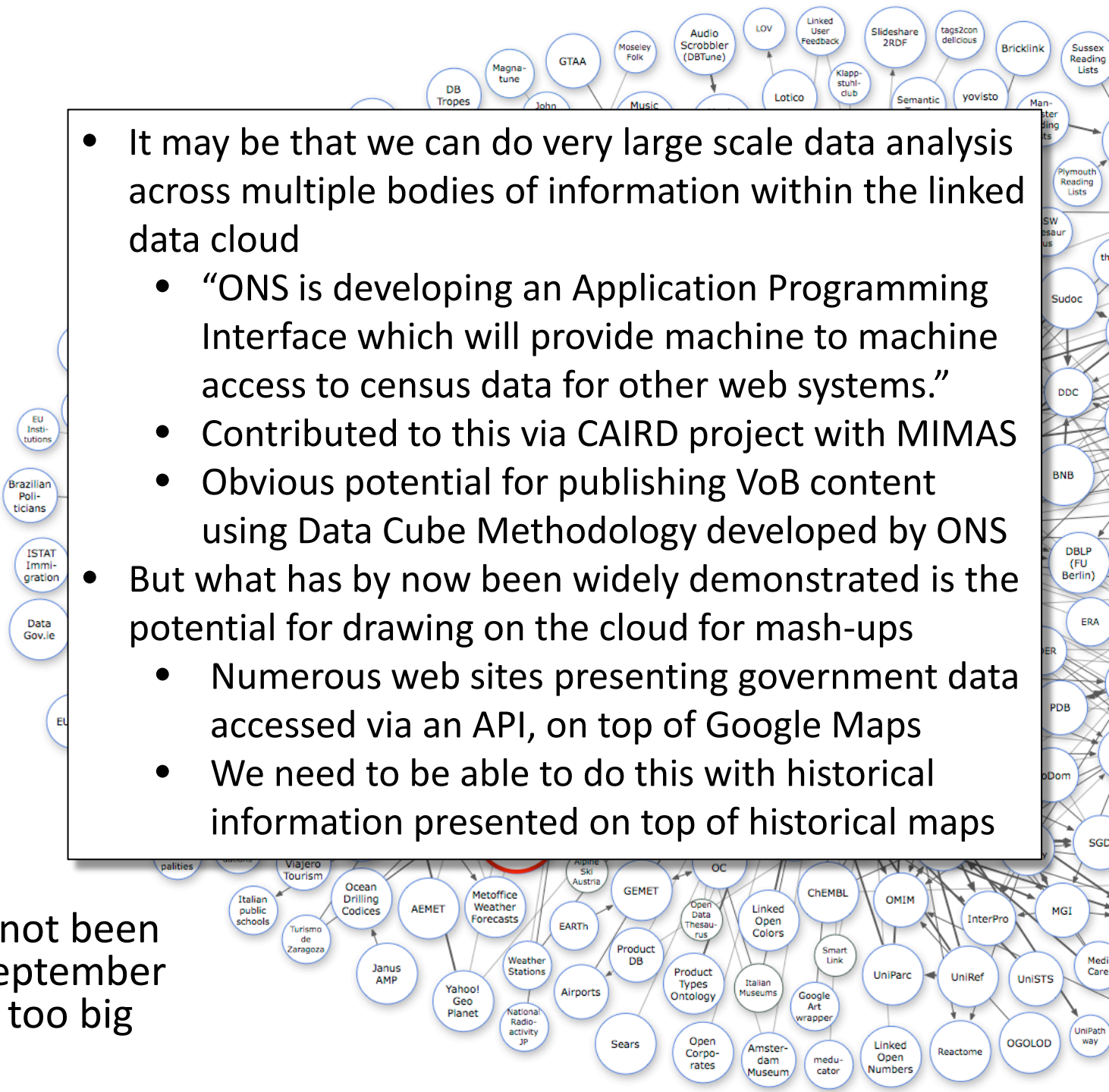NB diagram has not been updated since September 2011 as became too big
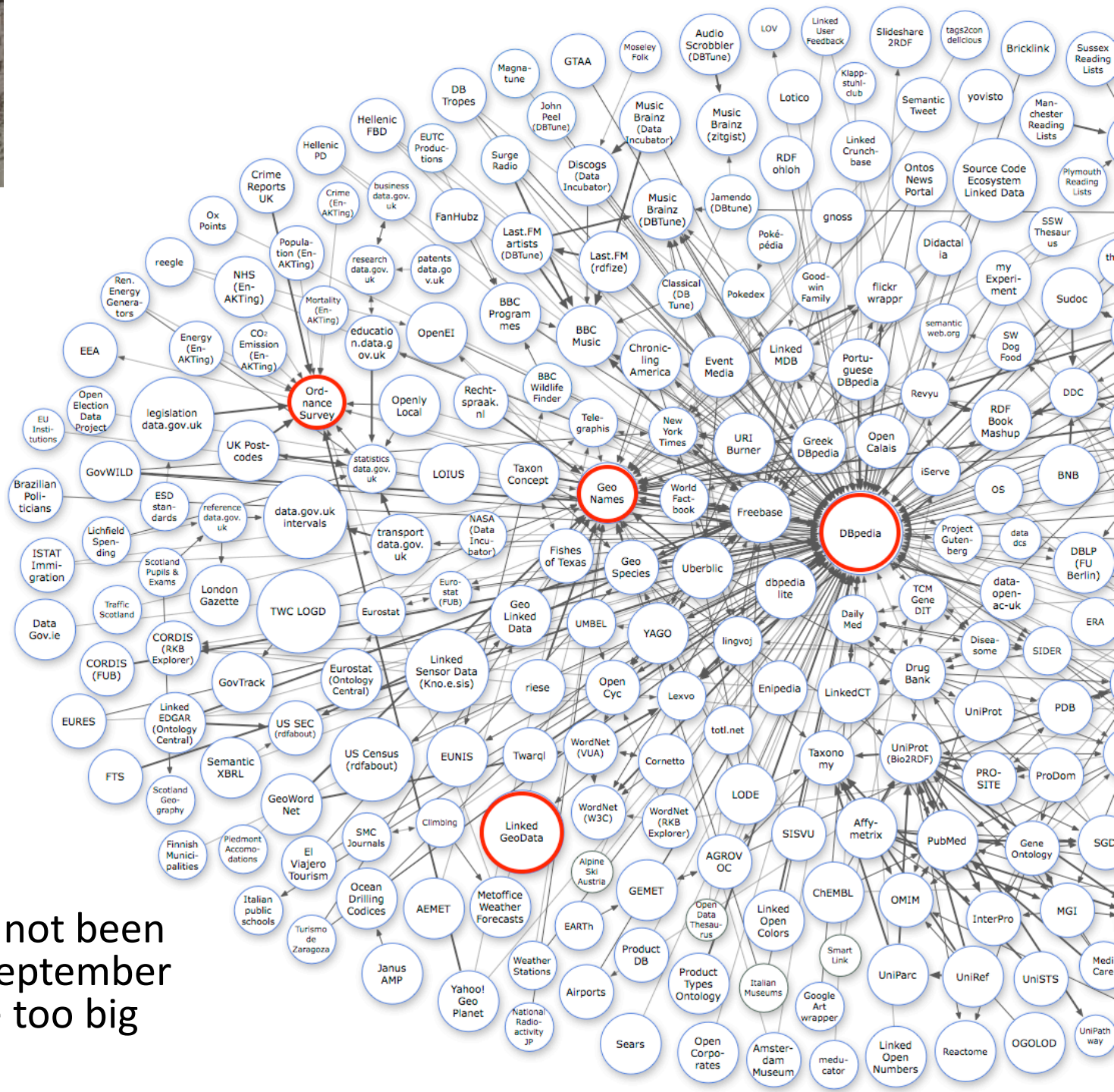
The Linked Open Data Cloud

- It may be that we can do very large scale data analysis across multiple bodies of information within the linked data cloud
  - "ONS is developing an Application Programming Interface which will provide machine to machine access to census data for other web systems."
  - Contributed to this via CAIRD project with MIMAS
  - Obvious potential for publishing VoB content using Data Cube Methodology developed by ONS
- But what has by now been widely demonstrated is the potential for drawing on the cloud for mash-ups
  - Numerous web sites presenting government data accessed via an API, on top of Google Maps
  - We need to be able to do this with historical information presented on top of historical maps

NB diagram has not been updated since September 2011 as became too big

Not many historical mashups so far ...

- Technical embeddability of no value if we cannot legally include source material within our own works
- The "open" in Linked Open Data is about copyright
  - Copyright notices need to be machine-readable
- Usually a Creative Commons license variant:
  - CC0: Anyone can do anything (BL catalogue)
  - CC-BY-NC: Must acknowledge + no commercial use
  - UK "Open Government License" ~ CC-BY
  - US government Public Domain = CC0
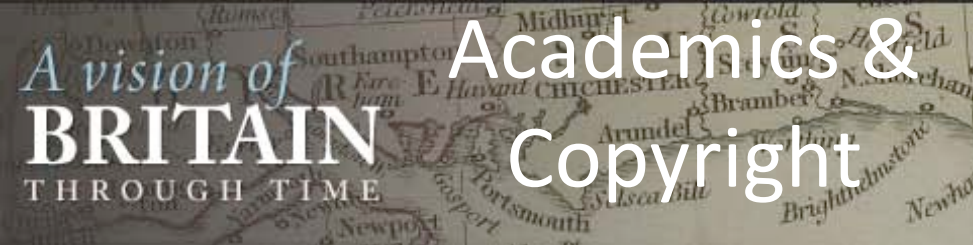
- Despite continuing issues e.g. with Ordnance Survey, UK government now often exemplary on opening data

- Understandable that commercial companies less so

- But why are academics and learned societies so restrictive?

Free our data

Copyright sets boundaries on history

A project to put historical constituency data online runs into familiar problems with Ordnance Survey

SA Mathieson
The Guardian, Thursday 22 February 2007

A project to put historical election data online has run into a problem familiar to supporters of Technology Guardian's Free Our Data campaign: Ordnance Survey's copyright.

Dr Southall says such agreements can be hard to come by: "The academic liaison side [of OS] is very, very helpful, but as soon as you say 'copyright', the whole organisation freezes," he says.

He adds that the situation is "ludicrous" for paper maps from the late 1950s and the 1960s, which the OS does not hold digitally, yet still has under copyright. Furthermore: "If you create work based on OS data, we generally can't publish it. Intellectually, to me, that is dangerous."

- Despite continuing issues e.g. with Ordnance Survey, UK government now often exemplary on opening data

- Understandable that commercial companies less so

- But why are academics and learned societies so restrictive?

Free our data

The nightmare:
- Restrictive policies of purely academic bodies, on books whose authors were never paid a penny, means that many academic online projects led by information scientists are moving forward relying on problematic crowd-sourced alternatives
- Much of the problem is that many academics are ignorant and scared of intellectual property law, confusing copyright with moral right (the right to be acknowledged – i.e. what we really should care about)

We don't just need "good stuff" to be digitised; it must also be:

- **Findable**: designed to be reachable via search engines
- **Citable**: have URLs designed as references, i.e. URIs
- **Linkable and Embeddable**: published as Open Linked Data or equivalent
- **Copyable/Mashable**: Under CC0 or CC-BY licensing
- **Sustainable**: Can be relied on to exist indefinitely (Paul will talk about this)

But if the right information is made available in the right way it will be very popular, and pay for itself ….

Income now covers not just hosting costs but salary of part-time system manager/developer, enabling steady enhancement

A Vision of Britain through Time: Unique Users per Month 2004-13

Adsense Income per Month (£)

$R^2 = 0.8391$

Unique Visitors per Month (Thousands)