

Railways across the Pennines

At least twelve railways crossed the Pennine watershed- the first opened in 1830; the last in 1893 and more than half of them are still open. Because of the nature of the terrain and because of the likelihood that they would prosper (other areas of equally difficult relief chose to climb rather than embark on earthworks) they provide examples of interesting engineering including six of the country's longest tunnels.

The course will look at all the lines but will give preference to the oldest (the Cromford & High Peak), the lines of the Midland Railway through the Peak, that which passed near Glossop on its way over Woodhead and the Lancashire & Yorkshire Route from Manchester to Leeds. Each line had a well defined purpose and most of those we consider adequately fulfilled it –and in our own time, with a shift of emphasis those open still do.

The Trans Pennine Railways

The following twelve railways crossed the main watershed of England north of Derby- that is in the Pennines.

Key to Railway Companies: LNW-London & North Western, M-Midland, GC-Great Central, LY-Lancashire & Yorkshire, NE-North Eastern. Long tunnels in brackets and italics. Opening and, if applicable, closing dates shown.

- 1). Cromford & High Peak: LNW 1830 closed 1967
- 2). Whaley Bridge to Buxton LNW 1863 open
- 3). Chinley- Matlock M 1867 closed 1968- (*Doveholes*)
- 4). Hope Valley M 1893 open (*Cowburn, Topley*)
- 5). Woodhead GC 1845 closed 1981 (*Woodhead*)
- 6). Standedge LNW 1849 open (*Standedge*)
- 7). Littleborough LY 1841 open (*Summit*)
- 8). Copy Pit LY 1849 open
- 9). Colne-Skipton LY/M 1849 Closed 1970
- 10). Settle & Carlisle M 1872 open
- 11). Stainmore NE 1863 closed 1962
- 12). Newcastle & Carlisle NE 1838 open

Books

General History

Ellis, Hamilton, *British Railway History, Volume I*, George Allen & Unwin, 1956,
No ISBN.

Ellis, Hamilton, *British Railway History, Volume II*, George Allen & Unwin, 1959,
No ISBN.

Simmons, Jack, *The Railways of Britain*, "Papermac" (Macmillan), 1987,
ISBN 0333-41990-1.

Regional History

The Regional Histories of Great Britain Series, published by David & Charles in 16 volumes, gives details of every line in the British Isles. Relevant to the present study are volumes:

4. North East- Ken Hoole, 1965/74, ISBN, 0-7153-6439-1
7. West Midlands- Rex Christiansen, 1973/83, ISBN, 0-946537-003
8. South and West Yorkshire, David Joy, 1875/78 ISBN, 07153-7783-3
9. East Midlands, Robin Leleux, 1976/84, ISBN 0946-537-06-2
10. North West- Geoffrey Holt, 1978, ISBN 0-7153-7521-0
14. Lake Counties – David Joy, 1983, ISBN 0-946537-02-X.

Company Histories

Barnes, E.G., *The Rise of the Midland Railway 1844-74*, George Allen & Unwin,
ISBN not known

Barnes, E.G., *The Midland Main Line 1875-1922*, George Allen & Unwin.
ISBN 04 385 049 9.

Baughan, P.E., *The Midland Railway North of Leeds*, David & Charles,
ISBN 0-7153-8852-8 1966/87.

Dow, George, *Great Central, Volume I*, Ian Allan, 1959/85, ISBN 0 7110 1468 X

Dow, George, *Great Central, Volume II*, Ian Allan, 1962/85, ISBN 0 7110 1469 8

Dow, George, *Great Central, Volume III*, Ian Allan, 1965/85, ISBN 0 7110 0263 0

Marshall, John, *Lancashire & Yorkshire, Volume I*, David & Charles, 1969,
ISBN 7153 4352 1

Marshall, John, *Lancashire & Yorkshire, Volume II*, David & Charles, 1970,
ISBN 07153 4906 6

Marshall, John, *Lancashire & Yorkshire, Volume III*, David & Charles, 1972,
ISBN 07153 5320 9.

Reed, M.C., *London & North Western*, Atlantic, 1996, ISBN 0 906899 664.

Individual Line Histories

Hodgkins, David, (Ed.), *The Records of the Cromford & High Peak Railway*, Derbyshire Record Society 2008, ISBN 978-0-946324-31-6.

Holmes, P.J., *Stockton & Darlington Railway**, First Avenue, No date (though about 1975) or ISBN.

Jenkinson, David, *Settle & Carlisle Railway: Rails in the Fells*, Peco, 1973/80, ISBN 0 9005 8653 2.

Marshall, John, *Cromford & High Peak Railway*, Martin Bairstow, 1996, No ISBN.

Whittle, G., *Newcastle & Carlisle Railway*, David & Charles, 1979, ISBN 0 7153 7855 4.

*: The line over Stainmore was part of this railway.