



07 Discover Wakefield Wakefield's Railway Stations

This is the seventh in a series of leaflets being produced by the Society to illustrate some of Wakefield's fascinating and rich heritage. Look out for other leaflets in the series as they are published. All leaflets have been printed locally using FSC-certified sources, sustainable inks and reduced waste.

The leaflet contains details of stations in the area in and around the city centre covered by the Society's charitable remit – other railway stations were built elsewhere in the district, of course, including at Ossett, Castleford and Pontefract, for example – but these fall outside our area so do not feature in this leaflet.

Find out more about the stations featured within this leaflet by scanning the QR code or by visiting our Discover Wakefield webpage: wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk/discover-wakefield



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- Ben Brooksbank: Site of Crigglestone West station, 1988 (Image 3) cc-by-sa/2.0 - © Ben Brooksbank - geograph.org.uk/p/3157565



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Text: John Seacome
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WESTGATE RAILWAY STATION

Charity Number:
Address:

Website:
Email:

236034
Wakefield Civic Society, PO Box 380,
Wakefield, WF1 3WT
<https://wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk/>
info@wakefieldcivicsociety.org.uk

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WAKEFIELD'S RAILWAY STATIONS

LANCASHIRE & YORKSHIRE RAILWAY

1. Kirkgate:

Unusually, Wakefield has two main stations, Westgate and Kirkgate. Kirkgate's original station building of 1840 was "a small wooden hut". Present buildings erected 1854. Kirkgate serves mostly local towns; renovated 2013-2015. Westgate was not opened until 1856.

2. Crofton:

The smaller of two stations serving Crofton. It lay near to Doncaster Road, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire line to Pontefract. Crofton opened 1 November 1853; closed 30 November 1931. Remains of old station house can be found near the A638.

3. Crigglestone West (site of):

Lay on the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway from Leeds to Wakefield Kirkgate and Barnsley. Opened as Crigglestone on 1 January 1850. Its name changed to Crigglestone West on 2 June 1924 and then back to Crigglestone on 12 June 1961. Used only for excursions, the station, closed to passengers and goods traffic 13 September 1965. Now private houses opposite the Station Pub.



KIRKGATE



CRIGGLESTONE WEST (SITE OF)

MIDLAND RAILWAY

4. Oakenshaw:

Opened by North Midland Railway in 1840. Originally known as 'Wakefield' but, in 1841 became 'Oakenshaw for Wakefield' to avoid confusion. Off the railway bridge on Doncaster Road, opposite the boarding kennels. Town centre access was by horse-drawn omnibus. The Palladian style was a distinctive feature. It closed 1870 when Sandal and Walton opened, all traces removed.

5. Sandal and Walton:

Opened 1 June 1870 by the Midland Railway on the line from Derby to Leeds. The station was in central Walton, accessed off School Lane, close to the junction of Green Side and Oakenshaw Lane. Renamed Walton on the 30 September 1951 but closed on 12 June 1961. Subsequently demolished and the site became a private garden.



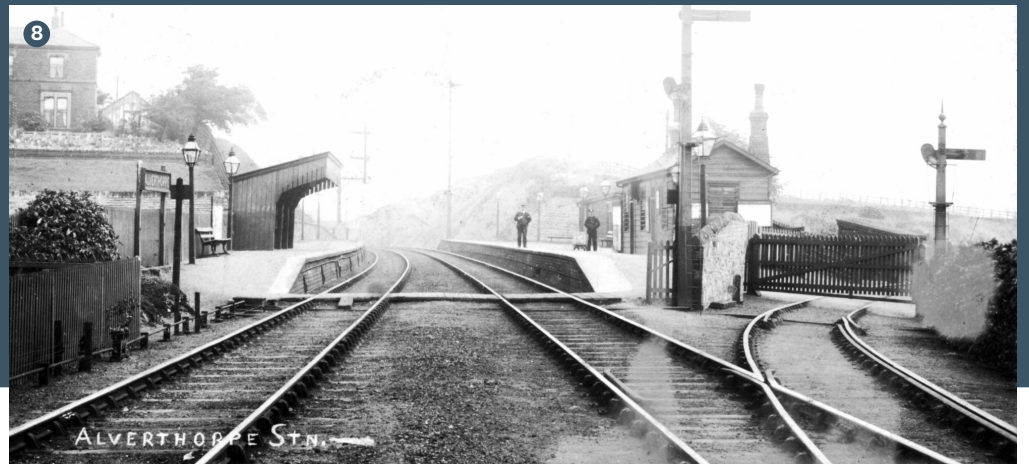
SANDAL AND WALTON



WALTON

6. Crigglestone (East):

On the Midland Railway Royston-Thornhill branch, unofficially called 'East' to distinguish it from West. It ran from Royston Junction with the intention of bypassing Leeds, direct to Bradford, but the railway ran out of funds so the line terminated at Thornhill Junction after 8 miles. Opened for goods 3 July 1905; excursion platform added 1 July 1909. Route for holiday traffic from South Yorkshire to the Lancashire coast. The station was closed for passengers 1960, with only goods passing through until August 1968.



ALVERTHORPE STATION

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

7. Westgate Station: Built by the West Riding and Grimsby Railway from Kirkgate via the curved viaduct. Has existed in 4 different forms. Firstly in 1856 on south side of Westgate, the site of a private house. The GNR built the second station in 1867 on the north side, lasting for 100 years. Demolished in 1968 and replaced by version three, an austere but functional British Railways building. The current, fourth, glass-panelled version was built in 2012 about 300 metres up Mulberry Way, as part of the 'Merchant Gate' development area.

8. Alverthorpe: A branch of the Great Northern line to Dewsbury and Bradford Exchange on an embankment northeast of Batley Road, after the railway crossed over the road on a bridge near the junction with Grasmere Road. It was opened October 1872 and closed 5 April 1954. Service to Ossett, Dewsbury (Central) and Bradford Exchange; closed September 1964. Nothing remains.

9. Lofthouse & Outwood (latterly Outwood): Opened 1 May 1869 on the south side of Lingwell Gate Lane between Leeds and Wakefield. Here it was joined Methley Joint Committee line, a joint operation with the Great Northern, the North Eastern and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railways. It ran from Lofthouse Junction to near Castleford. Lofthouse & Outwood itself was opened 1st May 1869 and closed 17th June 1957. The Methley Joint stayed open until 1964. The modern Outwood (less Lofthouse) opened by the West Yorkshire PTE on 12 July 1988. Access is from the north side of Lingwell Gate Lane.

10. Stanley: Lay on the A642 Aberford Road from Stanley leading to the M62. Opened on 1 May 1869 with a high-pitched roof station building - relatively impressive. Closed November 1964. No trace of the station remains and a bungalow estate, The Chase, replaces it.

11. Sandal: Opened in February 1866 by the West Riding and Grimsby Railway, later the Great Northern Railway. Known as Sandal, it lay on the main line from Leeds and Wakefield to Doncaster and Kings Cross, although only served by local trains to Doncaster with no direct service to Wakefield. It was closed November 1957 and all the buildings demolished. The site is now occupied by Sandal and Agbrigg station, opened in November 1987.

12. Hare Park & Crofton: Located on the West Riding and Grimsby Railway, it served Crofton village. Open November 1885 until 4 February 1952, no remains left.

13. Nostell: Nostell Railway Station was opened on 1 February 1866 and was used by the Great Northern Railway and the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway on the line from Doncaster to Wakefield. The station closed October 1951 and has been demolished.



HARE PARK STATION