

EAST LANCASHIRE'S HISTORICAL COMMUNITY STATIONS

BURNLEY BARRACKS



Burnley Barracks Station - photo courtesy LYRS



Burnley Barracks Station - photo courtesy LYRS



Burnley Barracks Station - August 2010 - photo courtesy Brian Haworth

BURNLEY BARRACKS STATION

Burnley Westgate station was built and opened by the East Lancashire Railway Company on the 18th September 1848. It opened as the terminus for the East Lancashire Railway Companies trains from Accrington.

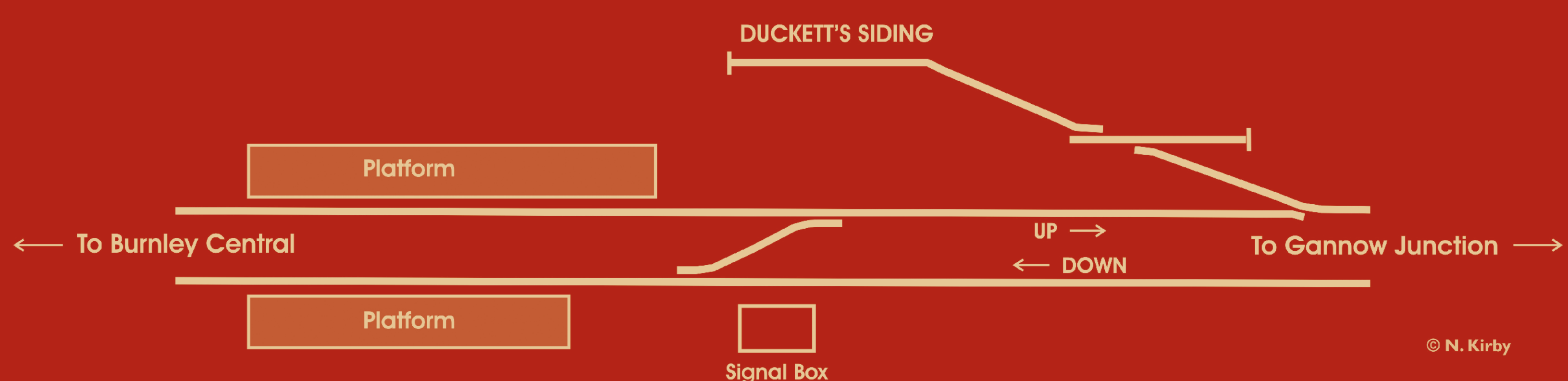
The engineers in charge of building the line from Accrington to Burnley and onwards to Colne were Mr J.S. Perring and Mr J.A. Donaldson. The following year with the imposing stone Burnley viaduct completed the Colne extension was opened on 1st February 1849. Burnley Westgate closed on this date and the larger Burnley Bank Top station came into use.

The area around the former Burnley Westgate station however developed quickly with housing, mills and a cavalry barracks. The demand for the station to re open was quickly acted on by the railway company and the station re opened in September 1851 with a new name, Burnley Barracks, reflecting the close proximity of the cavalry barracks.

The 1881 census figures show that seventy six soldiers were based at the barracks and only three of them were from Burnley so soldiers would travel from far and wide to the barracks using the station. The station was listed as dealing with passenger trains only, goods were dealt with at Rose Grove or Burnley Bank Top the adjacent stations.

The station is close to the Leeds Liverpool canal which can be used to access the new Padiham Greenway. A separate poster provides more information about the Greenway and an attractive leaflet called 'Cycling into Railway History – Padiham Loop: Padiham – Rose Grove' can be obtained from local information centres.

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