

EAST LANCASHIRE'S HISTORICAL COMMUNITY STATIONS

ROSE GROVE



Rose Grove Station - photo courtesy Norman Graham



Rose Grove Station Entrance - photo courtesy Norman Graham



Rose Grove Yard - photo courtesy Norman Graham



A unit approaches Rose Grove on 13th May 2015 - photo courtesy Brian Haworth

ROSE GROVE STATION

Rose Grove station opened on the 18th September 1848. Situated on the west side of Burnley the station was built in an area of poor quality agricultural land. Originally named Rose Grove for Padiham the station was built in a cutting. Early reports confirm that the station was built to serve the town of Padiham.

At the time the station was built the area surrounding the station was agricultural land but areas close by such as Lowerhouse contained developing print works and cotton mills. The coming of the railway quickly changed this perspective and development of the area started in earnest. Goods facilities and an engine shed were quickly built.

The railway was constructed by the East Lancashire Railway Company. The resident engineers were J.S. Perring and J.A. Donaldson. The line and station were constructed between 1846 and 1848 and the main contractors were William and Richard Hattersley. Census figures for the village of Rose Grove showed large percentages of railway workers living here. By the turn of the century the goods yard boasted a ten ton crane and could cater for freight, cattle, horse boxes, as well as passenger traffic. After the war the goods yards were expanded, the main commodity dealt with was coal from the massive Yorkshire pits which was taken forward to destination all over Lancashire from Rose Grove. The goods yard had capacity for over one thousand goods wagons. Rose Grove steam engine sheds which could accommodate up to fifty steam locos closed on the 4th August 1968, one of the last three engine sheds to close in England.

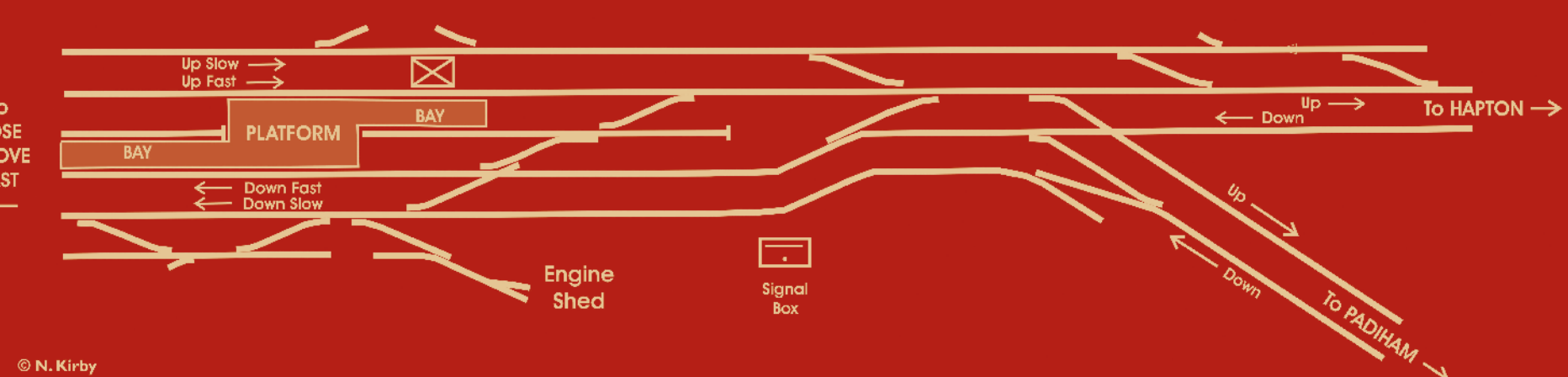
The M65 motorway when built obliterated the site of the old sheds and little remains to remind us of what a thriving railway centre Rose Grove was. Most of the station buildings were demolished in the late 1970s, only the long platforms, most of which stand out of use, give a clue to the stations former importance on the railway network.

The station is close to the new Padiham Greenway and 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.

The station has recently been refurbished at a cost of £160K to compliment the new Manchester service via Todmorden.

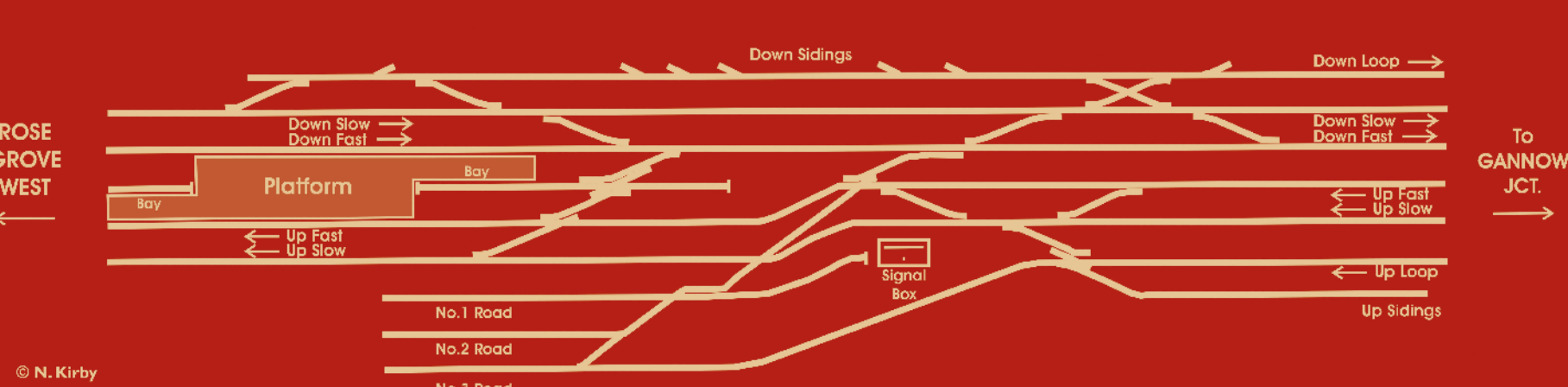
A community project "Rose Grove Revived" has seen local schools produce artwork for display at the station.

ROSE GROVE WEST



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ROSE GROVE EAST



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