

# SOUTH FYLDE'S HISTORICAL COMMUNITY STATIONS

## MOSS SIDE STATION



Weatherworn Moss Side Station Sign & Oil Lamp in June 1961 - Peter Fitton collection



Last day travellers on the platform as 84010 arrives on the 4.50 pm train from Preston on 25th June 1961 - Photo by Peter Fitton



New English Electric diesel D329 calls at Moss Side on 25th June 1961 - Photo by Peter Fitton



Lostock Hall shed's 2-6-4 tank 42105 passes Moss Side on 13th September 1966 on an express from London - Photo by Peter Fitton

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF MOSS SIDE STATION

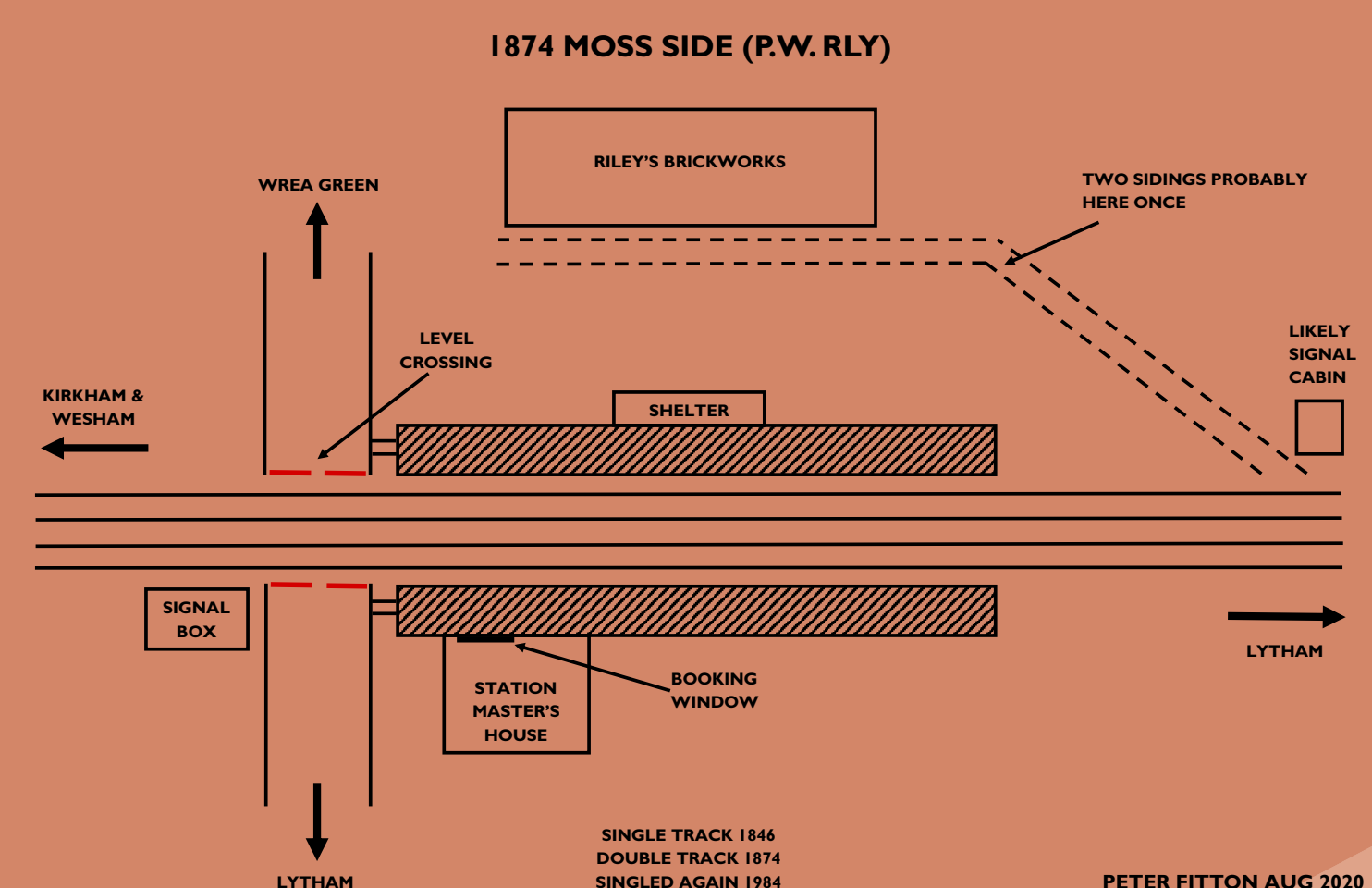
The original station, known as Kirkham Road, was opened on the single line Lytham Branch of the Preston & Wyre Railway (PWR) in 1846. Double tracks were laid during 1873/4 as part of the improvements after the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway and the London & North Western Railway had taken over the PWR. Newly renamed Moss Side then gained two platforms and attractive wooden shelters; a Saxby & Farmer designed signal box then controlled the level crossing. The white Stationmaster's House was built around 1919 and still survives, now in private ownership.

At some stage, behind the down line platform there were sidings for Riley's Brickworks which supplied bricks used in building Fairhaven. Another signal box worked the points required at the south end of the station. A later building on the site into the 1960s was Summerdale Caravan Supplies.

The station was a quiet place and closed in June 1961, along with Wrea Green station in the nearby village, when stationmaster Mr. Ogden moved to Lytham. Happily, the platforms remained, which enabled re-opening to take place in November 1983 with the aid of a grant from Lancashire County Council.

The station signal box was closed in the same year when the crossing over Lytham Road was automated, with the track being singled three years later. All trains now use the old eastbound platform, with the other still intact but overgrown.

Text by Peter Fitton, June 2020



Moss Side re-opening train on 21st November 1983 - Photo by Peter Fitton

