

Derby



Derby became known as the Tri Junction Station because it was the station for three separate railway lines – the [North Midland](#) to Leeds, [Midland Counties](#) to Nottingham and Leicester and the [Birmingham and Derby Junction Railway](#).

The station was built by the North Midland Railway and designed by their architect [Francis Thompson](#). The front was an impressive two-storey neoclassical stone façade. The North Midland Railway also built workers' houses opposite, of which Midland Terrace, Railway Terrace and Calvert Street survive and are thought to be the oldest railway workers' houses in the world.

Two railway hotels were built. The [Midland Hotel](#) was for first class passengers and the Brunswick Inn was for second class passengers and railway workers. A Derby saying said that customers of the first talked about hunting and shooting, of the second, shunting and hooting.

“The refreshment rooms are handsome. The shed is so spacious as to cover nine lines of rails.”

The North Midland Railway Guide, 1842.

The three companies merged as the [Midland Railway](#) in 1844 and Derby was made the company headquarters.

The first steel rails were laid at the station in 1857. New tracks were laid in 1867 that enabled London trains to run through the station to the north.

The main station building was rebuilt in 1892, designed by Midland Railway architect [Charles Trubshaw](#). Derby is still an important station on the Midland Main Line.



Lithograph of the 1840 front of Derby Station, designed by North Midland Railway architect, Francis Thompson, and drawn from real life by Samuel Russell. *Courtesy of Midland Railway Study Centre*



Lithograph of inside the North Midland Railway platforms of Derby Station, drawn by Samuel Russell. *Courtesy of Midland Railway Study Centre*