


Clay Cross



Built in 1840, the station was designed by [North Midland Railway](#) architect, [Francis Thompson](#), in Italianate style. Originally planned to be built inside [Clay Cross Tunnel](#), problems with how to ventilate it resulted in the station being built at the tunnel's northern entrance, nearer to [Tupton](#).

The station was built to serve the colliery of George Stephenson. The first coal to arrive in London via train was from his colliery and loaded on at Clay Cross.

“Stephenson’s colliery railway joins on the right. North Wingfield to the right.”

The North Midland Railway Guide, 1842.

In 1851 a goods train travelling only 5 minutes behind the 9.05pm passenger from Derby to Leeds hit the latter when it developed a broken pump-rod. The passenger train driver stopped near Clay Cross station to remove the broken part and the rear of his train was hit by the goods train which smashed into the last two carriages. Two people were killed.

The station was closed in 1967 and then demolished. Only the goods shed, on the south side of the line, survives.



Lithograph of the North Midland Railway's 1840 Clay Cross Station, drawn by Samuel Russell from the plans of architect Francis Thompson. *Courtesy of the Midland Railway Study Centre*