

# Picture Quiz: Item 1: Nailsworth Railway Station

11 August 2020

To GSIA Members

Thank you for your interest in the recent picture quiz, especially those of you who sent in your answers. As we said, there were no prizes but someone can take a bow with highly commendable score of 3½ out of 6!

The aim of the 'quiz' was really to highlight the wide variety of the "little known" items of our industrial heritage. These are the sort of sites that GSIA has tried to record and monitor right from the beginning in 1964.

Starting with this post each 'answer' will be a short article on the picture and where possible will link to online material on the GSIA website.

**Picture No. 1 was .....**

**Former Nailsworth Railway Station (looking north-west) on 4 May 1989**



**Platform side 4 May 1987 [Ray Wilson]**



Not only was this the station at the Nailsworth end but also the Stonehouse and Nailsworth Railway Company's headquarters opened in 1867.

The company's very impressive boardroom is on the left of the top picture. The carvings on columns of the arcade are interesting as they have identical features with carvings on the Church of St Laurence, Stroud, rebuilt 1866-68.

Sadly the company were in financial trouble right from the start (too much money spent on the boardroom?) and The Midland Railway purchased the line in 1868. The line closed to passengers in 1947 and goods 1 June 1966.

The station house is listed Grade II and is now a private residence.

The line of the railway is a very pleasant walk. In 2001 when the Society restarted visits after the Foot and Mouth disease outbreak we wanted to avoid farmland so we had what was to be a "one off" industrial heritage walk along part of the line starting at Nailsworth. It was such a success we had three more in succeeding years finally reaching the site of junction with the main line at Stonehouse. The reports of those GSIA walks (and all the others) may be found on the GSIA website <https://www.gsia.org.uk/reprints/index.php> eg <https://www.gsia.org.uk/reprints/2001/gi200100.pdf>

Michael Hoy published an account of the railway in the GSIA Journal for 1987 which can also be [downloaded from the GSIA website.](#)

Subsequently in 1999 Colin Maggs produced a [well illustrated book on the subject.](#) Reference to

this book was made in an [earlier posting](#) regarding the coal tips.

The site was sold by tender by Gloucestershire County Council in 1989 and although GSIA did not put in a bid(!) we did collect the tender documents and attend one of the viewings. The file is now at Gloucestershire Archives.

To [see the layout of Nailsworth Station in 1900](#), as ever, the National Library of Scotland maps website is the answer!

Ray Wilson