

Deborah Griffiths

The development and demise of the railway.

The horse drawn line, if you like, was operated by the Plymouth and Princetown Railway Company and then in 1877 they offered to sell it to GWR who took up that option and converted the line into something that could take a steam driven train and it was formally opened in 1883 and from then onwards it was a single track line that took a small train, maximum speed 20 miles an hour, which carried people and goods between the two settlements, and it continued to operate like that until its closure. So after the railway closed in 1956 most of the railway buildings were removed and all we can see today is one large green field, one of the unusual exceptions to this was the station stables which is a fairly small square building built out of brick with slate hanging on the walls to give added protection from the weather, and looking inside it probably housed two horses and these horses would have been used to drive carts that would have taken produce that was coming in from Plymouth and distribute it around the local neighbourhood, and then also in the reverse it would bring produce from the neighbourhood and put it on the train to go back down to Plymouth.