

## Hull Railways, the docks

Hull first railway was the **Hull and Selby Line** which ran, as the name suggests, between Hull and Selby. It was authorised by an act of 1836 and opened in 1840. The line then connected with the Leeds and Selby Railway (opened 1834) at Selby, with a Hull terminus adjacent to the Humber Dock now the Marina. An extension to Humber Dock, Railway Dock, now incorporated into the Marina, was opened in 1846. This was the same year a passenger branch line was opened into the, then, town centre and Paragon Station was born.

This was a busy year for Hull Railways as connections to Cottingham, Beverley, Driffield and Bridlington were also made in 1846 with the opening of the Hull and Selby Railway (Bridlington Branch) now part of the Yorkshire Coast Line; a new 4½ mile route into Hull was opened in 1848, along with a new main station, Hull Paragon; a connection to Market Weighton from Barlby near Selby was made in 1848 (closed 1954, see Selby to Driffield Line); an urban branch line terminating in east Hull, the Victoria Dock Branch Line was opened in 1853 (closed 1968); a connection at Gilberdyke onto the Hull and Doncaster Railway passing via Goole was made in 1863; and in 1871 North Eastern Railway's York and Doncaster branch opened in 1871, with its northern half branching from the line towards York just east of Selby.

From 1845 the Hull and Selby Railway Company was jointly leased by the [York and North Midland Railway](#), and [Manchester and Leeds Railway](#); the lease passed to the North Eastern Railway in 1854 who then acquired the company in 1872. Ownership then passed to the [London and North Eastern Railway](#) in 1923, and to [British Railways](#) in 1948.

As of 2015 the line is in use, and is owned and maintained by [Network Rail](#). It is an important mainline on the UK rail network, and used on rail services out of Hull by [Northern](#), [TransPennine Express](#), [London North Eastern Railway](#), and [Hull Trains](#) with destinations including Leeds, Doncaster, Sheffield, Goole and London, as well as freight traffic from the [Port of Hull](#).