



# Book of the month

*BUILDING A RAILWAY: BOURNE TO SAXBY*

ed. S Squires & K Hollamby

Lincoln Record Society, Boydell Press,

PO Box 9, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 3DF

ISBN 978 0 9015038 62 £30

## LINCOLNSHIRE'S TOP TEN

1. *History of Lincoln* - Richard Gurnham  
ISBN 9781860775512
2. *Bygone Lincoln 3* (dvd)
3. *Uphill Lincoln 1* - Andrew Walker  
ISBN 9780953865048
4. *Aspects of Lincoln* - Andrew Walker  
ISBN 9781903425046
5. *Bygone Lincoln 2* (dvd)
6. *Lincoln's Allotments* - Geoff Tann  
ISBN 9780953865024
7. *Big Skies Over Lincolnshire* -  
Peter Washbourn  
ISBN 9781859832240
8. *Monk's Road* - Andrew Walker (ed)  
ISBN 9780953865017
9. *Bygone Lincoln 1* (dvd)
10. *Hanged at Lincoln* - Stephen Wade  
ISBN 9780750951104

Compiled by Waterstone's Lincoln

The engineer Charles Wilson, who supervised the building of the eighteen miles Midland & Great Northern Joint line in 1890-93, was also an amateur photographer. The album of his photographs, a rare survival of the work of constructing a Victorian railway, forms the basis of this book.

The line crosses the geological and topographical grain of the landscape of south-west Lincolnshire. It therefore required many embankments, cuttings and bridges. It went under the Great North Road and over the main line from London to Edinburgh. And it included a tunnel – the Toft Tunnel, not far from Bourne, now a Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

nature reserve (the line closed in 1959). The company also had to build a bridge to accommodate the carriageway from the south end of Grimsthorpe Park to the Castle.

The nature of the work required considerable numbers of navvies, details of whom are revealed from the 1891 census. They appear on some of the photographs, with machinery used. Most of the bridges and sites of other works have a modern picture for comparison.

A history of the working of the line, by John Rhodes, originally published in 1989 and long out of print, is appended. The whole is more than railway engineering and industrial archaeology, it is also a social history record. (DNR)

## LINCOLNSHIRE BOOKS IN BRIEF

- *Lost Lincolnshire Railways* by Neil Burgess  
Stenlake Publishing ISBN 978 18403340 70 £7.99  
Landscape format for pictures of former railway stations, with captions, some well-known, others less so – for example passengers disembarking from a steamship to join a waiting train at Immingham Dock, and a view of Twenty station (in Deeping Fen) from the carriage window of a train. Includes dates and details of closures.

- *A Tale of Two Schools: A History of Education in Stickford* by Cheryle Steele  
Stickford Local History Group, Kestrel Cottage,

Hagnaby Lane, Keal Coates, Spilsby PE23 4AL  
ISBN 978 0 9542265 27 £6.50

Free school, National School (Church of England) 1847-1872 which became a Board School in 1873, and then (Lindsey) County School in 1903 to 1909 when a new one was built. This changed to County Primary School from 1949 to closure in 1987 (when there were only nineteen children on the roll). From 1992 it became a flourishing Community Centre under the Parish Council. Lots of pictures, mainly of children and teachers, personal reminiscences of former pupils, and an interesting chapter on the Stickford Poor Close Charity. A worthy record.