

Formby Learning in Partnership

Formby Schools Local History Project	
Event	<p><u>The Railway Line</u> Why was the railway built in Formby and what impact did it have on the area?</p>
5 Key Points	
1	Mid 19th century road communication between Liverpool and Southport was difficult. In 1847 an act of parliament was passed allowing the construction of a line from Liverpool, to Crosby and Southport. It was officially opened in 1848.
2	View photographs recording the changes in Formby station over time.
3	Impact two fold. Thomas Fresh. Accessibility solved Liverpool's sewage problem and provided fertiliser for the asparagus crops. Railway line enabled it to be shipped to Liverpool, on to London and beyond on liners.
4	Plans to develop a seaside resort 'Formby-by-the-Sea' - set out to rival the success and potentially compete with the seaside resort of Southport.
5	<p>Formby-by-the-Sea - The project failed - reasons included too far away from railway line (transporting building materials would be too difficult without roads; potential visitors holiday makers would need to walk too far from the railway station to the resort)</p> <p>If the venture would have gone to plan, it could have threatened the countryside and nature of Formby (a conservation area) with the development of hotels, shops ,roads, trams, piers, jetties, parks etc.</p>



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Cause	Effect
<p>Difficult road conditions between Liverpool and Southport.</p>	<p>Sewage problem in Liverpool solved. Asparagus farming flourished. People able to commute for work/leisure (Liverpool/Southport/Formby)</p>
<p>Significance</p>	
<p>Improved and increased communication (including mail and newspapers) and transport links; growth of Formby - increased population and development of the are; commuters/visitors from across the country bringing money into local area; growth of business and local economy.</p>	