



# The Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust

Caring for Historic Railway Buildings along the Line

## A Design Guide For The Settle & Carlisle Railway

The purpose of the Design Guide for the Settle & Carlisle Railway is to set uniform standards of restoration and maintenance for stations along the line in order to achieve a consistency of quality and appearance that will enhance the status and appeal of the route.

In 1991 the line was granted Conservation Area status by the Local Authorities in recognition of its unique status in terms of the architectural characteristics of the mid-Victorian period. Lack of investment over the years had left a legacy of buildings and structures that were closer to its as-built state than any other mainline in the country.

This focussed the need for a formal and structured approach to restoration, alterations and additions to buildings and structures along the route, striking a delicate balance between conservation, preservation and restoration and the need to provide a service and facilities appropriate to a modern railway.

The formal proposal for a Design Guide originated with The Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust, the Settle and Carlisle Railway Development Company, the Railway Heritage Trust and the Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line.

The original concept envisaged covering all aspects of the line, from tunnels and viaducts to flora and fauna. However, it was recognised that the task involved in producing such a Guide represented a vast undertaking and would run a high risk of never being completed.



Horton-in-Ribblesdale Station

It was therefore agreed that a much-simplified document would be commissioned, focussing exclusively on stations presently in use between Settle and Armathwaite inclusive. This was seen as the correct priority as the stations are focal points of the line and the scale of the task was achievable. The inclusion of other buildings and structures could be considered at a later date.

A jointly funded package was agreed and the task of producing the Guide was undertaken by the Trust and the Development Co. The Guide was first published in A4 loose-leaf format in September 2002. Distribution was restricted to organisations directly involved in the management of the line.

The Guide covers all aspects of stations including architectural features, colour schemes, station furniture and signage, conservation and environmental management. The Guide also includes information on related organisations and fault reporting procedures.

The Guide requires constant updating and improvements, and as part of this process plans are currently being drafted to completely overhaul the Guide and present it in digital format. The availability and distribution of the Guide is also being reappraised with a view to extending its circulation to a wider audience. At the same time the possibility of extending the scope of the Guide to include other features such as Stationmaster's Houses and Railway Cottages is being considered.

The Guide was commissioned and funded by The Settle & Carlisle Railway Trust, the Settle Carlisle Railway Development Company, Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line, Railway Heritage Trust, North of England Civic Trust, Cumbria County Council and North Yorkshire County Council.