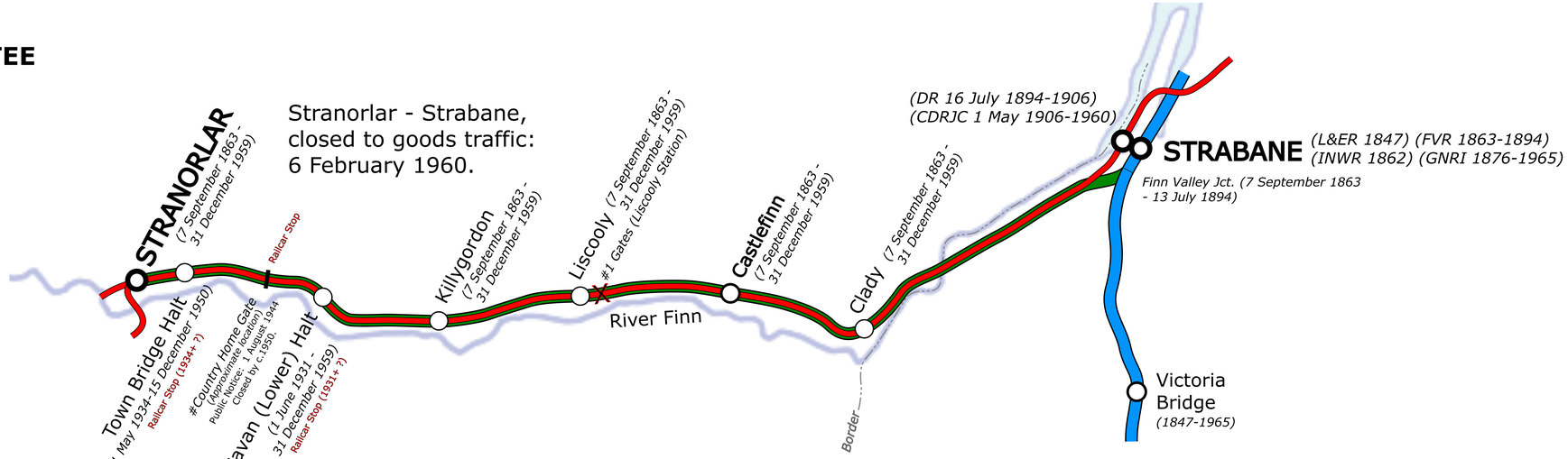
COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE and Predecessors: Intermediate Stations Stranorlar to Strabane (Finn Valley).



KEY

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Leased to Dundalk & Enniskillen Railway: 1 January 1860.
D&ER renamed Irish North Western Railway (INWR): July 1862.

GNR(I) Great Northern Railway (Ireland): 1 January 1876.
Merger included INWR.
Jointly nationalised 1953 by Irish and Northern Irish Governments.
1958: Assets split between UTA and CIÉ (Córas Iompair Éireann).

Symbols:

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X *Level Crossing (unmanned)*

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I *Stopping Places*

R *Railcar Stops*

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GAUGES:

Broad Gauge: 1600mm / 5' 3":
- FVR
- L&ER / D&ER / INWR / GNR(I).

Narrow Gauge: 914mm / 3':
- WDR / DR / CDRJC / S&LR / L&LSR / L&BER.

Former FVR broad gauge changed to narrow gauge:
Conversion: 13-15 July 1894; opened: 16 July 1894.

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Based on Ordnance Survey plans,
Parliamentary plans and photographs.

Credits:
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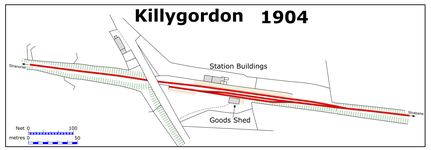

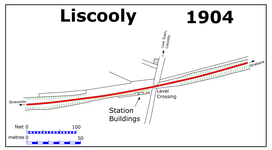

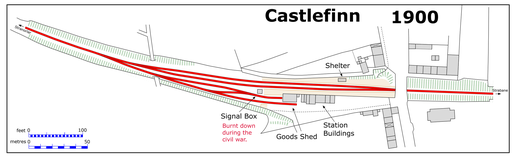

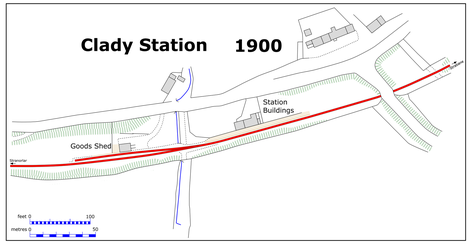

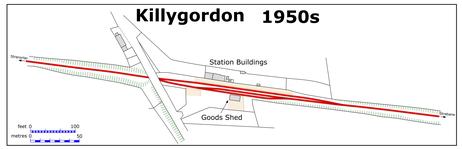

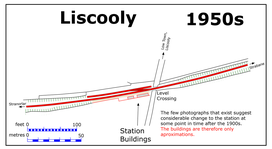

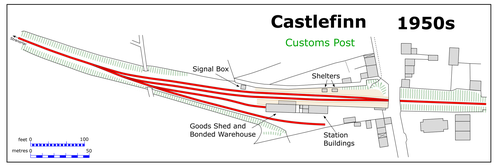

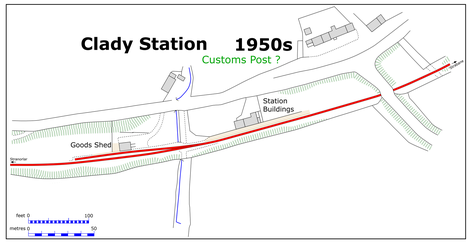

COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE
and Predecessors: Intermediate Stations
Stranorlar to Donegal (Town): West Donegal Railway.

KEY

FVR Finn Valley Railway: 7 September 1863 - 26 June 1892.

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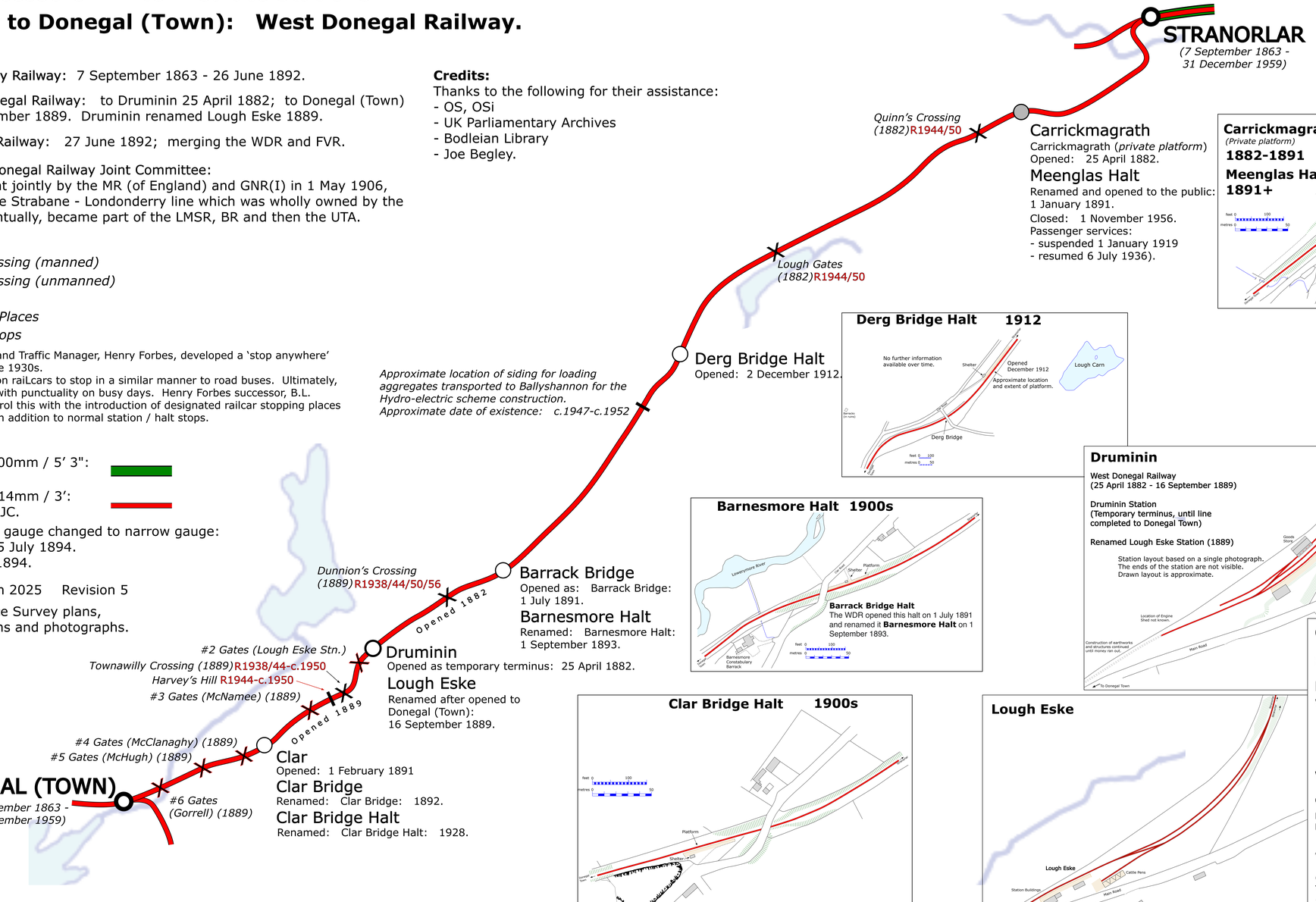

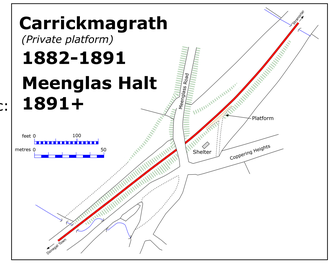

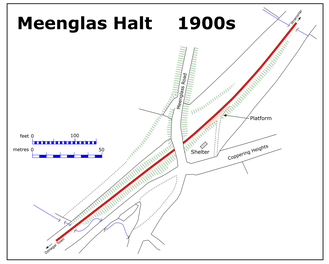

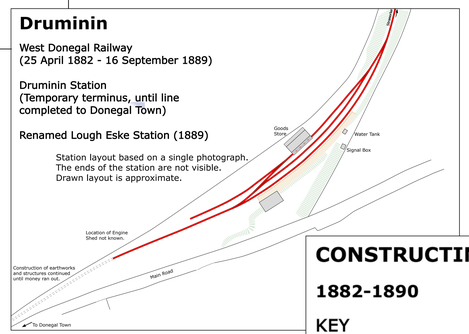

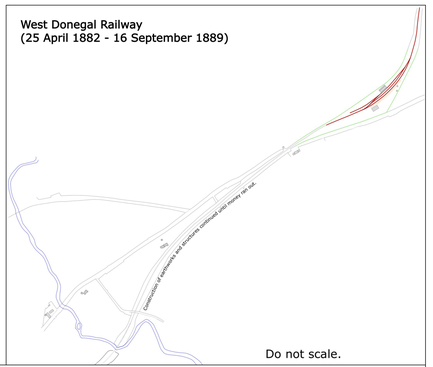

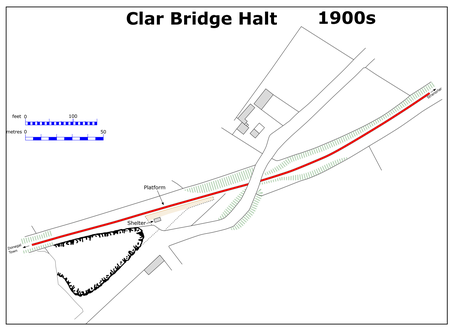

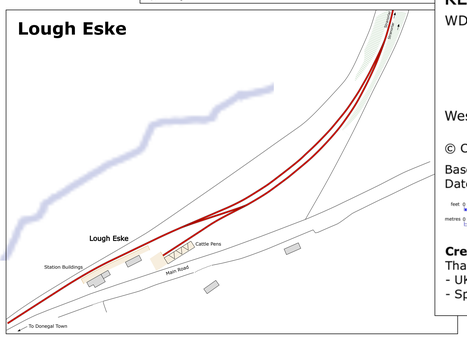

CONSTRUCTING THE WEST DONEGAL RAILWAY

1882-1890

KEY

WDR West Donegal Railway was opened from Stranorlar to Druminin (Lough Eske) in April 1882. Due to lack of finance, the remaining section to Donegal Town was not opened until September 1889. Stranorlar to Donegal Town was built to narrow gauge.

West Donegal Railway

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Based on Ordnance Survey (1896) and other information.
Date: 1882-1890.

Credits:
Thanks to the following for their assistance:
- UK Parliamentary Archives,
- Special thanks to Joe Begley for his assistance.

COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE and Predecessors: Intermediate Stations

Donegal (Town) to Killybegs Branch

KEY

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The CDRJC published leaflets in 1944, 1950 and 1956 listing railcar stops.

GAUGES:

Narrow Gauge: 914mm / 3':
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© Chris Amundson 2026 Revision 7

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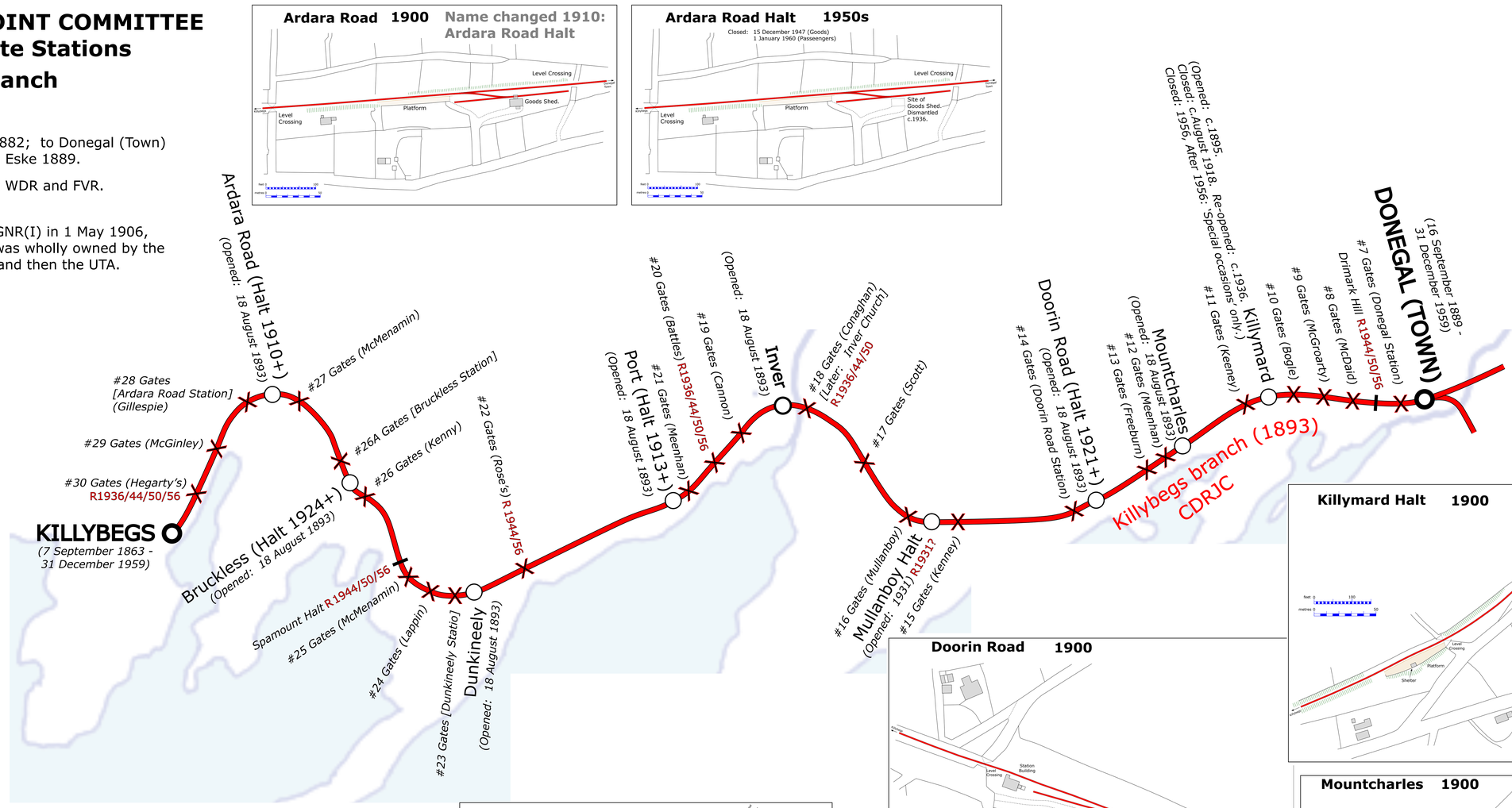

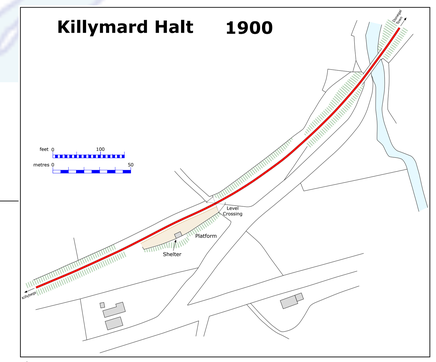

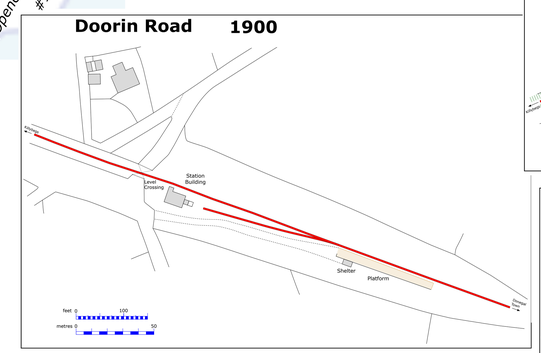

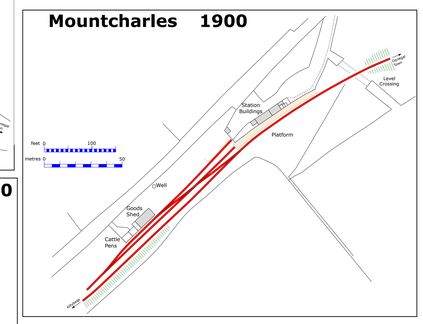

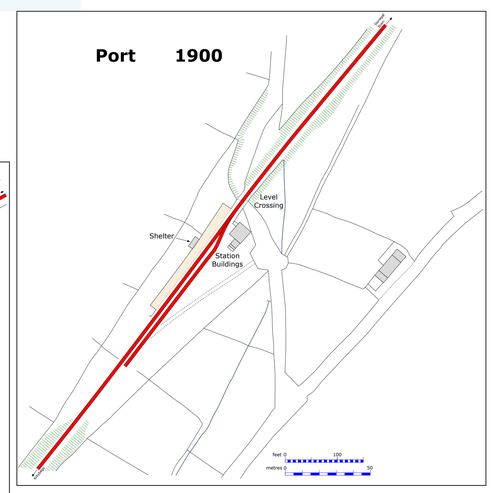

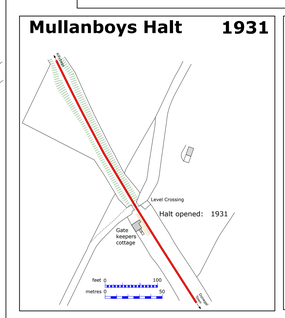

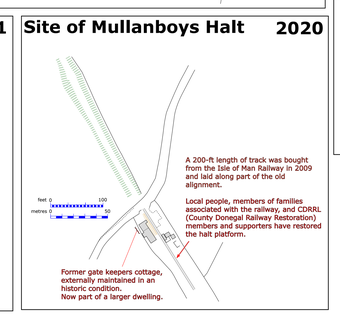

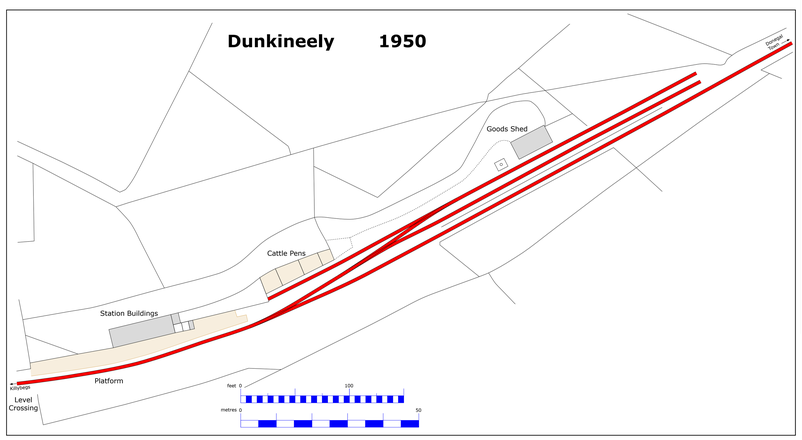

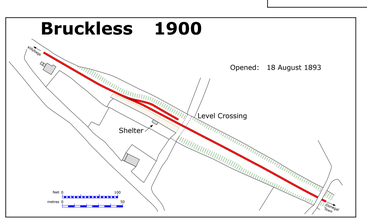

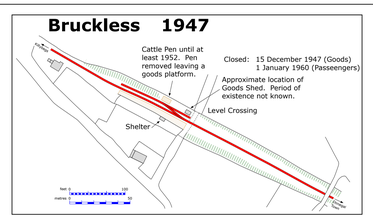

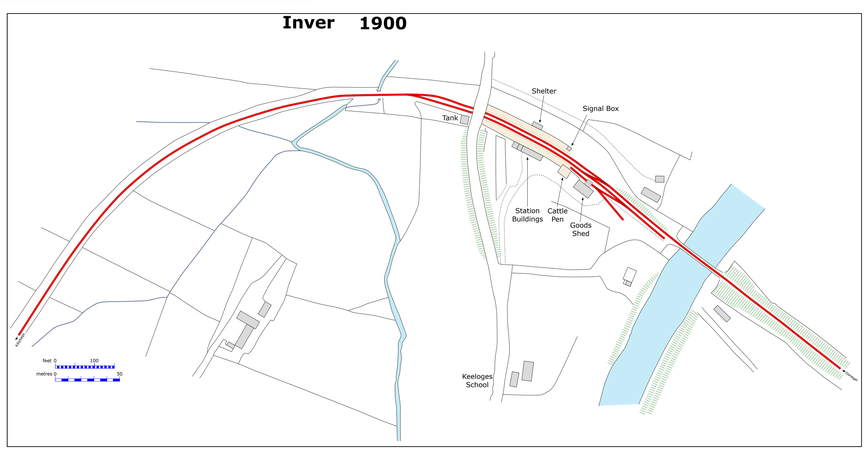

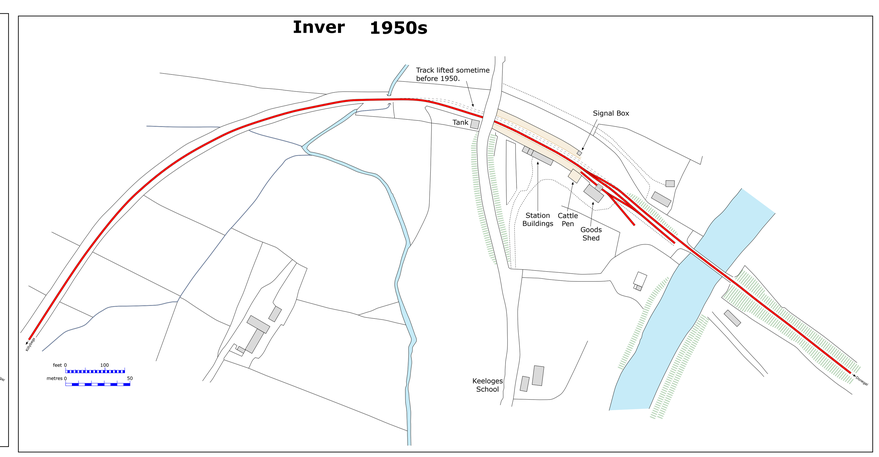

COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE and Predecessors: Intermediate Stations

Stranorlar to Glenties Branch

KEY

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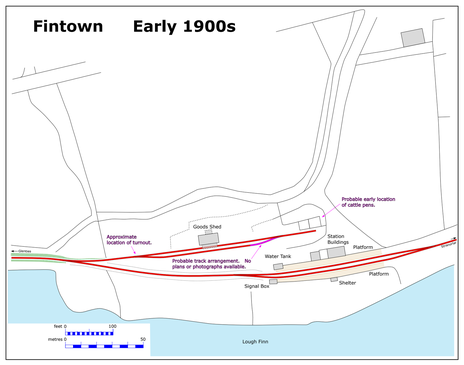
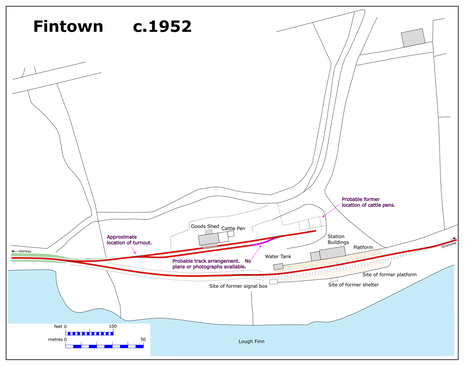
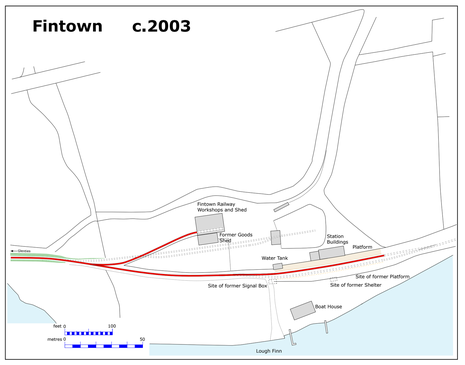
Fintown Early 1900s



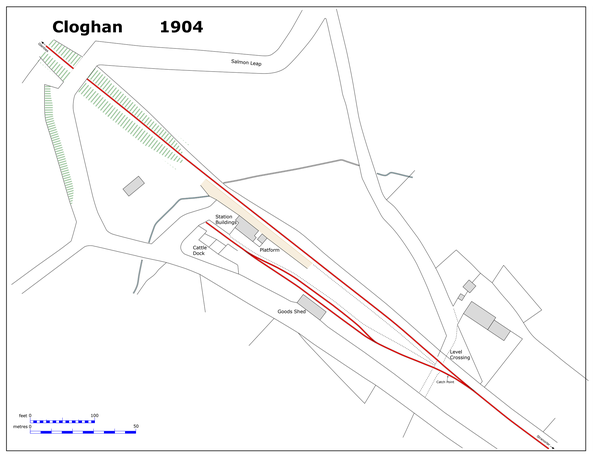
Fintown c.1952



Fintown c.2003

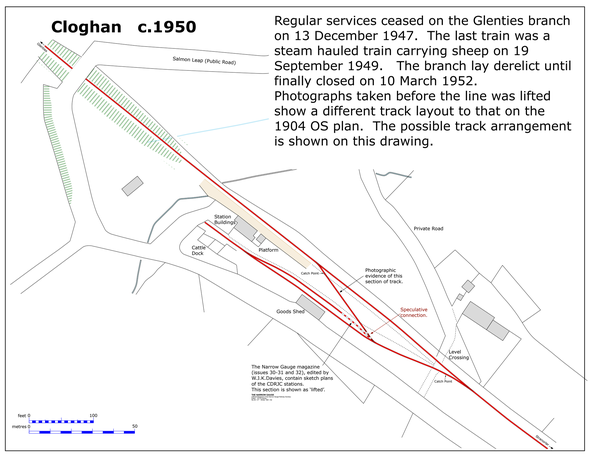


Cloghan 1904

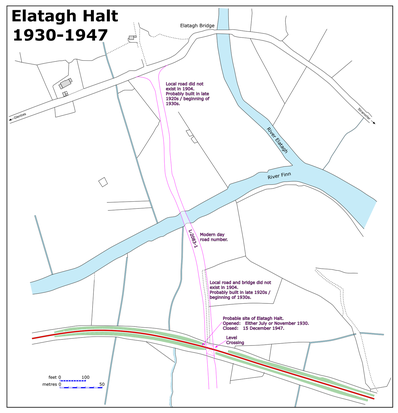


Cloghan c.1950

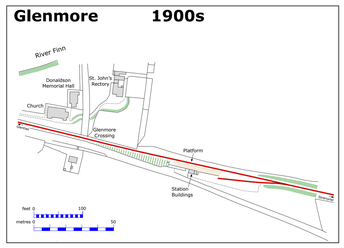
Regular services ceased on the Glenties branch on 13 December 1947. The last train was a steam hauled train carrying sheep on 19 September 1949. The branch lay derelict until finally closed on 10 March 1952.
Photographs taken before the line was lifted show a different track layout to that on the 1904 OS plan. The possible track arrangement is shown on this drawing.



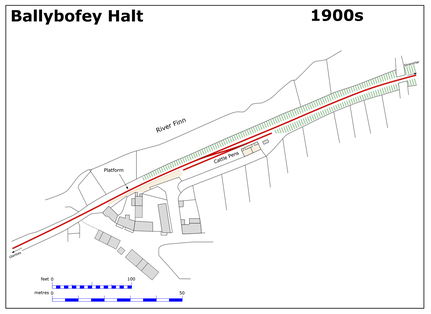
Elatagh Halt 1930-1947



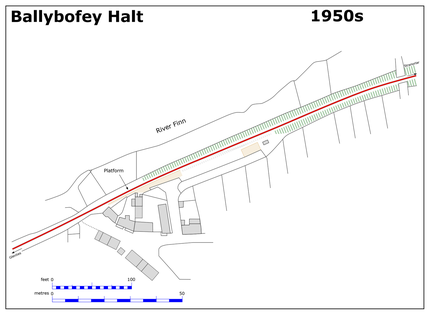
Glenmore 1900s



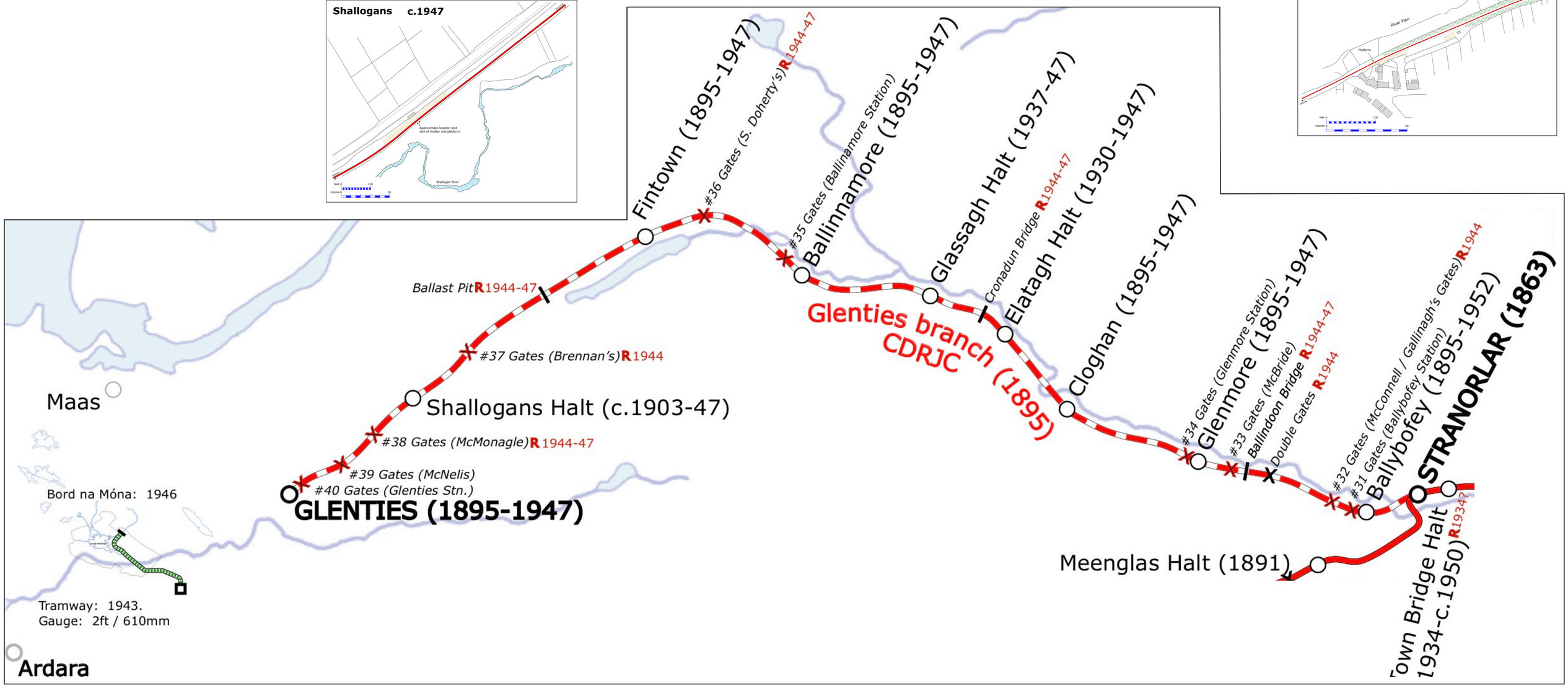
Ballybofey Halt 1900s



Ballybofey Halt 1950s



Shallogans c.1947



COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE and predecessors: Intermediate Stations

Strabane to Londonderry (Victoria Road)

KEY

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Converted to *narrow gauge*: 1885.

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GNR(I) — Great Northern Railway (Ireland): 1 January 1876.
Merger included INWR.
Jointly nationalised 1953 by Irish and Northern Irish Governments.
1958: Assets split between UTA and CIÉ (Córas Iompair Éireann).

LP&HC — Londonderry Port & Harbour Commissioners.
Established by Act of Parliament, 1854. Closed 1962.

UTA — Ulster Transport Authority (UTA).
The LMS (NCC) became part of British Railways (BR) after nationalisation in 1948. In 1949, it became part of the Ulster Transport Authority (UTA).

Symbols:

X *Level Crossing (manned)*

X *Level Crossing (unmanned)*

✱ Strabane - Derry / Londonderry.
May 1906: Operated by CDRJC. Owned wholly by the Midland Railway (of England); then the LMSR.

GAUGES:

Broad Gauge: 1600mm / 5' 3":
- FVR
- L&ER / D&ER / INWR / GNR(I).

Narrow Gauge: 914mm / 3':
- WDR / DR / CDRJC / S&LR / L&LSR / L&ER.

Former FVR broad gauge changed to narrow gauge: Conversion: 13-15 July 1894; opened: 16 July 1894.

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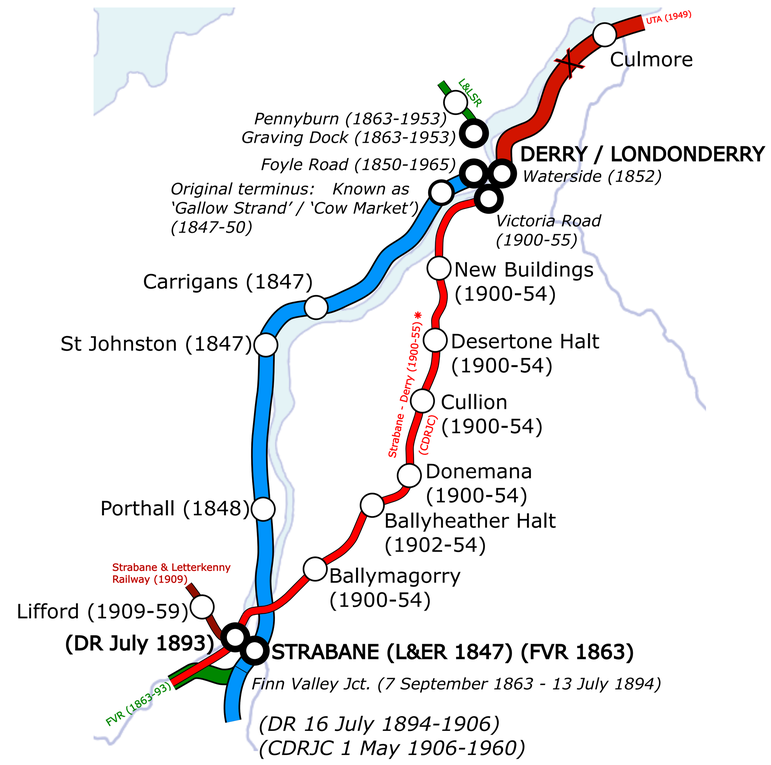
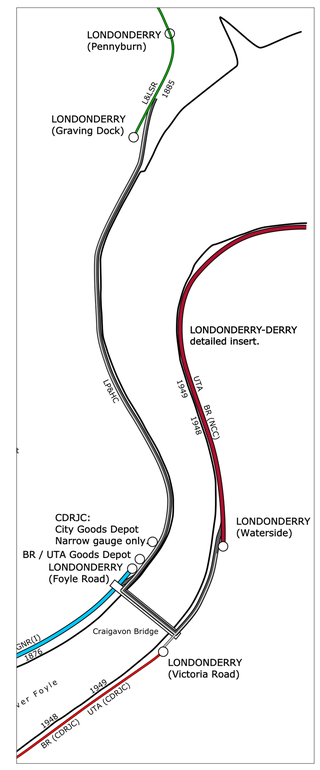
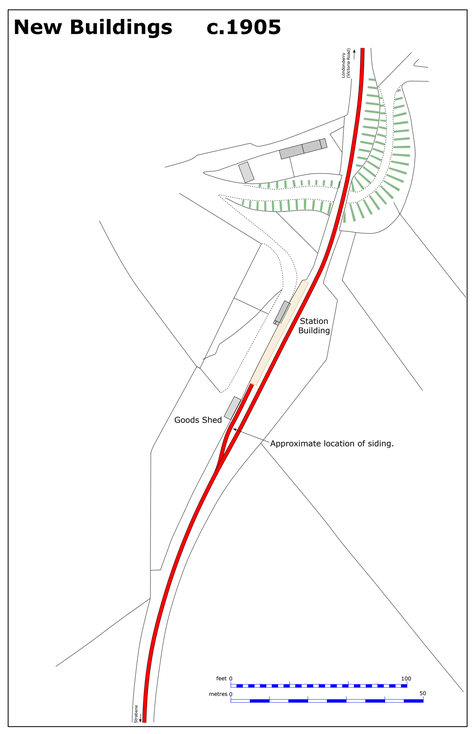
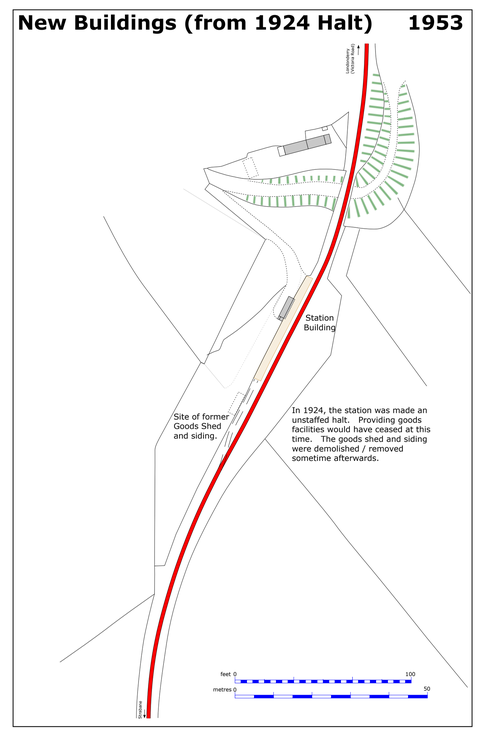
Sources:
Based on Ordnance Survey plans, Parliamentary plans, photographs and various atlases, including:
The County Donegal Railways, Dr EM Patterson; revised by Joe Begley and Steve Flanders.

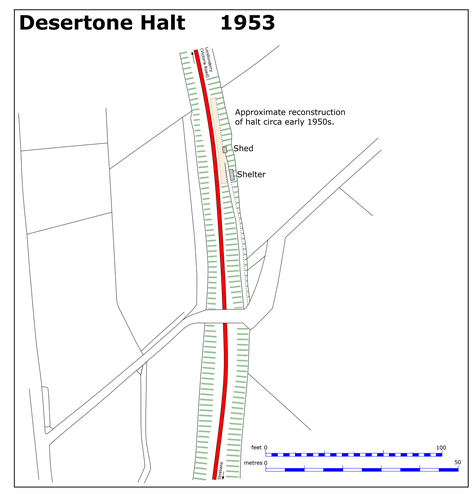
Credits:
Thanks to the following for their assistance:
- OS, OSi
- UK Parliamentary Archives
- Bodleian Library
- Joe Begley.

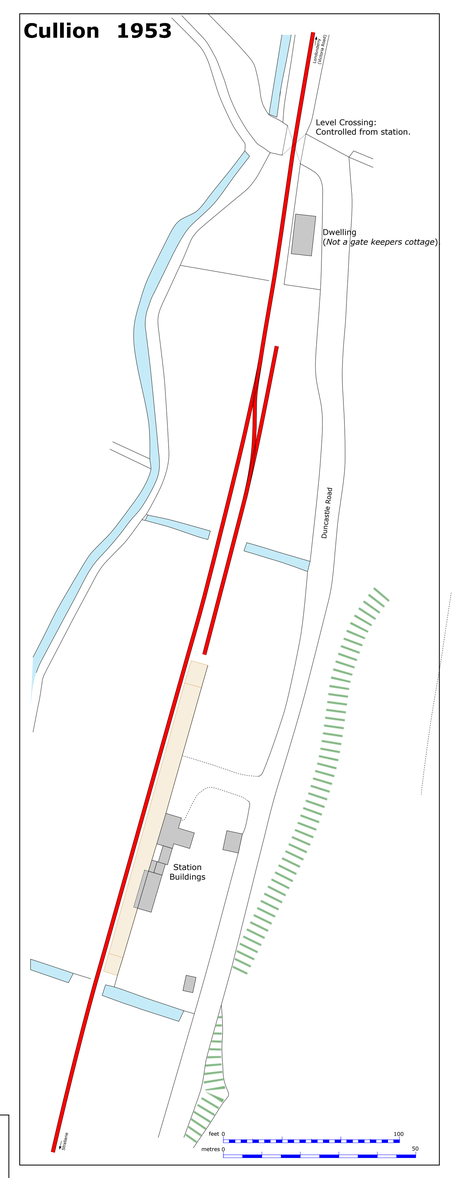


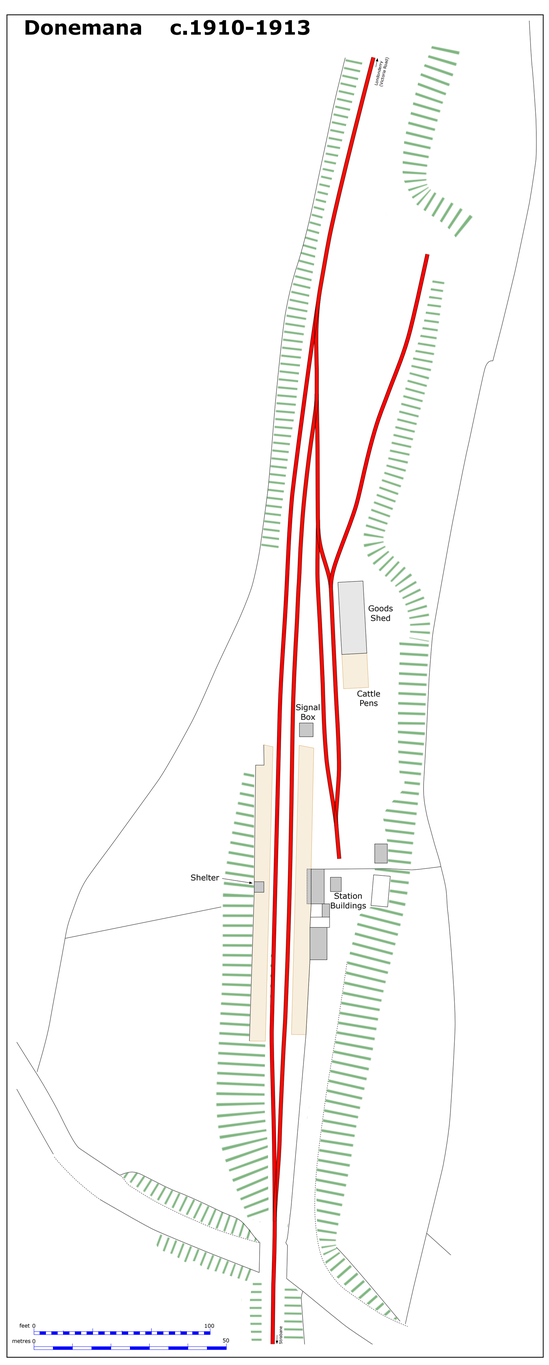


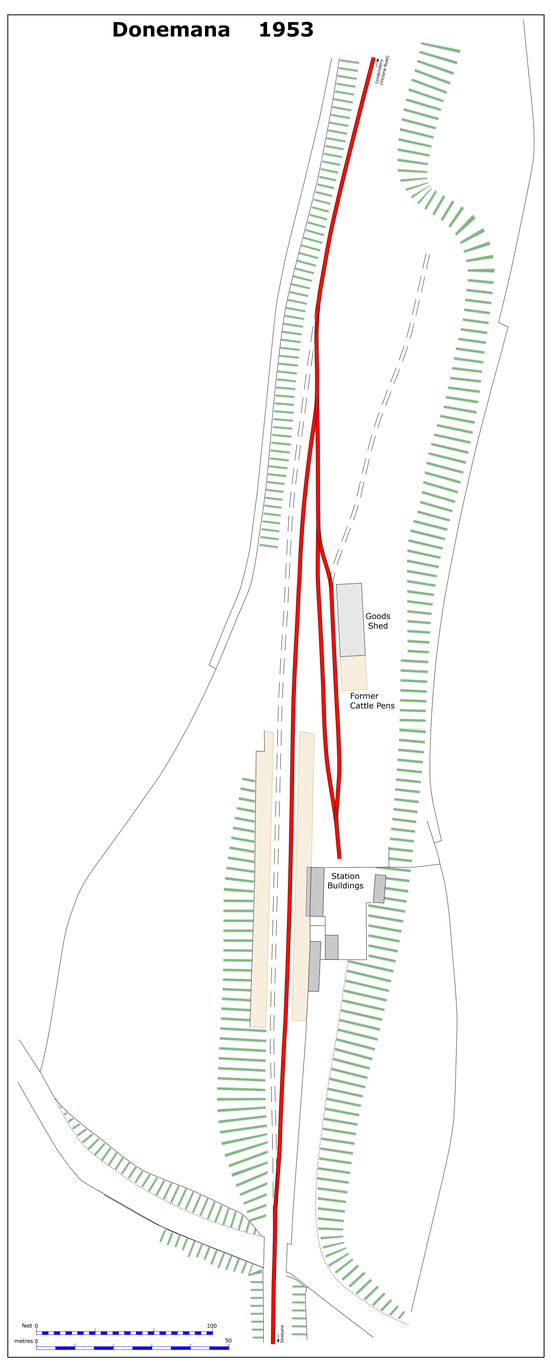


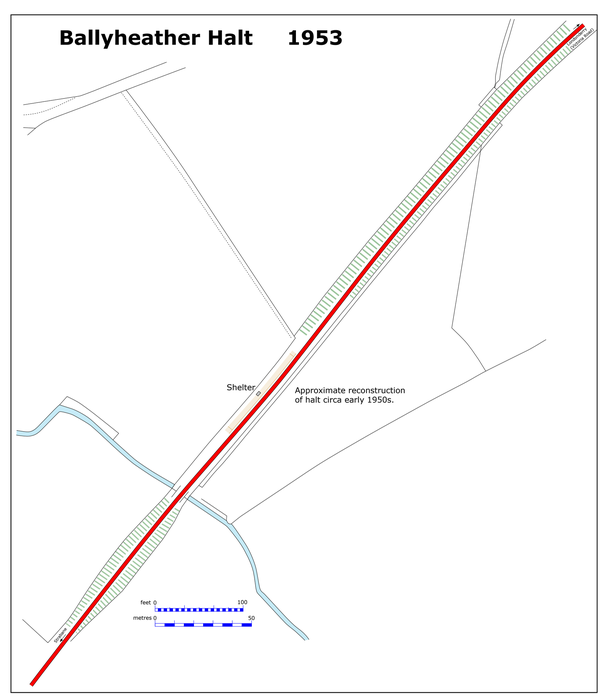


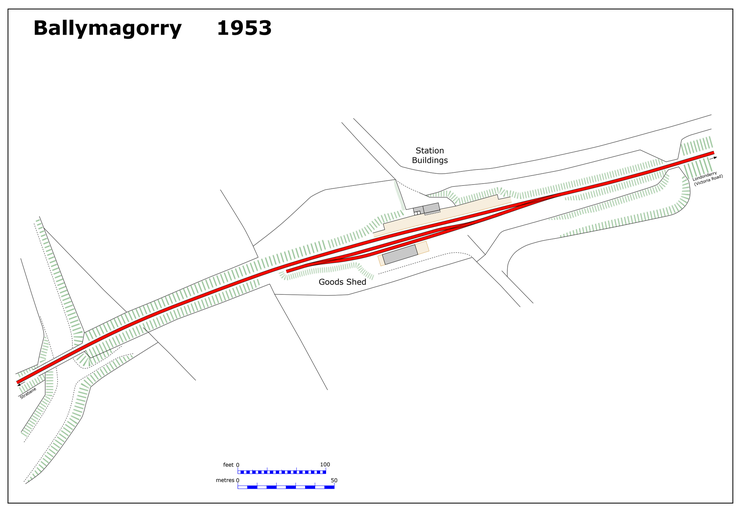












COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE and predecessors: Intermediate Stations

Donegal (Town) to Ballyshannon Branch

KEY

FVR Finn Valley Railway: 7 September 1863 - 26 June 1892.

WDR West Donegal Railway: to Druminin 25 April 1882; to Donegal (Town) 16 September 1889. Druminin renamed Lough Eske 1889.

DR Donegal Railway: 27 June 1892; merging the WDR and FVR.

CDRJC County Donegal Railway Joint Committee:
DR bought jointly by the MR (of England) and GNR(I) in 1 May 1906, except the Strabane - Londonderry line which was wholly owned by the MR. Eventually, became part of the LMSR, BR and then the UTA.

Symbols:

X *Level Crossing (manned)*

X *Level Crossing (unmanned)*

Railcar Stops:

I *Stopping Places*

R *Railcar Stops*

The CDRJC Secretary and Traffic Manager, Henry Forbes, developed a 'stop anywhere' policy for railcars in the 1930s.
Passengers could call on raiLcars to stop in a similar manner to road buses. Ultimately, this caused problems with punctuality on busy days. Henry Forbes successor, B.L. Curran, sought to control this with the introduction of designated railcar stopping places in 1944. These were in addition to normal station / halt stops.
The CDRJC published leaflets in 1944, 1950 and 1956 listing railcar stops.

GAUGES:

Broad Gauge: 1600mm / 5' 3":
- GNR(I).

Narrow Gauge: 914mm / 3':
- WDR / DR / CDRJC.

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Based on Ordnance Survey plans, Parliamentary plans and photographs.

Credits:
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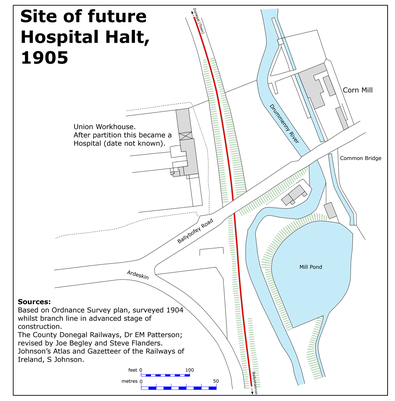

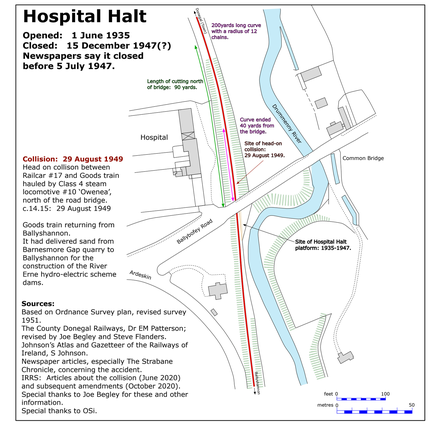

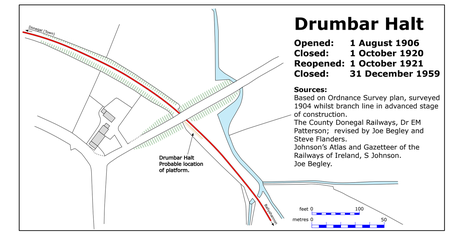

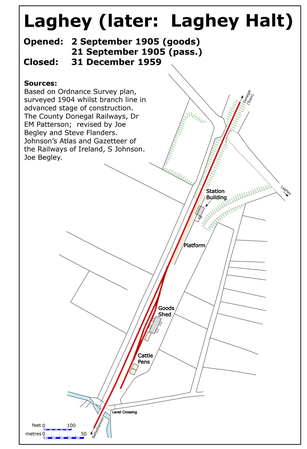

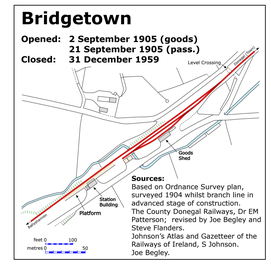

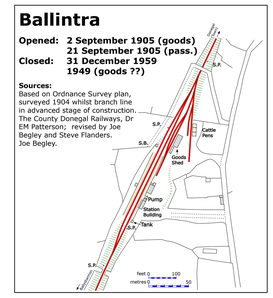

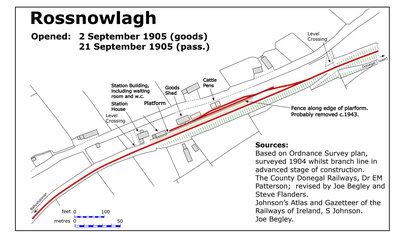

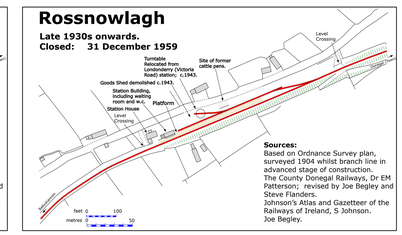

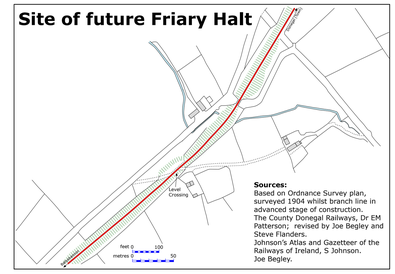

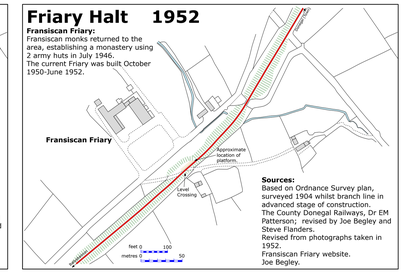

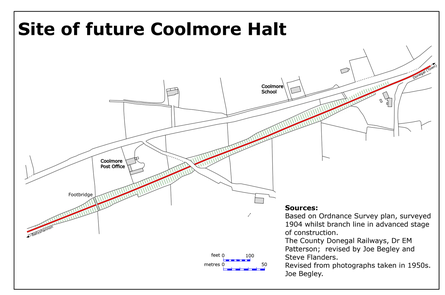

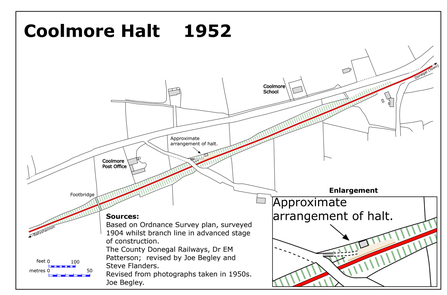

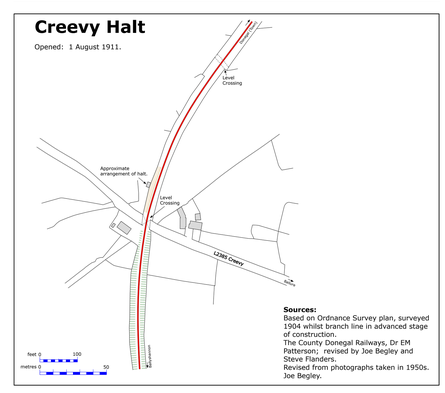

COUNTY DONEGAL RAILWAY JOINT COMMITTEE and Predecessors: Intermediate Stations

Strabane to Letterkenny (Strabane & Letterkenny Railway)

KEY

S&LR Strabane & Letterkenny Railway: Opened 1 January 1909
Operated by the CDRJC.

CDRJC County Donegal Railway Joint Committee.
DR bought jointly by the MR (of England) and GNR(I) in 1 May 1906, except the Strabane - Londonderry line which was wholly owned by the MR. Eventually, became part of the LMSR, BR and then the UTA.

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X *Level Crossing (unmanned)*

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R *Railcar Stops*

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Former FVR broad gauge changed to narrow gauge:
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opened: 16 July 1894.

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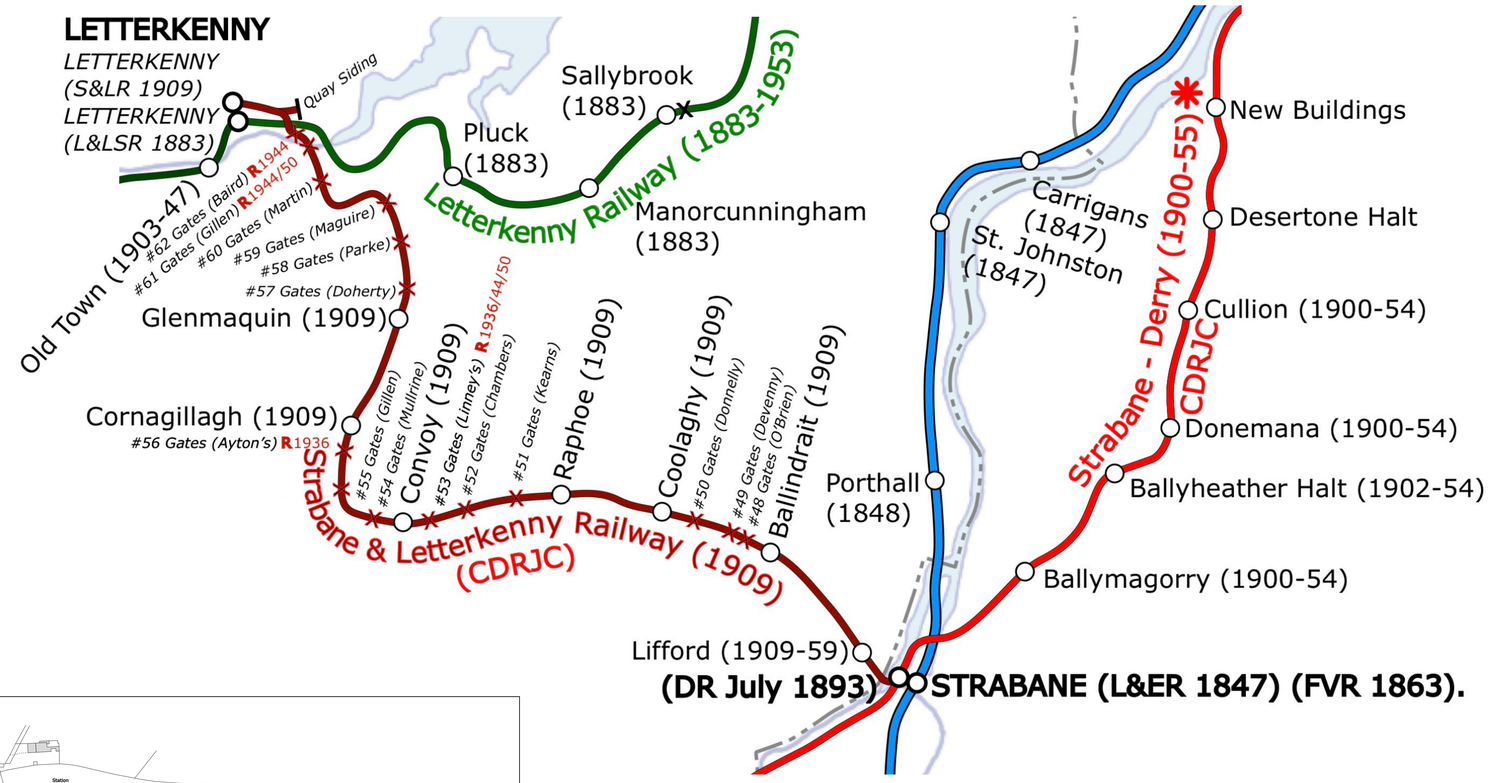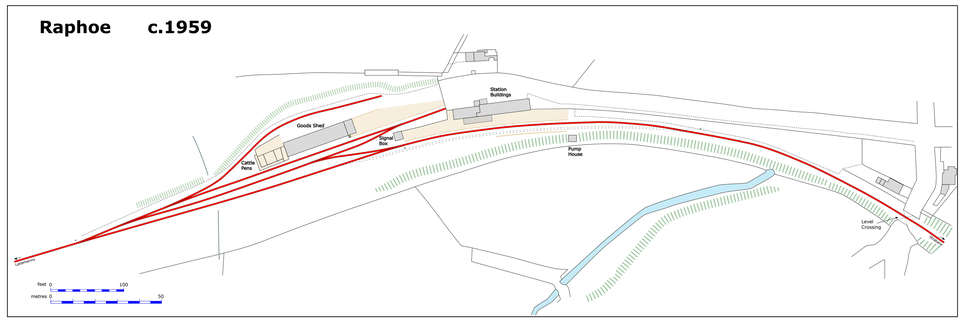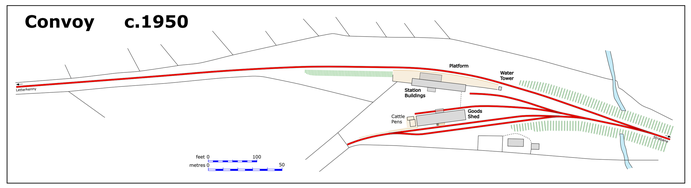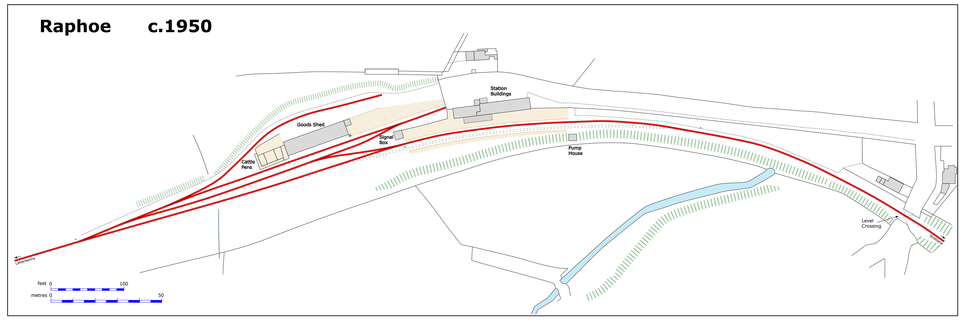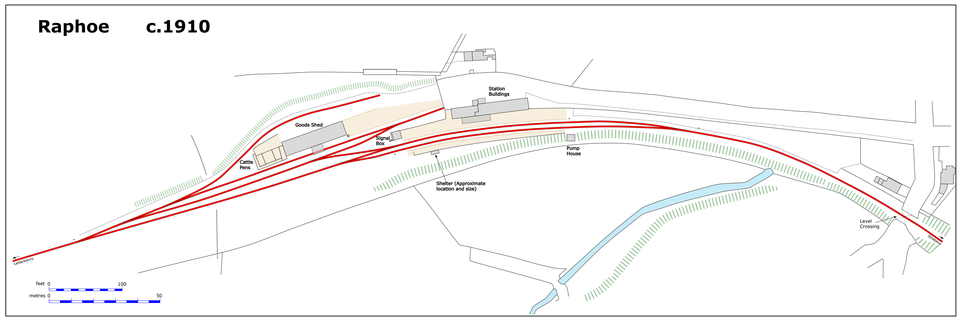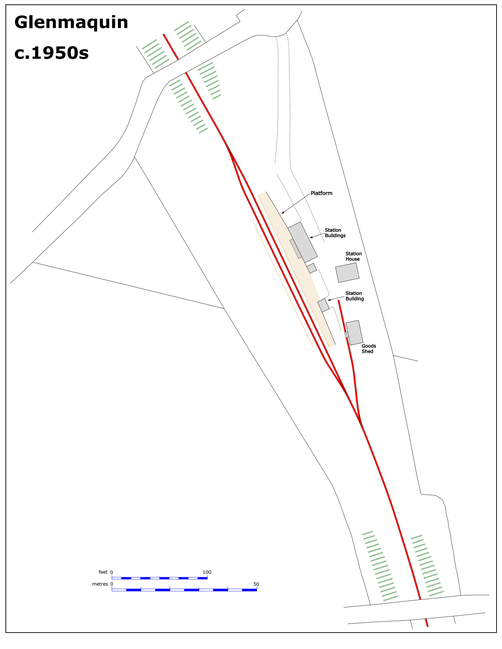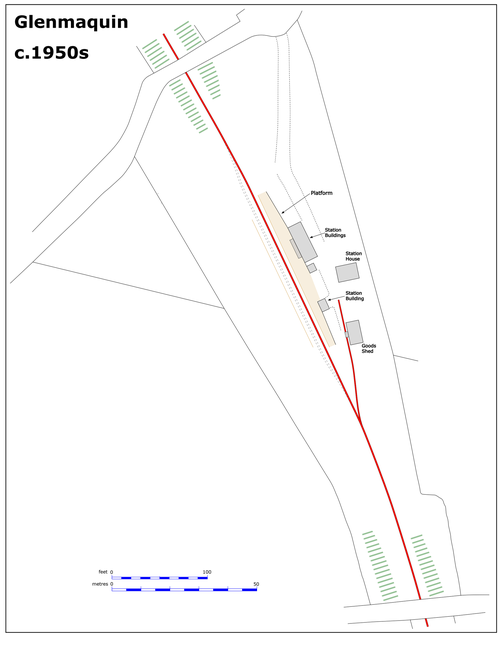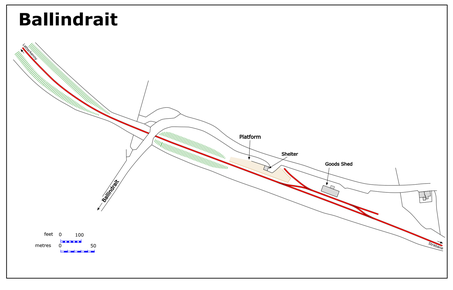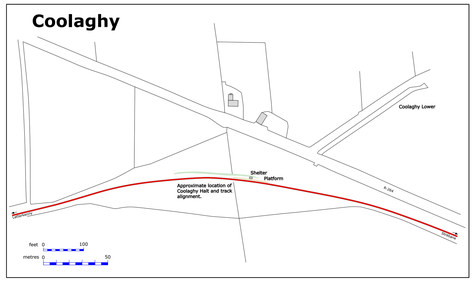
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