Doncaster Local Heritage List Sites

Reference: DLHL60

Name: Finningley Signal Box

Description: The Finningley Signal Box is a two storey structure comprising a brick locking-room with recessed panels and cogged brick details and timber framed operating-room with uPVC windows. The roof is pitched and overhangs at the eaves with decorative barge boards and finials to gables. A traditional sign faces the road, reading 'Finningley'. The design conforms to the Great Northern Railway type GN1b Signal Box of 1877 and is in good condition. It was built 10 years after the Great Northern and Great Eastern joint railway line opened, and survived its neighbouring station's closure.

The signal box's lever frame was replaced with a panel in 1977 when new track circuiting and colour light signalling were installed. The box also adapted at this time to control the level crossings at Park Drain, Wroot Road and Beech Hill. The signal function was removed in 1979 to Doncaster Signal box, when the building status was changed to a "gatebox". It is anticipated that the box will fully close in 2026 with functions moved to the LNE Regional Operations Centre at York.

Statement of Significance

Asset Type: Building/structure

Age: 1877

Rarity: Few historic signal boxes survive, with most (including this one) now threatened by redundancy. One of few surviving early GNR Type 1 Signal Boxes regionally.

Architectural and Artistic Interest: Early example of the GNR Type 1 Signal Box in a distinctive Gothic Revival style.

Group Value: Possesses strong group value with the former Finningley Station.

Historic Interest: A rare survivor and reminder of railway growth in the area.

Landmark Status: Clear landmark on Station Road and from the railway.