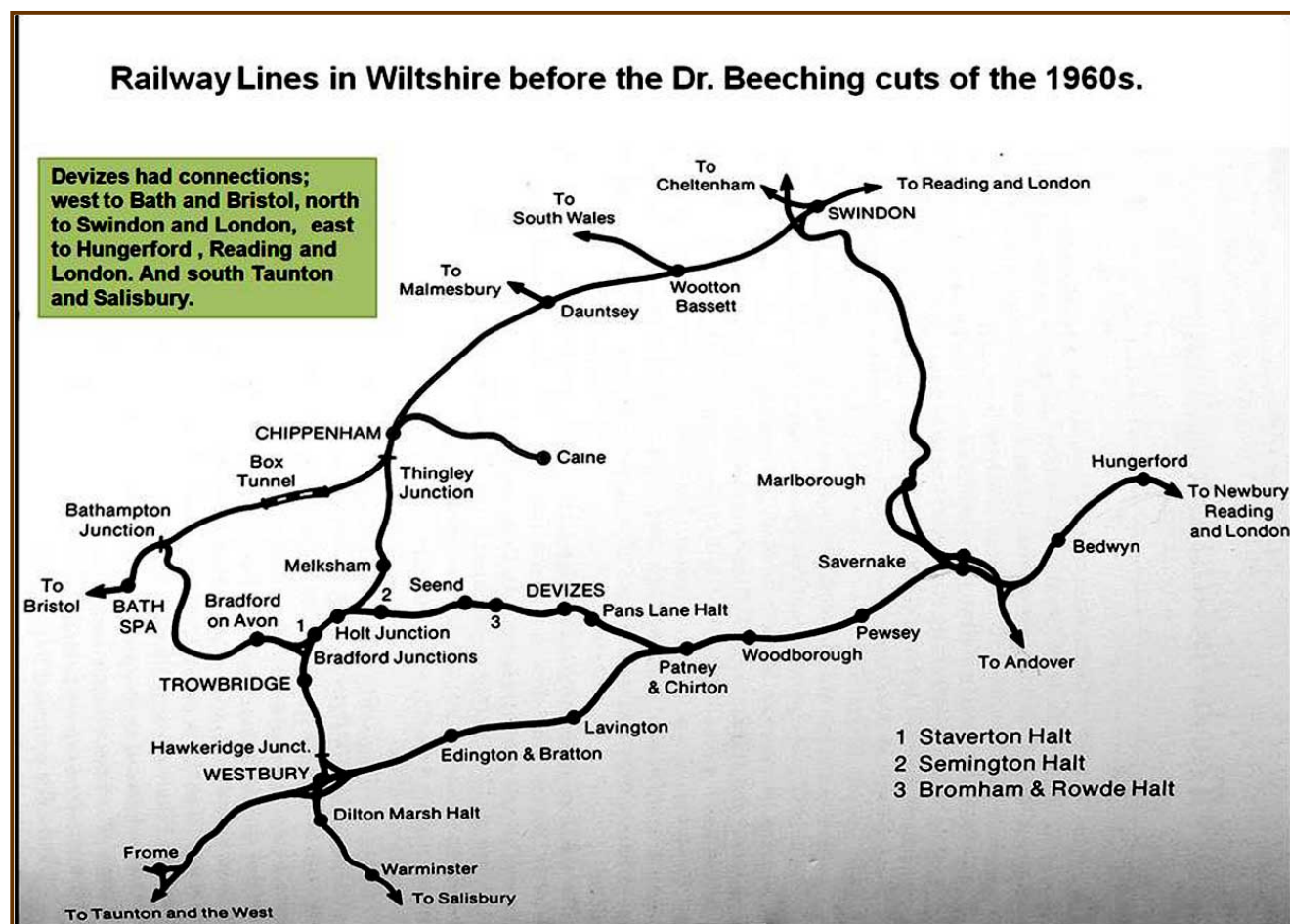


Devizes and the railway

The Devizes branch was a railway line from the Holt, Wiltshire to Pewsey, Wiltshire, and named after Devizes, the largest town on the line. The line from Holt to Devizes was built by the Wilts, Somerset and Weymouth Railway in 1857, connecting with the line from Chippenham to Trowbridge (now on the Wessex Main Line). The Great Western Railway extended their Reading-Hungerford railway station to Devizes via Pewsey in 1862, providing a direct line from London to the West Country through Devizes. (The line from Pewsey was extended to Taunton in 1906). The building of a by-pass line through Westbury removed most traffic from the Devizes line, and it closed in 1966.



We would very much like to publish more photos of Devizes Railway station and of trains in and around the Devizes, Melksham, Chippenham, Pewsey area. If you have ones you could lend us we would be very grateful. Please get in touch via the Contact page. **Below left** – a diesel train emerging from Devizes Castle tunnel towards Pan's Lane halt. Below right is the Trowbridge - Melksham line running north with the Devizes branch line going right (just north of Holt junction, see the map above)

