

= Highgate tube station =

Highgate is a London Underground station and former railway station in Archway Road , in the London Borough of Haringey in north London . The station takes its name from nearby Highgate Village . It is on the High Barnet branch of the Northern line , between Archway and East Finchley stations and is in Travelcard Zone 3 .

The station was originally opened in 1867 as part of the Great Northern Railway 's line between Finsbury Park and Edgware stations . As part of their only partially completed Northern Heights plan , the London Underground started serving the station in 1941 , using new platforms in tunnels beneath the surface station . The platforms of the surface station remain , but were last used in 1954 , and the section of the line through them to Finsbury Park was lifted by 1972 . One of the original 1867 station buildings still exists , and is in use as a private house .

= = History = =

= = = Original station = = =

Highgate station was originally constructed by the Edgware , Highgate and London Railway in the 1860s on its line from Finsbury Park station to Edgware station . Before the line was opened it was purchased in July 1867 by the larger Great Northern Railway ( GNR ) , whose main line from King 's Cross ran through Finsbury Park on its way to Potters Bar and the north . The station opened along with the railway to Edgware on 22 August 1867 .

Because of the hilly terrain , the station was built in a deep cutting excavated from Highgate Hill adjacent to Archway Road . Tunnels penetrated the hillside at each end of the station , leading towards East Finchley to the north and Crouch End to the south . When built , the station had two side platforms , with three tracks between them , and a station building on the south side . A footbridge linked the two platforms .

A branch line was constructed from Highgate to Alexandra Palace by the Muswell Hill Railway ( MHR ) and opened on 22 May 1872 . The new branch split from the original route north of the station in a wide arc around Highgate Wood . The next station on the branch line when it opened was Muswell Hill , and in 1902 an intermediate station opened at Cranley Gardens .

In the 1880s , the station was rebuilt , with two tracks flanking a central island platform instead of the two side platforms . The island platform was accessed from a ticket office in the middle of the footbridge . In 1911 , the MHR branch was taken over by the GNR . After the 1921 Railways Act created the Big Four railway companies , the GNR became part of the London & North Eastern Railway ( LNER ) in 1923 .

= = = Northern Heights project = = =

In 1935 , the London Passenger Transport Board ( LPTB ) announced a proposal , which became known as the Northern Heights project , to take over the LNER lines from Finsbury Park to Edgware , High Barnet and Alexandra Palace , and link them to both the Northern line at East Finchley and to the Northern City line at Finsbury Park . The construction of the first phase of this project involved extending tube train services from the Northern line 's existing terminus at Archway station ( then also called Highgate ) , through a new section of paired tunnels under Highgate station to emerge south of East Finchley station , where track connections to the LNER line were made .

To provide an interchange between the new deep @-@ level platforms and the existing surface platforms , a subterranean concourse was constructed immediately beneath the existing station . The concourse was connected to the deep @-@ level platforms with escalators and to the existing platforms by stairs . Street entrances to the concourse were provided from the south ( Archway Road ) and the north ( Priory Gardens ) . At the same time , the buildings on the surface platforms were partly reconstructed and the footbridge was removed . Northern line services through the new

tunnels to East Finchley started operating on 3 July 1939 although they did not stop at Highgate until later .

= = = Wartime = = =

Following the outbreak of the Second World War in September 1939 , works to complete the electrification of the LNER lines were slowed or halted . The line from Finchley Central to Edgware closed for reconstruction on 11 September 1939 . Northern line services were extended from East Finchley to High Barnet on 14 April 1940 , and started serving the deep level platforms at Highgate on 19 January 1941 , though not all of the new station buildings had been completed . The surface platforms at Highgate continued to be served by LNER steam trains .

The deep @-@ level platforms were constructed to accommodate extra @-@ long nine @-@ car trains , which were planned for services on the Northern line , but never served Highgate , having been withdrawn at the start of the war . With the interchange between LNER and Northern line services available at Highgate from January 1941 , LNER trains to East Finchley ended on 2 March 1941 , after which they operated between Finsbury Park and Alexandra Palace only . In 1942 , LNER services through Highgate were reduced to rush hour only operations . During the war , the deep @-@ level platforms at Highgate were used , as many were , as a shelter from the bombing of London by the Luftwaffe , and , later , V @-@ 1 and V @-@ 2 missiles .

= = = Post @-@ war = = =

After the war , plans to complete the Northern Heights project were reviewed . In early 1946 , the conversion of the LNER line from Mill Hill East to Edgware was scheduled by the LPTB for completion between January 1947 and June 1948 . No work was carried out as maintenance works and reconstruction of war damage on the existing network had the greatest call on London Underground funds . Funds for new works were severely limited and priority was given to the completion of the western and eastern extensions of the Central line to West Ruislip , Epping and Hainault . Despite being shown as under construction on underground maps as late as 1950 , work never restarted on the unimplemented parts of the Northern Heights project .

After a temporary closure between October 1951 and January 1952 , British Railways ( the successor to the LNER ) ended passenger services between Finsbury Park and Alexandra Palace permanently on 3 July 1954 . British Rail freight traffic continued to pass through the station until 1964 . After freight traffic ceased , the line continued to be used for occasional London Underground rolling stock transfers between Highgate depot and the Northern City line , with the stock being pulled over the unelectrified lines by battery locomotives . This ceased in 1970 because of the poor condition of some of the intermediate bridges , and the track was lifted through the surface platforms in 1972 .

Completion of the station buildings was delayed for many years . Designed by the architect Charles Holden , the pre @-@ war plans included a large entrance building at the top of the hill next to The Woodman public house with a pair of escalators between the entrance and the sub @-@ surface concourse . These were to be enclosed in an inclined structure down the side of the cutting parallel with the surface tracks . Taking inspiration from the local legend , the building would have been topped by a statue of Dick Whittington and his cat . When works were finished in 1957 , a single , upwards only , escalator was provided to take passengers from the sub @-@ surface ticket hall up to a simple exit at the top of the cutting .

One of the GNR 's station buildings remains on the north side of the surface platforms , used as a private residence . Much of the route between Finsbury Park and Alexandra Palace now forms part of the Parkland Walk , although this bypasses the station site for safety reasons .

= = Services and connections = =

== Services ==

The station is in Travelcard Zone 3 , between Archway and East Finchley stations . Train frequencies vary throughout the day , but generally operate every 3 ? 7 minutes between 06 : 01 and 01 : 01 northbound and 05 : 37 and 00 : 18 southbound ( as of 2015 ) .

== Connections ==

As of 2015 , London Bus routes 43 , 134 and 263 and night bus route N20 serve the station .

== Use in media ==

The disused platforms and tunnels have sometimes been used for filming and have appeared in several productions including the feature film Paperhouse , and the television series EastEnders and Waking the Dead .