

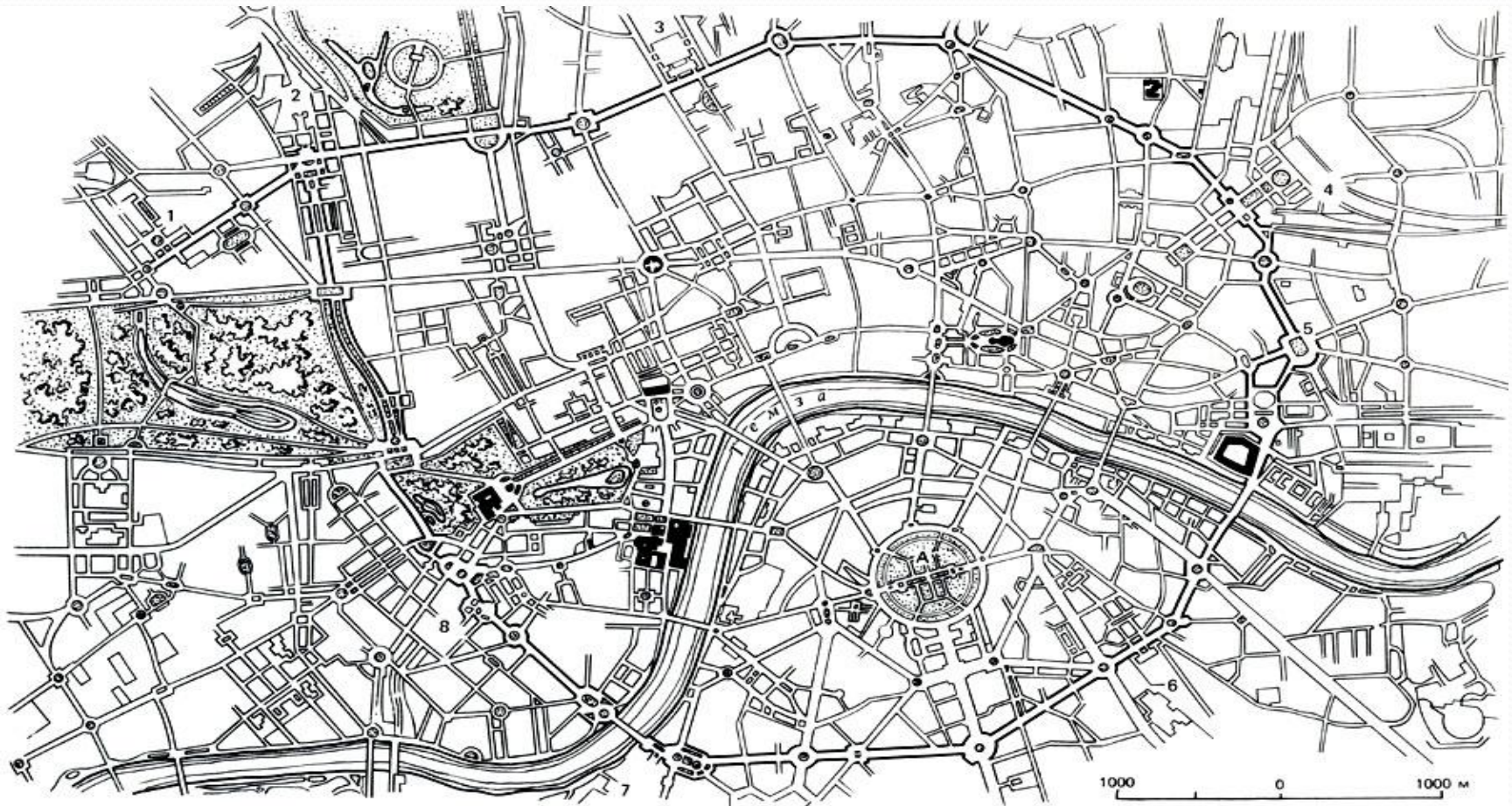
# История Железных дорог Великобритании



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The railway network in the United Kingdom is the oldest railway system in the world. The first long-distance railroad was built between the cities of Liverpool and Manchester. It was designed by George Стефенсоном and opened on September 15, 1830.



The railway network has grown rapidly connecting and integrating into hundreds of individual companies during the Victorian era. In the long boom in the construction of Railways has been completed by 1922, as the ever-increasing costs have negative influence on the development of railway transport. In 1948, the network of Railways has passed under the control of the state.



High-speed movement (up to 250 km/h) in trains, consisting of wagons with tilt body, is made on enhancements to existing lines. Fast trains on the route London - York developing speed 180,2 km/h; train «Eurostar», linking London with the continental Europe, -209 km/h (restricted when passing the tunnel under the English channel).



In 1994 and 1995, the British Railways were restructured and divided into several companies: infrastructure, maintenance, rolling-stock companies, cargo and passenger traffic, which were privatized in the period from 1996 to 1997. Privatization has not given a definite answer the correctness of the solution of the restructuring.



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The reduction of the volume of freight transportations, and the worsening of the financial situation of the Railways was caused by the reduction of production in the coal and other traditional heavy industries; difficulties in meeting the logistical queries industry; the construction of plants in areas that do not have W-D. lines; growth of competition from the side of the vehicle.



Freight trains are operated by companies management of freight transport, such as the EWS. Their difference from the first in that they are fully commercial and are not funded by the government. Most of the companies on the operation of the trains do not have their own locomotives and wagons. Instead, they are required to rent them from one of the three operators: Rolling Stock Operating Companies (Rosco's), Bombardier and Alstom.



Today the length of the Railways of great Britain is about 16 200 kilometers (16 place in the world), of which 4 928 km electrified. Development and prospects of high-speed traffic.





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