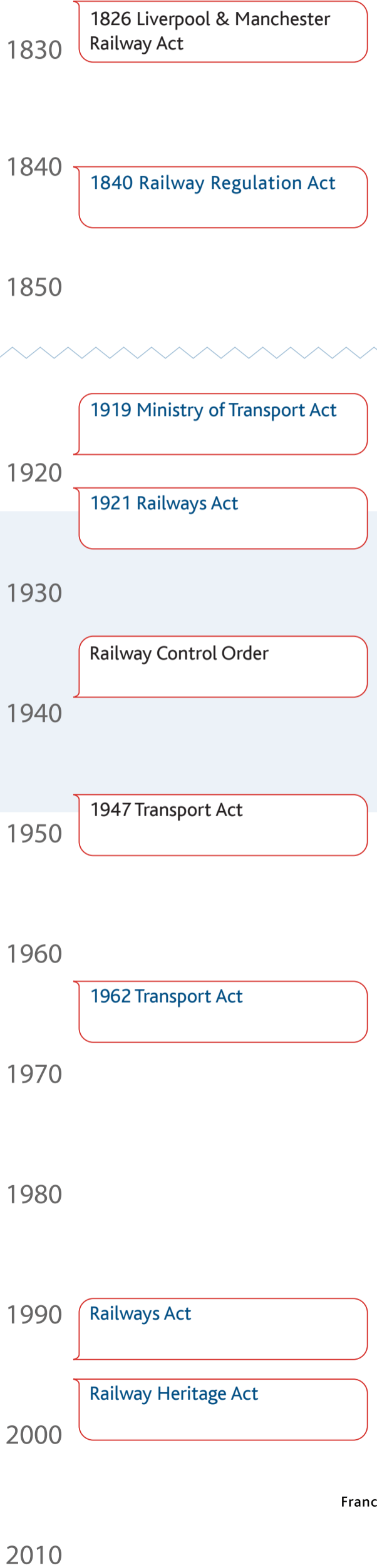


Changing tracks

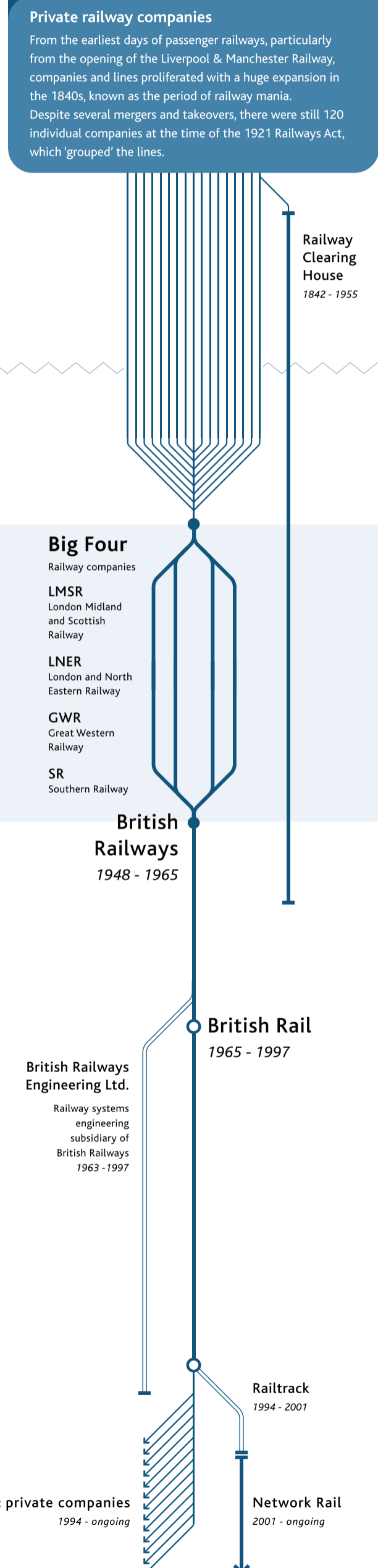
From the numerous individual localised railway companies, through mergers, grouping, nationalisation and privatisation, the history of Britain's railway companies has been complex. The government departments, regulatory bodies and other organisations that have supported and controlled the railways have also changed many times. The records of the many bodies that have played a part in the story can be found at both The National Archives and the National Railway Museum, but also in the many other archive collections across the country. The aim of this tool is to visually represent the changing landscape of the railways.

Please note that this is by no means a complete picture. It doesn't include some of the smaller, short-lived, or regional bodies, or subsidiary organisations, but highlights some of the key dates, and organisations whose records are now held at The National Archives and the National Railway Museum. To find records of railway companies and bodies held elsewhere, download the accompanying spreadsheet.

Year and legislation



Companies



Government departments

