



In 1898, the El Paso & Northeastern Railroad completed its initial line north from El Paso to the future town of Alamogordo and in 1902 connected with the the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad, operating in New Mexico under the name Chicago, Rock & and El Paso Railway, at Santa Rosa, completing a new transcontinental route. The El Paso & Southwestern Railroad purchased the EP&NE in July 1905.

The sun sets in 2015 on the Union Pacific, originally the EP&NE, a few miles south of Alamogordo. The steep escarpment that forms the Sacramento Mountains is the easternmost Basin and Range normal fault. The Paleozoic marine sedimentary rocks dip gently eastward, away from us, and become the flat layers that underlie the Great Plains to the east. The top of the mountain has timber that was the objective of the Alamogordo & Sacramento Mountain Railway.