



The Tucson, Cornelia & Gila Bend Railroad branches off of the Southern Pacific Sunset Route (1881) mainline at Gila Bend, Arizona, and extends 44 miles southward to the New Cornelia copper mine at Ajo, Arizona (this location). The TC&GB was constructed in 1915-1916 and the planned extension from Ajo east to Tucson was never built. The line saw considerable business, both freight and passenger, until copper production at the New Cornelia mine declined in the 1980's. The railroad ceased being profitable and the line was closed in 1985. The line was re-opened temporarily in 1995-1998 so the smelter in Ajo could be dismantled and removed; the tracks have remained dormant ever since.

Southeastward view of the TC&GB tracks and the mission style TC&GB station in Ajo, which has been renovated for use by local businesses and a museum. The tracks are becoming overgrown with mesquite. There is a turning wye 1,300 feet northwest of (behind) the viewer.



The front of the TC&GB station in Ajo still makes a statement and is a jewel in the desert vastness.





Northwestward view of the TC&GB end of track, 700 feet southeast of the depot.