



In 1881, the Union Pacific completed construction of its Julesburg Branch, connecting the Denver Pacific line at La Salle to Julesburg on the UP transcontinental main line (east of map area). The Julesburg Branch was later partially abandoned for 70 miles between a point 13 miles east of La Salle and a point just east of the map area, where a 10-mile-long cutoff connects the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (now BNSF) to the remainder of the Julesburg Branch.

This is the abandoned section of the UP Julesburg Branch 2 miles north of Fort Morgan, Colorado. The branch follows the north side of the South Platte River, whose floodplain is the flat area to the left in this westward view.



Close-up of the small bridge visible in the previous photo.



Another view of the small bridge visible in the previous photo for the grade of the UP Julesburg Branch.



In 1882, the Colorado, Fort Morgan, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, later just the CB&Q, was completed from the Colorado-Nebraska state line to Denver. The CFMCB&Q was built eastward across the Colorado plains and joined the South Platte River at Fort Morgan, where the line followed the south bank of the river 2 miles south of the UP Julesburg Branch.

The Fort Morgan Depot, built in the 1920's on the CB&Q line.



Another view of the Fort Morgan Depot.



Sidings and an agricultural loading facility on the CFMCB&Q line at Fort Morgan.