



The Santa Fe Central Railway started as the Santa Fe Albuquerque & Pacific Railroad with grand plans to reach the west coast. The name was changed to SFC once the plans became more realistic, which was to connect the El Paso & Rock Island from Torrance to Santa Fe. The SFC was completed in 1903 and a few years later changed its name to New Mexico Central. In 1926, the AT&SF purchased the road and abandoned it in stages from 1928 to 1943.

The SFC is east of the 10,000-foot Manzano and Sandia Mountains, where the western mountains end and the Great Plains begin. This SFC bridge foundation crosses flat, dry grassland, typical of the plains, several miles north of the town of Estancia, which was a major stop on the SFC (and later NMC).