



In the middle 1920's, the SP built two new lines to replace the Maricopa & Phoenix Railroad (1887), which was a branch off the SP's Sunset Route (1881) and SP's only access to Phoenix. One of the SP's new lines was a connection completed in 1924 east of Phoenix, and the other new line was a connection completed in 1926 west of Phoenix, from the SP mainline at Wellton, Arizona (this location) to Phoenix using the Arizona Eastern (1910) line for the part near Phoenix. The two new SP lines built in the middle 1920's constitute a second mainline parallel to the Sunset Route and goes through Phoenix.

Eastward view of the SP Sunset Route (1881) in the foreground, and the SP (1926) cutoff to Phoenix is on the left.



Westward view of the SP Sunset Route (1881) in the foreground, connecting in the distance with the bolted track of the SP (1926) cutoff to Phoenix.



Southwestward view of the SP (1926) cutoff to Phoenix. The SP Sunset Route (1881) is barely visible in the distance.



Northeastward view of the SP (1926) as it heads across the desert to Phoenix.