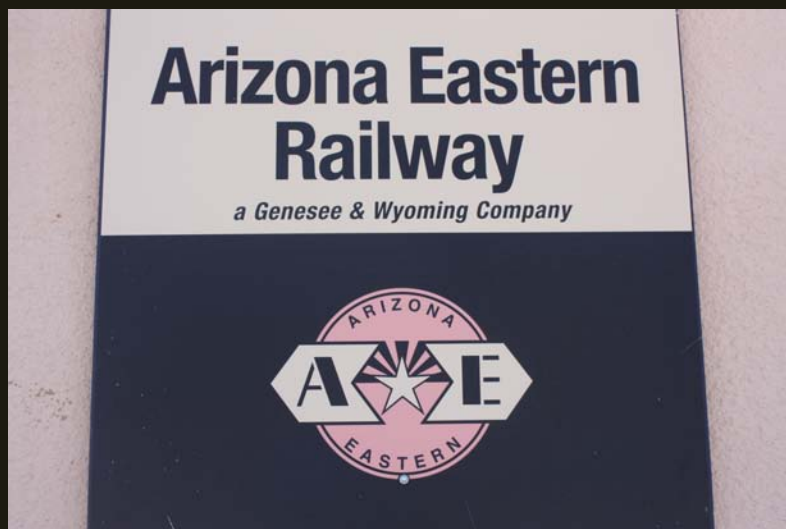




Construction of the Gila Valley, Globe & Northern Railway began in 1884 from a junction with the Southern Pacific mainline at Bowie, Arizona, reaching Safford, Arizona (this location) around 1897. Before completion to the mining town of Globe in 1898, the railroad came under the control of the Southern Pacific's Arizona Eastern Railroad. In 1909, the AE extended the line 10 miles to the mines at Miami, Arizona, and in 1924 the AE merged into the SP system. The last SP passenger service was in 1953. SP sold the Bowie-Miami line to Kyle Railroad in 1988 and after several sales the line was purchased by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. and is operated again as the Arizona Eastern Railway.

Northwestward view of the Safford Depot, which the AE/SP built in 1928 and today is the AE's headquarters.





A closer northwestward view of the GVG&N (1898) and the Safford Depot. Below, an AE truck decal.







Southeastward view of the GVG&N (1898) and the Safford Depot; note loading dock and siding.





Southeastward view of the GVG&N (1898) a few miles northwest of Safford. Note the green agricultural land on the Gila River floodplain.