



In 1880, the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway joined the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad to form the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad to build west from the AT&SF mainline at Isleta, New Mexico, to meet the Southern Pacific at Needles, California. The A&P connected to the SP at Needles in August 1883, completing a transcontinental route and giving the AT&SF access to California.

In this southward view of the Isleta Junction, the 1881 AT&SF (original New Mexico & Southern Pacific - Rio Grande, Mexico & Pacific) line that follows the Rio Grande to El Paso is on the left, and the A&P to California is on the right.





Northward view of the Isleta Junction (same location as above), with the original 1881 AT&SF (NM&SP – RGM&P) line on the right and the starting point of the A&P on the left.