



In 1879, the Utah and Pleasant Valley Railway completed a narrow gauge line from Provo, on the Union Pacific Railroad-controlled, standard gauge Utah Southern Railroad, to the coal mines in the Pleasant Valley (present-day Scofield). The narrow gauge line crossed the drainage divide between the Great Basin and Colorado River about 5 miles south of the D&RGW crossing at Soldier Summit. In 1883, the western part of the U&PV line became part of the D&RGW mainline, and the eastern part a coal branch of the D&RGW.

This coal loading facility is the current southern end of the coal branch at Eccles Canyon. Tracks continue several miles further south, but in disrepair as pictured below. The slope to the right (west) ascends to the divide between the Great Basin and Colorado River, and the high elevation is evident in the spruce trees and the fall colors of quaking aspens.





This crumbling bridge may be the original U&PV narrow gauge bridge built in 1879.





Washout along the U&PV grade.





Some of the small trestles are in OK shape.