



In 1887–1888, the Southern Pacific Railroad built a branch line from its SP (1876) main line at Goshen, California, westward 55 miles to the oil fields around Coalinga. The western 15 miles have been abandoned and the grade is difficult to trace, except for this beautiful bridge that crosses Gatos Creek just east of the town of Coalinga.



Another view of the SP Coalinga Branch (1888) where it crosses Gatos Creek just east of Coalinga.



Southwestward view of the SP Coalinga Branch (1888) from the bridge over Gatos Creek, showing the grade curve from due west to southwest as it approaches Coalinga.