



The Santa Fe Central Railway started as the Santa Fe Albuquerque & Pacific Railroad with grand plans to reach the west coast. The name was changed to SFC once the plans became more realistic, which was to connect the El Paso & Rock Island from Torrance to Santa Fe. The SFC was completed in 1903 and a few years later changed its name to New Mexico Central. In 1926, the AT&SF purchased the road and abandoned it in stages from 1928 to 1943. The SFC is east of the 10,000-foot Manzano and Sandia Mountains, where the western mountains end and the Great Plains begin.

Northward view of the SFC grade in Willard, New Mexico, where it was crossed by the Eastern Railway of New Mexico around 1905.



Southward view of the SFC grade in Willard, barely discernable as the dark slope in the foreground. The ERNM grade is the low rise in the distance.



The low rise is the SFC grade south of the ERNM at Willard.