

= Prospect Mountain Veterans Memorial Highway =

The Prospect Mountain Veterans Memorial Highway is a parkway located in the town of Lake George , New York . The road is 5 @. @ 88 miles (9 @. @ 46 km) long , starting at the U.S. Route 9 (US 9) and New York State Route 9N (NY 9N) concurrency and ending at the peak of Prospect Mountain . Although the road is designated as New York State Route 917A , an unsigned reference route , by the New York State Department of Transportation , all maintenance on the roadway is performed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation .

= = Route description = =

The parkway begins at an intersection with Routes 9 and 9N (Canada Street) in the town of Lake George . The parkway passes through a gate , heading up the base of Prospect Mountain . The route is very scenic , with trees on both sides of the road . Route 917A parallels Birch Ave . , a street in Lake George . Soon after , the parkway passes over Interstate 87 (I @-@ 87 , named the Adirondack Northway) . The road expands to several lanes after the Northway , coming to a tollbooth . After the toll booth , the parkway begins to head up the mountain . With large heavy , stabilized rocks on both sides of the road , used as a guard rail to prevent danger (such as running off of the road) , the parkway curves around the mountain , intersecting with several specialized scenic overlooks . The road curves around the several peaks of Prospect Mountain , coming to an end at the main peak at 5 @. @ 88 miles (9 @. @ 46 km) , where a 100 @-@ mile (161 km) view can be seen . The furthest that can be seen are the Green Mountains in Vermont and the White Mountains in New Hampshire .

= = History = =

Prospect Mountain originally had to use an incline railway car to access the house at the top where people could dance and eat . Construction on the railway began in January 1895 and cost \$ 120 @, @ 000 total . Construction was finished six months later , with the railway opening on June 15 , 1895 . After failing financially , the railway system ceased operation in 1903 . The area was bought and soon donated to the State of New York . The nearby hiking trail that heads up towards the mountaintop is part of the old railway .

In 1932 , the building at the top of the mountain burned down and was replaced by a steel fire tower . For 30 years , people studied what to do with the land , which was owned by the state , and in 1954 , New York Governor Tom Dewey signed legislation to build a highway up the mountain . Twelve years later , in 1966 , then @-@ Governor Nelson Rockefeller made funds available for the highway . The Prospect Mountain Veterans Memorial Highway was opened in 1969 , dedicated to war veterans and providing access to the 2 @, @ 021 @-@ foot (616 m) summit with a 100 @-@ mile (161 km) view at its peak .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Lake George , Warren County .