

= Mississippi Highway 24 =

Mississippi Highway 24 ( MS 24 ) is a state highway in Mississippi , United States . The highway runs 76 @. @ 0 miles ( 122 @. @ 3 km ) from Fort Adams east to an interchange with Interstate 55 ( I @-@ 55 ) and U.S. Highway 98 ( US 98 ) in McComb . The roadway passes through Wilkinson , Amite , and Pike counties , serving the communities of Woodville , Centreville , Gloster , and Liberty . MS 24 has concurrencies with MS 33 between Centerville and Gloster and MS 48 from Liberty to west of McComb .

MS 24 was designated in 1932 to run from Fort Adams east to Leakesville , following gravel roads across the southern part of the state . Throughout the 1930s and 1940s , much of the route was paved and realigned . The route was extended from Leakesville to the Alabama border in 1953 . US 98 replaced the MS 24 designation from McComb to east of McLain in 1955 , splitting MS 24 into two segments . The eastern segment was redesignated MS 594 in 1958 . The eastern terminus was moved to its current location in 1967 , with US 98 replacing the part leading into McComb .

= = Route description = =

MS 24 begins at Main Street in Fort Adams , Wilkinson County , heading northeast as a two @-@ lane undivided road . The highway passes through a mix of farmland and woodland before entering dense forests . The road curves to the east and continues through forested areas with some fields and homes . After passing through several miles of rural areas , MS 24 heads into Woodville and runs south through wooded residential neighborhoods . The highway turns east onto Main Street and passes homes before heading through the commercial downtown of Woodville . On the eastern edge of town , the road comes to an intersection with US 61 . Past this junction , MS 24 leaves Woodville and becomes an unnamed road that runs southeast through forested areas with some development . The highway curves east and continues through a mix of farm fields and woodland . The road heads through denser areas of forests as it approaches Centreville . At this point , MS 24 bypasses the town to the south and crosses a Gloster Southern Railroad line before it reaches an intersection with MS 33 . At this point , MS 33 turns east to form a concurrency with MS 24 .

MS 24 / MS 33 curves to the northeast and enter Amite County , passing businesses as it bypasses Centreville to the southeast . The road heads into wooded areas and curves north , intersecting the western terminus of MS 48 . The highway continues north through a mix of farm fields and woodland ; eventually the roadway turns to the northeast . MS 24 / MS 33 becomes Captain Gloster Drive as it heads into Gloster . The road passes through wooded areas with some development as it bypasses the center of Gloster to the southeast . MS 33 splits from MS 24 by heading to the north while MS 24 curves east to leave Gloster . The highway continues east @-@ southeast through dense forest for several miles . Farther east , the road heads through a mix of fields and woods , where the name becomes Main Street .

MS 24 heads east into Liberty and intersects the southern terminus of MS 567 . The highway passes commercial development and comes to an intersection with MS 48 / MS 569 . At this intersection , MS 48 / MS 569 turn east to join MS 24 on Main Street and the road runs through the commercial downtown of Liberty . The portion of MS 24 which continues east from this point until it reaches McComb has been designated as Jerry Clower highway by Mississippi state statute 65 @-@ 3 @-@ 71 @. @ 23 . The highway intersects the western terminus of MS 584 immediately before MS 569 splits from MS 24 / MS 48 by heading to the north . Following this , MS 24 / MS 48 passes through more residential areas with some businesses before leaving Liberty . The road becomes unnamed and heads through a mix of farmland and woodland with occasional development , where it curves northeast . The highway continues through rural areas for several miles and turns back to the east . MS 24 / MS 48 enters Pike County and passes through more farmland and forests . MS 48 splits from MS 24 by heading to the south . MS 24 continues through rural areas with some businesses before ending at a cloverleaf interchange with I @-@ 55 / US 98 west of McComb . At this point , the roadway continues east into McComb as part of US 98 .

## = = History = =

By 1928 , what would become MS 24 existed as gravel or unimproved roads . MS 24 was designated by 1932 to run from Fort Adams east to MS 63 north of Leakesville ; the road went east to McComb before passing through Tylertown , Columbia , Hattiesburg , and New Augusta . At this time , the entire highway was gravel . In 1935 , a portion of the road west of Tylertown was paved . A small portion of the road between McCallum and New Augusta was paved a year later . Paving was completed on a part of the highway east of Tylertown in 1939 . In 1940 , the portions of MS 24 between Foxworth and Columbia and between Beaumont and McLain were paved . That same year , new alignments for the highway were under construction between McComb and Tylertown , from US 49 south of Hattiesburg to Beaumont , and from McLain to Leakesville . In addition , construction was underway to upgrade MS 24 between Columbia and Hattiesburg .

A year later , the highway was paved between Woodville and McComb , from east of Tylertown to Foxworth , and within Lamar County between Columbia and Hattiesburg . In addition , MS 24 was shifted to a new improved alignment from Hattiesburg to west of New Augusta , following a portion of US 49 along with a newly constructed road . In 1943 , the new alignment of MS 24 between McComb and Tylertown was completed . Also , the highway was paved between Columbia and the border between Marion County and Lamar County as well as west of New Augusta . In 1944 , paving was completed between McLain and Leakesville . A year later , MS 24 was moved to a more direct alignment between Hattiesburg and New Augusta that bypassed Camp Shelby . MS 24 was extended east from Leakesville to the Alabama border in 1953 . The same year , a portion of the highway west of Woodville was paved .

In 1955 , US 98 replaced the MS 24 designation from US 51 in McComb to east of McLain ; as a result , MS 24 was split into two segments . In 1957 , the paved portion of MS 24 west of Woodville was extended further to the west . The eastern segment of MS 24 between McLain and the Alabama border was redesignated as MS 594 in 1958 . In 1962 , the highway was paved to a point east of Fort Adams . Paving was completed on the remainder of MS 24 leading to Fort Adams in 1964 . In 1967 , the eastern terminus of MS 24 was truncated to its current location at the interchange with I @-@ 55 ; US 98 replaced the route between there and US 51 . Since then , MS 24 has remained on the same alignment .

## = = Major intersections = =