

= New York State Route 324 =

New York State Route 324 ( NY 324 ) is an east - west state highway located in the western portion of New York in the United States . Officially , NY 324 begins at NY 384 in Niagara Falls and overlaps Interstate 190 ( I @-@ 190 , the Niagara Section of the New York State Thruway ) south to Grand Island , where it separates from I @-@ 190 and continues southward as Grand Island Boulevard . As signed , however , NY 324 begins at the southern end of the official overlap and is contained entirely within Erie County . At the southern edge of Grand Island , NY 324 joins I @-@ 190 to cross over to the mainland , where it runs due east across three towns before reaching its eastern end at a junction with NY 5 in the town of Clarence .

NY 324 is known by two names along its routing : Grand Island Boulevard on Grand Island and Sheridan Drive in the northern suburbs of Buffalo . As the latter , the route serves as a major commercial strip for Tonawanda , Amherst , and Clarence . NY 324 , assigned c . 1933 , is one of two routes to occupy part of Sheridan Drive ; the other is New York State Route 325 , which follows the westernmost 1 @. @ 42 miles ( 2 @. @ 29 km ) of the street . NY 324 once extended northwest to downtown Niagara Falls ; however , it was truncated to its current western terminus c . 1962 .

= = Route description = =

According to the New York State Department of Transportation ( NYSDOT ) , NY 324 begins at NY 384 in eastern Niagara Falls . NY 324 heads south , overlapping with I @-@ 190 ( the Niagara Section of the New York State Thruway ) across the North Grand Island Bridge to Grand Island , where it leaves the expressway at exit 20 . However , as signed , NY 324 begins at the north end of Grand Island , where it splits off from the Interstate Highway as Grand Island Boulevard . South of exit 20 , the official and signed routings are identical .

Maintenance of the route is split between NYSDOT , the New York State Thruway Authority ( NYSTA ) , and Erie County . All but the northernmost 0 @. @ 02 miles ( 0 @. @ 03 km ) of the portion of the route that overlaps with I @-@ 190 is maintained by NYSTA . The two county @-@ maintained sections extend from exit 20B to Grand Island Boulevard on Grand Island and from exit 15 to Grand Island Boulevard in Tonawanda , where NY 324 utilizes small portions of the county @-@ owned Long Road and Kenmore Avenue , respectively . The remainder of NY 324 is maintained by NYSDOT .

From I @-@ 190 exit 20 , NY 324 runs in a more southeasterly direction , serving as the main commercial strip on Grand Island , before it overlaps I @-@ 190 in order to cross the Niagara River . It parts company with the Interstate Highway on the other side of the river at exit 15 , where it turns north to parallel I @-@ 190 on Kenmore Avenue . After 250 yards ( 229 m ) , it veers east onto Tonawanda 's portion of Grand Island Boulevard for 0 @. @ 5 miles ( 0 @. @ 8 km ) to a junction with Sheridan Drive . The latter carries NY 325 , a 1 @. @ 42 @-@ mile ( 2 @. @ 29 km ) route that begins at NY 266 on the banks of the Niagara and passes through a commercial and industrial area of the town of Tonawanda . NY 324 takes on the Sheridan Drive name here and assumes a more due easterly course across northern Erie County . Though the street is signed as a state highway on both NY 324 and NY 325 , most residents simply refer to this road by its local name .

Through much of this portion , the road is divided , with a tree @-@ lined median strip . Businesses , both local and national , line both sides of the road and traffic is heavy . It crosses some other major strips such as Niagara Falls Boulevard ( U.S. Route 62 or US 62 ) , a major contributor to traffic on Sheridan due to the proximity of the Boulevard Mall , and Millersport Highway ( NY 263 ) , which feeds the Amherst campus of the University at Buffalo . In Amherst it meets the Youngmann Expressway ( I @-@ 290 ) where NY 240 ( Harlem Road ) , reaches its northern end . Past the Youngmann development abates , green returns to the roadside and the median ends , although the road remains four @-@ lane and high @-@ volume . There is another pocket of development around the Wegmans supermarket north of Williamsville , which has seen some rapid growth in the last few years .

NY 324 crosses its last major route , Transit Road ( NY 78 ) , on an overpass just north of the once

@-@ thriving Eastern Hills Mall , which had been the premier mall in the Buffalo area until it began losing tenants and customers to the larger Walden Galleria in Cheektowaga . Beyond Transit , the road is still four @-@ lane but primarily residential as it enters the Town of Clarence . After Harris Hill Road , the highway bends to the southeast once again for a final mile into its eastern end at Main Street ( NY 5 ) . This last section was widened from two lanes to four in the mid @-@ 1990s , and has seen some development but still remains lightly trafficked most of the day .

= = History = =

When NY 324 was assigned c . 1933 , it began at NY 384 ( River Road ; now NY 266 ) in the town of Tonawanda and followed Sheridan Drive eastward to NY 5 in the town of Clarence . By 1935 , what is now NY 324 between Niagara Falls and Tonawanda via Grand Island was designated as NY 325 . NY 324 was extended northward to NY 384 in Niagara Falls c . 1937 , supplanting the entirety of NY 325 . The NY 325 designation was reassigned to the short piece of Sheridan Drive not designated as NY 324 . The route was extended one final time by 1948 to follow NY 384 westward from the North Grand Island Bridge into downtown Niagara Falls .

NY 324 remained unchanged until c . 1962 when the overlap with NY 384 was removed . Although the overlap with the new I @-@ 190 on the North Grand Island Bridge was also removed from maps during the same period , and is no longer signed , this overlap was never officially removed from either NYSDOT 's description of the route or the annual NYSDOT Traffic Data Report .

= = Major intersections = =