

= Maryland Route 500 =

Maryland Route 500 ( MD 500 ) is a state highway in the U.S. state of Maryland . Known as Queens Chapel Road , the highway runs 2 @. @ 22 miles ( 3 @. @ 57 km ) from Michigan Avenue at the District of Columbia boundary in Chillum north to MD 410 in Hyattsville . MD 500 connects Washington with the northwestern Prince George 's County cities of Mount Rainier and Hyattsville . The state highway also connects those communities with a pair of stations on the Green Line of the Washington Metro . Queens Chapel Road was constructed as the original MD 210 from Washington to Hyattsville in the 1910s . MD 500 was built from Hyattsville through University Park to U.S. Route 1 ( US 1 ) in the early 1930s . MD 500 assumed the course of MD 210 in the mid @-@ 1940s . The highway was relocated in West Hyattsville and expanded to a divided highway toward Washington in the early 1950s . MD 500 was truncated at MD 410 when University Park took over the highway prior to the construction of the Metro Green Line through the town in the late 1980s .

= = Route description = =

MD 500 begins at an intersection with Eastern Avenue at the District of Columbia boundary in Chillum . On the other side of the border , the highway heads into Washington as Michigan Avenue . MD 500 heads northeast as a four @-@ lane divided highway . The highway veers north and forms the western boundary of Mount Rainier as the highway intersects Chillum Road , which heads west as MD 501 . MD 500 crosses the Northwest Branch Anacostia River and enters the city of Hyattsville . The state highway veers to the northeast and Ager Road splits to the north ; the county highway which leads to the West Hyattsville station on the Washington Metro 's Green Line . There is no direct access from southbound Ager Road to northbound MD 500 . The missing connection is provided at the intersection with Hamilton Street , which heads east as MD 208 . MD 500 continues northeast through the intersection with Queensbury Road and Belcrest Road ; the latter provides access to the Prince George 's Plaza Metro Station . The highway reaches its northern terminus at MD 410 ( East ? West Highway ) . County @-@ maintained Adelphi Road continues north on the other side of the intersection .

= = History = =

Queens Chapel Road is named for the Queen 's Chapel , a Catholic church founded on the estate of the Queen family in 1722 in what is now the Langdon neighborhood of Washington . In addition to the extant portion of Queens Chapel Road in Maryland , the road continued into the District of Columbia along what are now Michigan Avenue and 18th Street to Brentwood Road just north of US 1 in the city 's Brookland neighborhood . The segment of Queens Chapel Road from the District of Columbia boundary to just south of Ager Road was paved as a 14 @-@ foot @-@ wide ( 4 @. @ 3 m ) concrete road by Prince George 's County with state aid by 1915 . The pavement was extended to Ager Road when that road and Hamilton Street were paved by the Maryland State Roads Commission in 1923 . The segment of Queens Chapel Road from Hamilton Street to US 1 in University Park was paved in concrete between 1930 and 1933 .

The portions of Queens Chapel Road south of Ager Road and north of Hamilton Street were originally designated MD 210 and MD 500 , respectively . The portion of modern Queens Chapel Road from south of Ager Road to Hamilton Street originally did not exist . Instead , Queens Chapel Road turned north along what is now Jamestown Road , then made a sharp curve east onto modern Hamilton Street . The highway had a T intersection with Ager Road and continued east to another T intersection where the road turned north while Hamilton Street continued east into Hyattsville . Ager Road , Hamilton Street , and the portion of Queens Chapel Road connecting them were part of MD 209 , which was renumbered as an extension of MD 410 by 1946 ; MD 210 was renumbered as an extension of MD 500 at the same time .

By 1942 , the Maryland State Roads Commission proposed relocating Queens Chapel Road near Northwest Branch to eliminate the highway 's circuitous course and extend Ager Road to the new

highway . MD 500 was relocated from Northwest Branch to Hamilton Street as the first carriageway of an ultimate divided highway in 1949 . The second carriageway of the new highway was added in 1951 and 1952 . The portion of the state highway from the District of Columbia to Northwest Branch was expanded to a divided highway in 1951 and 1952 ; this work included rebuilding the highway 's bridge across Northwest Branch to carry the expanded highway . In addition , the remainder of MD 500 from Hamilton Street to US 1 was widened and resurfaced in 1951 . The divided highway was extended northeast from Hamilton Street to MD 410 in 1973 . MD 500 was reduced from six lanes to four lanes when the highway was re @-@ striped in 2005 .

The Maryland State Highway Administration transferred maintenance of Queens Chapel Road from MD 410 to US 1 to the town of University Park in August 1988 ahead of the construction of the Washington Metro 's Green Line underneath the town ; the town subsequently closed the road through town . A 1991 traffic study showed the majority of traffic along the University Park segment of Queens Chapel Road was through traffic before it was closed , and recommended the highway be closed at the southern end of town and only allow traffic to exit the town onto US 1 . After Metro construction was completed in the summer of 1992 , the University Park Town Council elected to keep the road closed to through traffic ; this measure was affirmed by a town referendum in January 1993 . Today , there is a cul @-@ de @-@ sac at the southwest end of town adjacent to the MD 500 ? MD 410 intersection ; the intersection with US 1 at the northeast end of town only allows traffic to exit Queens Chapel Road .

= = Junction list = =

The entire route is in Prince George 's County .