

= Mississippi Highway 198 =

Mississippi Highway 198 (MS 198) is a state highway in the U.S. state of Mississippi . The highway is the designation for six former segments of U.S. Highway 98 (US 98) that have been bypassed by newer alignments . These six segments are located in Tylertown , Columbia , Hattiesburg , Beaumont , McLain , and Lucedale . Five of the six sections of MS 198 are two @-@ lane undivided roads that pass through small towns ; the exception is the Hattiesburg section which is a four @-@ lane divided highway running through developed areas of the city . The total length of the six sections of MS 198 is 24 @.@ 937 miles (40 @.@ 132 km) .

What is now MS 198 originally existed as gravel and earth roads by the 1920s . The portions of the current road became parts of MS 24 and MS 15 in the 1930s and were all paved by the 1940s . US 98 was designated on these segments in 1955 . Between the 1970s and 1990s , US 98 was rerouted to bypass Tylertown , Columbia , Hattiesburg , Beaumont , McLain , and Lucedale . By 1998 , MS 198 was designated onto the former alignment of US 98 through these communities . The McLain section was truncated from US 98 east of town to MS 57 in 2005 .

= = Route description = =

MS 198 is legally defined in Mississippi Code § 65 @-@ 3 @-@ 3 as the designation for former sections of US 98 that have been relocated by the completion of new alignments .

= = = Tylertown = = =

The Tylertown section of MS 198 begins at an intersection with US 98 northwest of Tylertown in Walthall County , heading southeast on two @-@ lane undivided Beluah Avenue . The road passes through wooded areas with some homes and businesses . After passing to the south of Walthall County General Hospital , MS 198 comes to an intersection with MS 48 , at which point that highway begins a concurrency with MS 198 . The two highways continue southeast into Tylertown , curving east into residential areas . The road heads into the commercial downtown and comes to an intersection with MS 27 . The highway passes more businesses before leaving the downtown and heading into wooded areas with some homes . MS 48 splits from MS 198 by heading southeast , with MS 198 continuing east past residences and commercial establishments on Old Highway 98 East . The road leaves Tylertown and heads northeast through wooded areas with some homes . This section of MS 198 ends at another intersection with US 98 .

= = = Columbia = = =

The Columbia section of MS 198 begins at an intersection with US 98 / MS 44 southwest of Columbia in Marion County , heading northeast on two @-@ lane undivided South High School Avenue . The road passes through woodland , curving north into Columbia . In Columbia , the route becomes concurrent with MS 13 . Here , the highway heads past several businesses before turning east onto Broad Street and splitting off of MS 13 . MS 198 heads through residential areas , coming to an intersection with MS 44 . The road continues east through wooded areas with some homes and businesses as Old Highway 98 East , ending at an intersection with US 98 east of Columbia .

= = = Hattiesburg = = =

The Hattiesburg section begins at an interchange with Interstate 59 (I @-@ 59) and US 98 in Hattiesburg , Lamar County , where the road continues west as part of US 98 . From this interchange , MS 198 heads east into Forrest County on Hardy Street , a four @-@ lane divided highway that passes several businesses . The highway passes to the south of the University of Southern Mississippi before ending at an intersection with US 49 . Past this intersection , Hardy Street continues east as a four @-@ lane undivided city street .

== = Beaumont == =

The Beaumont section of MS 198 begins at an intersection with US 98 within the DeSoto National Forest northwest of Beaumont in Perry County , heading east on a two @-@ lane undivided road . The highway heads through dense forests , curving southeast near a few homes as it runs a short distance to the southwest of a Canadian National railroad line . The road passes through more forests before entering Beaumont , where it heads near a mix of residences and businesses . MS 198 turns northeast to cross the railroad line and come to an intersection with MS 15 . At this point , MS 198 turns southeast to form a concurrency with MS 15 , leaving Beaumont for dense forests and running to the northeast of the Canadian National railroad line . The road curves south and ends at an interchange with US 98 southeast of Beaumont .

== = McLain == =

The McLain section of MS 198 begins at an intersection with US 98 northwest of McLain in Greene County , heading southeast on two @-@ lane undivided West Main Street . The road heads through wooded areas with some homes , entering McLain . The highway passes through residential and commercial areas in the town . MS 198 continues through woodland with some development a short distance to the northeast of a Canadian National railroad line , ending at an intersection with MS 57 .

== = Lucedale == =

The Lucedale section of MS 198 begins at an intersection with US 98 northwest of Lucedale in George County , heading southeast on two @-@ lane undivided Main Street . The road heads through dense forests with some homes , passing under a Canadian National railroad line . The highway continues through more rural areas , heading more to the east and passing under MS 63 , at which point the railroad tracks run immediately to the north of the road . MS 198 curves southeast away from the tracks into more forests , eventually entering Lucedale . The road heads through wooded areas of homes before turning east and passing through the commercial downtown . In this area , the highway intersects the eastern terminus of MS 26 and the northern terminus of MS 613 . The road leaves Lucedale , crossing a Canadian National railroad line and heading into a mix of farmland and woodland with some development . This section of MS 198 ends at another intersection with US 98 east of Lucedale .

== = History == =

The current alignments of MS 198 existed by 1928 as unnumbered roads . The sections in Tylertown , Columbia , Hattiesburg , and Beaumont were gravel roads and the sections in McLain and Lucedale were unimproved roads . By 1932 , what is now MS 198 in Tylertown , Columbia , Hattiesburg , Beaumont , and McLain became a part of MS 24 , which ran east @-@ west across the southern part of the state . The section of road in McLain became a gravel road by 1933 . In 1935 , the road west of Tylertown became paved . MS 15 was designated onto MS 24 east of Beaumont and in McLain and what is now the Lucedale portion of MS 198 in 1936 . A year later , the portion of road east of Lucedale was paved . In 1938 , the portion of current MS 198 southwest of Columbia was paved . The road east of Tylertown was paved by 1939 . In 1940 , a new alignment of MS 24 between McComb and Tylertown was under construction , which included what is now MS 198 northwest of Tylertown . Also by this time , the road between Columbia and MS 44 was paved . In 1941 , the portions of road in Hattiesburg , east of Beaumont , in McLain , and northwest of Lucedale were paved . The road west of Beaumont was paved in 1943 . The portion of MS 24 between McComb and Tylertown was completed as a paved road in 1944 . In 1955 , US 98 was extended into Mississippi , replacing the MS 24 and MS 15 designations on what is now MS 198 .

By 1973 , the road bypassed Columbia . In 1984 , US 98 was routed to bypass Hattiesburg on I @-@ 59 and a new freeway . A bypass to the north of Tylertown was built for US 98 in 1985 . US 98 was moved to a new alignment to bypass Lucedale in 1988 . In 1996 , US 98 was routed out of Beaumont and McLain as a result of the construction of a new alignment on a divided highway . By 1998 , MS 198 was marked on the six former alignments of US 98 in Tylertown , Columbia , Hattiesburg , Beaumont , McLain , and Lucedale . In 2005 , the eastern terminus of the McLain section of MS 198 was truncated from US 98 to MS 57 .

= = Major intersections = =

= = = Tylertown = = =

The entire route is in Tylertown , Walthall County .

= = = Columbia = = =

The entire route is in Columbia , Marion County .

= = = Hattiesburg = = =

The entire route is in Hattiesburg .

= = = Beaumont = = =

The entire route is in Beaumont , Perry County .

= = = McLain = = =

The entire route is in McLain , Greene County .

= = = Lucedale = = =

The entire route is in Lucedale , George County .