

= New York State Route 171 =

New York State Route 171 ( NY 171 ) is a state highway running east to west through Herkimer County , New York , in the United States . It connects the hamlet of Gulph in the town of Frankfort to the village of Frankfort by way of the Frankfort Gorge . Its western end is at the junction of County Route 145 ( CR 145 ) and CR 185 southeast of Gulph . The eastern end is 5 @. @ 69 miles ( 9 @. @ 16 km ) to the east at an intersection with Main Street in Frankfort village . NY 171 is a narrow , two @- @ lane highway for its whole length .

NY 171 is one of several signed state highways in New York that do not intersect any other signed New York state routes . However , this was not always the case . When it was originally assigned as part of the 1930 renumbering of state highways in New York , Main Street in Frankfort was part of NY 5S . A new freeway alignment for NY 5S was constructed between Utica and Ilion in the late 1960s , isolating NY 171 from the remainder of the state highway system . Frankfort 's interchange with NY 5S is now at Cemetery Street , 0 @. @ 75 miles ( 1 @. @ 21 km ) to the west .

= = Route description = =

NY 171 begins at an intersection with CR 145 ( Ball Road ) and CR 185 ( Gulph Road ) southeast of the hamlet of Gulph . The route heads eastward , passing through a dense forest in the town of Frankfort . The forest surrounds NY 171 for a substantial distance , separating it from more developed areas of the town . The highway eventually turns to the northeast , following a winding , curve @- @ filled route that leads through the Frankfort Gorge towards the village of Frankfort . As it heads through the valley , NY 171 intersects with CR 13 , known locally as Furnace Road . CR 13 and NY 171 parallel for a short distance as CR 13 climbs the north face of the gorge and then turns northward at its top .

The route then passes under a series of power lines , loosely paralleling the more northerly CR 96 ( Higby Road ) to the outskirts of the village of Frankfort . Here , NY 171 intersects with several roads of local importance before crossing over the NY 5S freeway to enter the village itself . On the eastern side of the highway , NY 171 becomes South Litchfield Street and passes through areas that are mostly residential . It continues to the village 's central business district . State maintenance of the route ends at a junction with Canal Street. but the route continues as a village @- @ maintained highway for one more block to an intersection with Main Street .

= = History = =

Most of what is now NY 171 was improved to state highway standards as part of a project contracted out by the state of New York on July 12 , 1916 . The work covered the 5 @. @ 10 miles ( 8 @. @ 21 km ) of the route outside of the Frankfort village limits . The reconstruction was completed in the 1920s , and the Frankfort Gorge road was added to the state highway system as unsigned State Highway 1346 ( SH 1346 ) by 1926 . In the 1930 renumbering of state highways in New York , SH 1346 became part of NY 171 , which continued northeast to Main Street in Frankfort on several state and locally maintained streets . At the time , Main Street was part of NY 5S , another route assigned as part of the renumbering .

In the late 1960s , a limited @- @ access highway was constructed between Utica and Ilion alongside NY 5S . The new highway became part of a rerouted NY 5S in the early 1970s . As a result , NY 171 , which does not interchange with the highway , no longer connects to any other signed state routes . NY 171 is the only signed state highway in New York that is completely isolated from the remainder of the state highway system .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Herkimer County .