

= Iowa Highway 85 =

Iowa Highway 85 (Iowa 85) is a short state highway in east @-@ central Iowa . The route begins at the eastern city limit of Montezuma and ends at Iowa 21 east of Deep River . Created in 1920 as a spur route connecting What Cheer to Primary Road No. 2 , it is an original route in the Iowa primary highway system . In the early 1930s , the route was extended north to Deep River and west to Montezuma . By the end of the decade , Iowa 21 had taken over the north ? south portion of the route . Except for both endpoints shifting slightly , Iowa 85 has largely stayed the same since the 1930s .

= = Route description = =

Iowa 85 begins at the eastern city limit of Montezuma . It heads east through the rolling farmland of Poweshiek County . Near the midpoint of the route , it intersects County Road V18 (CR V18) . As it approaches Deep River , the route briefly curves to the north @-@ northeast before turning to the southeast . The terrain becomes hillier as the route crosses a creek leading to the eponymous river just north of Deep River . On the south side of Deep River , Iowa 85 turns back to the east . It ends one @-@ half mile (0 @.@ 80 km) east of Deep River at an intersection with Iowa 21 .

= = History = =

Primary Road No. 85 was created in 1920 with the advent of Iowa 's primary highway system . At the time , it was a short spur route connecting What Cheer to Primary Road No. 2 in Keokuk County . In 1931 , Iowa 85 was significantly lengthened north to Deep River and west to US 63 in Montezuma . In 1939 , the route was shortened to its east ? west section between Montezuma and Deep River as Iowa 21 was extended and it supplanted Iowa 85 south of Deep River .

Iowa 85 was paved in the mid @-@ 1950s ; until then , the highway had been a gravel road . In the early 1960s , Iowa 21 was straightened through Keokuk County near Guernsey and Deep River . This caused the eastern end of Iowa 85 to move east back to the point where it had turned into an east ? west route in the 1930s . The route would remain this way for nearly thirty years . In 1994 , the westernmost one mile (1 @.@ 6 km) of Iowa 85 was turned over to the City of Montezuma . The route now begins at the eastern city limits . Along US 63 , signs at the former intersection of Iowa 85 now say " To Iowa 85 " .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Poweshiek County .