

= Vermont Route 17 =

Vermont Route 17 ( VT 17 ) is a 40 @.@ 409 @-@ mile ( 65 @.@ 032 km ) long state highway in western Vermont in the United States . The western terminus of the route is at the New York state line in Addison , where it connects to New York State Route 185 ( NY 185 ) by way of the Lake Champlain Bridge . Its eastern terminus is at a junction with VT 100 in Waitsfield . VT 17 was initially much shorter than it is today , extending from the Champlain Bridge to Addison upon assignment . It was extended east through the Green Mountains to Waitsfield in 1965 .

= = Route description = =

The routing of VT 17 varies greatly on opposite sides of the Bristol town center . West of Bristol , the route passes through generally level terrain and connects multiple communities . East of Bristol , VT 17 is more mountainous and more rural in nature .

= = = West of Bristol = = =

VT 17 begins at the New York state line over Lake Champlain , where it connects to NY 185 at the midpoint of the Lake Champlain Bridge . The route heads northeastward from the state line , descending the eastern bridge approach and intersecting VT 125 adjacent to the Chimney Point State Historical Site at Chimney Point . It continues northward along the lakeshore of Addison County and the town of Addison for roughly 2 miles ( 3 km ) ( passing D.A.R. State Park ) before turning eastward toward the village of Addison .

In the center of Addison , situated 6 miles ( 10 km ) from Lake Champlain , VT 17 intersects VT 22A . VT 17 continues east from Addison , crossing over the Otter Creek and intersecting VT 23 near Weybridge prior to curving to the northeast toward Waltham . Midway between Waltham and New Haven , VT 17 briefly overlaps with U.S. Route 7 ( US 7 ) , before continuing eastward through New Haven to Bristol . As the route approaches the village of Bristol , it meets VT 116 at an intersection just west of the community . VT 116 turns east here , joining VT 17 through Bristol along Main Street .

= = = East of Bristol = = =

Outside Bristol , VT 17 and VT 116 are joined by the New Haven River , here marking the northern boundary of the Green Mountain National Forest . The roadway and waterway head east , following a winding route through the Green Mountains . When New Haven splits off to the southeast shortly afterward , VT 17 and VT 116 continue north along Baldwin Creek up to the point where VT 17 and VT 116 diverge . While VT 116 continues north along Beaver Brook , VT 17 remains in the vicinity of Baldwin Creek as it heads northeast through the Green Mountains .

Midway between Bristol and Waitsfield , VT 17 intersects Gore Road , a local road that leads to eastern Burlington 15 miles ( 24 km ) to the north . The route crosses into Chittenden County , as well as the Camel 's Hump State Park , shortly afterward . The route leaves Chittenden County and passes into Washington County 2 miles ( 3 km ) later upon traversing the Appalachian Gap , a mountain pass located to the north of Mount Ellen . East of the gap , VT 17 continues through the eastern Green Mountains for 6 miles ( 10 km ) to Waitsfield , where it terminates at VT 100 .

= = History = =

The road connecting the ferry landing at Chimney Point to the town center of Addison was designated as VT F @-@ 7 ca . 1927 . The ferry crossed Lake Champlain into Port Henry . VT F @-@ 7 was extended eastward to US 7 in New Haven by 1929 . In 1929 , the Champlain Bridge opened , connecting Chimney Point to Crown Point . By the following year , the segment of VT F @-@ 7 west of VT 30A ( now VT 22A ) in Addison was renumbered to VT 17 , which now began on

the Champlain Bridge at the New York state line . In 1933 , all of VT 17 and the portion of VT F @-@ 7 's former routing between Addison and New Haven were added to the state highway system . Prior to this time , maintenance of both roads was performed by the towns through which they passed . VT 17 was subsequently extended eastward to New Haven along VT F @-@ 7 's former routing . As part of the 1935 state highway expansion , additional mileage was added to VT 17 , which was extended 4 @.@ 3 miles ( 6 @.@ 9 km ) to VT 116 in Bristol .

In 1936 , a 2 @.@ 7 @-@ mile ( 4 @.@ 3 km ) portion of the McCullough Turnpike in Fayston , which was chartered in 1933 but proved unprofitable , was deeded back to the state of Vermont and renamed to McCullough State Highway . The road , which extended eastward from the Chittenden ? Washington county line , was paved during the period of 1936 and 1940 . The rest of the McCullough Turnpike to VT 100 in Waitsfield became part of the state highway system in 1956 . In 1965 , the state legislature authorized the extension of VT 17 from Bristol to the Addison ? Chittenden county line , connecting it to the McCullough State Highway by way of Chittenden County 's section of the former McCullough Turnpike . The VT 17 designation was extended eastward through Chittenden County and along the McCullough State Highway at this time .

VT 17 's connection to the state of New York was temporarily severed in October 2009 when the Champlain Bridge was closed due to safety concerns . The bridge was demolished two months later , truncating VT 17 to the eastern shoreline of Lake Champlain until its replacement , the Lake Champlain Bridge , opened to traffic on November 7 , 2011 .

= = Major intersections = =