

= Maryland Route 615 =

Maryland Route 615 (MD 615) is a state highway in the U.S. state of Maryland . The state highway runs 4 @. @ 35 miles (7 @. @ 00 km) from Interstate 70 (I @-@ 70) and U.S. Route 40 (US 40) east of Hancock north to the Pennsylvania state line , where the highway continues as State Route 2001 in Fulton County . MD 615 has two sections , an east ? west section that closely parallels I @-@ 70 and US 40 and a north ? south highway that follows Heavenly Acres Ridge . The ridge road was constructed as MD 615 in the mid @-@ 1930s . The east ? west segment is part of the original alignment of US 40 constructed in the mid @-@ 1910s . After I @-@ 70 was constructed east of Hancock in the early 1960s , MD 615 was extended along the old alignment of US 40 parallel to the new freeway .

= = Route description = =

MD 615 begins at an intersection between Millstone Road , which continues east as a county highway , and the Exit 5 ramp from westbound I @-@ 70 and US 40 (Eisenhower Memorial Highway) . The state highway heads west , closely paralleling I @-@ 70 and US 40 to the south . At Hollow Road , MD 615 has a ramp to eastbound I @-@ 70 and US 40 ; the ramp also provides access to a parking lot for the Western Maryland Rail Trail and Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park . The highway continues west until it intersects the ramps to and from I @-@ 70 and US 40 in the direction of Hancock . MD 615 's name changes to Heavenly Acres Ridge Road and curves north to climb out of the narrow valley of the Potomac River onto Heavenly Acres Ridge . The highway follows the ridge north to its terminus at an intersection with White Oak Ridge Road at the Pennsylvania state line . Heavenly Acres Ridge Road continues north as State Route 2001 in southeastern Fulton County .

= = History = =

The Millstone Road portion of MD 615 follows a narrow corridor on the north side of the Potomac River that has carried multiple modes of transportation between Hancock and Licking Creek , where the river valley opens up . In the early 20th century , this corridor featured the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal , the Western Maryland Railway , and the National Pike , which ran between the canal and the railroad . When the Maryland State Roads Commission constructed the state road between Hancock and Licking Creek in 1915 , the highway was placed on a new alignment north of the railroad tracks to eliminate four grade crossings . This highway was designated US 40 in 1927 . The Heavenly Acres Ridge portion of MD 615 was paved from US 40 to the Pennsylvania state line in 1936 . By 1939 , White Oak Ridge Road was also marked as MD 615 . White Oak Ridge Road retained the state highway designation until 1956 . In 1960 , US 40 was constructed parallel to its existing alignment as a freeway from the east end of Main Street in Hancock to what is now the eastern end of MD 615 . This upgrade included the modern ramps between the freeway and Millstone Road . This freeway was marked as I @-@ 70 in addition to US 40 in 1962 and MD 615 was extended south and east from Heavenly Acres Ridge Road along its modern extent .

= = Junction list = =

The entire route is in a sparsely populated area east of Hancock in Washington County .