

= Ontario Highway 59 =

King 's Highway 59 , commonly referred to as Highway 59 , was a provincially maintained highway in the Canadian province of Ontario . It connected Long Point Provincial Park in Norfolk County to the town of Shakespeare in Perth County , passing through the city of Woodstock in Oxford County en route . Several smaller towns also lined the highway , notably Courtland , Delhi and Norwich . Highway 59 featured junctions with Highway 3 , Highway 2 , Norfolk County Highway 24 and the concurrent routes of Highway 7 and Highway 8 .

Highway 59 was established in 1937 between Highway 3 and Highway 2 . In 1961 , several highways were renumbered , establishing the final alignment of the route and tripling its length . As part of the mass highway transfers performed during the late 1990s , Highway 59 was decommissioned entirely in 1998 .

= = Route description = =

The route of Highway 59 followed what is now Norfolk Highway 59 , Oxford County Road 59 and Perth County Road 107 . The majority of this route travels through rural farmland , which dominates southwestern Ontario , although there are several notable towns encountered along the highway , including Courtland , Delhi , Norwich , Woodstock and Shakespeare .

In the south , the highway begins at the entrance to Long Point Provincial Park , an important bird sanctuary that serves as a migratory waypoint before and after birds cross Lake Erie . Several National Wildlife Areas are also located along the surrounding shoreline . The highway passes through the community of Long Point , then curves northwest . It intersects Norfolk County Highway 24 , formerly Highway 24 , midway between Long Point and the town of Langton . It encounters Highway 3 approximately 7 kilometres (4 @. @ 3 mi) east of Tillsonburg in the community of Courtland where it turns east and travels concurrently with it for 10 kilometres (6 @. @ 2 mi) to the town of Delhi . At an intersection just west of that town , the route continues northwest to the community of Summerville , then curves north to pass through the town of Norwich . Five kilometres (3 mi) north of there , the route curves west and bisects the community of Burgessville . It then curves back to the north and travels straight towards Woodstock .

After crossing Highway 401 , the route enters Woodstock , where it is known as Norwich Avenue , Dundas Street and Vansittart Avenue . Dundas Street was also formerly Highway 2 , but it was transferred to the County of Oxford at the same time as Highway 59 . North of Woodstock , Highway 59 proceeds due north through the communities of Perry Lane , Tollgate , Willow Lake , Huntingford , Strathallan and Hickson before eventually curving northeast near the Oxford ? Perth boundary to pass through the town of Tavistock , turning north . Approximately 6 kilometres (3 @. @ 7 mi) north of Tavistock , the route ends in the town of Shakespeare at an intersection with Highway 7 and Highway 8 . North of this intersection , the roadway continues as Perth County Road 107 .

= = History = =

Highway 59 was established in 1937 when the Department of Highways (DHO) assumed the Delhi ? Woodstock Road . This 41 @. @ 0 @- @ kilometre (25 @. @ 5 mi) road was designated on August 25 . The route remained unchanged until the early 1960s , when several highways were renumbered effective December 19 , 1961 . Highway 19 between Woodstock and Shakespeare was redesignated as Highway 59 , while Highway 100 between Thamesford and St. Marys was redesignated as Highway 19 . On July 20 , 1961 , Highway 59 was extended south from Courtland to Long Point Provincial Park along Norfolk County roads 8 and 8A , which the DHO rebuilt in the years prior . A concurrency was also established along Highway 3 between Courtland and Delhi . These extensions nearly tripled the length of the highway to 120 @. @ 1 kilometres (74 @. @ 6 mi) . The route remained this way for nearly four decades . However , on January 1 , 1998 , as part of budget cutbacks , several highways were transferred to local jurisdiction . Highway 59 was transferred the counties of Norfolk , Oxford and Perth , decommissioning the route entirely .

= = Major intersections = =

The following table lists the major junctions along Highway 59 , as noted by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario .