

= New York State Route 342 =

New York State Route 342 (NY 342) is a short east - west state highway in Jefferson County , New York , in the United States . The western terminus of NY 342 is at an intersection with NY 12 near the hamlet of Scoville Corners in the town of Pamela . The eastern terminus is at a junction with NY 3 in the town of Le Ray , west of the village of Black River . Along the way , NY 342 connects to Interstate 81 (I @-@ 81) in Pamela and intersects U.S. Route 11 (US 11) outside of the Le Ray hamlet of Calcium .

What is now NY 342 was originally built during the 1950s as a federal @-@ aid highway known as the " Watertown Bypass " . It became a state highway in 1960 , at which time it was designated as New York State Route 181 . The designation was short @-@ lived as NY 181 was renumbered to NY 342 c . 1963 . The portion of NY 342 between US 11 and NY 3 was part of NY 26 from the late 1950s to the mid @-@ 1970s .

= = Route description = =

In the west , NY 342 begins at an intersection with NY 12 in Pamela , a town to the north of the city of Watertown . It heads northeastward through open , mostly undeveloped fields for 1 mile (1 @. @ 6 km) to an interchange with I @-@ 81 . East of I @-@ 81 , the development along NY 342 increases as the route enters Pamela Center , a hamlet centered on NY 342 's intersection with NY 37 . NY 342 continues on , passing through the eastern portion of the community and serving a local country club before entering another rural area dominated by open fields .

Upon intersecting Nellis Road , NY 342 turns to follow a linear , southeasterly routing into the town of Le Ray . The rural surroundings remain until the hamlet of Calcium , where NY 342 meets US 11 north of the community 's center in a lightly populated residential area just southwest of the Fort Drum Military Reservation . The route continues on , running along the southwestern edge of Fort Drum to a junction with NY 283 . At this point , NY 342 curves to the south , bypassing the village of Black River to the west as it heads through another undeveloped area consisting of little more than open fields . The route ends roughly 1 @. @ 5 miles (2 @. @ 4 km) to the south of NY 283 at an intersection with NY 3 southwest of the village .

= = History = =

The portion of modern NY 342 between NY 12 in Pamela and US 11 in Le Ray was originally built in stages between 1951 and 1955 as a federal @-@ aid highway named the " Watertown Bypass " . The remainder of the route (via Le Ray and South Main Streets in Black River) was built around this time . NY 26 was realigned between 1956 and 1958 to use the portion of the bypass between US 11 and NY 3 . The change was part of a larger realignment of NY 26 between Carthage and Antwerp .

In 1960 , the New York State Department of Transportation assumed ownership and maintenance of the Watertown Bypass . The entirety of the new state highway , including the portion already part of NY 26 , was initially designated as NY 181 . It was renumbered to NY 342 c . 1963 , eliminating potential confusion between NY 181 and the nearby I @-@ 81 . NY 342 was also rerouted to bypass Black River to the west around this time . The overlap with NY 26 was eliminated in the mid @-@ 1970s when NY 26 was truncated to Carthage .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Jefferson County .