Built to connect a steel mill to the Interstate, this 2-mile section of I-180 between mileposts 9.5 and 11.4 was first opened to traffic in 1969.

The road was constructed over a marsh with very unstable soils. The Illinois Department of Transportation chose to use full-depth HMA in this area to accommodate the concerns about settlement. It included a granular subbase, a 12-inch asphalt stabilized base course, 2.5 inches of HMA binder course and 1.5 inches of HMA surface course. The pavement was milled and overlaid with 1 inch of HMA in 1987 and overlaid with 2 inches of HMA in 2001.

It was the first full-depth HMA pavement built on the Interstate system in Illinois, and has withstood approximately 5.1 million equivalent single axle loads (ESALs) since it was opened to traffic.

Other parts of the road on both sides of this section were constructed of concrete and have been patched and overlaid frequently, but this two-mile stretch of HMA pavement has performed beautifully and has not required a single full-depth patch to date.