For more than 35 years, scientists, military personnel and civilians have used State Route 255 in Huntsville, Alabama, as the primary access to Redstone Arsenal and the Marshall Space Flight Center. The 2.8-mile stretch of this road that won the Perpetual Pavement Award also serves as the north-south link between I-565 (the old SR 20) and US 72.

Construction of SR 255 started in February 1967, and it was opened to traffic in May 1969. The original construction consisted of 5 inches of stabilized subgrade, 10 inches of dense-graded aggregate base, 2.25 inches of hot-mix asphalt (HMA) binder course, and 1.35 inches of surface course. In 1986, an overlay of approximately 1 inch of HMA was placed from milepost 1.39 to 2.12 in the northbound direction. In 1988, an overlay of approximately 1 inch of HMA was placed from milepost 1.34 to 2.34 in the southbound direction. In 1999, approximately 3 inches of HMA was placed over the pavement between mileposts 0.0 and 2.35.

There has never been any patching of the road aside from these two placements of the surface mix, and only a portion of the length required resurfacing after 17 years of service. There are no signs of underlying fatigue or distress along any of the original 2.82 miles of construction.