The Minnesota Department of Transportation completed construction on this six-mile section of Highway 71 in 1970. It runs from Highway 9 near New London north to Highway 55 at the Stearns County Line.

The road was built with 12 inches of granular subbase, 6 inches of aggregate base, 1 inch of road-mixed bituminous base course, and 3 inches of asphalt plant-mixed bituminous wearing course. In 1991, 21 years after initial construction, Mn/DOT added 1.5 inches of plant-mixed asphalt wearing course. Fourteen years later, in 2005, 2 inches of asphalt wearing course was milled from the roadway and 4 inches of plant-mixed asphalt wearing course was applied.

Withstanding the tests of both time and traffic, this pavement has carried approximately 2 million equivalent single axle loads during its 37-year lifetime.