

235 Rockaway Avenue Timeline

1919 – September, bank organized. Charter 11881

1920 – December 2, bank opened at 200 Rockaway Avenue; former saloon, original building bricked over; present site of Ancona Pizzeria

Officers:

- Frederick W. Muller, President (owner of drugstore on northwest corner of Rockaway and Jamaica avenues—across street from bank site)
- Dr. J. Mansfield Foster, Vice President (village MD)
- William Reisert – local farmer
- Henry Keller, Director
- Wallace Payan – Director, adopted grandson of Robert Pagan, who named VS

1920 – September 28, bank started printing own currency. Printed \$561,280 worth of national currency up until 1935. Only printed \$5 bills

1923 – installed safe deposits vaults

1928 – January 7, new building opens at 235 Rockaway Avenue

1950 – interior remodeled at a cost of \$75,000 (\$800,000 in today's currency)

1955 – back addition

1958 – opened branch at 360 West Sunrise Highway. Future home of House of Chang Chinese restaurant

1960 – bank name change to **Valley National Bank** of Long Island

1963 – branch at 360 Sunrise Highway moved to GA Shopping Center, adjacent Dime Savings Bank, also facing Sunrise

1972 – **Bank of New York** bought Valley National Bank

2006 – October 2, **JP Morgan Chase** completes acquisition of Bank of New York.

2018 – October 12. Chase closed its Rockaway Avenue bank location. Chase remains in three locations: GA Mall, 270 N. Central Avenue, and 930 Rosedale Road. 235 Rockaway Avenue was a bank for 90 contiguous years.

Amy Bentley
Valley Stream Historical Society Board Trustee