

1920s Valley Stream timeline

1920	Prohibition in effect for next 12 years.
1920	Great flood of Valley Stream caused by winter thaw, rain, and clogged pipes. Rockaway Avenue under water.
1920	Valley Stream National Bank opens at 200 Rockaway Avenue (building demolished).
1921	Famed Pavillon Royal roadhouse opens on Merrick Road.
1921	The Valley Stream Record, a weekly newspaper, founded by E. George Williams.
1922	Charles Braasch's operates gin mill at 193 East Merrick Road (house still stands).
1922	William Gibson purchases 7,000 acres in South Valley Stream.
1922	George Hoffman, proprietor of Hoffman's Park Inn (northwest corner Merrick Road and Central Avenue), arrested for selling whiskey.
1922	Population approximately 2,500 souls.
1923	High school students educated at Brooklyn Avenue Elementary School.
1923	Holy Trinity Episcopal Church on Brooklyn Avenue opens.
1923	The Outlaw, a weekly, replaces the Valley Stream Record. "Justice to all and malice t'ward none," is our motto—if we like 'em."
1923	Engine No. 2 builds firehouse on Brooklyn Avenue.
1924	Clear Stream Avenue School opens.
1924	George Hoffman dies of shock when he learns two men, who posed as friends, were government spies.
1924	Anna Reisert writes the local history classic How We Built Our Farm Out of A Swamp.
1924	New Wheeler Avenue School opens; replaces 8-room wooden building.
1924	Engine Company No. 4 formed in west end. Firehouse shed located on George Lindner's farm north of Merrick Road.
1925	High school students leave Brooklyn Avenue School and relocate to Wheeler's old, 8-room wooden building.
1925	Franklin School (aka William F. Donahue) opens.
1925	Valley Stream incorporates.
1925	Henry Waldinger elected president (mayor) of Valley Stream.
1925	The Bank of Valley Stream is formed.
1925	Hoffman's Park Inn suffers great fire. Head chef dies. Interior destroyed.

1920s Valley Stream timeline, *continued*

1925	Valley Stream Police Department formed.
1926	The two trolleys that served Valley Stream are decommissioned.
1926	Exchange Club founded, equivalent to modern-day Chamber of Commerce.
1926	Calderone's Valley Stream Theatre opens on Rockaway Avenue.
1926	Olivet Baptist Church, located on Dubois Avenue and Locust Street founded.
1926	Population swells to approximately 7,500 souls.
1927	Engine Company No. 4 vacates Lindner's farm and builds firehouse on Clearstream and Buscher avenues.
1927	Valley Stream section of Southern State Parkway opens.
1927	Valley Stream State Park on Merrick Road (future home of Hendrickson Park) opens to public. Thousands flock to pond and artificial beach.
1927	Valley Stream Presbyterian Church on South Central Avenue is founded.
1927	William Gibson buys more land in South Valley Stream.
1927	The Bank of Valley Stream builds \$175,000 composite stone building at 195 Rockaway Avenue; building now Village of Valley Stream courthouse.
1928	Texas Guinan, the famed nightclub impresario—she greets her customers with "Hello Sucker," takes over Hoffman's Park Inn.
1928	Advance Sunrise Airport leases western edge of Reisert farm.
1928	Valley Stream National Bank builds \$225,000+ granite building at 235 Rockaway Avenue (building still stands).
1929	Engine Company No. 3 builds firehouse on Cochran Place at Birch Lane to accommodate the swelling Gibson community.
1929	Park that stood at Rockaway and Brooklyn avenues demolished to make way for Sunrise Highway.
1929	Sunrise Highway opens.
1929	Curtiss-Wright Flying Services purchases Reisert farm for \$2 million; Reiserts sell land before harvest-time.
1929	The Ninety-Nines, an international organization of licensed women pilots, is formed in Valley Stream.
1929	Estimated 10,000 spectators gather to witness the "The Land of the Soviets," a twin-engine monoplane that flew from Moscow to Curtiss Field.
1929	Central High School opens.
1929	Fire department headquarters opens on Rockaway Parkway and Oxford Street.
1929	Gibson train station opens.
1929	Great Depression grips nation for next 10 years.