

Valley Stream Street Names and Their Origins

Valley Stream and Irma Park
Long Island
Royal Land Co. of NY
1893 map



ROECKEL AVE

Joseph Roeckel (1823-1913), a Bavarian immigrant, opened a general store and post office (he was postmaster) on the northeast corner of Merrick Rd. and Ocean Ave.

WHEELER AVE

Originally named Chapel Ave. Eustace Wheeler (1849-1917), was a justice of the peace; editor, *Nassau News* and the *Lynbrook Recorder*; and charter member of Hook & Ladder No. 1 (1898). His son George (1879-1937), a teacher, was an avid photographer and captured many old Valley Stream scenes. His postcards have endured the test of time.

ROCKAWAY AVE - *Reckouwacky*

place of our own people
Word comes from the Canarsie band of Lenape Native Americans; members of the Algonquian civilization.

HORTON AVE

Brothers David (1846-1903) and William (1852-1914) Horton were born in VS and owned large farms. William: District 24 school tax collector; Valley Stream coroner and overseer of the poor. Both were members of Hook & Ladder No. 1 (1898).

MCKEON AVE

Once named Nostrand Ave., after Garret Nostrand (1828-1900), a local farmer, related to another Garrett (1786-1866), of whom Nostrand Ave. in Brooklyn is named. Renamed after Rev. Andrew McKeon (1895-1966), who established Blessed Sacrament Church in 1950.

MERRICK RD - *Meroke*

oyster bed, bare land
Refers to the Meroke people who inhabited Merrick. Formerly known as the Merrick & Jamaica Plank Road, an 1852-1883, wood-planked toll road. In 1894, the road was macadamized and became a favorite of bicycle enthusiasts.

BODEN AVE

Originally known as Lakeview Blvd. Renamed in honor of Tony Boden (1876-1933), a popular chop house host that catered to the Valley Stream community. A casualty of the Great Depression; he was a suicide.

COCHRAN PL

In 1871, Robert Cochran, a prominent Westchester judge, purchased land from Electus Litchfield. His brother Charles participated in the 1849 California goldrush. The brothers both kept diaries, which have been scanned and linked to our website—under the Streamer tab.

WATTS PL

The Watts' removed to VS from Hempstead during the American Revolution. They owned Watts Pond and Watts Mill.

DUBOIS AVE

Abraham DuBois (1810-1891), a renown NYC ophthalmic surgeon, was also owner of the Queens County Water Company of Long Island, located on the southwest corner of Brookfield and Mill roads.

MAP OF THE ORIGINAL INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF VALLEY STREAM AS FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE DATE OF INCORPORATION

MAP OF INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF VALLEY STREAM

DRAWN BY VANDEWATER & LAPP

ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS FOR ROCKAWAY, N.Y. VALLEY STREAM, L.I.



Click on the QR Code for a comprehensive listing of Valley Stream Street Names and Their Origins.