REMINISCENCE OF MOTT MELDRIM RELATIVE TO TROUT LAKE INCIDENTS OF YEARS AGO. ESPECIALLY ABOUT THE YEAR 1896 (EIGHTEEN, NINETY

SIX).

Trout Lake had been a Pleasure Resort, for many years previous to the above date. BUT: at this particular time there was a HOTEL at Trout Lake the proprietor of which was a Mr. Ackerman, who had a 'Bus in operation during the Summer Season which met the morning and evening passenger trains at Edwards. N.Y. New York Central Railroad Station.

At or about the same year Herbert (Herb) Anthony of Gouverneur owned and operated a STEAMER on the lake, for personal pleasure, and benefit of friends, AND: that of course "REMINDS ME", that my wife and I were invited to take a ride on his boat, which we did.

Mr. George Flint & wife of New York City, and Mrs. Flint's Father-in-Law, were Summer residents at the Flint cottage.

Also, for transportation Mr. Hiram (Hite') Hall was available with Li very rigs to carry passengers to the Lake or to other points.

AND: THESE were the days before the advent of the automobile, when we had a corduroy road over the swampy part of the Trout Lake road.

TROUT LAKE is now one of the z nice pleasure resorts of this North Country.

AS OF THE PRESENT DATE AUGUST 12-1966.

Mott Meldrim

## ABOUT, TROUT LAKE WRITTEN BY MOTT MELDRIM AGE 96 YEARS MARCH 6-1970.

FIRST: we turn TIME back to before the advent of the automobile OR: to what we call "HORSE & BUGGY DAYS", when the writer of this article was the New York Central Railroad, STATION AGENT, at Edwards, N.Y., where he commenced work in JUNE 1896, AND: retired September 1st, 1957, "SIXTY ONE YEARS AS AGENT AT EDWARDS", the terminal of the G&O Branch, We did have for many years a very good passenger service, with a morning and evening train plus a freight and accommodation during the noon hour. NOW: "THE TROUT LAKE BUSS"

The "ACKERMAN HOTEL" at Trout Lake operated a BUSS meeting all passenger trains at Edwards Railroad Station, SO; that people coming from Gouverneur, or points beyond would have immediate transportation to Trout Lake. I am now reminded of one owner of a cottage at Trout Lake, Mr. E. J.

I am now reminded of one owner of a cottage at Trout Lake, Mr. E. J. McMillan of Syracuse, who with his wife spent many a Summer at his camp at Trout Lake, we soon became intimately acquainted, they were the best of people, SO: my wife and I called on them at their CAMP several times. I am now reminded of one particular incident. Mrs. McMillan's grand father, whom I had never met, called at my station one day, introduced himself, AND; invited me over to their camp at Trout Lake TO PLAY CHECKERS WITH HIM, I thought then that he must be a REAL CHECKER PLAYER, SO: being friendly with the McMillan's, my wife and I went over that evening. AND: soon after the evening greeting, Mr. Batchelder got out his "CHECKER BOARD", AND: we "WENT AT IT", after the first game Mrs. McMillan asked "GRAMP" how did the score come out. THE REPLY WAS, "HE BEAT ME". WELL: we played several games and the result was about even. AND: I liked Mr. Batcheller, he was a very nice man in every way. AND: I learned later that he was one of the OFFICIAL SCORE KEEPERS, IN THE CHECKER CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND, SO: I must have had extra good luck.

NOW: I have really digressed from my subject "TROUT LAKE", AND: a most beautiful lake three miles long, lined with cottages, AND: I believe there must be mo re people there now in the Summer Season, than ever before, AND: as the READER MUST KNOW, that "I" as a retired STATION AGENT have no way of keeping "TAB" on them? ha ha.

WORDS SEEM TO REALLY FAIL TO DESCRIBE THE BEAUTIES OF TROUT LAKE. SO: THE BEST I CAN SAY IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH,

SINCERELY, YOUR OLD TIMER.

(off Celdrin Mott Meldrim