

The Neighborhood: A home & lodging house sandwiched between two well-worn survivors of Tannersville’s early hotel heyday

The house Leon Richmond built was just a turn to the right and a short stroll from the Main Street intersection pictured in this late-1930s postcard view (top right). Visible at the left in the postcard view is the Orpheum movie theatre. The brown building just beyond the green car on the right-hand side of the street is the former Tannersville Hotel (later the Kismet Club), the source of the Armenian music that drifted through the air on summer nights. Further down Main Street on the right is Warm’s restaurant. By the 1950s, Lackey’s Drug had moved across the street past the Orpheum, replaced by Olin’s sweater shop.

Until the 1920s, the Four-Corners intersection was dominated by the Martin Hotel (formerly Roggen’s Mountain Home), pictured in the postcard view at the right. The photo for this 1909 postcard was probably taken from the grassy spot by the red car in the in the 1930s postcard view. The Roggen/Martin hotel was the largest and best known of Tannersville’s early hotels (see *Appendix II*). By 1927 this hotel had been replaced by a row of shops and the Orpheum Theatre.



My grandparents’ house – and their summer lodging house – was sandwiched between two hotel properties, which could make the observation of the hustle-and-bustle of summer life an all-day pastime. At left is a 1910 view of the Campbell House, later known in the 1930s as Scharfenberg’s Hotel, and by the 1950s as the Palace Inn. By the mid-1970s it was gone. Sections of the dining room and bar buildings remain, but today most of the property is a parking lot. The Richmond property line was about a half-inch in from the left edge of this postcard view. Directly across the street from this hotel – the vantage point of the photographer for this postcard – would become the site of “Cowboy’s” gas station.

At right is a 1930s view of the Richmond’s neighbor on the other side of their property, the **Hillside Lodge**. In the 1950s the Hillside Lodge was a flourishing resort that catered to an Armenian-American clientele from New York City. The blue-and-white color scheme was maintained for decades – in the 1950s the hotel buildings and fences were always freshly painted. In this view, the Richmond property was located just down the hill at the extreme left. As detailed in the text, my grandparent’s lodging house was sold to the Hillside Lodge in the late 1960s. The buildings were razed in 1998-99.

