

TEN MILE RIVER SCOUT MUSEUM



THE HISTORY OF THE UPPER DELAWARE REGION

AND THE

TEN MILE RIVER SCOUT CAMPS

A HISTORY GUIDE TO THE TEN MILE RIVER HISTORICAL TRAILS

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

There are multiple ways to use this guidebook. If you have no interest in hiking, you can read it as a history of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and the local region.

If you are considering or actually planning to complete the requirements for the Ten Mile River Historical Trails Award, you can use it the following ways:

- **Decide if you want to earn the trails award** - Read this Guidebook and decide if you want to visit some of the historic sites that are mentioned. Locations of sites in **boldface** can be found in the **Ten Mile River Historical Trails Mapbook**. Some sites have standing structures, most do not.
- **Selecting a Hike Route** - TMR is huge, with more than 12,000 acres and 60+ miles of named marked and unmarked hiking trails, including the 33-mile Ten Mile River Trail. You can't see everything on one hike. Read this Guidebook and note the historic sites of greatest interest to you. Sites in **boldface** can be found in the **Ten Mile River Historical Trails Mapbook**. The Mapbook includes detailed trail maps of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps, the historic sites and short historical descriptions. Once you decided which historic sites you want to visit, select the best trail route from the **Ten Mile River Historical Trails Recommended Trail Route Book**, or make up one of your own.
- **On the Trail** - When you come across an historic site in the **Ten Mile River Historical Trails Mapbook**, look it up in the index in the back of this book (in **boldface**) to obtain its historical background.

SOURCES

This document is a compilation of multiple sources obtained over many years. The largest are the following two:

- A 2004 Ten Mile River Scout Museum exhibit on local history in the vicinity of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps, by David M. Malatzky.
- The Ten Mile River Scout Camps history from the Ten Mile River Scout Camps 90th Anniversary Journal, by David M. Malatzky. **Note:** This is the T.M.R. history originally written by Sullivan County Historian James W. Burbank for the 1952 dinner given by the Narrowsburg Chamber of Commerce in recognition of T.M.R.'s Silver Jubilee Testimonial, updated countless times over the years.
- Some photos courtesy of the Minisink Valley Historical Society.

Happy Hiking!

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Associate Curator,
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THE LENNI-LENAPE INDIANS AND ROCKSHELTERS

Native Americans in the region were from the Lenni-Lenape tribe, also known as the Delaware. The Munsee clan of the Lenape inhabited the Upper Delaware River Valley in semi-permanent villages. They grew a variety of crops for food, hunted game in the woods and fished in the Delaware River and its tributaries. Coastal tribes gathered oysters and clams for food as well as for their shells, which were used to make wampum (beads) and various tools.

While many signs of the Lenni-Lenape were found at TMR, there were no major villages on camp property. Native Americans used rock shelters, which were not permanently occupied. Small hunting parties traveling down the Delaware River used them for short stays while fishing, hunting, etc.

Multiple sites on camp property were excavated over the years by amateur and professional groups. There are tales of arrowhead collections on display at camp trading posts, now all lost. The Ten Mile River Scout Museum documented three Native American sites and obtained artifacts which are on display in the Museum:

The Ten Mile River Rockshelter is a well-documented but lost Native American site on camp property, located somewhere west of Route 97 and facing the Delaware River. It was excavated by the Orange County Chapter, New York State Archeological Association from 1969-1970. The Rockshelter was a 50 ft. x 12 ft. cave cut into the large sandstone cliffs facing the river. There was an adjacent campground. It served as a temporary camp for Native Americans hunting game in the nearby forests and fishing in the Delaware River, mostly during the fall and winter. A variety of arrowheads, animal bones and oyster shells were found, some of which are in the New York State Museum in Albany. The overall date range for the Rockshelter stretches from the Late Archaic - Early Historic, from approximately 2,500 B.C. - A.D. 1,750.



Ten Mile River Rockshelter

The **Kunatah Rock Shelter** was excavated in 1972 by Junius Bird of the American Museum of Natural History and volunteer Camp Kunatah staff. It yielded at least twelve different types of arrowheads spanning almost 5,000 years of occupation, which is highly unusual at a single site in New York State. The earliest artifacts are of the Brewerton Corner-Notched and Brewerton Eared-Triangular types and date back to the Middle-to-Late Archaic period, some 4,000-6,000 years ago.



Kunatah Rock Shelter

The Museum also obtained from this site a stone knife fragment, a stone drill or punch fragment, etching tool, pottery fragments (sherds), animal tooth, burnt animal bones, burnt wood, fresh water clam shells, deer teeth and chert (stone) flakes. Also, a few large stone items, including a net sinker, anvil stone and hammerstone (most likely used to create stone tools), large preformed stone artifacts and exhausted cores (used to obtain stone flakes).

The **Eagle Rock Rock Shelter** on Crystal Lake was excavated by Alan Strauss in 1975 and yielded arrowheads and other artifacts.

THE LUMBERING AND RAFTING INDUSTRIES

Beginning in the early 1800s, lumbering was the first major industry in the region. Land was cheap and the businessmen who owned large tracts of lumber did not live here but operated their lumbering businesses through agents. There was extensive lumbering on camp property.

Felling, trimming and sawing logs was very difficult work. At its height, more than 10,000 persons were employed as choppers, sawyers, teamsters and raftsmen. Many of the towns and villages in the Upper Delaware region owed their existence to the lumbering industry. During this era, most rivers on today's camp property had sawmills. The **Ten Mile River Village** had several. Local sawmills produced adequate supplies of planks for flooring, doors and roofing. Some cut lumber was used for local construction but most was rafted downstream for sale elsewhere.



Ten Mile River Sawmill

There was a sawmill at the outlet of Big Pond (Crystal Lake) as early as 1810. Between 1856-1875, there were sawmills on the outlets to today's Lake Nianque, Turnpike Lake, Fox Lake, and Mahl's Pond. There was a sawmill near the Stone Arch Bridge at least until the 1930s.

In 1764, Daniel Skinner is credited with the idea of tying together logs into rafts, and floating them on the spring river floods down the Delaware River to lumber markets in Philadelphia and later Easton, MD. The logs were bound together with poles into large rafts on the banking grounds along the Delaware River, and then floated down the river, a trip of several days. Raftsmen stayed overnight at local taverns and hotels, boosting local economies.

Rafts were assembled and launched on rafting grounds at practically every likely spot along the river. At first, timber was cut almost at the water's edge. But as time went on and the timber became scarcer, they hauled it from farther back in the mountains. Timbers were skidded down the mountainsides and hauled to the banking grounds, first by yokes of oxen, and later by teams of horses.



Rafting the Delaware River

Rock Lake (Canfield Pond) was dammed so that logs could float to its southern end. There was a **Lumbering Camp** overlooking the southern end of Rock Lake. Starting in the 1970s, a variety of coins and metal artifacts were found here by Russell and Florence Hannah, some of which are on display at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. The first coin (found by Florence) was dated 1757. Artifacts found included: old-style metal buttons, old bullets, a shoe buckle, parts of three-legged iron pots, colonial-type eating utensils, a colonial knife, various-sized oxen shoes and dozens of assorted nails. There are indications of buildings on the site, including a foundation. The site was probably abandoned after the 1820s, when all the good local timber had been harvested. The nearby Brooklyn Camp's Rim Trail was famed as an old logging road.

Below the camp was a **Lumbering Chute**. Logs slide down this mountainside chute to the Ten Mile River and the Delaware River, below.

Both the **Delaware & Hudson Canal** and the **Erie Railroad** also carried lumber to markets. By the late 1800s, most of the huge woodlands were cut down and lumbering as a major local industry ended.

EARLY RIVER TRANSPORTATION

Before the Newburgh-Cochecton Turnpike, there was no road into the region from the east. The Upper Delaware River was shallow and not suited to transport large quantities of goods and supplies. Only canoes or Durham boats could use the Upper Delaware, and spring floods were unsafe for any watercraft. Durham boats drew only about 24 inches of water when fully loaded. They hauled cargo such as fir, timber, and produce from up-country forests and farms down the Delaware River to Philadelphia. On the return trip, smaller loads of manufactured goods such as sugar and molasses were carried in these boats upstream.

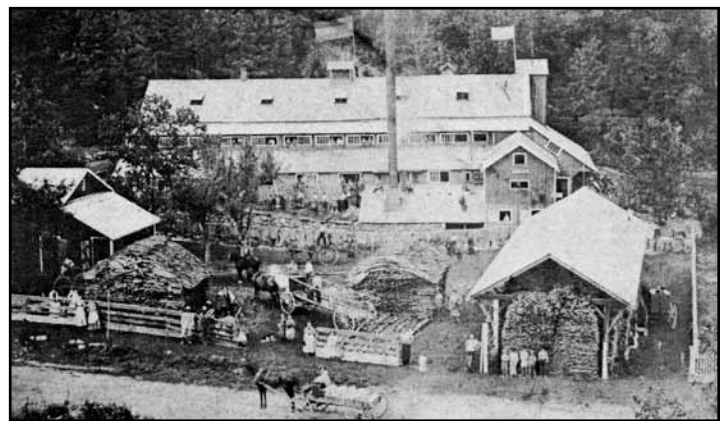
Besides transporting lumber, rafts were also used to move products to markets further down the river, including skins, furs and maple sugar. They even took an occasional adventurous passenger for a ride. The trip took a few days and the rafts were tied up at night at popular resting spots. Raftsmen stayed overnight at local taverns and hotels, providing a boost to the local economy. Cochecton, Narrowsburg and Long Eddy were popular stopping points along the river.

Today, the Delaware River is the longest free-flowing river in the northeastern United States. It was never dammed due to the influence of the raftsmen and the lumbering industry, which required an open river to float their lumber to market.

THE TANNING INDUSTRY

From 1830-1865 the tanning industry was the most profitable business in the region. The depletion of hemlock forests further north and the completion of the **Erie Railroad** in the late 1840s brought the tanning industry to Sullivan County. Suddenly, valueless hemlock forests had tremendous value because of the tanbark required by the tanning industry.

It took bark from 3-10 hemlock trees to tan ten hides. As a result, it was much easier to transport the raw hides to the hemlock bark than ship the bark to the hides. Hides were imported from Argentina and other South American countries, first along the Newburgh-Cochecton Turnpike, then the Delaware & Hudson Canal and the **Erie Railroad**. Special buildings were erected on the railroad sidings to receive the hides. These were then taken to the local tanneries for tanning and in turn shipped out as processed leather. Tanneries were always built near streams because of the great quantity of water required for the tanning process. A pungent odor hung over the tannery buildings and grounds.



The Wurtsboro Tannery

Tanning was a huge local industry, but not on TMR property. During the Civil War, 80% of the leather goods and boots worn by Union armies were tanned in Sullivan County tanneries. By 1880, the supply of hemlock bark was exhausted and the industry left the region. The former hemlock forests were replaced with growths of trees not suitable for tanning, farmland and grazing land.

BLUESTONE MINING

For most of the 1800s, bluestone from Sullivan County quarries was used for sidewalks, curbs and other construction in New York City. **Bluestone from quarries on Tusten Mountain** was ferried from the **Ten Mile River Village** across the Delaware River to stone sidings on the **Erie Railroad**. They were stored in various lengths, widths and thicknesses as the trade demanded, awaiting orders for specific stones. They were then mounted on two-wheel carts, moved to freight cars, loaded and transported to markets.



Erie Railroad Stone Siding

The owner of the quarry lands usually leased it for about 1/2 cent per square foot. Before quarrying could begin, the overlying earth and top rock had to be taken off, called stripping. Most quarries were small operations, worked on by 5-10 men.

The beds generally ran in regular blocks, being separated by thinner blocks, known as cat faces. If the blocks were well defined, they were readily cut into rectangular-shaped sizes for platforms, sidewalks, crosswalks and curbing stones. The natural joints always determined the size of the stone and frequently layers 50 ft. long, 20 ft. wide and 10 in. thick were lifted from the beds. These were immediately cut into smaller sizes. Thick slabs requiring extra dressing were taken to the dressing sheds, where they were finely tooled. Large stones were put on large bed planers and planed smooth. Others were put under saws composed of strips of thin boiler iron, under the edge of which was kept a quantity of fine, sharp, wet sand, and sawed into slabs of the required size.

Tusten Mountain was the site of multiple **bluestone quarries**, visible today from the **Tusten Mountain Trail**. There is a view of the Delaware River at the lookout along the Trail. By the early 1900s, bluestone was replaced by concrete, ending the local bluestone quarrying industry.

THE NEWBURGH-COCHECTON TURNPIKE

Built between 1801-1803, the Newburgh-Cochecton Turnpike ran from Newburgh, N.Y. on the Hudson River to Cochecton on the Delaware River. Business interests from Newburgh sponsored the road. Tollhouses along the turnpike charged a small fee to raise their gate, permitting travelers to pass. There were inns and taverns every half-mile, which did a considerable amount of business.

The turnpike opened up most of Sullivan County to settlement for the first time and provided a route for farmers to ship their livestock and products east to major markets. Ox-drawn freight wagons were used to transport merchandise. Towns along the route developed and thrived. Stagecoach service was available for passengers and bulk goods. There was huge traffic on the turnpike from 1815 until the 1840s, when the **Erie Railroad** first reached the region. Mud became a problem in the spring and dust rose in the summer and fall from the hundreds of sheep and cattle being driven to eastern markets.

Tanneries near the turnpike used it to ship in hemlock bark from the region, green hides from overseas and ship out tanned leather. After selling their lumber down the Delaware River, raftsmen stopped off in New York City for a visit, took a boat up the Hudson River to Newburgh, N.Y. and walked back on the turnpike (or took a stagecoach) to the Delaware River.

By 1830, the Delaware & Hudson Canal largely replaced much of the commercial traffic on the turnpike. Today, Route 17-B follows most of the original route of the Newburgh-Cochecton Turnpike.

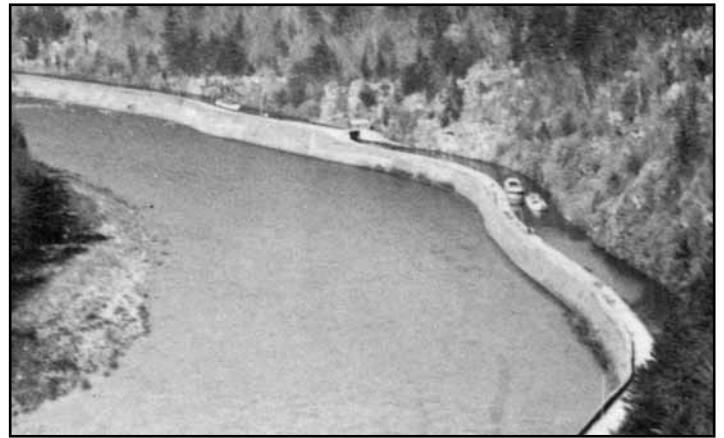
THE MOUNT HOPE AND LUMBERLAND TURNPIKE

The **Mount Hope and Lumberland Turnpike** was constructed circa 1825 between Mount Hope in Orange County, N.Y. and Honesdale, P.A. It was largely used to transport lumber and agricultural products, including tanbark for the tanning industry. The turnpike ran through Beaver Brook and Narrowsburg, spurring economic development in both towns. Stagecoach service was available to Narrowsburg. By 1830, the turnpike was largely replaced by the Delaware & Hudson Canal. Today, parts of Route 23 and Blind Pond Road follow its original route, passing by Turnpike Lake (giving it a name) and cutting through TMR.

THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL

The Delaware and Hudson Canal, south of TMR, was constructed from 1825-1828 to transport coal from the mines of Wayne County, P.A. to New York City and other major cities. Prior to the canal and its coal, most city residents used wood for heat and cooking.

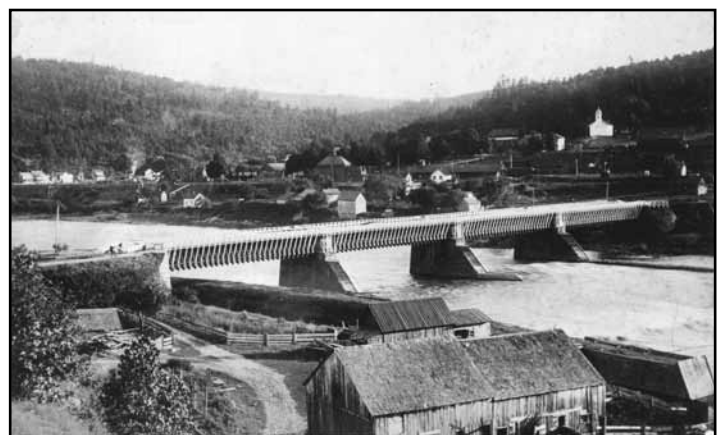
The canal provided easy and cheap transportation to markets for raw materials and produce from the Upper Delaware River Valley, boosting the economy in the entire region. Farmers were able to send to market new products, while craftsmen were able to expand production for a larger market. Local residents were able to purchase items previously available only in metropolitan areas. Towns and villages sprang up along the route of the canal, including Barryville, Pond Eddy and Mongaup. Entirely new industries started, including boat building, glass works and foundries. Tanneries, lumber mills and stone quarries prospered with the improved and inexpensive transportation.



D & H Canal boats running alongside the Delaware River, south of TMR

Mules or horses on the towpath adjacent to the canal pulled the canal boats. Sometimes entire families lived on their boat. The canal was very successful and repeatedly enlarged, expanding the size and capacity of the canal boats from 25 tons to eventually 140 tons each.

The Delaware River was partially dammed below the Lackawaxen River to allow canal boats to cross safely. These boats always had the risk of colliding with rafts and other river traffic. The canal company paid for damage to rafts due to these collisions. In 1849, John Roebling, later engineer of the Brooklyn Bridge, constructed the Delaware Aqueduct to keep canal traffic separated from the river traffic. Today, it is the oldest existing wire suspension bridge in the United States.



The Delaware Aqueduct

In 1898, the canal was abandoned and replaced by a railroad operated by the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company.

THE ERIE RAILROAD

The **Erie Railroad** was the first long-line railroad in the United States. It was organized as the New York and Erie Railroad in July of 1833 but was not completed to Dunkirk, N.Y. until 1851. It was built to enable the New York southern tier counties to compete effectively with the central counties served by the Erie Canal.

The first train on the Delaware Division passed through Narrowsburg on December 22, 1848. The **Erie Railroad** was constructed largely through the labor of Irish and German immigrants, many whom settled in the region.

The railroad brought additional prosperity and growth to the region, especially north of the Lackawaxen River where the Delaware & Hudson Canal turned west. The railroad, more than the canal before it, boosted the local economy and the development of small towns along its route.

The “*Erie*” opened a fast and direct connection with New York City. The railroad provided both passenger and freight service and shipped to the New York City market coal, lumber and agricultural products, including large quantities of milk, eggs, butter and poultry. It also competed with the Delaware & Hudson Canal, carrying coal, lumber and other produce from the region to major markets. The railroad had an advantage, since it operated year-round while the canal closed for the winter.

Starting in 1884, the Erie promoted the region as an economical vacation for N.Y.C. residents. Passenger service brought tourists to the region in huge numbers and created the entire vacation industry, initially to boarding houses and small hotels.

Two miles above Port Jervis, the **Erie Railroad** crossed into Pennsylvania because the Delaware & Hudson Canal, which occupied the east bank of the river, obtained a permanent injunction that preempted all rights to the riverbank upon which the canal was built. It recrossed the Delaware River back into New York State above **Tusten** on **Bridge No. 9**.

When the railroad first came through in the 1840s, the **Ten Mile River Village** merited a flag stop at **Bridge No. 9**. The **Erie Railroad** later erected a station about a mile above the **Ten Mile River Village**, where its tracks crossed the Delaware from Pennsylvania to New York. This station was first called Delaware Bridge and then **Tusten Station**.

Starting in 1928, the first Brooklyn Scouts to go to TMR took a ferry to Jersey City, the **Erie Railroad** to **Tusten Station**, and then hiked several miles to Talequah Lodge at the north end of Rock Lake, to check-in for camp. Their camp luggage came up separately via Railway Express.



Bridge No. 9



Tusten Station



Scouts Departing Railroad

THE TEN MILE RIVER VILLAGE AND TUSTEN

Around 1757, the first settlement on the Delaware River at the mouth of the Ten Mile River was organized. It was founded by the Delaware Company under the authority of the State of Connecticut. A sawmill was established at the mouth of the Ten Mile River before 1762.

In October 1763, Native Americans wiped out the 22 settlers and destroyed their crops. This was known as the **TMR Massacre**. Soon afterwards, the **Ten Mile River Village** developed on this site. It was an important and vital community during the great bluestone and lumbering boom in the early 1800s. The Village consisted of a Baptist church, several homes, a grain mill and several sawmills. Bluestone from **Tusten Mountain** was ferried across the Delaware River to the **Erie Railroad** loading dock on the Pennsylvania side. The Village was the site of the first meeting of the Town of Lumberland, on April 2, 1779. For many years, it was considered the central point of Lumberland. At that time, Lumberland took up about half of what is today Sullivan County.

The collapse of the local lumber and quarrying industries in the late 1800s was largely responsible for the decline of the **Ten Mile River Village**.

In 1853, the **Ten Mile River Village** was reorganized and renamed the **Town of Tusten**, after Colonel Benjamin Tusten, Jr., a doctor who died in the battle of Minisink, in 1779. By 1875, Tusten had more than 20 dwellings, including a general store, a blacksmith's shop, parsonage and a post office.

The **Tusten Settlement Church**, the former Ten Mile River Baptist Church (a.k.a. Tusten Baptist Church), is an historic church on NY 97, at the junction with Cocheton Turnpike. It was built in 1856 and is a small frame meeting house with modest Greek Revival style detailing. It features a small, reconstructed bell tower and spire. The church cemetery includes the gravesite of Gustavus A. Neumann, founding editor of a newspaper, the New Yorker Staats-Zeitung. It is the last building standing from the Town of Tusten. The church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The one-room **Tusten Schoolhouse** was erected by 1875, across the street from the Baptist Church.

The **Tusten Stone Arch Bridge** was constructed in 1896 by William H. Hankins, a local timber raftsman, stonemason and occasional postmaster. The bridge crosses the Ten Mile River just northeast of its confluence with the Delaware River. It is approximately 52 ft. long and 15 ft. wide and continues to operate as a single lane vehicle bridge for local traffic. The bridge is named in honor of Dr. Benjamin Tusten. It was constructed to facilitate travel to the milling center from north or south and for easier access to the **Erie Railroad**. The bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Traces of the **Town of Tusten** still remain, including a sawmill, brickyard, ferry dock, gristmill, tavern, store and school.



Tusten Schoolhouse



Tusten Settlement Church



TMR Sawmill & Tusten Stone Arch Bridge



Town of Tusten Foundations and Walls

THE MINISINK COMPANY

In 1911, a group of New York City businessmen established the **Minisink Company** with the primary purpose of developing a 4,000-acre tract comprising the lands in the vicinity of the **Town of Tusten**. Engineers developed maps of the proposed project, showing some 325 lots available for development. According to the proposal, two bridges would cross the Delaware River in the vicinity of the Ten Mile River, providing easy access to the **Erie Railroad**.

An elaborate sales brochure was published, called "*Country Homes in Sullivan County*." In it, Rock Lake and Davis Lake were described as being of "*beauty unsurpassed*," fed by springs of pure water. 500 acres of the Davis Lake tract could be purchased for a club, hotel or summer estate. Also mentioned prominently were lots along a two-mile stretch of the Delaware River, suitable for bungalows and villas. Other tracts of land could be purchased for farming.



The Minisink Company Property

The **Minisink Company** actually sold very few lots and the entire project was abandoned in a very short time. The entire **Town of Tusten** (excluding the **Tusten Settlement Church** property) was incorporated into the Ten Mile River Scout Camps when purchased by the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York in October of 1927.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOURIST INDUSTRY

Beginning in the 1880s, both the Erie and Ontario & Western Railroads distributed tens of thousands of booklets under the title "*Summer Homes*" in New York, Brooklyn and the surrounding areas. Each booklet listed all station stops with nearby accommodations, including the surrounding areas. At first, most of the commercial hotels at the major stops were listed, plus the few farmhouses that had 3-4 rooms to rent out. As the attractions of the mountains and the effective promotion of the railroad lured more and more summer guests, the farmhouses were continually improved until they made the transition to boarding houses.

Thousands of New York City families took express trains to the region and stayed in boarding houses, often for the entire summer. Working fathers could take a quick train to visit their families for the weekend and be back in time for work Monday morning. The region was well known for its excellent hunting and fishing and sportsmen came in large numbers. Local farmers found that a successful boarding business during summer months often exceeded their profits from farming the rest of the year.

Prior to 1927, what is today's Ten Mile River Scout Camps had a variety of hotels, resorts, summer estates, hunting preserves and youth camps, all serving the tourist industry and one particular wealthy businessman.

THE VAN ALLEN GRANGE

In 1883, George W. Van Allen, a wealthy N.Y.C. businessman in the printing press trade, purchased 4,000 acres of camp property, including both Big Pond (Crystal Lake) and Half Moon Lake, for use as a summer family home and hunting preserve, called the **Van Allen Grange**. He developed the property into an elaborate country estate, with accommodations for 100 guests, mostly where Camp Keowa is today. His property also included farms at Tylertown and Smith Mill.



George W. Van Allen

The Sullivan County Turtle Club, mostly wealthy businessmen in the publishing trade, spent a week here each spring, and sometimes a week in the autumn, hunting, fishing and shooting. In 1893, Van Allen constructed the Big House which was used by Camp Keowa until the early 1960s. Its foundation still exists near the COPE course.



The Big House



Stag Hall

Stag Hall was the 19-room hunting lodge of the **Van Allen Grange** near where the **Tower of Friendship** is today. It was built by George W.

Van Allen for use by the Sullivan County Turtle Club and opened in 1902. It served as the Camp Man headquarters when it first opened in 1930, until it burned down in July, 1937. George W. Van Allen died in January 1917, making his property available for acquisition and development.

THE CRYSTAL LAKE RESORT

From 1916-1925, various owners operated the 4,000-acre former **Van Allen Grange** as the **Crystal Lake Resort** during the summer and as a hunting preserve the rest of the year. The Big House was used as a boarding house. Remnants of the stone walkways can be found today.

In 1925, Isidor Liebow of Brooklyn purchased about 800 acres of the Crystal Lake section of the tract for two kosher youth camps. **Camp Utopia** had separate boy and girl units, which were incorporated into Camp Man and **Camp Manhattan** when the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York purchased the Crystal Lake Tract in September, 1929.



Crystal Lake Resort

ROCK LAKE HOUSE/ROCK LAKE COUNTRY CLUB/TALEQUAH LODGE

The Rock Lake House on Rock Lake had room for 12 guests in 1906. It was replaced in the 1920s with the huge **Rock Lake Country Club** at the north end of Rock Lake. In 1927, the clubhouse was purchased by the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, renamed **Talequah Lodge**, and used as headquarters for the Brooklyn Scout Camps, until it burned down in 1940.



Talequah Lodge

THE HALF MOON LAKE HOTEL

In 1912, Hans Howald, a Swedish immigrant and former headwaiter at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, purchased the **Half Moon Lake Hotel** from Conrad Freund and operated it into the 1940s with his wife Lily. It was considered one of the outstanding resorts in the Upper Delaware River Valley Region. Hans tended the bar and ran the hotel

while Lily managed the kitchen and did all of the cooking. The hotel had a tennis court and room for 70 guests, mostly Swiss from New York City and New Jersey. Nearby Half Moon Lake and Fox Lake provided opportunities for boating, bathing and fishing.

In 1929, Mr. Howald gave Staten Island Council permission to use Half Moon Lake and part of its shoreline for Camp Aquehonga waterfront activities.



Hans Howald



Half Moon Lake Hotel

The hotel was heavily damaged by a fire in 1943. It was quickly rebuilt, but much smaller, with room for thirty guests. Mr. Howald died in 1948, but the hotel continued operating, at least until 1953. The property was purchased by the Greater New York Councils in 1959 and the **Half Moon Lake Hotel** was demolished. Its foundation is still visible today, just off Route 26.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Starting in 1928, thousands of Scouts attended the Ten Mile River Scout Camps each summer, usually for two weeks or more. Their parents frequently visited their sons during visiting day, in the middle of the two-week camp period. A few local businesses were established, specifically catering to the Scouts and their parents.

The **Doughnut Farm** (a.k.a. Doughnut House) was a small, family-owned restaurant off of Route 97 that was popular with TMR campers and staff, especially from the Brooklyn Camps. From 1928-1972, it was operated by Margaret Soller from her home, which still stands today. While widely known for its famous donuts, the **Doughnut Farm** also sold luncheon-meat sandwiches, hamburgers, peanut butter sandwiches, cake and ice cream. In 1937, the Sollers converted their living room into a dining room. Local female teenagers were hired as waitresses.



The Doughnut Farm

In the 1950s, the Doughnut Farm purchased the Doughnut machine to automate the mass production of donuts. Former Ten Mile River Scout Museum Curator Bernie Sussman acquired the machine soon after the Museum opened in the early 2000s. It is currently on display in the Museum.

For almost 40 years, the Slide Farm, on Route 97, was operated by Roland Flora and his wife Louise for the purpose of manufacturing hand-carved neckerchief slides. The Floras lived on the property, which previously



Louise and Roland Flora at the Slide Farm

was a motel with small cabins. One of these became their workshop. Campers hiked to the Slide Farm to place their order and picked up their slides at the end of their stay in camp. Louise designed and painted the slides, while Roland carved them. Many TMR camp staffs ordered staff neckerchief slides from the Slide Farm. These area now on display at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum.

The **Ten Mile River Colony** was a bungalow colony with pool on Route 97. Its restaurant with recreation room was popular with TMR campers and staff. Ownership changed over the years, starting with O. E. "Doc" Venatta (1932), followed by Nick Dale and Morty Hyman (1945), and then Bob Landers (1955). It notably displayed TMR staff photos on its walls. Today, it is the Ofrey Resort.



Ten Mile River Colony

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEN MILE RIVER SCOUT CAMPS

By the middle of the 1920s, Scouting was growing at a tremendous pace. There were, at that time, living in the great city of New York men who were dreaming of vast unspoiled woodland acres as a solution to a problem which weighed heavily on their minds and hearts. This group was the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, which was headed by a man of great foresight as well as an abundance of Boy Scout training. His name was Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who, in 1929, became Governor of New York State and eventually guided the destiny of the United States as President throughout the Depression era and World War II.



FDR in 1920



**Judge Frederic
Kernochan**



**Judge James
Cropsey**

When Roosevelt founded the Boy Scout Foundation in 1922 and became its first President, the camps at the Kanawauke Lakes in the Palisades Interstate Park were being leased by the Boy Scouts of New York City. At the time, Roosevelt set three objectives, one of which was a permanent camp for the N.Y.C. Boy Scouts, adequate for all time.

Through the 1920s, camp attendance had risen steadily until the possibilities for expansion were exhausted. The camp was simply too small and no more wild lands were available in the vicinity with which to enlarge the camping facilities. Other underprivileged youth campers, mainly from New York City, filled the camps on the other nearby lakes.

Accordingly, about 1924, Roosevelt's far reaching vision and limitless energies started the ball rolling toward the acquisition of a new Boy Scout campsite large enough to meet any future needs. The campsite search committee, including two judges, Frederic Kernochan and James Cropsey, searched diligently for two years within a fifty-mile radius of New York City, but to no avail. It was deemed absolutely essential to acquire a very large parcel of land, since it was assumed that camp attendance would continue to grow at the rapid rate of the 1920s. The land also had to contain lakes, streams, swamps, timberland, and few main roads. Other requirements included: relative isolation from settled communities, accessibility by rail, water and public highways and an adequate water supply. While multiple sites were considered, some seriously, no such campsite could be found within fifty miles of New York City.

After examination of many maps and another year of careful investigation, it was found that options could be placed on thirty-two small parcels of land and farms in the region of the Ten Mile River, all of which adjoined to form an area of approximately ten thousand acres. Furthermore, this aggregation of land contained all of the several essential requirements desired.

THE LAND IS PURCHASED

The real estate firm of Gaul & Kampfer, in Yonkers, N.Y., was authorized to purchase the property from the landowners, but not to disclose the role of the Boy Scout Foundation. It was thought that the Foundation had access to substantial money and that there were many who would prey on that money if afforded the opportunity.

In April of 1927, the Foundation started a \$1 million fundraising campaign to pay for the purchase and development of the new camp, whose location was not publicly disclosed at the time. The Monticello Republican Watchman newspaper first announced the massive land purchase in its August 12, 1927 issue.

As a testimony to the trustworthiness of those involved, no one except the purchasers knew where the new camps were to be established until all of the necessary land options were acquired. On October 7, 1927 the thirty-two proportionate landowners were invited to Monticello for the purpose of signing the deeds and receiving payment for their lands.

THE BROOKLYN CAMPS CONSTRUCTED

It took no time at all for the Boy Scouts to commence work on the first camp. Harvey A. Gordon was brought in from the Kanawauke Scout Camps as Chief of Construction. Also involved in designing and constructing TMR were Hermann Merkel, Cyde R. Place and Grosvenor S. Wright.

A construction camp was erected on Turnpike Lake and sawmills were erected near Rock Lake, Wildcat Pond (Lake Nianque) and Half Moon Lake. Sand, rock and gravel for roads and sewer systems were obtained right from the camp property. Gordon first constructed the Brooklyn Camp on the shores of Rock Lake and had it ready for the campers by the summer of 1928.

The **Brooklyn Camps Gateway** consists of two stone pillar remnants on Cohecton Turnpike, dating back to 1928. The top of the gateway, now gone, depicted the Brooklyn Bridge.

The original **Brooklyn Scout Camps Infirmary**, later used as the Camp Kunatah office, still stands today.

The open-air **Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin** originally stood in **Camp Kotohke** near Rock Lake. During the 1930s, a large number of these cabins were built in the Brooklyn Camps, **Camp Manhattan** (today's Camp Keowa), the original Camp Ranachqua and **Old Camp Aquehonga**.

They were always built in campsites of four cabins to accommodate the "patrol" system. Each cabin was built to hold eight Scouts comfortably, but there were times when up to twelve scouts used a cabin. This required the use of double-decker bunks, placed against the walls. Each of these four-cabin sites also had a two-man platform tent occupied by the site Scoutmaster and Assistant



Harvey A. Gordon



Hermann Merkel



Brooklyn Camps Gateway



Camp Brooklyn Infirmary

Scoutmaster, called “budkas.”

The cabin interiors were dark. This kept them relatively cool during hot summer days.

The bunks were usually arranged alongside the walls. Scouts had to sleep “head to foot” with the next boy to avoid transmission of colds, etc. This left a large clear area in the center of the cabin that could be used for rainy day activities. Scouts who came to camp with trunks left them next to their bunks. These were used as seats during the day. Every so often, the Scoutmaster would conduct a trunk inspection to make sure that there were no dirty or wet things inside.



Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin

All the Scouts had a series of long nails in the cabin wall above their bunks. They hung their neckerchiefs on the nails, somewhat like a tie rack. Every Scout also had a lanyard on which he carried his trunk key. This too hung on one of those nails at night.

The cabins were lit by one feeble kerosene lantern that didn’t give much more light than a bright candle. The glass in the lantern would get sooty and had to be cleaned each morning. The last Scout to bed had the job of turning off the lantern. All Scouts had flashlights to see into their trunks and to light the way to the willy (latrine) in the dark.

The **Cayuga/Kotohke cabin** was moved to Ten Mile River Scout Museum on November 17, 2010, and extensively restored.



Talequah Council Ring

During the 1930s, the **Talequah Council Ring** was used every Saturday night for the Talequah Council Fire. About half of the 1,000 Brooklyn Scouts sat in rugged, six-tier wooden seats, while the rest sat on logs circling the campfire.

The Talequah Council Fire was the highlight of the week in camp, featuring the awarding of camp badges, skits and inspirational talks by camp officials. Near the center of the campfire ring were three attached stone chairs and blue heron totem (the symbol of Shu-Shu-Gah Lodge) for camp officials and important guests. The Lodge ran the campfire, with members in indian regalia playing important roles.

The **Picture Window** was the site of the former Accaponac Dining Hall, with a notable view of the Delaware River.

The **Indian Caves** is a previous name for what we call today the “**Indian Cliffs.**”



TMR in 1929

THE STATEN ISLAND CAMPS CONSTRUCTED

For the 1929 summer camp season, Harvey Gordon then built a camp on Half Moon Lake for the Staten Island Council, which that group christened “Aquehonga.” As he stated some time later, he was proud of his privilege to build these camps and wanted the boys who used them to view them with equal pride. Therefore, the buildings were ruggedly and handsomely built to withstand the elements for fifty years or more.

From 1929–1954, **Camp Aquehonga** was operated by Staten Island Council, and then by the Greater New York Councils (1955–1967). The camp had a non-kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Half Moon Lake. In 1968, it was replaced by the “New” Camp Aquehonga on the opposite side of Half Moon Lake, then renamed “**Old Camp Aquehonga**.”

The **stone chimney** remnant of one of the Old Camp Aquehonga Red Jacket cabins, dating from the 1930s, still stands. The cabins were winterized, with lockers.



Red Jacket Cabin

THE BRONX CAMPS CONSTRUCTED

In 1929, Harvey Gordon dammed Brady Brook, therefore enlarging Wildcat Pond (subsequently renamed Lake Nianque). On the shores of the lake, Gordon built a magnificent camp for the Bronx Council, named “**Ranachqua**.”

Camp Ranachqua consisted of three **Units: A, C and E**. **Unit A** was the Administration Unit and consisted of the Blockhouse, Camp Director’s Cabin and Caretaker’s House. It operated from 1929–1953.

The iconic **Ranachqua Blockhouse** served as administrative headquarters of Camp Ranachqua. It consisted of a kitchen, mess hall, loading platform, hospital, multiple offices, commissary storeroom and a porch. It also frequently served as headquarters for Winter and Easter camps.



Ranachqua Blockhouse

During Family Camp’s early years, in the 1950s, it was known as the Zumi Blockhouse and served as administrative headquarters, mess hall and social center.

The **Ranachqua Blockhouse** was intentionally burned down in December, 1975 as a result of decay due to inadequate maintenance.

Camp Ranachqua **Unit C** had a kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Lake Nianque. It operated from 1929–1956. After Camp Ranachqua closed, **Unit C** was renamed **Camp Nianque** and operated from 1957–1969.

The **Camp Nianque office** moved to **Camp Lakeside** after **Camp Nianque** closed in 1969. Note the wood pillars with the Camp Ranachqua “R.”

Camp Ranachqua **Unit E** had a non-kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Lake Nianque. It operated from 1929–1956. After Camp Ranachqua closed, Unit E was renamed **Camp Stillwaters** and operated from 1957–1962, then renamed Camp Ranachqua and operated from 1963–1977. In 1980, Camp Ranachqua reopened as a leased camp, operated by Hudson-Delaware Council, then by Hudson Valley Council. Starting in 2000, Camp Ranachqua operated as a G.N.Y.C. camp, still catering mainly to Hudson Valley Council Units.



Camp Nianque Office

The **Landship Jonas Bronc** was used by Sea Scouts at Camp Ranachqua, circa the 1940s.

THE CRYSTAL LAKE TRACT PURCHASED

In July of 1929, the Boy Scout Foundation purchased the 970-acre Crystal Lake tract containing the **Camp Utopia** boy and girl Units. The boy Unit buildings were incorporated into Camp Man and the girl Unit buildings were incorporated into **Camp Manhattan**.

In August of 1929, Governor Roosevelt addressed about 1,200 Scouts at the Brooklyn Scout Camps council ring and toured the other camps. He was pleased with his reception and said he had as his goal 100,000 boys on the 11,000 acres within a period of years.

Harvey Gordon's report to the Boy Scout Foundation at the close of the camp's second season revealed an engineering and construction accomplishment of gigantic proportions covering all of the many types of buildings, sawmills, water systems, sewage systems, surveys, plans, roads and fencing.

THE QUEENS CAMPS CONSTRUCTED

With the addition of the Crystal Lake tract, TMR now consisted of more than 11,000 acres. Harvey Gordon continued his engineering work and built for the 1930 summer camp season two camps on the shores of Crystal Lake, one for **Manhattan** and called by that name, and the other one for Queens which was named Camp Man in honor of Queens Council President, Alrick H. Man.

In August of 1930, Camp Man was the scene of a very festive occasion when Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt was awarded the Silver Buffalo by Judge Frederic Kernochan.



Alrick H. Man



Governor Roosevelt receives the Silver Buffalo from Judge Kernochan, Camp Man, August 23, 1930.

Division A was one of the two Camp Man divisions when it opened in 1930, with its own dining hall and a shared waterfront. It was renamed Lakeside Division in 1938. After Camp Man closed in 1953, **Camp Lakeside** operated from 1954-1968, then merged into **Camp Kernochan** in 1969.

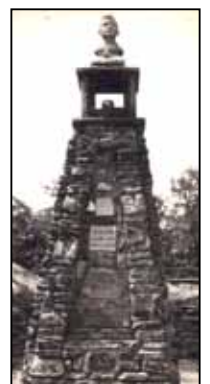
Division C was the smallest of the Camp Man divisions when it opened in 1930. It had a non-kosher dining hall and a shared waterfront on Crystal Lake. It was renamed Central Division in 1938. After Camp Man closed in 1953, **Camp Central** operated from 1954-1956, then merged into **Camp Kernochan** in 1957.

The original **Landship Amochol** on Crystal Lake was a mostly open structure used by Sea Scouts at Camp Man starting in the 1930s. The **Landship Amochol II**, on the same site, was a two-story building built like a ship, with two decks, a center cabin fitted with bunks, a front section closed in for storage and cabins on the second deck. It had an open deck all around and was electrified, with a wheelhouse and game room.

The **Protestant Chapel** was used by Camp Man Protestant Scouts starting in the 1930s.



Landship Amochol II



Tower of Friendship

The **Tower of Friendship**, constructed in 1936 at Camp Man, was conceived by Scout Executive Charles M. Heistand, Camp Director Joseph H. Brinton, and Assistant Camp Director Russell Turner, as a symbol and reminder of camp friendships. The tower was designed by A. G. Jeffrey and consists of stones contributed from many national and local leaders, each state of the Union, several foreign countries, and from camps associated with Camp Man.

The **Roosevelt Amphitheater** (former Camp Man Amphitheater) was the site of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's National Recovery Administration (N.R.A.) speech on August 23, 1933.

President Roosevelt was met at the Camp Man gate by the reception committee, composed of Barron Collier, acting president of the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, presidents of the Borough Councils, and a mounted escort of sixteen Eagle Scouts. A 21-gun salute was fired. The party then proceeded to the center of the camp, where representative Sullivan county citizens greeted the President.

There was a flurry of trumpets as the presidential flag was raised on the **Landship Amochol**, after which the President was escorted to the amphitheater, where the 1,500 Scouts were waiting to greet him.

The program opened with wild cheering of the Scouts and the singing of "Happy Days Are Here Again." The President was introduced as an honorary member of Suanhacky Lodge, Order of the Arrow, by Queens Scout Executive Charles M. Heistand, assisted by Eagle Scouts. This was followed by the presentation of tokens by Scouts, one from each camp, and all made by the boys. These included a plaque, a replica of the NRA emblem, a leather book cover, an incense burner in the form of a miniature tepee, a leather pillow with NRA design and a leather bookends decorated with the President's seal.



President Roosevelt at the Amphitheater

Mr. Collier was presented by Charles W. Froessel, president of the Queens Council, who paid tribute to President Roosevelt as the world's best Scout.

In addition to being President of the United States, Mr. Roosevelt was also founder and President of the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York. His informal speech reflected on the creation of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps and the success of the B.S.A., nationwide. He notably gave credit to the Boy Scouts for the idea behind the Civilian Conservation Corps.

THE MANHATTAN CAMP CONSTRUCTED

Camp Manhattan operated from 1930-1954 by Manhattan Council, with a non-kosher dining hall and waterfront on Crystal Lake. In 1955, it was renamed Camp Keowa and has been operated by G.N.Y.C. ever since.

The **Paul Wallingford Todd Memorial Museum of Natural History** was dedicated by President Roosevelt during his brief August 23, 1933 visit to **Camp Manhattan**. In it was kept all of the important collections and nature handicraft work of the Camp Manhattan Scouts. The left wing was set aside for preparation work, while another room in the right wing was used as a laboratory and library. Older Scouts experienced in nature subjects were in charge of the various departments of the Museum.



Paul Wallingford Todd Museum

The **Camp Manhattan Gateway** is a modern reproduction of the gateway that stood on this site in the 1930s. It was funded in the early 2010s by Jack Rudin.

Camp Rondack opened in 1945 as Rondack Division, **Camp Manhattan**, and operated until 1955. Rondack was the first experiment in the modern style of “Troop Camping.” The camp was specifically built with 32-boy Troop-sized sites rather than 100 boy-sized sites as was typical of the provisional style of camping, which had been the rule until that time. The experiment was successful and Troop camping was encouraged more and more. In 1956 the camp reopened as a self-reliant camp with its own food service. In 1976, the camp was largely merged into Camp Keowa.



Original Camp Manhattan Gateway

The **TMR sawmill** was constructed by Ranger Chet Roberts in the 1930s for the production of lumber required for camp construction work.

Three of the New York City Order of the Arrow Lodges were founded at TMR: Suanhacky Lodge at Camp Man in 1930, Man-A-Hattin Lodge at Camp Manhattan in 1935, and Aquehongian Lodge at Camp Aquehonga in 1938.

The **Mortimer L. Schiff Memorial Highway** (a.k.a. Schiff Trail) was named in recognition of banker Mortimer L. Schiff, International and National Scouter, former President of the B.S.A., and longtime supporter of N.Y.C. Scouting. In 1928, Schiff donated \$100,000 (today \$1.5 million) towards purchasing TMR. In 1931, Frieda Schiff Warburg and her son, Frederick Schiff, donated \$20,000 for the expansion of the Zumi Trail, in recognition of her recently deceased brother.



Mortimer L. Schiff

Even after Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected Governor of New York State, he found time to make personal radio appeals for the raising of funds to enlarge the work of the Foundation and facilities of the TMR camps to the point where 3,500 Boy Scouts could be given recreation and training at the same time.

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS CAMP TEN MILE RIVER

It was during Roosevelt’s visit in 1933, that his lessons in Scouting brought the President to the idea that the Ten Mile River Scout Camps would be an ideal proving ground for his recently organized Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.). He saw how the Corps, whose founding was also the fruit of his Scout training, could be utilized for the building of roads, fire trails around the boundaries of the camp property, and communication lines from camp to camp.

The C.C.C. was a public work relief program that operated from 1933-1942, for unemployed, unmarried men from relief (welfare) families, ages 17–23. Camps for war veterans of any age were also established. A part of the New Deal of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, it provided unskilled manual labor jobs related to the conservation and development of natural resources in rural lands owned by federal, state and local governments.



C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River

On October 13, 1933, **C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River** was established on the shores of Turnpike Lake with a capacity of 200 men, including supervisors. It was one of the few camps operating on private property. Many local men were hired as foremen supervising the young men who made up the Corps.

The planning and erection of buildings was under the direction of Construction Officer, Lt. Stanley E. Karp of the Coast Artillery Corps. Twelve buildings were constructed at a cost of \$20,000, including: five barracks, a mess hall, recreation hall, Officers & Foresters Quarters, lavatory, latrine, pumphouse and administration building. TMR lent a tractor and some tools to assist in the construction of the camp.

The camp was occupied on November 11, 1933. Forestry fieldwork began on January 2, 1934 under the direction of Superintendent Ralph Unger and eight foremen.

Camp Ten Mile River was a forest fire control camp whose primary purpose was the fire protection of TMR and the adjacent property. The “enrollees” spent most of their time doing fire hazard reduction work:

- Cleared camp and local roads (especially the **Mortimer L. Schiff Memorial Highway**) of all dead and down trees and brush to the depth of 100 ft., on both sides of the road. This had the added benefit of improving forest growth.
- Cut firebreaks and improved fire trails.
- Reopened old logging roads to transport forest fighting equipment and get the men to their work sites.
- Created a 54 mile firebreak around the TMR camp boundary.
- Cleared 600 acres of dead, logged and burned timber adjacent to Davis Lake.
- Fixed TMR roads and trails and constructed campsites in all five Borough Camps.

The “boys” fought forest fires and searched for missing persons, when requested by local authorities. During the summers of 1934 and 1935, they spent a considerable amount of time digging up wild gooseberry bushes to control and eradicate white pine blister rust, a tree disease. At some risk, they worked through the annual hunting season each November.

The camp closed in April 1936 and the camp buildings were turned over to TMR. This was unusual. Normally, the camp would have been disassembled and its parts used elsewhere.

The **Pumphouse** is the only building remaining from C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River. The plaque was erected on the **Pumphouse** at the TMR C.C.C. Day (August 4, 2013), to commemorate C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River. It includes a map of the camp. There is an exhibit on C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River in the Ten Mile River Scout Museum.



Pumphouse

THE CAMP CONSOLIDATION

From 1928-1937, each of the five Borough Councils comprising New York City Scouting operated TMR “borough camps” totally independent of each other. In 1937, the Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York consolidated to put TMR management under one head for greater efficiency and uniformity in programming. At this time, the office of Chief Camp Director was established. In March of 1938, Alfred C. Nichols Jr., who was one of the foremost camping men in the B.S.A., filled this office. Under his leadership, the Ten Mile River Scout Camps enjoyed a steady and healthy growth. The five Borough camp directors now reported to Mr. Nichols instead of their Borough Councils.



Alfred C. Nichols, Jr.

OLD HEADQUARTERS CAMP

In 1938, Alfred C. Nichols, Jr. selected the former C.C.C. Camp Ten Mile River as home of his new TMR reservation-wide staff, naming it Headquarters Camp (today, **Old Headquarters Camp**).

It consisted of two family barracks, three warehouses, a warehouse/recreation building, a carpentry shop, main office, car garage, post office, swimming area w/dock, water tower, pumphouse, male & female bathrooms/shower houses, single women's quarters, dining hall, playground, staff family housing, single secretaries quarters, cold storage building, softball field, log cabin, staff lean-tos, and a flagpole.



Old Headquarters Camp

Old Headquarters Camp stood until 1962, when the current TMR Headquarters Camp was constructed on adjacent property. Almost all the C.C.C. camp buildings were removed and replaced with fourteen 4-person staff cabins, as it remains today. The **Pumphouse** is the only building left standing from **Old Headquarters Camp**.

THE “RED DOT” TRAIL IS BLAZED

In the mid-1930s, two particular individuals from the Brooklyn Camps, Morty Hyman and Nick Dale, initiated an ambitious project to connect the entire reservation with a trail system, which would pass through each camp. They had previously blazed the White Bar Trail in the Brooklyn Camps. Thus, the Ten Mile River Trail was begun. It was difficult work, for in many areas the forest and brush were very dense, but work continued until the “Red Dot Trail” was completed. In the same era, the hike sites along the trail were also developed. Each site had, and most still has, three lean-tos, a latrine, and a pump or piped spring.



Morty Hyman



Nick Dale

CAMP KERNOCHAN OPENS

In 1938, **Camp Kernochan** opened as Kernochan Division, Camp Man, in memory of Judge Frederic Kernochan, who died in 1937. Judge Kernochan was a close friend of Franklin D. Roosevelt and a member of the campsite search committee that selected the Ten Mile River Scout Camps site. **Camp Kernochan** was paid for by his friends in recognition of his 20 years of service to Scouting and was dedicated in 1939. The camp had a non-kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Crystal Lake.

Erected in 1938, the **Frederic Kernochan Monument** is dedicated to Judge Frederic Kernochan. The monument with bronze plaque was designed and erected by A. G. Jeffrey, and consists entirely of stones found by campers in the vicinity of Camp Man.



Kernochan Monument

The inscription reads:

“In proud and grateful memory of Frederic Kernochan, 1876-1937 – Chief Justice of the Court of Special Sessions. A fearless gentleman. A life dedicated to service. A loyal Scout. A friend of youth. We his friends have built this camp in the faith that here his happy spirit will abide and carry on.”

After Camp Man closed, it operated as **Camp Kernochan** from 1954-1976, 1978-1982, 1992-1993, and 1997-2004. It was used by non-traditional Scouting groups during its later years.

CAMP WARAMAUG

A Troop Camp called “**Waramaug**” was constructed on Davis Lake by Troop 123 of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and opened in 1938. The camp held up to 40 Scouts, had a permanent staff, dining hall and a waterfront.

In June of 1940, the largest structure at Ten Mile River met a fiery fate. **Talequah Lodge**, which had served as the Brooklyn Camps headquarters building since 1928, was reduced to a heap of ashes in a matter of hours.



Camp Waramaug Scouts

THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOME TROOP CAMPS

“Al” Nichols strongly encouraged home Troop camps, not provisional camps, which was the norm at TMR at the time, and changes starting occurring all over the reservation. In 1939, the Brooklyn Camps converted from 100-boy campsites to 32-boy campsites under four major numbered (and later named) Divisions.

THE WAR YEARS

From 1942-1945, there was great difficulty in getting staff to man the camps since most every healthy, able-bodied young man was involved in the war effort. During this time some decreases in population occurred due to the hardships of the nation. The bus service to TMR, which had been established in the middle 1930s, simply became unavailable due to the difficulty in procuring gasoline and rubber. Therefore, train service to camp was reestablished, and for the first time in several years the Scouts made their way to camp on the “*Erie*.” Many of the Scouts had to attend the summer camp operation at Kanes Open at Tallman, N.Y. instead of traveling to TMR since the camp was able to maintain a more complete staff during the war years.

GROWTH CONTINUES

Division III (a.k.a. **Camp Kunatah**), one of four Camp Brooklyn divisions, opened in 1946 with a kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Rock Lake. After Camp Brooklyn closed in 1957, it operated as **Camp Kunatah** from 1957-2007. During its later years, it was mainly occupied by the Keshet Scouts, an Orthodox Jewish youth group.

The former **Camp Kunatah Trading Post** was named in recognition of Scouter Jerry Reimer from Queens. It was moved to the Ten Mile River Scout Museum in 2012 and is used for storage.



Jerry Reimer - Camp Kunatah Trading Post

The **Temple in the Woods** is an outdoor chapel used by Jewish Scouts at **Camp Kunatah**, starting in the 1940s.

Division IV (a.k.a. **Ihpetonga Village**) opened in 1946 with a non-kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Rock Lake. After Camp Brooklyn closed in 1957, it was renamed **Ihpetonga Village** and closed in 1966.

Division II (a.k.a. **Camp Chappelat**) opened in 1947 with a non-kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Rock Lake. When Camp Brooklyn closed in 1957, it was renamed **Camp Chappelat** and merged into **Camp Kunatah** in 1965.

Division I (a.k.a. **Camp Kotohke**) opened in 1947 with a non-kosher dining hall and a waterfront on Rock Lake. When Camp Brooklyn closed in 1956, it operated as **Camp Kotohke** for that summer only. In 1957, it was occupied by Bronx Scouts and called **Camp Stillwaters** (when Lake Nianque was not available), and then closed permanently.

In August of 1950, the original **Unit “E” Dining Hall** at Camp Ranachqua burned down and was replaced the following year with a new and much larger dining hall. This is the same structure used as today’s Camp Ranachqua dining hall.

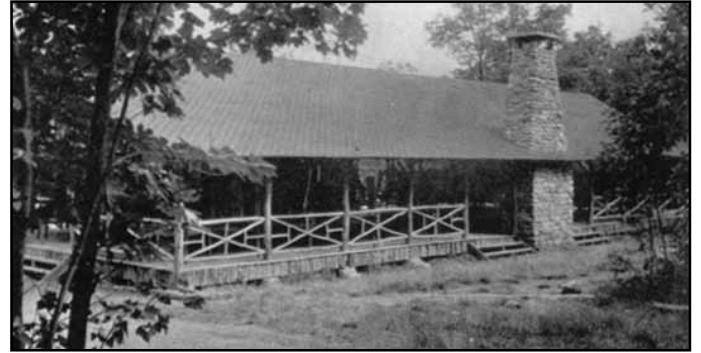
Starting in the early 1950s, New York City Districts were encouraged to reserve blocks of campsites for TMR District Camps. It was felt that the Troops would prefer to camp together where practicable. Districts provided their own staff of Commissioners and program specialists, who attended free as members of the camp staff. District Camps encouraged home Troops to attend camp and boy attendance at TMR soared.

In August of 1952, the Silver Jubilee of TMR was held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the camp’s founding. By that time, TMR had more than 250,000 alumni, having served an average of roughly 10,000 boys in each of the proceeding 25 summers. In June of 1952, former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt gave Manhattan Scout Mark Sobell of Troop 702 a 25th anniversary neckerchief as the 250,000th Scout to register for TMR. By this time, her late husband’s fond dream of a camp that could accommodate 3,500 Scouts at one time had been fully realized.

In 1952, the Greater New York Councils began operating for Explorer Units a self-reliant Wilderness Explorer Camp on Davis Lake, which had previously been operated as a Troop camp called “Waramaug” by Troop 123 of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. In 1958, under Camp Director Denver Wallace, the new camp, called **Camp Davis Lake**, was opened as a truly primitive camp. Troops were required to prepare their own meals and for the most part provide their own program, though staff was now available to supplement the program. During the last week of that summer at Davis Lake, the first Explorer Camp was run successfully. Powerboats were brought in a water skiing program that provided some true high adventure!



Temple in the Woods



Unit E Dining Hall, Camp Ranachqua



Camp Davis Lake

THE ORDER OF THE ARROW

Until the mid-1950s, the Order of the Arrow elected and inducted its members exclusively at TMR. Its activities outside of summer camp were limited to monthly chapter meetings and social or service events. The O.A. became a home-troop based organization starting around 1953. Camp chapters became district chapters and elections were shifted to home Troops in the city. Over the next several years, Scouts elected by their home Troops in the city had the option of being inducted on a weekend by the district chapter or presenting their letter of election and being tapped out and inducted during one of the four two-week camp periods. This choice was phased out at the end of the 1950s, basically ending Order of the Arrow participation in the camp program.



**Ranachqua Lodge,
Order of the Arrow**

THE BIG CAMP REORGANIZATIONS OF THE 1950s

By the middle of the 1950s, TMR was organized differently than it had been at its founding. Instead of eleven 100-boy camps around Rock Lake comprising “Brooklyn Camps,” there were now four distinct camps known as **Kunatah**, **Kotohke**, **Chappegat**, and **Ihpetonga**. On Crystal Lake, the original **Camp Manhattan** was now Camp Keowa and **Camp Rondack**; while the old “Queens Camp” known as Camp Man was now **Camp Kernochan**, **Camp Lakeside**, and **Camp Central**. On Lake Nianque the original “Bronx Camps,” known as **Units “A,” “C,” and “E”** were now Family Camp (or “Zumi Village”), **Camp Nianque**, and **Camp Stillwaters** respectively. Only Camp Aquehonga remained essentially unchanged by this time. However, despite the name and organizational changes, the reservation still had the same basic boundaries and very much the same Borough loyalties to the camps, which had existed since the beginning.



Family Camp

THE CAMP KERNOCHAN BLOCKHOUSE

In search for an identity, the new Camp Kernochan leadership decided in 1956 to create a gateway, which would also be the official symbol for the camp going forward. It would consist of a blockhouse, stockade gate, and a tower (now long gone).

At about the same time, in 1955, a very active and dedicated Scouter, Dick Neubeck, passed away at the age of 28. Dick had been a dedicated Camp Man and **Camp Kernochan** staffer, both before and after his Army service in Germany. A third occurrence also took place. Scouting was expanding rapidly in southeastern Queens and old District 5 was broken up into the new, smaller, District 5 and District 11. Because of the incredible amount of time and dedication Dick Neubeck gave to Scouting in southeastern Queens, local Scouters named their new district, “Neubeck District” in his memory and sponsored the building of this blockhouse, which was located at the entrance to **Camp Kernochan**.



Dick Neubeck

The **Kernochan Blockhouse** was moved to the Ten Mile River Scout Museum in May 2010, renovated and

rededicated on July 31, 2010, with Dick Neubeck's relatives present, and the Dick Neubeck plaque replaced.

Camp Kotohke closed after the 1956 season. Its waterfront was not accessible by emergency vehicles and the camp itself was difficult to reach at the end of a long road.

The Greater New York Councils was also actively purchasing parcels of land bordering the camp property so as to increase the potential of the physical operation. In 1959, the old **Half Moon Lake Hotel** property was purchased, giving the Greater New York Councils full ownership of Half Moon Lake. This would later become new Camp Aquehonga and the "Barta House."



Camp Kernochan Blockhouse

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN

By 1960, home Troops in increasing numbers attended TMR under their own leadership. New concepts were developed under the title of "self-reliant camping." Instead of sleeping in cabins or lean-tos and eating in dining halls, Scouts slept in tents in their campsites and cooked their own food.

To fund the huge capital expenditures required, in 1960 the Greater New York Councils conducted the 50th Anniversary of Scouting Capital Campaign with the expressed purpose of building capital projects at TMR and the other weekend camps. This campaign was enormously successful and among the facilities constructed were the staff and family cabins at Rock Lake, Crystal Lake, and Lake Nianque. The entire Headquarters service area including the Administration Building, the Main Trading Post, the Health Lodge, the Maintenance Shop, the Central Warehouse and fourteen Adirondack shelters for housing key staff and families were also constructed during this era.



The Main Trading Post at Headquarters Camp

The residual effect of this capital infusion was to continue to increase the boy population so that at its peak in 1965, TMR was operating eleven camps with a peak usage of nearly 12,000 boy-weeks. In 1962, **Camp Stillwaters** was renamed Camp Ranachqua. In 1963, **Camp Chappegat** was absorbed into an expanded **Camp Kunatah**.

TEN MILE RIVER OUTPOST CAMPS

In 1965, TMR Program Director John Duffy began the Outpost Camp program. Patterned after Philmont Scout Ranch, the eleven TMR camps were each responsible for staffing a nearby Outpost Camp. Scouts participated in an afternoon program, cooked their own meals, and slept overnight at the camp. Among these were canoeing, archery, survival, fishing, sailing and Indian-lore camps. Less popular Outpost Camps dropped over the years and by 1973 only five remained.

In 1966, the riverfront property known as the "Conklin Farm" was



Indian Cliffs

purchased. This enabled the development of a “Canoe Base” from which the Delaware River canoeing operation was first developed. A number of other parcels were purchased in both New York and immediately across the river in Pennsylvania until the land holdings at TMR totaled more than 14,000 acres.

Indian Cliffs is the site of a marvelous view of the Delaware River made famous from a 1965 photograph of Ed Pino in full Indian regalia. The photo was taken for camp promotions purposes and reproduced over the years on countless TMR patches, post cards, plates and mugs.

“SELF-RELIANT” CAMPING INTRODUCED

By 1967, “self-reliant” camping programs were available at TMR. Instead of dining hall feeding, Troops cooked at least one meal each day in their site, using sheepherder stoves, patrol boxes, dining flies and kitchen tarps. Troops could either cook their own dinners or receive it, ready to eat, in insulated “heater stacks.” Modified Baker tents were provided for shelter. As a result, dining halls closed in **Camps Kernochan** and **Ranachqua** and many Troops moved to the remaining dining hall camps. Over the following years, many other dining hall camps closed at TMR.

In anticipation of further increases in population in the late 1960s, **Camp Davis Lake** was renovated and expanded in 1968. In that same year, a brand new and expansive Camp Aquehonga was constructed on the opposite shore of Half Moon Lake from the much smaller **Old Camp Aquehonga**, which was then abandoned.

In 1969, yet another new camp was completed and opened on the opposite shore of Davis Lake. It was first called **Davis Lake West** but was rededicated as **Camp Hayden** in 1970. It operated as a G.N.Y.C. camp from 1970–1973, notably with a pool. It was then leased and operated by Rockland County Council from 1976-1983.

Also in 1970, Camp Sanita Hills in Holmes, New York, was prepared for summer camp usage and Tom Voute, the successful camp director from Davis Lake, got the call as its first director. For the first time in almost two decades, the Greater New York Councils was operating summer camps in two distinct locations.

In August of 1969, not long after the Scouts in TMR had applauded the great event of the first manned moon landing, another momentous occasion took place not 240,000 miles away but less than ten. The Woodstock Music Festival was held at Yasgur’s Farm in Bethel, N.Y., not three miles from the northernmost boundary of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps. The camp management ordered heavy equipment parked at every back entrance to the reservation in an effort to dissuade enthusiastic concertgoers from camping on Scout property. Many of the staff spent their days off attending the festival if they could find a way to get close. In the evenings during that time, the music of the festival could be plainly heard in Camp Keowa.



TMR in 1966



Camp Hayden Pool

HARD TIMES IN THE 1970s

By the late 1960s and early 1970s, attendance at TMR began to dwindle. The aftermath of the Vietnam War had created a deep rift in the American consciousness. Values were changing rapidly and Scouting was getting lost in this readjustment. The National Scouting movement experimented with new programs, which tended to depart somewhat from the things which made Scouting great; namely, camping and the outdoor program. Scouting enrollment plummeted in New York City and the corresponding effect at TMR was fewer boys at camp. Some of the very same persons who were involved in the ambitious capital expansions of the 1960s were now forced, by real economic circumstances, to do an about face.

In 1969, **Camp Lakeside** was absorbed into an expanded **Camp Kernochan**, which closed its dining hall and converted into a Troop-cooking camp with new campsites. **Camp Nianque**, which had a long history going back to 1929 when it was known as **Bronx Unit “C,”** was closed in 1969 for lack of attendance. At the end of 1973, **Camps Davis Lake** and **Rondack** were closed for the same reason. Thus, by 1974, where eleven camps had operated a decade earlier, six were still open.

In 1976, the Greater New York Councils no longer found it feasible to operate **Camp Hayden** but an agreement was worked out with Rockland County Council to lease the camp. By 1977, Camp Ranachqua also became infeasible to operate but another agreement was worked out with Hudson-Delaware Council to lease this property and it reopened in 1980. In 1982, **Camp Kernochan**, the final remnant of the original three Queens camps, was shut down.

TMR’s 50th ANNIVERSARY

On July 30, 1977 TMR celebrated its 50th anniversary with a gala celebration at Camp Keowa. Members of Aquehongian Lodge hiked the 120 miles from Camp Pouch to TMR on a nine-day trip, saluting the anniversary.

The same year, Federal funds became available for summer camp programs for City youth. This was seen as a way to dramatically increase attendance at TMR, which had dropped in previous years. Thus, the “Country Adventure” program was instituted, bringing many City youth without camping experience or even a Scouting background to TMR. Boys were organized into provisional Troops and attended camp alongside traditional Troops. Generally young and inexperienced Provisional Scoutmasters were hired, leading to considerable friction with the traditional Troops. The “Country Adventure” program ended in 1983.



TMR’s 50th Anniversary

DISTRICT AND COUNCIL PROVISIONAL TROOPS

By 1984, City Districts organized provisional Troops, consisting of Scouts within the District and adult leadership from the District professional staff and volunteers. This further encouraged attendance at TMR. G.N.Y.C. also organized its own provisional Troop, the TMR Adventure Troop, which continues to the present day.

While Boy Scout membership was declining in the early 1980s, Cub and Webelos membership was holding firm. The TMR Cub Camp started in 1985 at Keowa for Cubs and Webelos as a one-week experimental camp.

75th ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In 1985, the 75th Anniversary Capital Campaign raised at least \$1.2 million, mostly spent on purchasing new equipment and upgrading facilities at TMR. In 1986, TMR offered a seven-day Junior Leader Training Conference at Camp Keowa, called the “Big Oak Experience.” Scouts received instruction in Scoutcraft and patrol or troop job skills. Also in 1986, the Ten Mile River Great Expedition, a weeklong backpacking program, was introduced for older Scouts with previous camp experience. Scouts hiked the Ten Mile River Trail, visiting the camps and participated in a variety of exciting camp activities.

THE TEN MILE RIVER RALLY

In May of 1986, G.N.Y.C. sponsored the Ten Mile River Rally for Junior Leaders. Overnight facilities, most meals and a closing show were provided at Camp Keowa. Different activity areas were established all over the reservation and transportation was provided by the camp bus. The Rally was repeated again in 1988.

TMR’s 60th ANNIVERSARY

On July 25, 1987, more than 500 TMR Alumni celebrated its 60th anniversary at Camp Keowa. The daylong affair included opening remarks, a buffet lunch and a walk through the old camps.

In 1990, the Ten Mile River Trail was designated a Nationally Approved Historic Trail by National Council, B.S.A. Scouts completing the Trail Award requirements received a pocket patch, backpatch, medal and award bars. The following year, TMR offered an expanded program for Cubs and Webelos at **Camps Kunatah** and Keowa, consisting of four weeks of Cub Camp and seven weeks of Webelos camp. District and Borough provisional Packs were also available.



TMR’s 60th Anniversary

GROWTH OF TMR SPECIALITY CAMPS

Starting in the 1990s, TMR expanded the number and variety of specialty camps offered. This helped boost camp attendance and utilized the underused camp facilities that were available. In 1991, Scouts could attend Equestrian Camp at the Ponderosa Ranch; the Eagle Trail, Aquatics and Sports Camps at Camp Keowa; the Junior Leader Training Conference at Camp Aquehonga; and the TMR Historic Trail Expedition, based at Camp Kunatah. In 1992, TMR began a High Adventure Trek program along the TMR Trail. Each 3-7 day trek was custom-designed and had the option of including a canoe trip down the Delaware River. Also in 1992, TMR offered the North Wind Escape Specialty Camp at Camp Kunatah, with a focus on hiking, wilderness survival and Indian lore.

Camp Kernochan reopened again in 1993 with new basketball courts, updated facilities and program equipment. Scouts camped in tents or lean-tos with dining hall feeding. In subsequent years, primarily non-traditional Scouts including the In-School Scouting program attended the camp.

From 1995-1998, there was substantial improvement of infrastructure at TMR. Financial support from G.N.Y.C. made it possible to improve and upgrade existing facilities as well as construct numerous new structures. In 1997, the Village at TMR was established at the former **Camp Lakeside** site on Crystal Lake. It offered a variety of programs designed for first-year campers, including a Scout-skills area, a fishing station and a barnyard animal petting zoo.

TMR's 70th ANNIVERSARY

TMR celebrated its 70th Anniversary on July 19, 1997 at Headquarters Camp. Alumni heard speeches, toured the camps and bid in a memorabilia auction.

In 1997, Dr. Eugene Berman founded the **Ten Mile River Scout Museum**, a museum of TMR's and local history. The Museum opened in the Main Trading Post at Headquarters Camp.

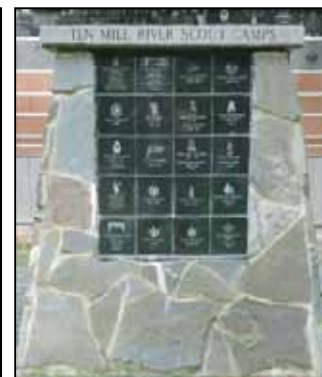
In 1999, the Museum moved to its present home, and operated with a full-time staff for the first time. Over subsequent years, two additional rooms were added and the **Kernochan Blockhouse**, **Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin** and the **Camp Kunatah Trading Post** moved to the site.

The **TMR Monument** at the Ten Mile River Scout Museum commemorates all 20 TMR camps that operated since 1928. Each tile includes the camp name, Unit and Division name, years of operation and traditional camp logo. On the back is an engraved TMR Map, depicting all of the TMR camps, trails and local landmarks.

In 1998, TMR offered the High Adventure Specialty Camp and the Law Enforcement Explorer Camp, both at Camp Kunatah, and two specialty camps for Explorers at Camp Keowa.



The TMR Scout Museum in 1999



TMR Monument

IMPACT OF COUNCIL CONSOLIDATIONS AND THE INTERNET

Starting in the 1990s, two trends combined to help boost camp attendance at TMR. The first was the consolidation, mainly for financial reasons, of many small B.S.A. councils into far larger "super" councils, resulting in the closing of many summer camps. Troops that faithfully attended their council summer camps for years suddenly found them closed and had to decide where to go. Some went to TMR instead of their "new" council summer camp. The second trend was widespread use of the Internet, which provided easy access to TMR camp information on the tenmileriver.org website.

Beginning in 1999, attendance by traditional New York City Troops at TMR started a slow decline. Attendance by out-of-council Troops at TMR surged between 1997-2003. In 2002, for the first time, out-of-council attendance exceeded attendance by traditional N.Y.C. Troops at TMR.

OUTREACH TO MORMON AND KESHER SCOUT GROUPS

In 1998, under Director of Camping A. Richard Greene, Mormon Scout groups in New York and New Jersey were recruited to organize one-week camps at TMR, further boosting camp attendance. Keshet Scouting, a national orthodox Jewish youth organization, took over multiple weeks at Camp Kunatah, which was then the only kosher Boy Scout camp in the United States.

As a result, TMR's attendance jumped from 3,800 Scouts to almost 6,000 Scouts in 2002. Camp Keowa absorbed the old Rondack area, becoming a Greater Camp Keowa, covering the same territory as the original **Camp Manhattan**. **Camp Kernochan**, now specializing in Outreach and In-School programs, absorbed most of old **Camp Lakeside**, making it a greater **Camp Kernochan**. TMR began providing camp support and services at Camp Ranachqua under the leadership of a camp director selected by Hudson Valley Council. Camp Ranachqua was opened to both Hudson Valley and New York City Scouts for the first time.



A. Richard Greene

CAMPOREE 2000

In early July of 2000, G.N.Y.C. sponsored Camporee 2000 at TMR, immediately before the start of the regular summer camp season. Special activities were held at all the TMR camps, ending with a gala evening show at Camp Keowa.

TMR's 75th ANNIVERSARY

On July 20, 2002, over 600 TMR alumni celebrated its 75th anniversary with a gala celebration at Headquarters Camp. The program included a midway, TMR history jeopardy game, visits to the Museum, donut farm recreation and various dedications.

In 2002, TMR offered an expanded selection of specialty camps, including Venturing Camp, Law Enforcement Camp, High Adventure Trek, Trail to Eagle Camp, Junior Leader Training Course, TMR Provisional Camp and Scuba Camp.



TMR's 75th Anniversary

DECLINING CAMP ATTENDANCE DURING THE 2000s

Attendance at **Camp Kernochan** grew from 1997-2002, filled with youths from Learning for Life, a non-traditional program sponsored by the B.S.A. Starting in 2003, **Camp Kernochan** attendance dropped and the camp closed in 2004. Out-of-council attendance grew during this period and traditional G.N.Y.C. Troop attendance slowly declined. As a result, overall TMR attendance dropped from 6,000 boy-weeks in 2002 to about 4,500 boy-weeks in 2005.

Camp Kunatah closed in 2007, due to declining overall attendance, a deteriorating dining hall and the inability

of the Keshet Scouts to supply sufficient youths to justify the camp operation. In 2008, TMR attendance dropped below 4,000 boy-weeks for the first time in recent memory.

POTENTIAL NATIONAL JAMBOREE SITE

When **Camp Kunatah** closed, the entire section of TMR south of Route 23 was unused, except for the climbing station at **Indian Cliffs**.

In June of 2008, National Council, B.S.A. announced that local councils interested in permanently hosting the National Scout Jamboree should submit proposals. Requirements included 5,000 acres to be donated or leased for 100 years, water, natural beauty, transportation, ability to also host World Jamborees, and use as a B.S.A. high adventure/training center in non-Jamboree years.

The Greater New York Councils submitted a proposal for the land below Route 23, including a detailed map suggesting how the site would be developed. The main camp would be located between Davis Lake and Rock Lake, with activity areas along the Delaware River, elsewhere on the property and a huge amphitheater at the north end of Rock Lake. It was thought that very few B.S.A. Councils could provide the required 5,000 acres and compete with the G.N.Y.C. proposal. Eventually, the search expanded to non-B.S.A. properties and a site in West Virginia was selected and announced by the B.S.A. in November of 2009.

JACK RUDIN DONATION

In 2008, the Greater New York Councils announced a \$1 million donation by real estate developer and longtime Board member Jack Rudin, for the improvement of camp facilities, mostly at TMR. The most significant construction took place at Camp Keowa, which Mr. Rudin served as a staff member in the 1930s when it was **Camp Manhattan**. From 2008-2011 the Jack Rudin donation paid for Camp Keowa improvements, including a new waterfront, trading post, provisional campsite and an amphitheater.



Jack Rudin

ACQUISITION OF LANDMARK CAMP BUILDINGS BY THE MUSEUM

In 2010, under the leadership of Museum Trustee John Romanovich, the Ten Mile River Scout Museum started moving landmark buildings from long-closed TMR camps to the Museum grounds. The buildings were then restored and used for display or storage purposes. In May of 2010, the **Kernochan Blockhouse**, longtime symbol of **Camp Kernochan**, was moved to the Museum. In November of 2010, the **Cayuga/Kotohke Cabin**, the last standing remnant of the Brooklyn Scout Camps was also moved. The **Jerry Reamer/Kunatah Trading Post** was moved to the Museum on April 11, 2012 and is used for storage.

INCREASING CAMP ATTENDANCE

In 2011, summer camp attendance at TMR jumped by 23%, due to strong increases in participation by both out-of-council and G.N.Y.C. Troops, the largest such increase in at least the previous 15 years. Total camp attendance maintained roughly the same for 2012 and 2013.

BILLY & KEITH JOHNSON SCOUT PROGRAM CENTER

In 2014, New York Jets owner Woody Johnson made a substantial donation to underwrite the construction of the Billy & Keith Johnson Scout Program Center at Camp Aquehonga, broadening the number of merit badges being offered and improving the food service and administrative functions of the camp. This gift also enabled the former camp services building to be reconfigured as the Trade Skills Center – offering Auto Mechanics, Plumbing and Welding Merit Badges and the former camp office to be reconfigured as the Nature/Environmental Sustainability Center.



Billy & Keith Johnson Scout Program Center

Reservation-wide expansion of program included the establishment of the LEAF program for first time campers, and the ATV program providing high adventure programming for older Scouts.

The Aquehonga Alumni continued their work to improve the facilities and program areas, including the Bowman amphitheater, field sports, staff dining, scoutcraft, trade skills and aquatic areas.

REVISED TMR TREK PROGRAM

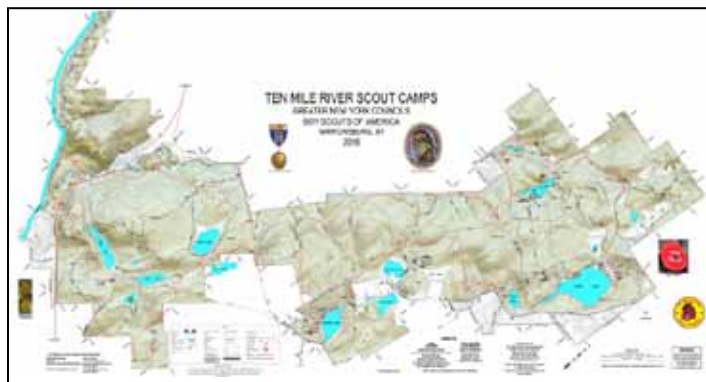
In 2016, the TMR Trek program was totally revamped to follow the Philmont Scout Ranch model. A series of Outpost Camps were established on Lake Nianque, the former **Camp Kernochan**, Davis Lake and **Indian Cliffs**. Trek Crews participated in advanced programs, including paddle boarding/mountain biking, target paintball, bass fishing, mountain boarding and natural rock face climbing & rappelling. Trek Crews typically spent four days (one day escorted) hiking the TMR trails and canoed the Delaware River on the fifth day.



TMR Trekkers on the Trail

NEW TMR TRAILS MAP

In 2016, the first detailed TMR trails map since 1987 was published by the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. Utilizing G.P.S., Sean Johnson and his friends systematically identified all known TMR trails and many new ones. David M. Malatzky organized the project, did the layout and printed the maps. A smaller version of the map was published in 2017 and sold at the TMR Trading Posts and the Museum.



2016 TMR Trails Map

IMPROVED TEN MILE RIVER SCOUT MUSEUM

From 2016-2017, Johannes Knoops led the project to redesign and improve the permanent displays of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. Major improvements included: professionally printed photos, hanging photo-banners, a new neckerchief slide display and upgraded patch and scouting memorabilia displays.



Ten Mile River Scout Museum

TMR's 90th ANNIVERSARY

In celebration of the 90th Anniversary of Ten Mile River, a combined capital/endowment campaign was launched. Pat and Tom Bain underwrote the refurbishment of the Camp Keowa Dining Hall and thoughtful TMR alumni donated James E. West Fellowships as part of the 90 for the 90th campaign; investment income from these TMR James E. West Fellowships will support TMR in perpetuity.

Work continued on various improvements at Camp Ranachqua, Camp Keowa and the Headquarters area.

From August 4-6, 2017, TMR hosted a gala weekend celebration centered at Camp Aquehonga, but with activities at all camps. The program started Friday night at Headquarters Camp at the Museum, Saturday opening at Camp Aquehonga, a midway, program areas open at all camps, multiple dedications and rededications, dinner and campfire at Camp Keowa, and a closing breakfast Sunday morning at Camp Keowa.



TMR's 90th Anniversary

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