



NYS&W #2

EARLVILLE, NY
NOVEMBER 26, 2004

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WHEN I WAS GROWING UP IN UPSTATE NEW YORK, TWO RAILROAD LINES BRACKETED MY HOMETOWN OF EARLVILLE, NY. THE NEW YORK ONTARIO & WESTERN RAILWAY PASSED UP THE WEST SIDE OF THE VALLEY WHILE THE DELAWARE LACKAWANA & WESTERN OCCUPIED THE EAST SIDE. IN THE LATE FIFTIES THE NYO&W (OLD & WEARY OR OLD WOMAN) GAVE UP ITS FIGHT TO COME OUT OF BANKRUPTCY, LOWERED ITS FLAG AND BECAME THE LARGEST CLASS I CARRIER TO BE ABANDONED TO THAT DATE. THE DL&W (DELAYED, LATE & WAITING) SOLDIERED ON. AS CONSOLIDATIONS AND MERGERS SWEEPED THROUGH THE RAILROAD INDUSTRY THE DL&W BECAME PART OF THE ERIE-LACKAWANA AND LATER CONRAIL. SOMEWHERE ALONG THAT JOURNEY THE BRANCH RUNNING THROUGH EARLVILLE ON ITS RUN FROM BINGHAMTON TO UTICA WAS ACQUIRED BY THE REJUVENATED NEW SUSQUEHANNA & WESTERN WHERE ITS OWNERSHIP RESIDES TODAY.

BY NOVEMBER, 2004 WHEN I WAS DOWN HOME VISITING FRIENDS AND FAMILY THE STATION ON THE EAST SIDE OF TOWN HAD LONG LONG AGO BEEN CONVERTED FROM A LOCAL PASSENGER STATION TO OTHER USES AND EVENTUALLY BECAME A MAINTENANCE DEPOT FOR THE NYS&W. WHILE ON A WALK WITH MY LITTLE FUJI CAMERA I SNAPPED THIS SHOT FROM THE RAILHEAD NEAR THE EAST MAIN STREET CROSSING WITH A LIGHT SNOW FALLING. YES, THE SPLOTCHINESS PARTICULARLY IN THE SKY, IS NOT DUE TO THE LOW IMAGE RESOLUTION. THOSE REALLY ARE SNOWFLAKES.

— TOM WRIGHT

THE IMAGE

THIS IMAGE IS FROM A SINGLE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN USING A HANDHELD 1.3 MEGAPIXEL FUJI A101 DIGITAL CAMERA AND PROCESSED IN ADOBE PHOTOSHOP WITH THE GENUINE FRACTALS PLUGIN RUNNING ON A POWERBOOK G4. THE IMAGE WAS PRINTED USING EPSON ULTRACHROME (GICLEE) TECHNOLOGY.

THE PHOTOGRAPHER

TOM WRIGHT IS A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF GOFFSTOWN, NEW HAMPSHIRE WHO IMMIGRATED FROM UPSTATE NEW YORK BY WAY OF VERMONT. HIS INTEREST IN PHOTOGRAPHY IS INHERITED FROM HIS FATHER, WENDELL F. WRIGHT, WHO WAS A PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER ALL HIS LIFE, AND HIS LOVE OF ART FROM HIS YOUNGER SON WHO GRADUATED FROM RINGLING SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN IN SARASOTA, FL IN 2005 WITH A DEGREE IN ILLUSTRATION. A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THESE IMAGES GO TO THE THERESE G. WRIGHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR STUDENTS AT THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMUNITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE AT MANCHESTER.

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FEBRUARY 8, 2007