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The Balsam Inn

Tom and Mettie Davis built *The Balsams* on property purchased from Robert Brighton in 1910. It was a popular three-story log hotel. During that time a stable, saddle house and grocery store were also built. It was a popular corner for visitors on the Brighton loop road.

The stable operated for thirty years, renting saddle horses to summer visitors, and horse teams for the stage line and hauling cement for construction of Lake Mary and Twin Lake Dams. The first owners of the stable were Tom Davis and George Granter. They rented the stable to E.V. and Molly Green who managed it until 1940 when horses were barred from the canyon. The stable building was then salvaged for logs and firewood.

The grocery store was leased to various people through the years, including Skaggs Grocery Chain and Wm F. Holt. In 1933 it was converted to a restaurant to seat about 30 people. They served burgers, ice cream, sodas, beer, and featured a fresh trout tank where customers could catch their own dinner just outside the door. The Balsam Corner restaurant was a popular destination in Brighton for many years.

Sadly the Balsam Inn burned down in 1937. Tom and Mettie's son, Paul Granter Davis, rebuilt it on the same foundation and operated it until 1959, when it was sold to Boyd Summerhays. It burned again and was not rebuilt. The Balsam Corner restaurant was burglarized and burned in August 1940. It was not rebuilt in Brighton, but survives as the elegant Balsam Embers Restaurant in Salt Lake City.