Your light brookie would qualify as a dark brookie on a few streams I've fished. I do think there's a lot of truth to the colors changing based on the habitat. The streams I know of that hold mostly pale brookies have a bottom of much lighter colored gravel than most of the central PA mountain streams I've fished. It is rare to find a fish with any orange on the belly in those creeks. I think really dark substrate tends to bring out the reds on the belly. The darkness of the back probably has more to do with overhead cover. Not scientific at all but just my thoughts.