



# SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

## NEWSLETTER

Volume Three Number 1

January 1974

### SIA JOURNAL

Publication of a journal by SIA was approved by the Board of Directors at its Jan meeting, after more than a year of discussion. The Board believes that the Society now has the resources—in both finances and people—for such a venture. The Editorial Committee requests that papers to be considered for publication be sent to R L Deily, 1103 N Washington Ave, Green Brook, NJ 08812. Illustrations are, of course, welcome. Those of you who have submitted abstracts of papers for presentation at the 3rd Annual Conference in April (as well as those of you who presented papers in 1972 & 73) are particularly urged to prepare your papers for possible journal publication.

### B & O COMMUTER SERVICE REVITALIZATION



*B&O RR Colln, Natl Museum of Hist & Tech.*

The B&O RR jointly with the MD Dept of Transp has underway a study for upgrading its rail commuter service between Baltimore & Washington (the Washington Branch) and Washington & Brunswick (the Metropolitan Br), an important element of which will be station rehabilitation, the RR hopes. Of the dozen or so depots involved, 2 are on the Natl Register: Laurel & Point of Rocks, while Rockville is nearly so. Pt of Rocks, 1875 (photo above), on the Potomac at the jct of the "Old Main Line" (from Baltimore) and the Metropolitan Br, is regarded as the finest of the period in MD. If adequate cooperation can be mustered from the respective county (and other) historical agencies, the rehabilitation is to be not only functional but architecturally/historically sound.



*Daniel Green Factory, Dolgeville*

The Daniel Green slipper factory, Dolgeville, Herkimer Co, NY, is being processed for Natl Register listing. It is worth a trip to Dolgeville to see this modern industry in operation in its beautiful 19thC limestone and frame buildings. Much credit is due the Daniel Green mgmt not only for utilizing an old facility but also for maintaining the structures in immaculate condition. The factory complex is situated along both sides of East Canada Creek from which Green generates its own hydro-electric power (horiz boiler-case turbine), selling excess to the public utility co. An 1887 Pratt truss bridge spans the creek between the two sections of the property and a magnificent Queen Anne mansion with elaborate interiors is used as the home of the co president.

Dolgeville's factories were built 1882-94 for Alfred Dolge, a colorful personality. He immigrated from Germany and envisioned creating an ideal factory society of happy workers in the New World. He established a major felt and fine-lumber works, his principal customer being the piano industry. To achieve his social goals, he created a system of pensions and profit-sharing that anticipated our social security system. Dolgeville's parks, schools, library, concert hall, gymnasium, sewer system and RR were built by Dolge.

In 1894, having overextended himself, Dolge failed. Fortunately, the industry itself survived as the Daniel Green Co which still manufactures slippers in the plant where the first American felt slipper was made. *Doris Manley, NY State Divn for Historic Preservation.*

### A Local History Workshop

The History Dept at North Adams (MA) State College, in cooperation with Freel Library, has established a Local History Workshop. The project, under the direction of Mary M Fuqua and W Anthony Gengarelly of the Dept and Charles McIsaac, Dir of Freel, is designed to promote the discovery and preservation of materials on the history of the N Adams area and to introduce students to the field of historic preser-

**Shrinking Violets Dept.** You all are being modest again. More often than not we learn of your own projects, publications, lectures, and vocational endeavors of IA pertinence only by chance, 5th hand. No one knows of your doings better than you. Don't be shy. We're interested. Send it in anonymously, if you must, but send it in.