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Preface

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Preface

For the past two years, Paterson, New Jersey has been the focus of two research projects--the Great Falls Development, Inc. Salvage Archeology Project and the Historic American Engineering Record's Architectural Survey and Research Project. In October 1974, archeologists, historians, and architects from both teams presented papers on their work at the Industrial Archeology Symposium, held in Paterson, sponsored jointly by The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology and The Society for Industrial Archeology, and hosted by Great Falls Development, Inc. This publication includes most of those papers.

The Historic American Engineering Record (H.A.E.R.) was established in 1969 to create an archival record of America's engineering monuments. It is part of the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior, and functions as a branch of the Division of Historic Architecture, under the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation. During the summers of 1973 and 1974, H.A.E.R. sent research teams of architects and historians to Paterson's S.U.M./Great Falls National Historic District to measure and draw many of the most significant structures--including the raceway system--and to research the background and development of the Historic District. The program was funded jointly by H.A.E.R. and Great Falls Development, Inc. (G.F.D.).

Since July 1973, the G.F.D. Archeology Project has been conducting salvage archeology along the construction right-of-way of a storm drain servicing New Jersey Route 20 and Interstate Route 80 through the Historic Industrial District. Scheduled for completion by November 1976, at which time a final report will be submitted to the funding agencies--Federal and State Departments of Transportation--the project has completed excavations and is now concerned with analysis and conservation of artifacts, the conducting of historical research, the establishment of a permanent archive, and the production of a comprehensive final report.

The overall result of the research accomplished by these two teams of professionals has been the definite establishment of the historicity of the Historic District. Another effect has been the physical expansion of the District owing to the inclusion of previously unidentified archeological sites in and around the Rogers Locomotive and Machine Company complex. Perhaps a third result will be that in drawing up a master plan for the District, planners will officially recognize the historicity of the adjacent neighborhoods of workers' housing--areas that are integral cultural parts of the Historic Industrial District.

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