



# The Villager

The official newsletter of the Plasticville Collectors Association

Volume 1

January 2002

Number 1

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## The Plasticville Collectors Association Incorporates

It has long been in the mind of Joe Kutza to make the Plasticville Collectors Association something more than a website, discussion group and virtual organization. Joe's thoughts were similar to those of other virtual club members who were familiar with other hobby/collecting organizations such as the Train Collectors Association and the Toy Train Operators Society. Joe's thoughts have now become a reality.

The Plasticville Collectors Association has become a non-profit corporation in the State of Iowa.

The certificate of incorporation was

received from the Iowa Secretary of State in early September bearing the date of August 30, 2001. The PCA also has a signed licensing agreement with Bachmann. This agreement authorizes the PCA to use the Plasticville name as part of the Association name.

The last step will be to make the Plasticville Collectors Association a Federal 501c3 non-profit organization. The necessary papers have been received by the PCA and are in the process of being completed and submitted for approval.

## Meet Your Charter Officers

### **Joe Kutza, President**



Thank you for joining the PCA. I will do my best as its first President to make us into a well-known and respected organization. My wife and I, along with our one-year old son currently live in Germantown, MD, which is just north of Washington, DC. I am originally from Northeast Pennsylvania, an old-time coal and manufacturing region once heavily dependent on the railroad. I think that this is why there is such a strong interest in model railroading in that area and it's where I was first exposed to the wonders of toy trains and Plasticville. Growing up,

my family always had a nice Christmas display featuring trains, buildings, and various items. After years of near poverty as a college and then graduate student, I am now finally able to build upon my display and to continue collecting items from my true interest: Plasticville. While searching the internet for Plasticville information in 1995, I realized that there wasn't much out there. I then decided to start my own Plasticville Homepage and things have developed from there.

The fact that the PCA is now a reality, incorporated and complete with its own newsletter, is something that still amazes me. Many of you have been with the PCA

since the early days and have followed our development closely. For those of you who don't know the history, it all started with a simple idea. I thought to myself, "hey, there's the TCA, TTOS, LCCA, and other organizations dedicated to collecting and operating toy trains, why not a group dedicated to collecting and displaying Plasticville?" I then added a small section to my fledgling Plasticville Homepage describing what I had in mind and asking interested individuals to e-mail me if they would like to join such an organization.

### **Doug Gilliatt, Vice President**



It is my great pleasure to serve as the Vice president of the Plasticville Collectors Association (PCA). I have been collecting trains over half of my life and have been collecting Plasticville, Littletown, Marx and even Skyline for many of those years. Let us all

Honestly, I thought I might get 15 or 20 interested people. In reality, I have received e-mail and snail mail from over 150 people and over 80 of those have actually joined the PCA by sending in their application.

I thank all of the members who have taken the time to e-mail or write to me with information, stories, pictures, and questions. This Association is for you and is ultimately directed by you, I hope that everyone will do their best to continue to contribute whenever possible.

work together in teaching each other about the wonderful world of Plasticville (and other manufacturers). Hopefully we will all make many new friends and will continue to enjoy our many friendships with other collectors that we have met from all around the world.

### **John Niehaus, Secretary Treasurer**



I am honored to be the charter Secretary Treasurer of the Plasticville Collectors Association. My wife, two children, and I live in Ankeny, Iowa, a northern suburb of Des Moines. I have actively collected Plasticville only since November of 1997 when I bought my first piece on e-Bay. Like many others, I paid more than I should have when first buying due to my ignorance of the values of the pieces on which I bid. I soon purchased the Iron Horse Productions price guide as an aid in bidding and have made many more informed bids since.

One of my ideas for us to pursue is an ongoing research project on what colors of what item where in what item number box. I don't believe it to be as daunting a task as it may seem if we take it one small step at a time. I think we can take an item with only two or three different numbers and two or three variations such as the Cathedral and research it. Then another item of the same size until we work up to items such as the ranch houses and Cape Cods. I have even noticed differences in the contents of some boxes based on whether they have normal or bold type as the for the description of what is in the box.

Do you know someone who collects Plasticville or other plastic village buildings?  
Why not suggest they join the fastest growing organization dedicated to collecting plastic village buildings.  
They can visit our web page at <http://www.plasticvilleusa.org> or send an email request for an application to [jointhepca@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:jointhepca@plasticvilleusa.org).

## Proposed Members

The following have applied for membership in the Plasticville Collectors Association. The names of all proposed members must be published for the review of the general membership before being accepted as members in accordance with the bylaws of the PCA. All names listed below will be added to the Plasticville Collectors Association rolls if no objection to such action is received prior to February 28, 2002.

Objections must be in writing, signed by the objector, and mailed to Plasticville Collectors Association, Member Admission Committee, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, IA 50021-3207 and received before the above noted date.

Keith W Boden, Fenton, MO  
Shirley M Hunter, Scottsdale, AZ  
Alan W Murray, Atlanta, GA  
Johnny Ourso, Tucson, AZ  
Arnold Douglas, Eatontown, NJ  
Lawrence Fachler, East Brunswick, NJ  
Chuck Bryner, Orange Park, FL  
Josh G Erling, State College, PA  
Grant Bowers, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
John A Elias, Mountain Iron, MN  
Robert A Schmidt, South Milwaukee, WI  
Gerald Fuglewicz, East Aurora, NY  
Ron J Barrow, Highland Heights, KY  
William J Goodman, Newport News, VA  
Donald W Goodman, Westerville, OH

## Win A Trip To Disneyland

Disneyland, in conjunction with Bachmann Industries created a promotion that included a sticker on the tops of various Plasticville buildings that stated, "Win a Trip to Disneyland". Inside each of these specially marked boxes was an entry blank.

The entry blank contained instructions to complete the last line of a jingle of four lines and where to submit their completed jingle. The contest had a closure date of January 14, 1956.

Let's start a little contest right now. Anyone can enter! Just fill in the last line of the jingle that was on the flyer. The PCA officers will choose the 5 or 10 best ones

and then put them out for a poll so everyone can decide the winner. The prize will be a sheet of thirty high quality, laser printed color personal address labels with the PCA logo prominently displayed along with your name and address.

Please send all entries to Plasticville Collectors Association, Disneyland Trip, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, Iowa 50021-3207 or you may send an email entry to [secretary@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:secretary@plasticvilleusa.org). Please use "Disneyland Trip Entry" as the subject of the message. All entries must be received by April 30, 2002. The winner and runners up will be published in the July edition of *The Villager*.



Here's the jingle as was written:

**The new toys of plastic are my favorite kind  
Their bright colors make them easy to find  
They're smooth and they're tough - as real as can be**

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*(fill in the 4th line of the jingle on the line)*

## Resource Persons Needed

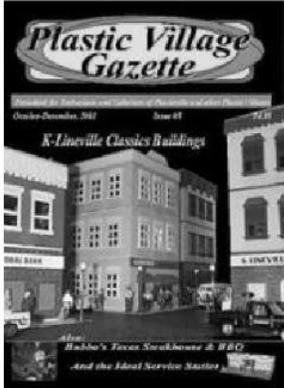
We would like volunteers for the following non-elected PCA positions.

Those who volunteer would be the persons to whom the members of the PCA could contact with questions specific to the areas listed. Please let the Secretary know if you would like to be the resource person for any of the listed areas.

Please let us know if there is another manufacturer with which you are familiar that is not listed. As with Jell-O, there is always room for more.

- Plasticville O
- Plasticville HO
- Plasticville N
- Lionel Plasticville
- King Plasticville
- LittletownMarX
- Skyline
- Storytown
- K-Line
- Kleeware
- Ideal
- American Flyer

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## The Smaller Size of Things HO and N Scale Buildings

**HELP WANTED!** The *Villager* is searching for articles on HO and/or N scale Plasticville buildings. Please contact the Secretary if you would like to submit an article for this column. Articles on other manufacturers may be submitted but articles on Plasticville buildings are preferred. Illustrations or photos to enhance the article will be greatly appreciated.

## Neighboring Villages Marxville, Littletown, Skyline and Storytown

**HELP WANTED!** The *Villager* is searching articles on buildings manufactured by companies other than Plasticville. Please contact the Secretary if you would like to submit an article for this column. Illustrations or photos to enhance the article will be greatly appreciated.

## The Villager Mailbox

Letters to the editor. Don't be shy. I will print any letters to the editor that I receive.

## Fundraiser add-a-floors and shrubs still available



### **Is this part of your collection yet?**

The King Plasticville add-a-floor units and unissued color shrubs are still available. A limited edition set is for sale containing one new King Distributing Add-A-Floor in red or brown AND six shrubs in never before released colors (2 each of brown, light buff, and medium buff).

If you read the third edition of the Plastic Village Gazette, then you are familiar with the story of these ultra-rare, never released brown and buff shrubs. The intent was to include them with the King Distributing Apartment House back in the early 80's but they didn't make the final cut! Bill Nole has

graciously made these shrubs and the NEW, never opened, Add-A-Floors available to the PCA for this promotion and fund-raiser. Now is your chance to own a bit of Plasticville, USA history!

These are sold as a set: one Add-A-Floor in your choice of brown or red AND 6 of the shrubs (2 of each color). The price for each set is ONLY \$35.00!!! ALL proceeds from the sale of these sets goes to the Plasticville Collector's Association (PCA).

There is a limit of 3 sets per person. These are available in a very LIMITED number and sold first come, first served.

Send an E-mail to Joe Kutza at [president@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:president@plasticvilleusa.org) to place your order. Orders will be accepted in the order in which they are received. There is a \$5.00 S&H fee for up to 2 sets. The fee is \$6.00 for 3 sets. Payment must be by check or money order, payable in US funds and made out to the Plasticville Collectors Association. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery by USPS.

## Articles Solicited

The Plasticville Collectors Association needs your help with newsletter content. The editor of *The Villager* needs your help to assure that this newsletter contains the type of articles you wish to read. The size of the article is unimportant.

Please send articles that you feel will be of interest to the other members to: Plasticville Collectors Association, The Villager editor, 601 SE Second Street, Ankeny, IOWA 50021-3207. You may also submit articles by email to [villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org](mailto:villagereditor@plasticvilleusa.org). Please be sure to include your name and member

number so that we can ensure a correct byline on the article.

Now let's make it worthwhile for you to send in an article. The editor of *The Villager* will send you a sheet of thirty (30) personalized address labels to you with the newsletter in which your article appears. These are high quality laser printed labels and will have the PCA logo printed in color along with your complete address printed in black. (*See the return address label on the envelope in which this newsletter arrived for an idea as to what your labels would look like.*)

## A Trip to Plasticville

by **Bob Coniglio**

One thing that I did over the summer was to board the train to Plasticville in West Hillside New Jersey.

I've always wanted to go, as so many have told of the uniqueness of the city established in 1947 by H. Bachmann; this in a manner similar to the development of the famous Levittown.

The trip takes about 25 minutes from the station in NYC and it is a pleasant ride.

The transition from the world of flesh to the world of plastic takes place some 15 minutes into the trip and is a very easy one to accept.

Before arrival at the Plasticville railroad center (#5608), the train passed through the lesser rival cities of Marx and Littleton New Jersey.

Upon arrival in Plasticville, I was greeted by some very helpful plastic people (#1605) and obtained the use of a rental car (#V-10) with which to explore the city.

The change in size to 1/48 was alright after a bit of adjusting, and so I was off.

I decided to get onto the main drag, "Bachmann Boulevard" and proceeded to the town hall (#PH-1) to get information on the town.

On the way from the post office (PO-1) and following the scenic Plasticville Guide I next made my way past the police station (#1614) on the way to the international airport (#5600) where I would make arrangements for my trip back.

After leaving the airport, I got a room at the motel (#1913) and then proceeded on to the diner (#1500) for a snack. After a decent meal, I got in the car and drove to the bank (#1801) in order to cash a few travelers' checks.

Now, I was set for the day's sightseeing. I did want to hit the Story Town Theme Park in which there was a castle (#5010), and displays of Humpty Dumpty (#5001), the

butcher the baker and the candlestick maker. Like Disneyworld, Storytown had a nice central area with a wishing well, a pail and Jack & Jill (#5012).

After that pleasant romp, I took off to the Plasticville Railroad center (# 5608) right near the community church (#1818). The turnpike (#5601) made the trip an easy one and I passed a large farm with a barn and animals (#BA-6). On the way out on Cowen Blvd, I passed a shopping center (#SP-8) and stopped to pick up a few things and I also stopped into the drugstore (#1611) for some aspirin.

The city is surrounded by scenic farmland and charming houses. It was a trip back in time to notice a few outhouses (#SA-7) here and there. The local TV station (#1618) was set out in the edges of the city near the secondary suburban railroad station (# 1616) with water tank (#1615).

The area was also home to several dairy farms (# 1623) with cattle loading pens (#1623) visible. The shade trees (#1628 ) provided a comfortable environment as I whizzed by telephone poles (#1000). I did see several houses for sale which caught my eye; those being a Cape Cod house (# 1502), a 2 story colonial (#1700), a colonial mansion (# 1983), and a ranch house (# 1934).

I made a quick pit stop (#1875) to fuel up at the gas station. Then I noticed a race track with a grandstand (#1876), sitting people (# 1877), and an official's stand (# 1878). I understand that they run the big Lionel cars sets there so I want to get to see a race sometime.

Next it was off to the airport admin. building (#AD-4) to check on the weather in the area. I noticed that there was an announcement for a train show at the local school house (# 1608) located a block or so from a quaint looking fire house with its two trucks (# 1921) in the driveway.

I returned to the motel and slept the night.

The next day, I planned to sightsee just a bit more before catching the Lionel 4:15 to New York.

The day was nice so I headed to a friend's house to have a barbecue (# 1004) feast. The house is a beauty with a spruce tree (#1001), rustic fence (#1007) in the back and picket fence (#1002) in the front. My friend has a small pond and bridge (#1300) in the yard, which only adds to the atmosphere.

After lunch, I left for the station platform (#1200), and since I had plenty of time, I stopped for an ice cream at Frosty Bar (#FB-1).

After dropping the car off at the agency, I looked a bit at the playground in sight and thought how nice this all was.

Naturally, I had not seen all of the things in historic Plasticville, but it was obvious that the place had many things to offer. I think that I'll join up in the Plasticville Collector Association out of Iowa. The city and town were that impressive.

## **Questions, answers and happenings at Bachmann**

Questions posed to Bachmann along with Bachmann's answer to the question and communications from Bachmann to the PCA.

## **Notes from the Secretary Treasurer**

Welcome the Plasticville Collectors Association. I hope that our relationship will be a lasting one. As your Secretary, I am also the editor of this newsletter. Per my online dictionary, an editor is "*One who edits*". Edit is defined as "*To prepare (written material) for publication...*".

This newsletter belongs to you, the members. I am merely the person who "*prepares for publication*" those offerings you send to me for inclusion in future newsletters. I am certain that we all want to see a newsletter that is highly informative.

The best way for us to accomplish this is for every member to think about what we may have to offer our fellow members through an article in the newsletter, write that article and then submit it to the Secretary for publication.

Subjects for articles are limitless. Your offering may be something as simple as why

you like a specific piece of Plasticville. It may be how you were able to acquire a very rare piece at a bargain price. It could be how you have used a series of buildings on a layout.

Do you have buildings in an unlisted color? Do you have an extremely rare piece that you would like to share with the other members? Send me an article with pictures, if possible, and I will print it and give you the credit for writing it. You will also receive a sheet of 30 PCA return address labels with the newsletter in which your article appears.

A big Thank You to Bob Coniglio for his amusing fantasy story of a trip to Plasticville. I hope you like the labels enclosed with your newsletter. It's the PCA editor's way of saying, "Thank you for your contribution".

## The Villager Classified Ads

### **For Sale**

#1607 Fire House with a gray siren. This is a very rare version. Item is complete. No glue and in very good condition original box also in very good condition. Will provide pictures if interested. \$225 See Bits and Pieces on page VII in the Plasticville Illustrated Price Guide of 1993. lconway@jadecorp.com Lou Conway, 6984 Ely Rd, New Hope, PA 18938

Huge collection of Plasticville, MarX, and Littletown for sale by the single piece or entire collection. LSASE for list or email at transam976@aol.com. Bill Rieken, 58 Quails Crossing, Marion, MA, 02738.

Farm Implement set, yellow with green trim, complete, no box, \$35. AD-4 Airport

### **For Trade**

One #1900 Turnpike Interchange Kit. Original box. Complete with all small parts. All letters intact on signs. Also #1701 new England Ranch House, white walls, turquoise trim, gray roof. Tip missing on

### **Wanted**

Wanted: Littletown/Kleeware, MarX plastic buildings. Boxed with no missing parts preferred. However also looking for parts. trainsfan@aol.com Douglas Gilliatt, 956 W Sherri Dr, Gilbert, AZ, 85223,

Wanted: Good condition BOX for #1804 greenhouse. johnln@netins.net John Niehaus, 601 SE Second St., Ankeny, IA 50021-3207

Wanted: Upper Walkway for # 1975 Coaling Station. Contact Steve Brown at peggyconroy@aol.com. Steven A Brown, 1704 2nd St., Rensselaer, NY 12114

Administration Building, complete with original box \$55. Many other Plasticville items in stock. See list at www.garystrains.com. Gary D Mosholder, 186 Pine Springs Camp Rd., Boswell, PA 1553

#10 SASE for a list of my boxed "O" scale Plasticville. I have many parts and accessories. Special deal on 100 Plasticville parts for \$40.00. Firehouse with trucks #1921, \$18.00. Motel with Autos #1621, \$25.00. SC-4 School House \$14.00. dbhunter@fuse.net Bill D Hunter, 1333 Ashford Dr, Florence, KY 41042, Phone 859 525-7183

patio otherwise in good very good condition. Advise what you may have to trade for. lconway@jadecorp.com Lou Conway, 6984 Ely Rd, New Hope, PA 18938

Wanted: Skyline K-5 church in all white, K-10 Westchester house in blue and K-10 Westchester house in maroon. Do not need boxes just complete buildings. cfrey57@aol.com Chris Frey, 243 Memorial Blvd., Newmanstown, PA 17073

NEED Gold Cross for C-18 Cathedral. Need gold bell for C-18 Cathedral. Gold bell with steeple section also OK. lin372@msn.com Michael "Kit" Walshoch, 4776 Terry Rd, Jackson, MS 39212-5622

UNBROKEN PARTS WANTED: Airport Administration Building, blue front canopy; Cathedral, silver cross; dog house, white roof; Loading Platform, grey-black chimney, roof support; Trailer, turquoise base, awning; yellow Playground swing frame; Suburban Station, green roof; TV Station, all tower parts; Two Story Colonial, red, tan, & white porch floors; grey cupola roof. fritsto@ci.akron.oh.us Thomas Fritsch, 630Wyandot Ave, Akron, OH 44305-1832.

#1609 Street Accessories unit. The item is the blister pack style. Would like to have unopened but will consider opened if all packaging materials are there. Also wanted #1701 New England Ranch House with red roof, must not have any glue. Also want Fire Helmet pencil sharpener w/paper shield. lconway@jadecorp.com Lou Conway, 6984 Ely Rd, New Hope, PA 18938

Wanted marbled railroad work car, blue bus, blue ambulance, red roof post office. remgm@aol.com Gary Remaley, 5747 Terrace Dr, PO Box 62, Neffs, PA 18065

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- O Scale Airport Terminal \$8.00
- O scale Roadside Stand \$7.75

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[HTTP://WWW.PLASTICVILLEUSA.ORG](http://www.plasticvilleusa.org)

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- LM-3 Freight Platform B \$10
- 1629 Bungalow B \$75, Mint \$125
- 1852 Ranch House (blue/grey) B \$25
- 1090 Telephone Booths (blue or white) \$15 ea
- 1004 BBQ (grey) \$2; (marbled) \$6
- SS-5 Street Sign w/original tag \$2
- YW-4 Yard Pump \$3 ea
- 1050 Outhouse (brown) \$5
- 1029 Crossing Gate (black) \$1 each
- BS-6 Shrub (green) 50cents each; 12/\$5
- PB-5 Footbridge \$4
- V-10 Fire Truck (red) \$5 (pumper or ladder)
- V-10 Autos (black) \$8; (red or blue) \$7 ea
- 1302 Pickup Truck (red) \$10
- ST-1 Traffic Lights \$3 ea
- KING Corner Store (Hobby, News, Sport) \$50 ea, Mint
- KING Mobile Home (blue, cream, grey) \$30 ea, Mint
- KING Add-A-Floor (red) \$15 ea; 3/\$35, Mint
- KING Add-A-Floor (brown) \$25 ea; 3/\$60, Mint
- KING Windmill \$50 ea, Mint
- KING Bank (buff or green) \$35 ea; 2/\$65, Mint

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- 1703 Colonial Mansion (grey roof) \$350
- 1852 Ranch House (dark blue) \$350
- 1877 Sitting People \$275, Mint
- V-6 Vehicle Assortment \$350
- FH-4 Fire Department (grey siren) \$200
- 5002 Picket Fence (lg.) Blister Pack \$150
- SA-9 Outhouse (Dealer Box) \$175  
(brown, flesh, red, or white variations)

**Storytown**

- 5000 3 Men In Tub \$250
- 5001 Humpty Dumpty \$300
- 5010 Castle (yellow, white or blue) \$250
- 5012 Jack & Jill (red or yellow) \$250
- 5013 Gingerbread House \$300

**Master Units**

- 5200 Roadside Rest \$250
- 5402 Highway Motel \$250
- 5401 Community Church \$250
- 5604 Residential Square \$275
- 5600 Int'l Airport \$425
- SU-7 Shopping Unit \$250

**Littletown**

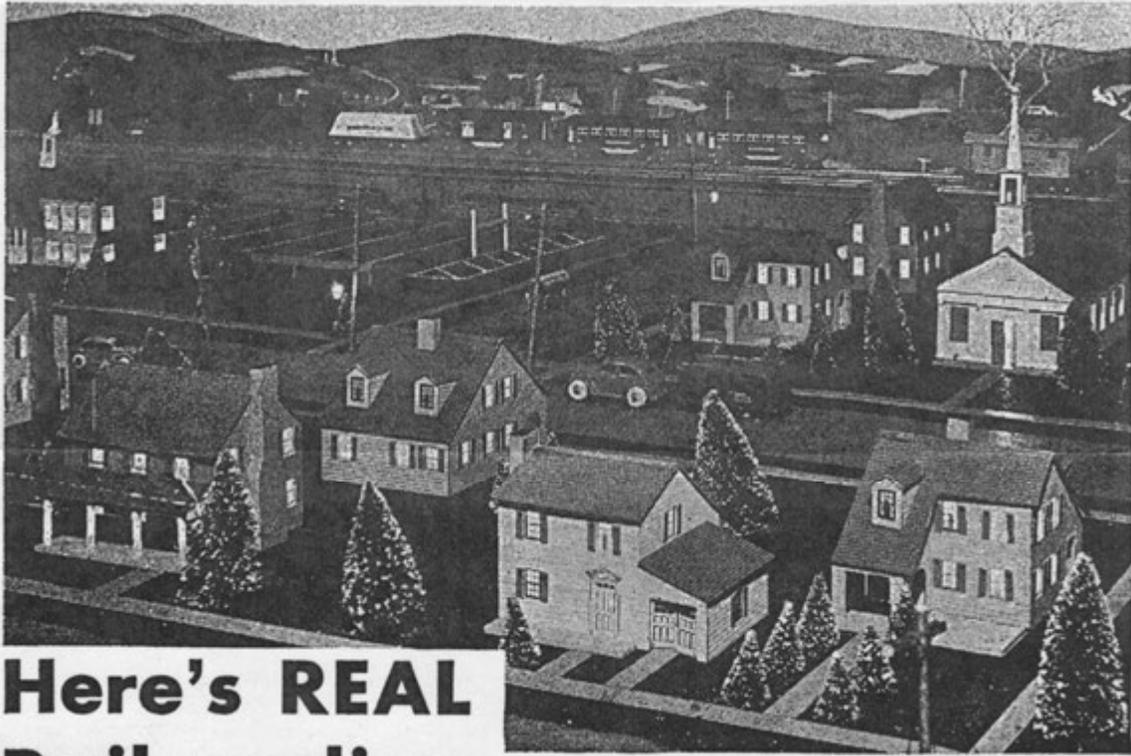
- 1954 Full color catalog \$125
- 313 Freight Set \$125
- 307 Street Accessories \$95
- 311 RR Accessories \$100
- 304 Fence & Gate \$15, Mint
- 301 Telephone Poles \$10, Mint
- 303 Street Lights \$30

**Parts**

- Hangar windsock, Hospital siren, Log Cabin chimney, FireDept. siren-\$2.50 ea
- Bank: front canopy \$3.; side canopy \$4.; red lights \$2 ea.
- House Under Const.-sawhorse, shovel, rake, hoe, and bucket \$3 ea.
- Cattle Pen: cross-over bars \$5 ea.
- Storytown Parts: brick \$6; oar, pail, flag, chain, shrubs (red, blue, yellow) \$5 ea
- LCCA HANGER & TERM. \$49. set

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No. 653	FREIGHT STATION	45.00 Ea.
No. 658	CITY HOUSE	25.00 Ea.

**Note: These buildings are reproductions on cardboard stock. They are not originals.**



# An American Classic

Add a touch of history to your *Plasticville U.S.A.*<sup>®</sup> collection with the O scale Town Hall (Item No. 45614). Resembling Philadelphia's historic Independence Hall, this snap-together building is sure to inspire feelings of patriotism and pride. Your local hobby retailer has dozens of Plasticville buildings and accessories in HO, N and O scale. For more than 50 years, Bachmann's Plasticville U.S.A. has been the leading brand of hobby kits among collectors and railroaders.



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