

WEST ARLINGTON STATION



WEST ARLINGTON station of the Erie Railroad was built about 1895, just after the laying of the double track through the "cut." The original station was on the north side of the tracks and was the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Dodd, who combined housekeeping duties with those of station master, bridge tender and ticket seller. According to old residents, a cove at the bottom of the hill near the bridge constituted the official "swimmin' hole" for the boys of the neighborhood. During the war

the station, even by then a landmark, gained much publicity through a detachment of soldiers of the 113th infantry encamped alongside. They were guarding the bridge from effects of sabotage and German spies. It was then a favorite pastime to watch the changing of the guards. Now only the commuters who every morning slide down the slopes and toil upwards every evening know of its existence. Its use, perhaps, is past, but as a building that once marked a new era in the town's development, it has great significance.