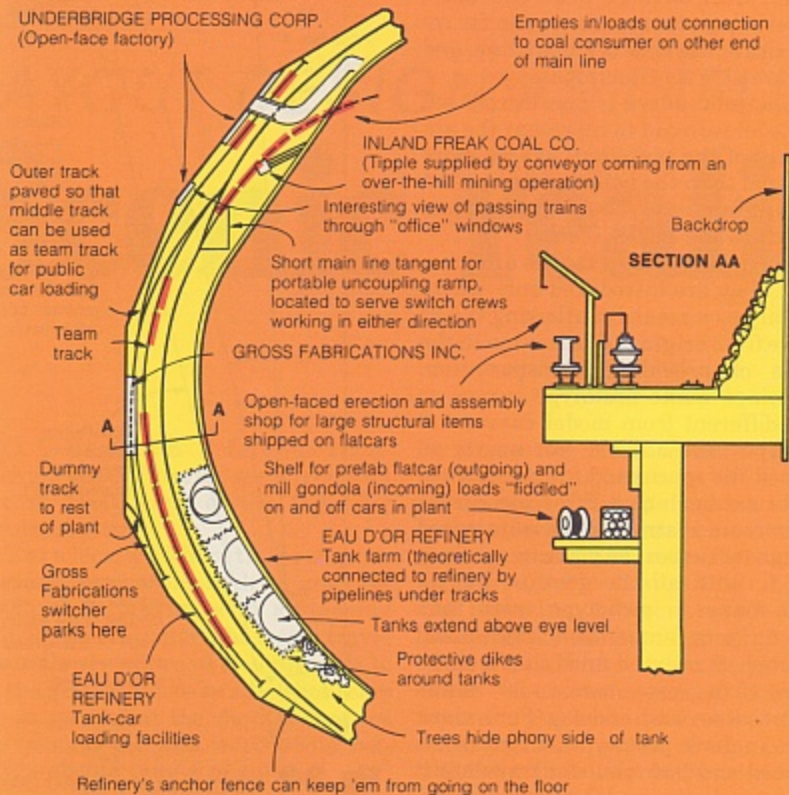


## THE BIG INDUSTRIES THAT AREN'T THERE



## Beyond selective compression — suggestive omission

SELECTIVE COMPRESSION, the reduction in number or size of the components of a prototype structure, yard, or whatever to reduce its appetite for layout space while retaining its function and appearance, is a long-established principle. Sometimes though, it doesn't go far enough. Whether or not we have room for them, we need *big* industries to generate traffic, but priority must go to track and other strictly railroad items to make the layout work.

So, look into "suggestive omission." We can model the big industries by *suggesting* that they are *behind* the observer or *beyond* the horizon or in any other convenient (i.e., not on the layout) location. In fact, you can create the illusion that the observer is standing *within* the industry. The only portions of these "productive" lineside facilities that need be modeled are those that can be occupied by freight cars! As with other scenic trickery, the illusion is more easily achieved if the railroad is almost at eye level at the point in question.