



Quarters One

Rock Island Arsenal

United States Army Sustainment Command
History Office

Introduction

Quarters One on Rock Island Arsenal is an established and recognizable landmark in the Quad Cities area. Perched on the banks of the Mississippi River, the house harkens back to an earlier time. The massive size, clean lines and pastoral setting gives the edifice a sense of grandeur. The third floor roof and the tower provide sweeping vistas of the Quad Cities area. One can imagine families on the tower roof in the summer watching riverboat traffic on the main channel or new agricultural implement factories in Moline.

BG Thomas J. Rodman received permission to build a home on Rock Island Arsenal in early 1869. Rodman finished the design by the end of the year. From the beginning, Rodman proposed a large house that would serve as a place for distinguished visitors. In his vision, Quarters One would always be both a home and a public building. In 1870, Rock Island remained at the edge of the far west and was a transit point for expeditions to the west. Some suggest that the entire third floor was designed to house the waiting families of soldiers on western travel. At the same time, Rodman expected that, as commanding officer and a senior leader in the local community, he would need space to entertain and hold public business. The building was designed and constructed with all those ideas in mind. Quarters One performed its first public duty when, in June 1871, it hosted the funeral of BG Thomas J. Rodman for the Arsenal staff and local community. Since then, Quarters One has been not only a home, but a public place to house visitors and host events.

Since 1871, before construction was complete, Quarters One has been the home of the senior officer assigned to Rock Island. Thirty-eight different senior officers, from General Rodman on, have called Quarters One home and one officer lived in the house twice. Each officer and his family have left their mark and have made the very public building an individual home. Today, the portraits of those thirty-eight officers line the stairway. Unfortunately, the era of housing the senior officer on the island in Quarters One has come to an end. Due to a variety of reasons, the US Army decided in 2006 that Quarters One would no longer be a family housing unit. In 2008 MG and Mrs. Robert M. Radin were the last family to make Quarters One their home.

Today Quarters One is now at risk due to a lack of funding for stabilization, preservation, and restoration. While the Army is committed to maintaining the building, increasing budget constraints will continue to put pressure on the Rock Island Arsenal garrison staff to prevent deterioration. Various options are being explored to bring investment and a sustainable business plan to play. If this book encourages any readers to develop their own ideas, it will have served a valuable purpose.

As Quarters One passed from a home to a new use, it was determined that a short history should be prepared that not only described the building, but also described its place in the history of Rock Island Arsenal and the Quad Cities. This volume, prepared by the US Army Sustainment Command History Office, is intended to leave a memorial to the building and the service it has provided to the community for over 140 years. Pictures and words cannot adequately describe the beauty and grandeur of the building. It has to be seen, walked through, and lived in to be completely appreciated.

George Eaton
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April 2012



Above: View of the stone workshops from the tower of Quarters One
Below: North exterior of Quarters One, facing the Mississippi River
Photos courtesy of Aileen Gorman & Alison Mooney



Table of Contents

Introduction	i
Before the Arsenal	1
The Arrival of General Rodman	11
Inside Rodman's Masterpiece	26
Distinguished Visitors to Quarters One	46
Social Events at Quarters One	53
The Haunted Hallows of Quarters One	58
Conclusion	65
List of Occupants	66
Notes	67



**Quarters One east face looking west.
(HABS Collection)**

Fifth Edition
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“The charming island of Rock Island, three miles long, and half a mile wide, belongs to the United States, and the Government has turned it into a wonderful park, enhancing its natural attractions by art, and threading its fine forests with many miles of drives. Near the center of the island one catches glimpses, through the trees, of ten vast stone four-story buildings, each of which covers an acre of ground. These are the Government workshops; for the Rock Island establishment is a national armory and arsenal.”

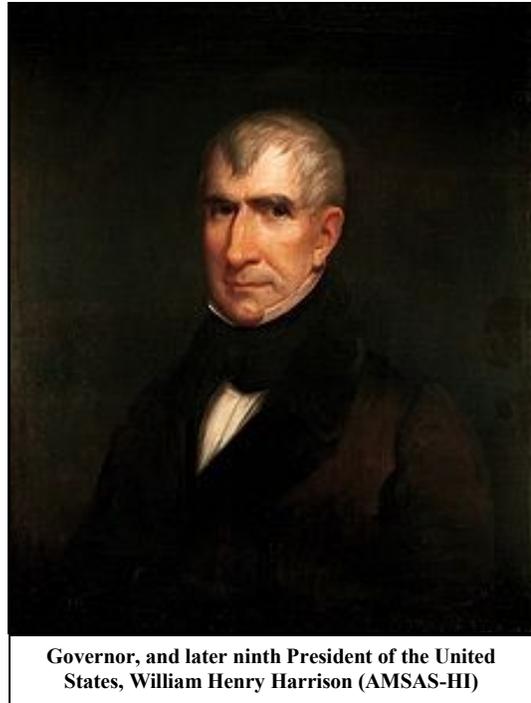
Mark Twain, “Life on the Mississippi,” 1883.

Before The Arsenal

Long before Mark Twain would eloquently describe the beauty of Rock Island, few Americans knew of the “Big Island” located in the middle of the Mississippi River.¹ In these early days of the new republic, the Mississippi River formed the western boundary of the United States, leaving the area largely uninhabited, except for two Native American tribes—the Sauk and the Fox. The Sauk lived downriver from Rock Island in a village called “Saukenauk,” while the Fox lived in smaller villages in present day Rock Island and Davenport.² Rock Island and the surrounding area provided an abundance of food for the Sauk and Fox through the region’s fertile ground and ample water supply. Except for a brief wartime expedition in 1780, Americans focused little attention on the Upper Mississippi River Valley, leaving the area free of government control and open to traders and agents of foreign governments.³

American interest and presence in the area waned until the Louisiana Purchase of 1804.

President Thomas Jefferson instructed William Henry Harrison, the Governor of the Indiana Territory, to acquire Native American lands that adjoined the Mississippi River. In June 1804, Secretary of War Henry Dearborn wrote to Governor Harrison that “It may not be improper to procure from the Sacks such cessions on...the southern side of the Illinois [River] and a considerable tract on the other side.”⁴ Governor (and later President) Harrison worked to obtain land cessions from Native Americans through bribery, liquor, and threats in order to fulfill President Jefferson’s orders.⁵



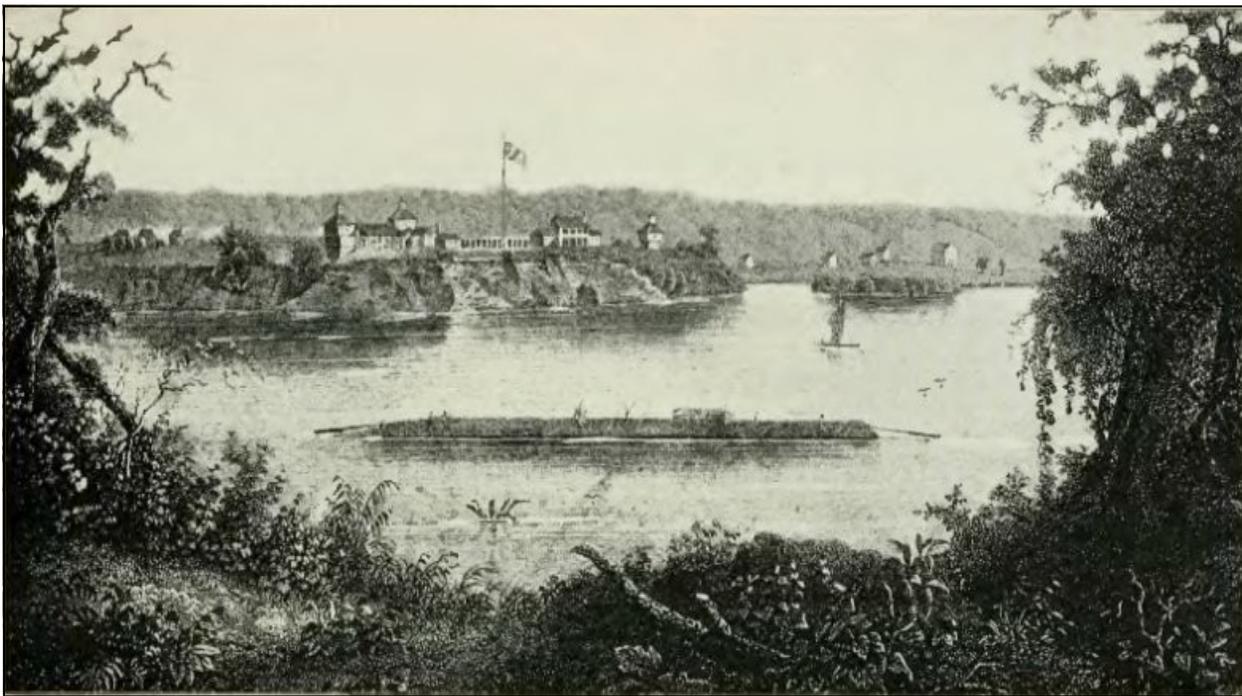
Governor, and later ninth President of the United States, William Henry Harrison (AMSAS-HI)

In November 1804, a five man delegation of Sauk and Fox arrived in St. Louis to meet with Harrison regarding the release of a Sauk brave being held for killing a white man. Governor Harrison quickly realized the great leverage he possessed over the Sauk and Fox representatives and the opportunity such a situation offered to gain increased land rights for the United States. Harrison agreed to request a presidential pardon for the Sauk brave on the condition that the Sauk delegates agree to a land cession from the two tribes. Throughout the course of the negotiations the Sauk and Fox reported being “drunk the greater part of the time they were in St. Louis,” as Governor Harrison reportedly provided copious amounts of whiskey for the delegation.⁶ On November 3, 1804, the delegates signed the treaty, thereby ceding most of what is today western Illinois, southwestern Wisconsin, and a portion of eastern Missouri to the United States.

Governor Harrison purchased roughly 15 million acres, which included Rock Island

along with the Sauk and Fox town of Saukenuk, from the five chiefs for \$2,254.50 and annual allotments worth \$1000 in goods for perpetuity.⁷ The Sauk and Fox contested the treaty as an illegal seizure of land, but the US enforced the land sale for the next 25 years. Soon after this agreement, Lieutenant Zebulon Pike began his expedition to find the source of the Mississippi River. Lt. Pike first brought Rock Island to the attention of the U.S. Army. Largely through Pike's reports from his expedition, Congress passed legislation in 1809 reserving the "Big Island," as Pike referred to Rock Island in his journals, for use as a military reservation.⁸

By 1814, the effects of the War of 1812 reverberated throughout the area. Military maneuvering for control of the Great Lakes and river routes in the Upper Mississippi Valley brought conflict to the region when the British encouraged and paid the Sauk and Fox to attack American interests. In July 1814 a convoy under Captain John Campbell came under fire from Sauk and Fox war parties six miles up river from Rock Island, resulting in 14 killed.⁹ In response to Campbell's defeat, Brevetted Major Zachary Taylor led three hundred and thirty-four officers and soldiers of the Seventh United States Infantry and Missouri Rangers on a reprisal raid against the tribes. Taylor's force was turned back by a combined force of 1000 Native



Fort Armstrong (AMSAS-HI)

Americans and a 2-3 man British artillery crew at the Battle of Credit Island.¹⁰

In December 1814 the Treaty of Ghent ended the War of 1812. Following the war, the American Government recognized the need to build a number of military forts on the upper Mississippi River to deter British and other foreign trading outfits from operating in the river valley. Brigadier General Thomas A. Smith arrived at Rock Island in early May 1816 and chose the western tip of the island as the construction site for Fort Armstrong.¹¹ From this site, U.S. troops could observe the Sauk and Fox Indians and protect American fur traders, as well as keep an open line of communication and commerce to Prairie du Chien and other posts further up the river.

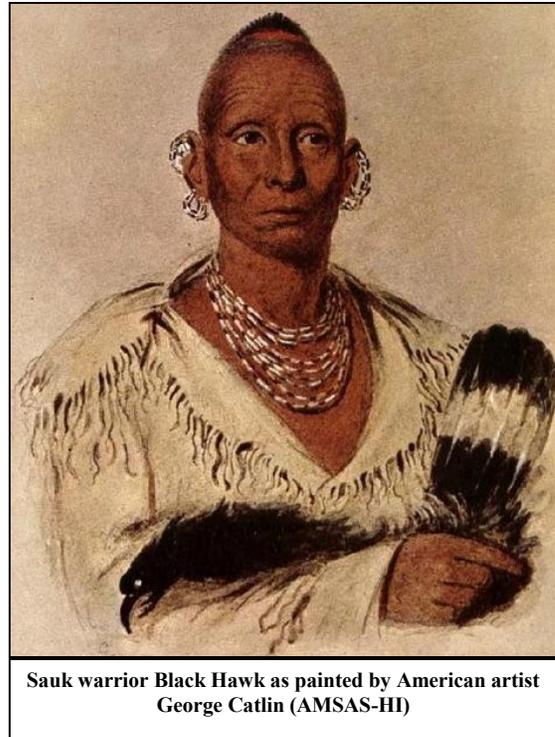
During construction, Fort Armstrong had a garrison of 600 soldiers, but shortly thereafter was reduced to less than 200 soldiers.¹² In 1816, the Army did not have a commissary department that provided personal items to soldiers. The small Army posts situated along the Mississippi River, were isolated from the remainder of the country, especially during winter months when the river froze over. In order to ensure Fort Armstrong had adequate supplies, a private contractor was commissioned by the government to provide much needed items. In 1817 George Davenport arrived and served as the private contractor to provide supplies to soldiers at Fort Armstrong. Davenport served as the post sutler until 1818, when he began devoting his time entirely to his Indian trade business.¹³ Davenport would remain a major influence in the area until his death in 1845.



Colonel George Davenport (AMSAS-HI)

White settlers and squatters began appearing in the area towards the end of 1828. Tensions rose as the new settlers paid no regard for Sauk and Fox property. The Sauk and Fox followed a tradition of leaving their homes during the winter to live in hunting camps in the wilderness and returning to Rock Island in the spring. During the Sauk and Fox absence, American settlers would occupy these “abandoned” houses and then purchase the property from the

government.¹⁴ In 1832, Black Hawk led roughly 1000 men, women, and children back to their homes at Saukenuk following their winter stay in southern Wisconsin. The American settlers and the government of the Illinois Territory claimed Black Hawk and his band committed an act of war. Many notable Americans participated in the campaign to capture and destroy Black Hawk's band, including: Zachary Taylor, Abraham Lincoln, Winfield Scott, Jefferson Davis, Albert Sidney Johnston, and Robert Anderson.¹⁵ In three months of fighting, Black Hawk's tribe suffered grossly disproportionate casualties before the Black Hawk War was concluded. Following the conclusion of hostilities with the Sauk and Fox tribes, Fort Armstrong was abandoned in 1836.



Sauk warrior Black Hawk as painted by American artist George Catlin (AMSAS-HI)

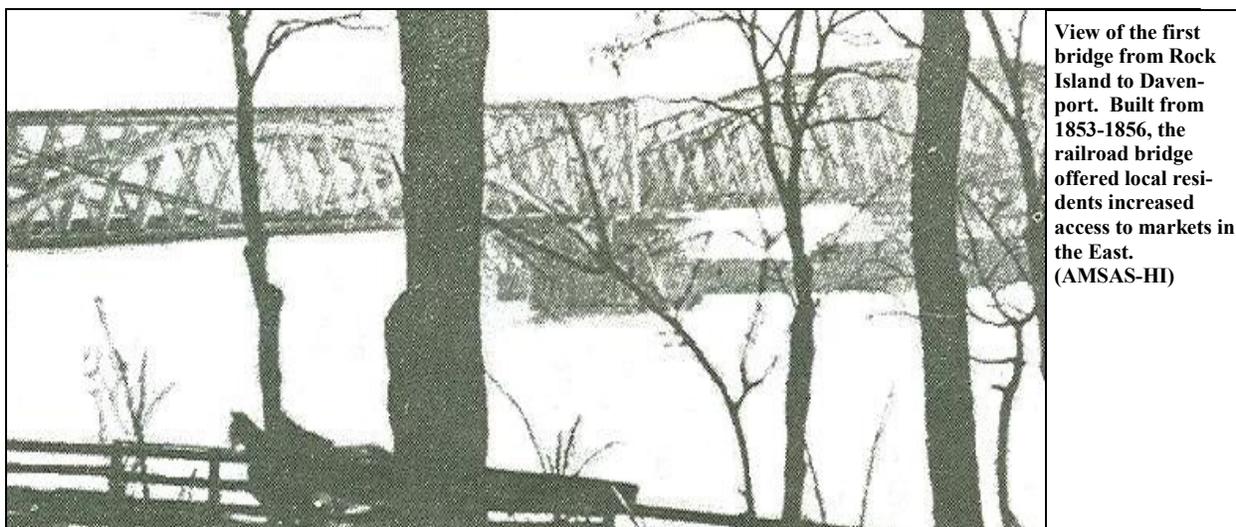
After 1836 new settlers soon began arriving in the area in large numbers. The regions growth and development did not go unnoticed by the Federal Government. In 1837 Robert E. Lee took charge of his first independent assignment for the federal government, performing a survey of the Rock Island Rapids, described as a “fifteen mile white-knuckler.”¹⁶ Lee established his headquarters on the top deck of a steamer torn open and run aground in those rapids. During his work on the Rock Island Rapids, Lee purchased land on the Davenport side of the river and laid out the first town site a few miles down stream from the present city of Davenport.¹⁷

Three years later, Major Bell of the Ordnance Department was dispatched to perform another survey, specifically to determine the feasibility of placing an arsenal on Rock Island. The growth of the surrounding area, especially the growth of present day Moline, allowed Bell to give a favorable report on the area's suitability.¹⁸ The other towns of Davenport and Rock Island also continued to expand as the local industries built dams to harness waterpower from

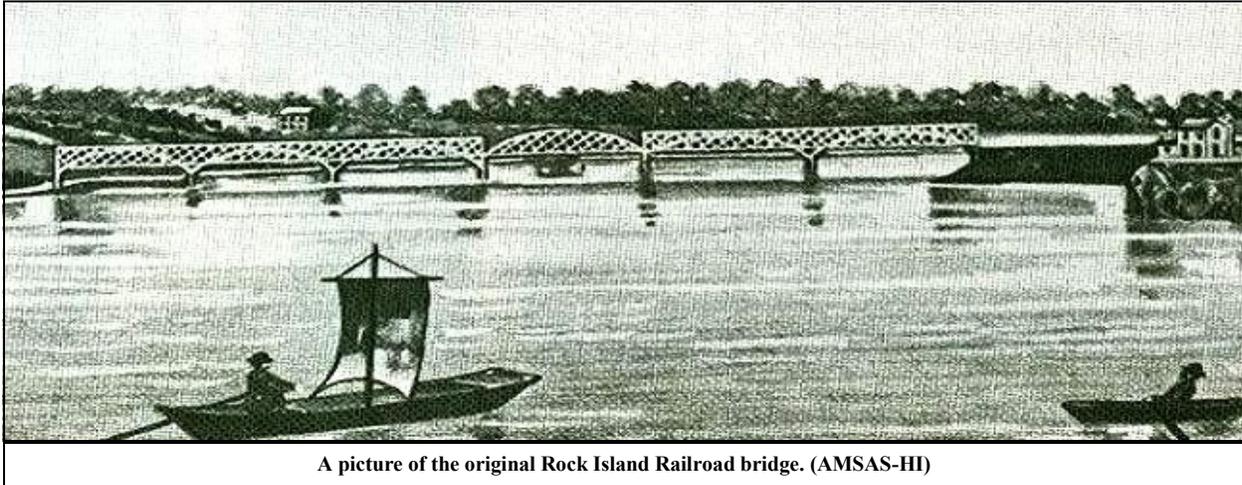
the Mississippi River. The area supplied an abundance of building materials, including wood, stone, and metals, which were essential for the development of the region and a future arsenal.

The Government was not the only entity interested in Rock Island. Squatters coming west erected residences and businesses on the island and were repeatedly warned off by the U.S. Marshal and George Davenport. Yet, squatters continued to arrive on the island and attempted wrest ownership of the island from the Army. The most successful of the attempts culminated when an 1854 Congressional Bill almost passed to begin selling the island in ten acre lots.¹⁹ Amazingly, the local residents remained unaware of these proceedings until only days before the scheduled sale began. Secretary of War Jefferson Davis learned of the efforts and ensured the legislation did not pass.

With the expansion of the railroad from the Eastern United States further West, plans were made to construct a railroad bridge across the Mississippi River. Local farmers in the area greatly desired an expanded railroad linking their produce to markets in Chicago and further east. For years, Rock Island had been recognized as the best point at which to bridge the Mississippi River. The River was narrow at that point, the shores were lined with bedrock, and engineers recognized that they could use the island as a stepping stone to cross the river. Further, being only 180 miles directly west of Chicago made the railroad less expensive to build. Construction on the new bridge across the Mississippi River began in 1853 and was finished in



1856, with tracks extending across the middle of Rock Island. The bridge was a Howe-Truss superstructure constructed of timber and consisted of five wooden spans, plus a draw span. The bridging of the Mississippi was a major achievement as nothing of that size or status had yet been constructed in the area.²⁰



A picture of the original Rock Island Railroad bridge. (AMSAS-HI)

With the destruction of the federal armory at Harper’s Ferry in April 1861 and the onset of the Civil War, the need for a new and secure federal arsenal became apparent. The rich resources of the Mississippi Valley, potential waterpower, and the island’s strategic location, both in terms of its ability to resist invasion as well as its favorable access to river and rail transportation, made Rock Island attractive to serve as a federal installation. In 1861, Congress began drafting legislation to approve the formation of a new arsenal located at Rock Island. On July 11, 1862 President Lincoln signed into law an Act approving the construction of an arsenal at Rock Island, setting off a chain of events that would shape Rock Island into a major military post.²¹ Within a year after Congress passed the 1862 Act, the U.S. Army had reestablished its military presence on the island. Two separate Army commands began construction on the island in 1863. In September 1863 the Ordnance Department broke ground for the first permanent Arsenal building, while the Quartermaster Department erected a prison barracks for captured Confederate soldiers in August 1863.²² On December 3, 1863 the first Confederate prisoners, captured at the Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee arrived. The camp consisted of eighty-four barracks one hundred feet by twenty feet, each accommodating 120 prisoners.²³



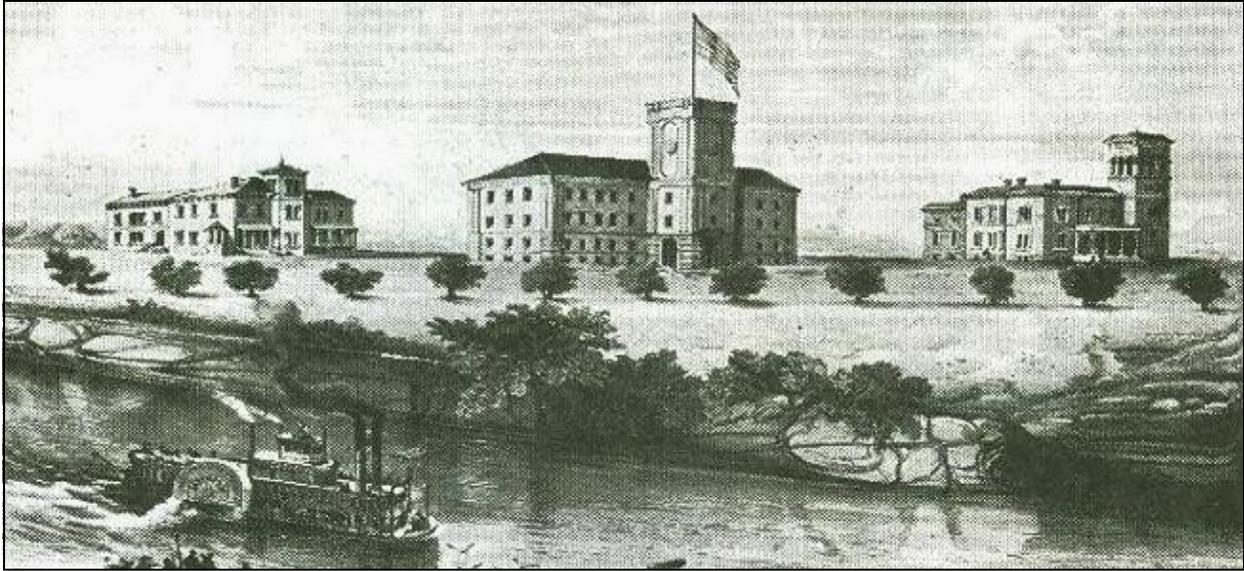
A view of the prison barracks constructed for Confederate prisoners of war. (AMSAS-HI)

The camp also contained a prisoner hospital, officer's quarters, administrative buildings, and other buildings necessary to the camp.

The camp occupied the north central part of the island, where the Officer's quarters and the Rock Island Golf Course stand today. The camp could hold just over 10,000 prisoners. From the arrival of the first Lookout Mountain prisoners until the end of the Civil War, 12,192 Confederate prisoners occupied the camp.²⁴ Repeated outbreaks of smallpox, and other camp diseases took their toll on the prisoner population, claiming the lives of 1,964.²⁵ However, the prisoners ate the same rations as the guards, and received as much liberty within the camp as possible, with many of the Confederate soldiers remaining after the war to become residents in the communities on both sides of the Mississippi River.



A roll call at the Rock Island Prison Barracks. The guards are standing in formation in the front while the prisoners are in the background standing in front of the barracks. (AMSAS-HI)



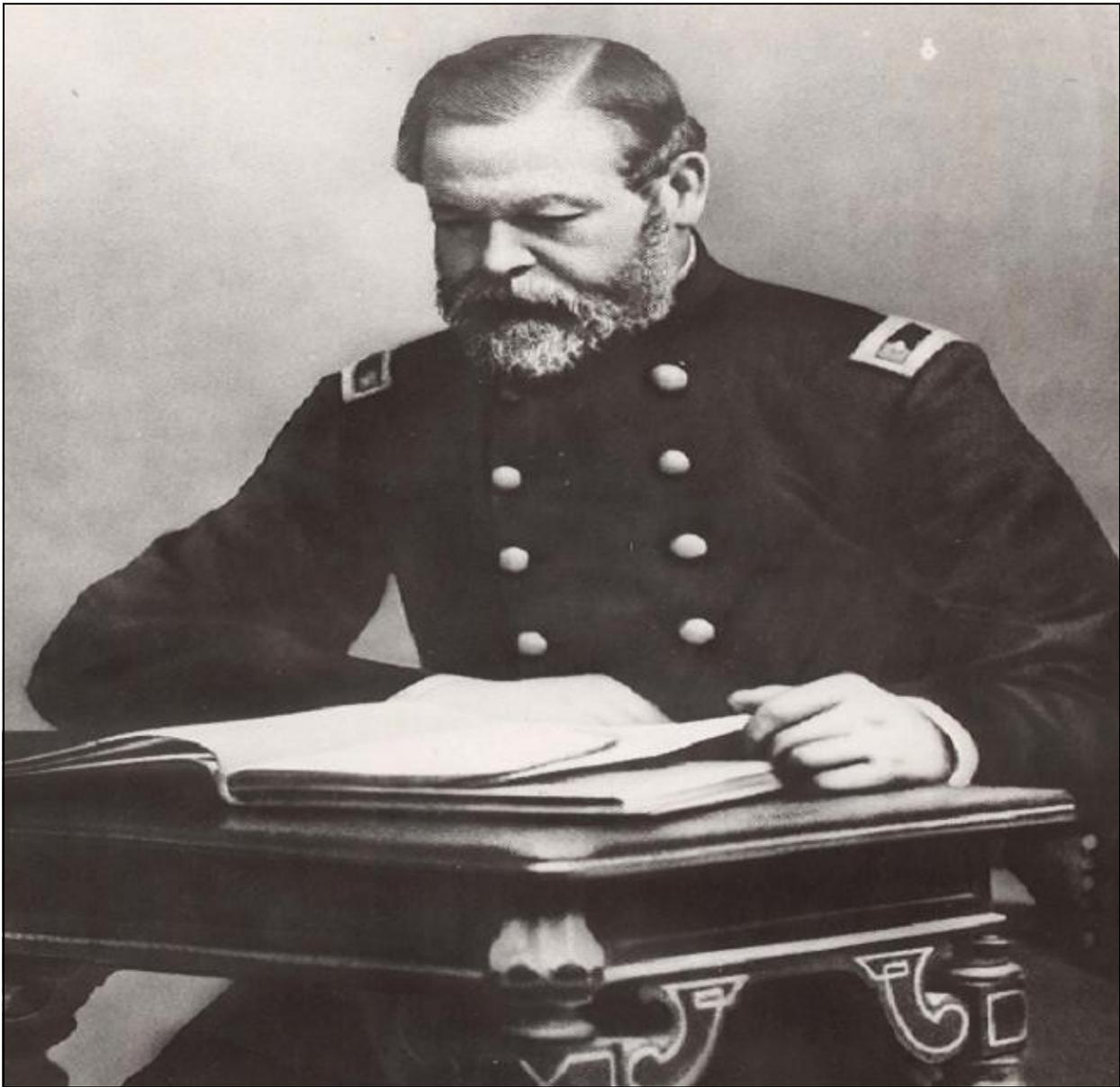
This copy of an old lithograph depicts the Army Ordnance Department's original plan to build a small arsenal comprised of three structures for the repair and storage of ordnance weapons and equipment at the far western edge of the island. Note: Only the Clock Tower Building in the center was ever erected. (AMSAS-HI)

In addition to the construction of the prisoner barracks, construction also began on Storehouse A (the Clock Tower Building) in 1863. Major Charles P. Kingsbury supervised the construction of the Storehouse and served as the first commander of the Arsenal.²⁶ Delays frequently plagued the initial construction of the Arsenal as supplies were not shipped on time and soldiers of the Quartermaster Department, who were building the prison barracks, encroached upon Major Kingsbury's construction site, causing friction between the two commands.



Later 20th century view of the Clock Tower Building North Face. (AMSAS-HI)

In April 1864, Congress passed an act instructing the Secretary of War to “take and hold full, complete, and permanent possession” of Rock Island.²⁷ With the mandate to occupy the entire island, Kingsbury began writing the Chief of Ordnance recommending Rock Island be developed to serve as a national armory and foundry. However, in June 1865, Major Kingsbury was soon transferred from Rock Island and replaced by Brevet Brigadier General Thomas J. Rodman. General Rodman arrived at Rock Island Arsenal with orders to begin the expansion of Rock Island into a National Arsenal.²⁸



Brevet Brigadier General Thomas J. Rodman (AMSAS-HI)

The Arrival of General Rodman

Rodman arrived at the Rock Island Arsenal under less than ideal circumstances. Following the conclusion of the Civil War, a Congressional Committee commenced an investigation to examine Rodman's activities, and in particular, Rodman's construction of a commanding officer's residence at the Watertown Arsenal in Massachusetts. The Honorable Mr. Gooch of Massachusetts, investigated then-Major Rodman and accused him of neglecting to "join officially in the observance of expression of joy at the surrender of the rebel General Lee, and of the sorrow at the death of President Lincoln."²⁹ Rodman was also accused of "employing disloyal men; of interfering with the right to petition by refusing to allow female employees to circulate a petition in the laboratory and afterwards discharging 19 of them for doing so; of retaining an employee who had twice been found under the influence of liquor; of employing 57 foreigners (thought to be less loyal) out of 98 enlisted men; and of excessive spending in the building of the new commanding officer's quarters."³⁰

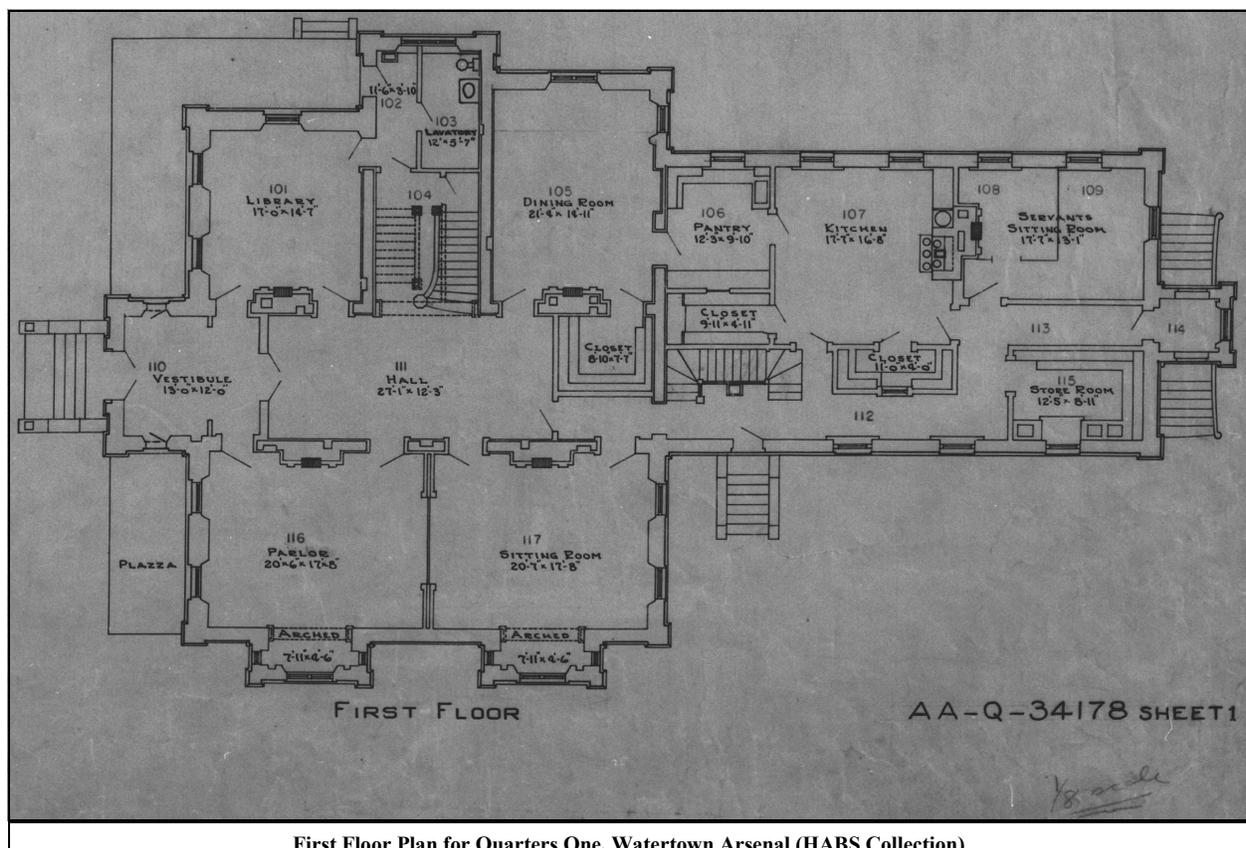
Perhaps of greatest concern to Rodman was the allegation of excessive spending on the new commanding officer's quarters at the Watertown Arsenal. Many found the quarters being constructed by Rodman at Watertown extravagant for a commanding officer. However, Rodman repeatedly noted his efforts to build the new residence in as economical fashion as possible with other



Brevet Brigadier General Thomas J. Rodman (AMSAS-HI)

Committee witnesses testifying that the quarters would only cost between \$40,000 to \$60,000.³¹ Opponents surmised the finished quarters would cost the taxpayer anywhere from \$100,000 to \$150,000—an enormous sum for the time period.³² Worse yet, the Committee investigating Rodman accused him of constructing the home for his own personal benefit. Rodman countered these charges by producing the orders and building specifications he received from the Ordnance Department to construct a new residence at Watertown, thereby demonstrating that he had not personally designed the quarters to benefit himself.³³

The final cost of the residence at Watertown was \$63,478.65—a sum far less than what Rodman’s critics alleged.³⁴ Even though the final cost was far lower than many predicted, in 1865 such a sum of money would still produce a magnificent dwelling for any commanding officer and lead to continued questions of the propriety of the Army to build such a residence.



First Floor Plan for Quarters One, Watertown Arsenal (HABS Collection)



Quarters One at Watertown, Massachusetts. (HABS Collection)

The Commanding Officer's Quarters is still today one of the highlights of the Watertown Arsenal site and remains virtually unaltered after over 100 years' of residence by Watertown commanding officers. The Watertown residence is a two-story Bracketed style brick mansion that boasts chimneys, hipped roofs, and a sweeping veranda support by cast iron columns.³⁵ A large central hall greets visitors at the Watertown residence accompanied by parlors, pocket doors, heavy molding, ceiling medallions and marble fireplaces—all features that would later be included in Rodman's design of Quarters One at Rock Island.

While Rodman's estimate for the cost of the Watertown residence proved closer to the actual cost, he still remained under investigation by Mr. Gooch's committee for the other alleged foibles. The Committee called over ninety witnesses throughout its investigation. However, many of the witnesses appear to have been screened by Mr. Gooch, who carefully

selected testimony placing Rodman in an unfavorable light.³⁶ Rodman himself was not allowed to participate in the cross-examination of the witnesses and was able only to refute the charges in a letter sent to Brig. Gen. A.B. Dyer, Chief of Ordnance. He protested that he had given much attention to the loyalty of his men, and demonstrated his vigilance by observing that there had been no accidents at the Watertown Arsenal during his tenure there. Rodman also explained that he had not fired a salute in recognition of the end of the war and of the President's death because no official orders to do so were ever received.³⁷



Quarters One at Watertown Arsenal, Watertown, Massachusetts. The style of the house would presage Rodman's later masterpiece at Rock Island. (HABS Collection)

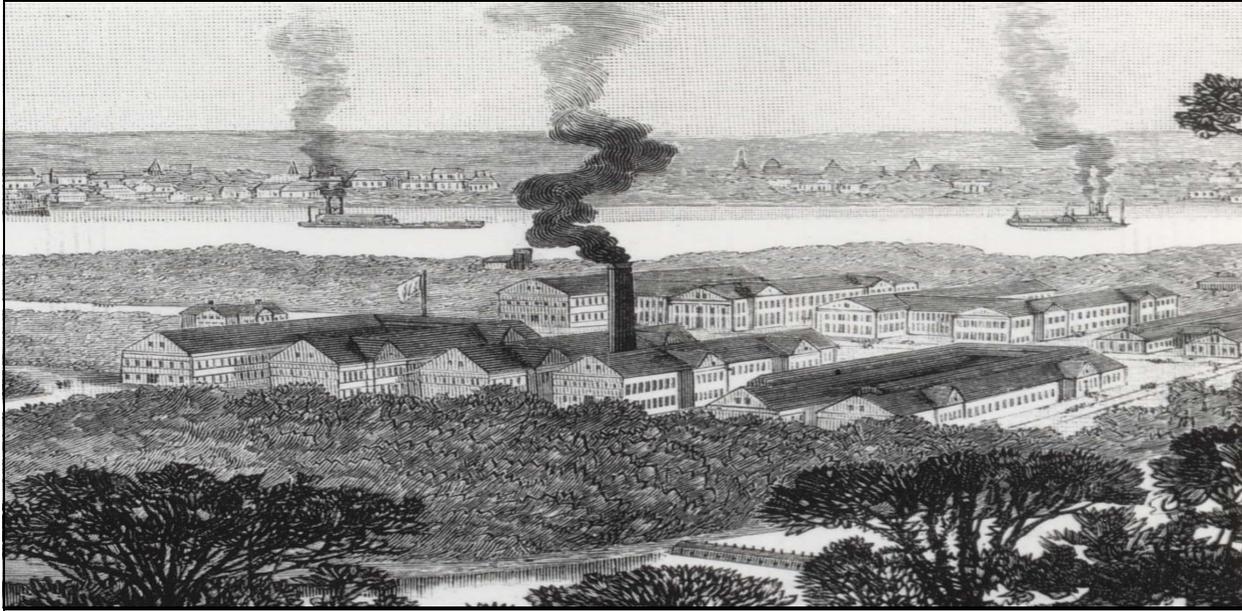
In response to the one-sided testimony taken by Gooch, a plethora of affidavits were sent to Washington attesting to the commanding officer's character and administrative ability.

The citizens of Watertown voted in their own town meetings to petition for Rodman's continuance in command and noted Rodman's :

integrity and uprightness, his loyalty and devotion to the government, his enthusiasm in the profession he pursues, his great business ability, his skill and accuracy as a mechanic, his energy and efficiency as a public officer, and his great industry and untiring devotion to his duties are characteristics that of the most influential citizens of the vicinity.³⁸

The Watertown residents expressed their strong support of Major Rodman and demanded that he receive a fair hearing. Little is known of the final charges against Rodman; however, in July 1865 after the hearings were complete, Rodman departed Watertown, Massachusetts to take command of and develop a new arsenal at Rock Island.

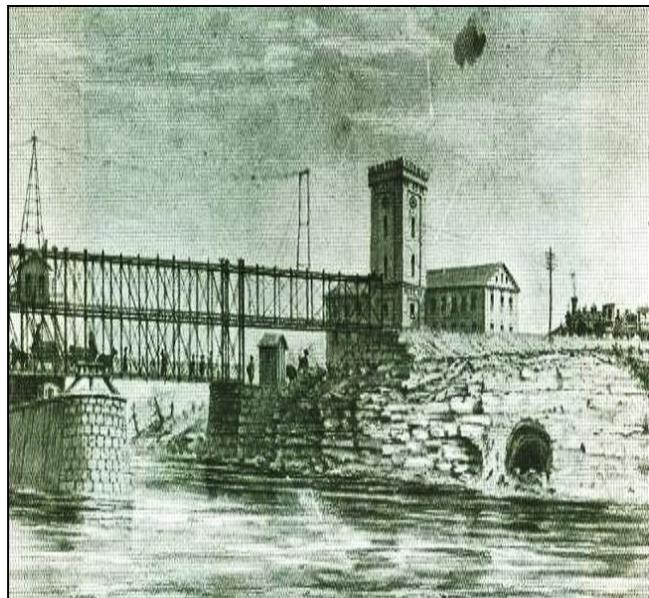
Brevet Brigadier General Rodman arrived at Rock Island on August 3, 1865 and immediately began examining the island to ascertain how best to develop an arsenal.³⁹ Rodman's "Brevet" status was an honorary promotion given to an officer (or occasionally, an enlisted man) in recognition of gallant conduct or meritorious service. The brevet title played much the same purpose that medals do today. Upon inspection, Rodman wrote back to the Chief of Ordnance about the need to expand the site's facilities and reserve the entire island for the express purpose of creating a national arsenal.⁴⁰ Rodman welcomed the opportunity to build a well-designed, National Arsenal at Rock Island. His plans called for the development of an arsenal larger in scale and scope than originally designed. Ten massive stone workshops formed the core of Rodman's vision for a national arsenal, which would become the administrative and technical center for the Island's activities. The War Department endorsed Rodman's concept of a large arsenal at Rock Island, which was centrally located and easily accessible by rail and river.⁴¹ Though not the first Commanding Officer, Thomas J. Rodman is today considered the "Father of the Rock Island Arsenal" for his critical role in the development of the Arsenal.



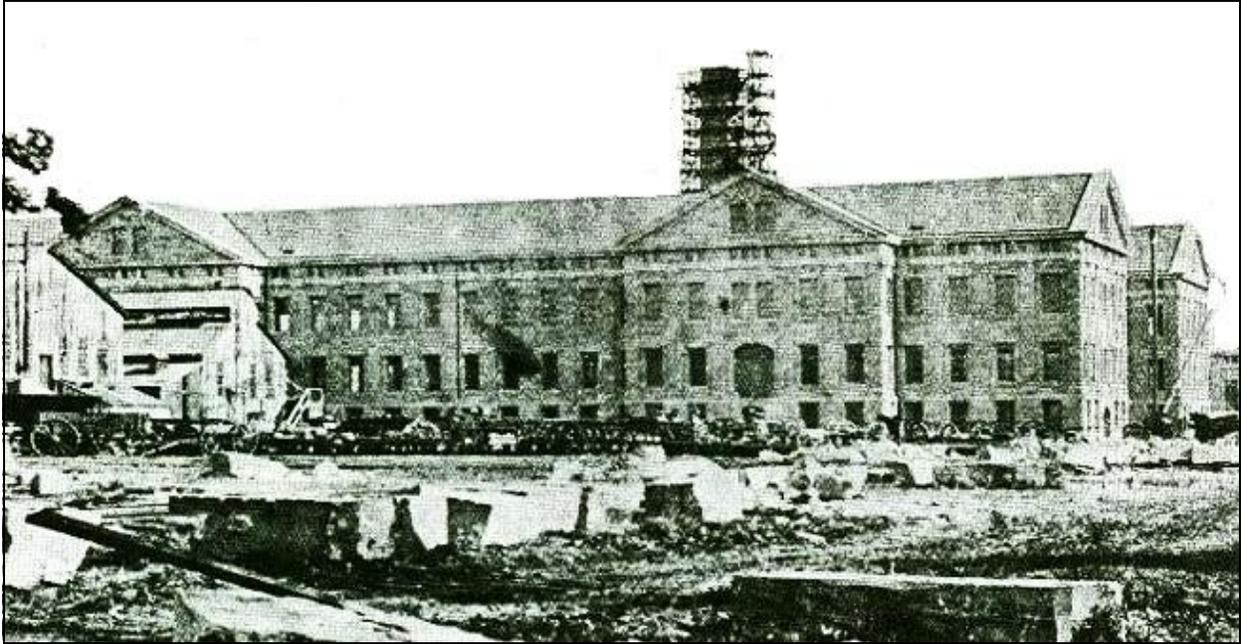
A sketch of the original 10 stone buildings (AMSAS-HI)

Soon after Rodman arrived, he negotiated an agreement to move the railroad bridge from the middle of the island to the far western end. The railroad company agreed to give up its old right-of-way across Rock Island in exchange for a new bridge, which was partly financed by the Government.⁴² The railroad tracks were relocated to allow the Army to fully develop the interior of Rock Island and become a national arsenal.

Construction of the first manufacturing shop buildings began in 1866 and continued until the last stone shop, Building 68, was completed in 1893. The primary Arsenal buildings, known as the stone shops, were located at the center of the island and were designed as grand, imposing structures with Greek Revival architectural features. Ten buildings, each U-shaped and covering an acre, were constructed.⁴³



Picture showing the new bridge and relocation of the railroad. The bridge was completed in 1872. (AMSAS-HI)



A rare 1872 view of Shop C (Building 104) near completion. Many of the supplies used to complete the stone shops were also used to construct Quarters One. (AMSAS-HI)

The buildings were placed in two rows of five buildings each separated by the main road. The five buildings on the southern side were designated the “Arsenal Row” and were to be for the manufacture and overhaul of general ordnance materiel, such as personal equipment for troops.⁴⁴ The five buildings on the northern side were designated the “Armory Row” for the manufacture and overhaul of small arms.⁴⁵

Rodman’s work to create a national arsenal was not the first time he exhibited his engineering genius. A brilliant graduate of the U.S. Military Academy Class of 1841, Rodman had investigated and developed several new ordnance concepts in the field of metallurgy and propellants. Most prominently, General Rodman developed the “Rodman Casting Process,” which revolutionized the art of casting canons.⁴⁶

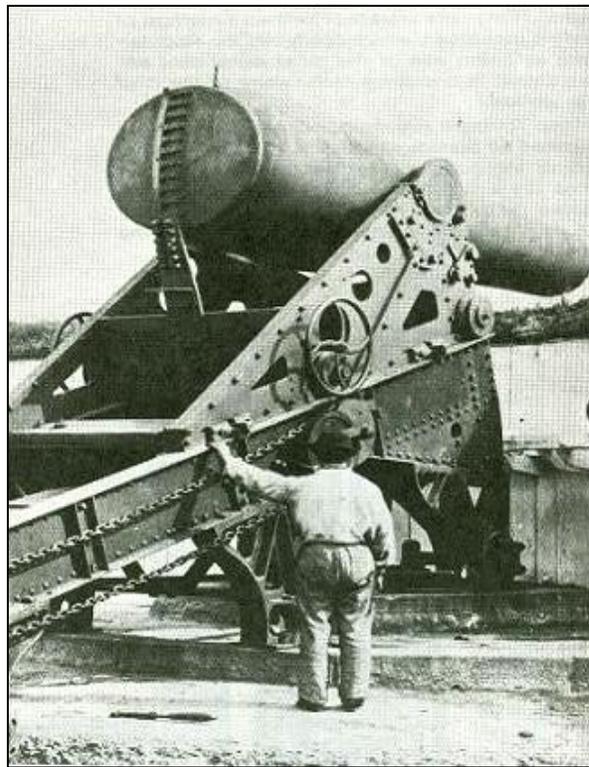
The new casting method cooled an iron gun from



A early portrait of Rodman (AMSAS-HI)

the interior, while keeping the exterior in a fluid state. The inner walls of the gun solidified first, causing successive layers of metal to shrink one upon another. The result was a stronger, safer cannon that was more reliable, and longer lasting than other guns of the era. The life of a gun was increased 11 to 20 times when cast by the Rodman process. The Army adopted the water cooled, hollow casting of cannons in the year 1859, 14 years after Rodman had conceived the process. The new “coke bottle” shape along with the new casting process made the Rodman gun a major technological improvement over past designs and placed the Rodman gun among the most significant weapons advancements of the Civil War.⁴⁷

As General Rodman worked to develop Rock Island into a national arsenal, he soon realized the need to construct officer’s quarters to house future commanders. At the time of Rodman’s arrival, no formal commanding officer’s quarters existed. In 1868 Rodman noted, “The Quarters now occupied by the Commanding Officer are of the most temporary kind.”⁴⁸ Personnel resided on Rock Island in makeshift homes, former POW camp quarters, or found housing in the surrounding cities. Rodman himself lived off the Island in a two story wood framed home on 8 1/2 street in the town of Rock Island. Realizing the need to construct new quarters on Rock Island to house commanding officers, provide sufficient lodging to guests, and support transient soldiers traveling throughout the area, Rodman immediately set about crafting plans to ensure the Arsenal would have appropriate quarters.



The Rodman Gun designed for seacoast protection. (AMSAS-HI)

On February 3, 1869 Rodman wrote to Colonel Treadwell of the Ordnance Bureau:

“I have the honor to enclose herewith drawings of permanent quarters for Commanding Officer at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. It is proposed to build these quarters of Joliet stone, on the exterior, the interior walls, and the lining of the exterior to be of brick. I have not had time to go into detailed estimate of the cost of these quarters, but am of the opinion that they will cost about \$50,000-fifty thousand dollars. It is proposed to commence these quarters the coming Spring, as by the time they can be completed and ready for occupancy the flooring of the temporary quarters will be so decayed as to require renewing to render them inhabitable. I therefore request that the drawings herewith submitted may be acted upon as soon as may be found convenient.”⁴⁹

Just over a month after Rodman submitted his letter and drawings, he received a response on March 24, 1869 stating that “the Secretary of War has approved the plans for Commanding Officers quarters. Authorizes their construction, and that the necessary measures may be taken for their erection as soon as practicable.”⁵⁰ With approval from Washington, Rodman immediately set out to begin construction on his masterpiece.

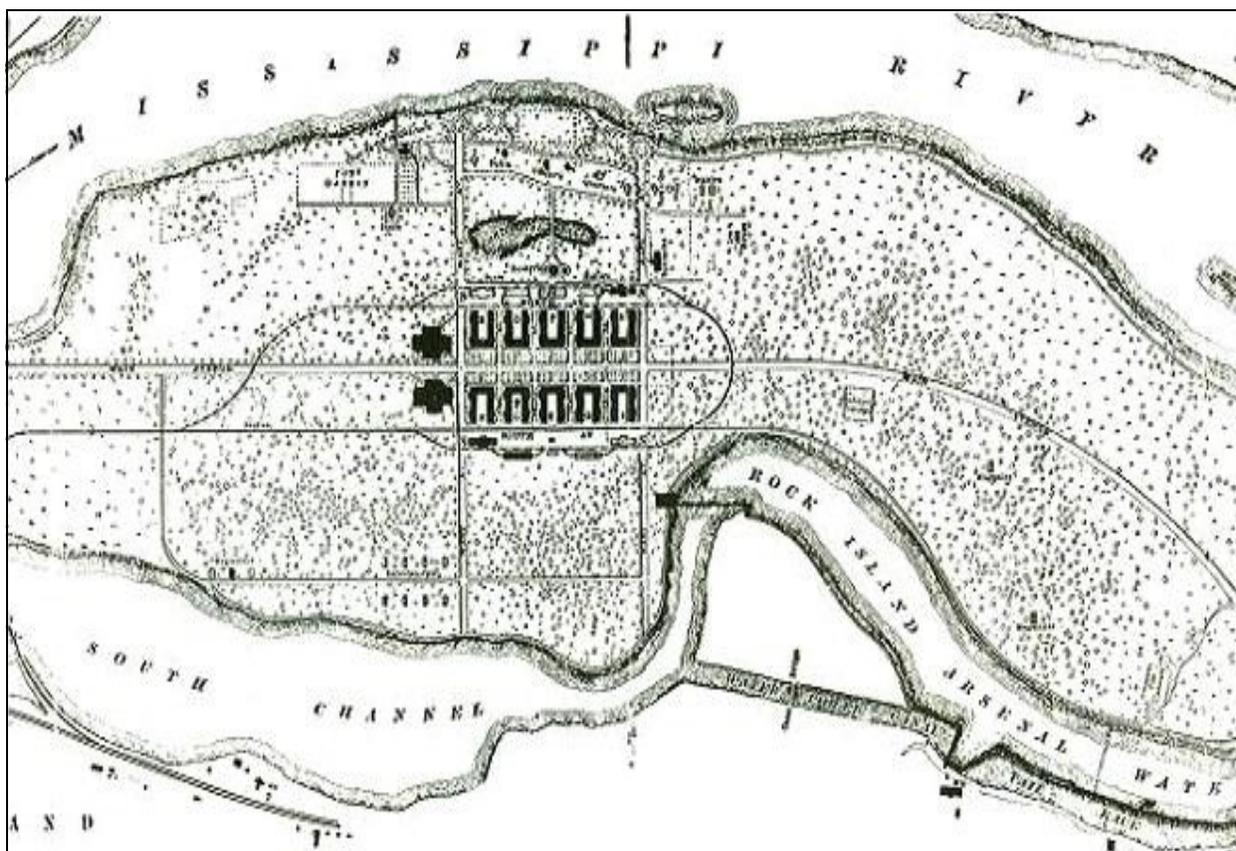
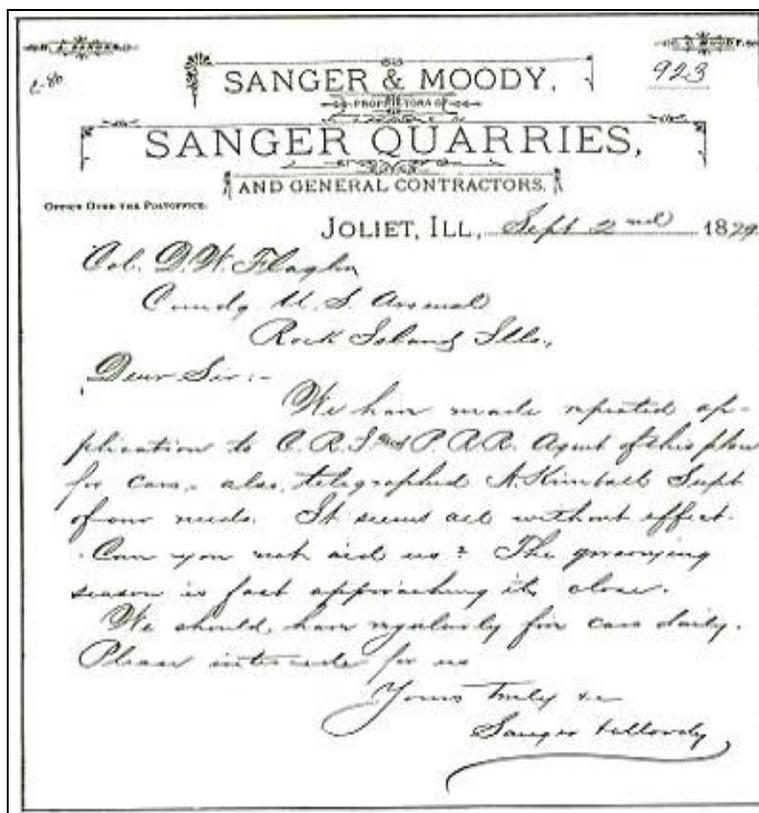


Diagram noting the location of the buildings which formed the 19th century Rock Island Arsenal. (AMSAS-HI)

Construction on Quarters One began in the Spring of 1870 with General Rodman supervising the excavation. Earlier in April 1867 while planning the construction of the main stone shops, General Rodman sent circular letters to multiple stone companies requesting the companies send specimens of their stone and “inviting them to furnish proposals to furnish 100,000 cubic feet of range work stone” for the outer facing of walls, door jambs, and window and door caps.⁵¹ On June 20, 1867, General Rodman offered an order to L.P. Sanger & Son (later named Sanger & Steele) for all of the stone needed for Shops B, C, and the Commanding Officers quarters.⁵² Sanger accepted the offer and agreed to provide the required stone at a rate of six dollars per cubic yard.⁵³ Sanger continued to provide the stone until September 1870 when Sanger refused to deliver further quantities of stone unless the Government pay forty-cents per cubic foot—a significant cost increase since the original 1867 agreement provided for payment by the yard.⁵⁴

Sanger’s demand for increased compensation did not fare well with General Rodman. Throughout the course of the contract, Sanger took other contracts and frequently diverted stone paid for by the Arsenal to more lucrative projects, thereby delaying the construction of Arsenal buildings and also breaching the terms of the contract with the Rock Island Arsenal.



Letter from Sanger to RIA Commander Colonel D.W. Flagler (AMSAS-HI)

The contractor had been delivering the stone to others that offered higher pay in a dispute to pressure the government to raise their agreed upon price for the stone.⁵⁵ Recognizing the significant problems posed by Sanger's intransigence, General Rodman stationed an Army officer at the quarries of Sanger to "look after the interests of the Government," and ensure the appropriate amount of stone was delivered to the Arsenal in a timely manner.⁵⁶

Even with an Army Officer stationed at Sanger's quarry, delays continued to plague the construction of Quarters One. As the summer months of 1870 had passed, the walls of the quarters had to be completed during the winter months. Fires, hot water, and salt were used to prepare the mortar. The walls were finished in the middle of January, 1871. Although originally estimated at \$50,000, construction cost increased because of these conditions.⁵⁷ After Sanger and Steel defaulted on their contract in August 1870, similar stone was purchased from Edwin Walker of Lamont, Illinois at an average price of 38 and a half cents per cubic foot.⁵⁸



One of the earliest group photos of Rock Island Arsenal Shop personnel. Many of the Arsenal craftsman would play an essential role in creating many of the furnishing's inside Quarters One. (AMSAS-HI)

Aiken and Company of Pittsburgh, PA was contracted to slate the roof of the quarters for \$15.25 per square.⁵⁹ Charles G. Hipwell, the company's foreman, supervised the work and after its completion remained at Rock Island. Day workmen were hired to complete the remainder of the construction. They were under the direct supervision of Lieutenant W.P. Butler, who was given the charge by Rodman to oversee the quarter's construction. Other Ordnance Officers stationed at the Arsenal also conducted the necessary engineering work, tests, experiments, and calculations required for the project. Mr. Channon, a civilian, served as the master carpenter.⁶⁰



The finished Rock Island Commanding Officer's residence, Quarters One. Structurally completed in in 1871, the final landscaping was installed in 1872. (AMSAS-HI)

By October 1871 the structure of Quarters One was complete, and during the spring of 1872 the final landscaping was finished, thereby ending formal construction of Quarters One—Rodman’s architectural and engineering masterpiece. Yet, something was missing from the cause to celebrate the completion of this marvelous project: Rodman himself. Known for his industrious work ethic and long hours toiling to ensure the Arsenal would become a jewel for the Army, General Thomas J. Rodman died at the age 55 on June 7, 1871—four months before Quarters One was completed.⁶¹ His funeral service was conducted inside the nearly completed officer’s quarters, marking the first public event inside the parlors of Quarters One.⁶² The funeral was conducted in an elaborate manner with an Army band leading the funeral cortege followed by a military escort. Rodman’s coffin “was placed upon a gun carriage drawn by four horses, led by the horse of the deceased General swathed in black, with the boots of the General placed reversed in the stirrups below.”⁶³ Rodman’s family and 145 carriages brought over



Monument marking Rodman’s grave adjacent to the National Cemetery at the far eastern edge of the island. Note the two Rodman-type guns protecting the site. (AMSAS-HI)

1080 mourners—many of whom had worked for Rodman—to the Rock Island Arsenal Cemetery where Rodman was laid to rest.⁶⁴ The funeral reflected not only Rodman’s stature within the military and the local community, but also the significance of the Rock Island Arsenal as a large public works project during the nineteenth century.

Following the death of General Rodman, Captain Daniel Flagler took command of the Arsenal and the enormous responsibility of finishing the grand plans for the stone workshops and Quarters One. Flagler finished Quarters One in 1872 and became the first commander to formally live in the magnificent residence.⁶⁵ The final cost of Quarters One is one of the greatest mysteries of the house. Forty-five thousand dollars were allocated in 1868 “for the materials and labor in the erection of one set of Quarters for the Commanding Officer.”⁶⁶ No comprehensive record exists detailing all of the costs associated with Quarters One as much of the construction costs and materials were included as part of the building of the stone workshops. Further, the use of Arsenal crafts-



Lieutenant Colonel Daniel W. Flagler succeeded Rodman as the Commander of the Rock Island Arsenal and was responsible for implementing Rodman’s conceptual plan for the Arsenal. Flagler served as the Arsenal Commander from 1871 to 1886. (AMSAS-HI)

men to build many furnishings within the house along with assisting with exterior construction served to obfuscate the total cost. Undoubtedly, due to construction delays and increases in the cost of procuring supplies, the final cost of Quarters One surely surpassed Rodman’s initial estimate of \$50,000—leaving a lasting testament to Rodman’s ingenuity and a monument of the Arsenal’s history in the Quad Cities.



Inside Rodman's Masterpiece

Walking up the driveway to Quarters One, the size and grandeur of the residence immediately captures the attention of all visitors. An iron fence made on the Arsenal encloses the grounds surrounding the Quarters with twin eagles perched at the entrance to the driveway. Situated in the north-central shore of Rock Island, on the Davenport side of the river, Quarters One is a massive, 20,000 square foot, lavishly detailed building representing the largest single residence held by the Army and the second largest government residence, next to the White House.⁶⁷

The quality and type of construction employed in building Quarters One is architecturally compatible to the design of the stone shops that align armory and arsenal row. Quarters 1 is designed in an Italianate villa style and is a massive L-shaped building consisting of a main block, a west wing, and an observation tower that rises from the east side of the main block. The residence boasts fifty-one rooms, including closets, with twenty-two rooms considered spacious enough to house occupants. The building's foundation is constructed of two foot thick limestone masonry, its exterior walls are of Joliet limestone, and the interior load-bearing walls are of plastered brick masonry.⁶⁸ The large piazzas or porches that wrap around the east and north sides are girded with RIA forged iron grillwork. Much of the forged iron was recycled from captured Confederate munitions and material from the Civil War.⁶⁹ The three story structure has a hipped roof with a flat upper deck containing skylights and a tall square observation tower reaching four and a half stories.

Upon arriving at the foot of the steps to the main entryway of the house, the visitor is greeted by a large, double-leaf doorway. The double-leaf doorway possesses two dog-face door knobs along with ornately crafted door hinges. Many of the brass door hinges and door

knobs found throughout the house were made from leftover Civil War ammunition stored at the Rock Island Arsenal. Entering through the main doorway reveals polychromatic floors made of inlaid oak and walnut along with ceilings 16 feet tall. The arched doorways were originally walnut in color, but were painted in the early 1970's to brighten the area and avoid the high cost of maintaining the wood.⁷⁰ The interior of Quarters One is accented by plaster cornice molding and ceiling medallions, inlaid hardwood floors, white Italian marble mantels, walnut wainscoting, close walnut banister, and



Double-leaf doors at entryway (AMSAS-HI)

numerous items of furniture that were manufactured at the RIA. Much of the furnishings throughout the house were built by Arsenal craftsmen, thereby creating the name of "built in" bookshelves, hat racks, and display cases. These items were built at a time of great construction at the Arsenal and reduced the costs for the extravagant house.



The dog-face design on the door knob at the front entryway. (AMSAS-HI)

Just off of the main entryway resides the front and back parlors where Rodman's visitation was held. Pocket doors separate the two parlors and were used to separate the men and women during social functions in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Each parlor possesses a beautiful fireplace made of Italian marble, specifically ordered by Major Flagler following the death of General Rodman.⁷¹ There are ten fireplaces throughout the house—four on the first floor and six on the second. The fireplaces on the first floor, with the exception of the dining room, are wood burning while those on the second are coal burning. The parlors also contain a small alcove used for reading and to allow natural light to enter the residence. When the house was originally constructed, gasoliers and other gas lighting fixtures were used to illuminate the house. However, recognizing the pollution effects caused by the gas lighting and the superior illumination abilities of the sun, natural light is used throughout the house with an abundance of exterior and interior windows.



A view of the 2nd Parlor looking out into the main hallway (HABS Collection)

Walking out of the parlors and into the main hall, the visitor can truly take in the grandeur of the home. The main hall is thirty-one feet long and often served as the center of numerous holiday parties at Quarters One.⁷² From the main hall, the visitor can enter the den used by commanding officers. The den possesses dark wooden bookshelves constructed by Arsenal craftsmen and has a very warm feel with a brick fireplace, great views of the Mississippi River, plaster medallions, and a beautiful Secretary desk. The den has often served as a library, office, and family room for several commanding officers. From the den, the dining room is just steps away.



Above: The Central Hallway spanning 31 feet. (HABS Collection)

Below: The den serving as a quiet resting area for the commanding officer. (HABS Collection)



The dining room featured a massive walnut dining table able to seat between twelve to fifteen guests and was built by Arsenal craftsmen in 1878.⁷³ A large Italian marble fireplace sits at the head of the room and was one of the few fireplaces in the house that was coal burning, rather than wood.⁷⁴ The room also boasted other walnut dining furniture, including a beautiful buffet with carved woodworking portraying fish and game. Due to the large size of the walnut dining table, commanding officers also enjoyed a smaller table able to seat four in the alcove overlooking the river. The smaller table in the alcove not only enabled residents to enjoy the majestic views of the river, but also enjoy a more intimate setting with their family to enjoy meals, rather than sitting at the large walnut dining table. The dining room also features wooden shutters seen in other rooms throughout the house. These shutters served dual purposes to both retain heat within the house during winter months, while also serving as a shade from the sun during the summer. As

guests move towards the kitchen and pantry, many will also notice the large china cabinet that resides within a door frame. Additionally, a brass door handle still exists on the doorframe leading into the kitchen. The china cabinet and the door handle both demonstrate the reluctance to demolish existing door frames due to



The buffet featuring carved woodworking of fish and other game. (AMSAS-HI)



Above: Main dining table used by the commanding officer to host guests. Notice also the China cabinet built into an existing doorframe near the Italian marble fireplace. (HABS Collection)



Left: Smaller table used by the Commanding Officer to enjoy meals in a more intimate setting accompanied by majestic views of the Mississippi River. (HABS Collection)

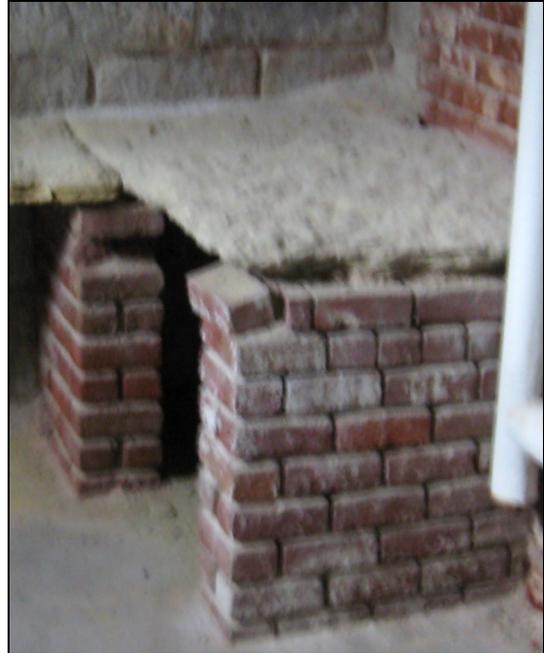
the solid structure of the house and the desire to retain the quarters original condition.

A swinging leather door separates the kitchen from the dining room. The leather door was made by Arsenal craftsmen at the leatherworks shop and still bears the handprints of decades of use and wear.⁷⁵ The original kitchen for Quarters One existed in the basement of the house where staff utilized large kilns and limestone counters to prepare food for the commanding officer's family and guests. The old butlery in the basement has limestone counters for rolling dough, special ovens for baking bread, and niches for butter churns. Food prepared in the basement would then be shipped up to the kitchen on the first floor through the use of a dumb waiter and then served in the dining room.

The 1st floor kitchen also possesses a call bell system that was installed in 1872.⁷⁶ With the construction of the house, a system was needed to allow guests or residents to call for assistance from the servants. However, in 1870 when the house was constructed, phones did not yet exist. Therefore, a call bell system was installed in order to communicate throughout the house.



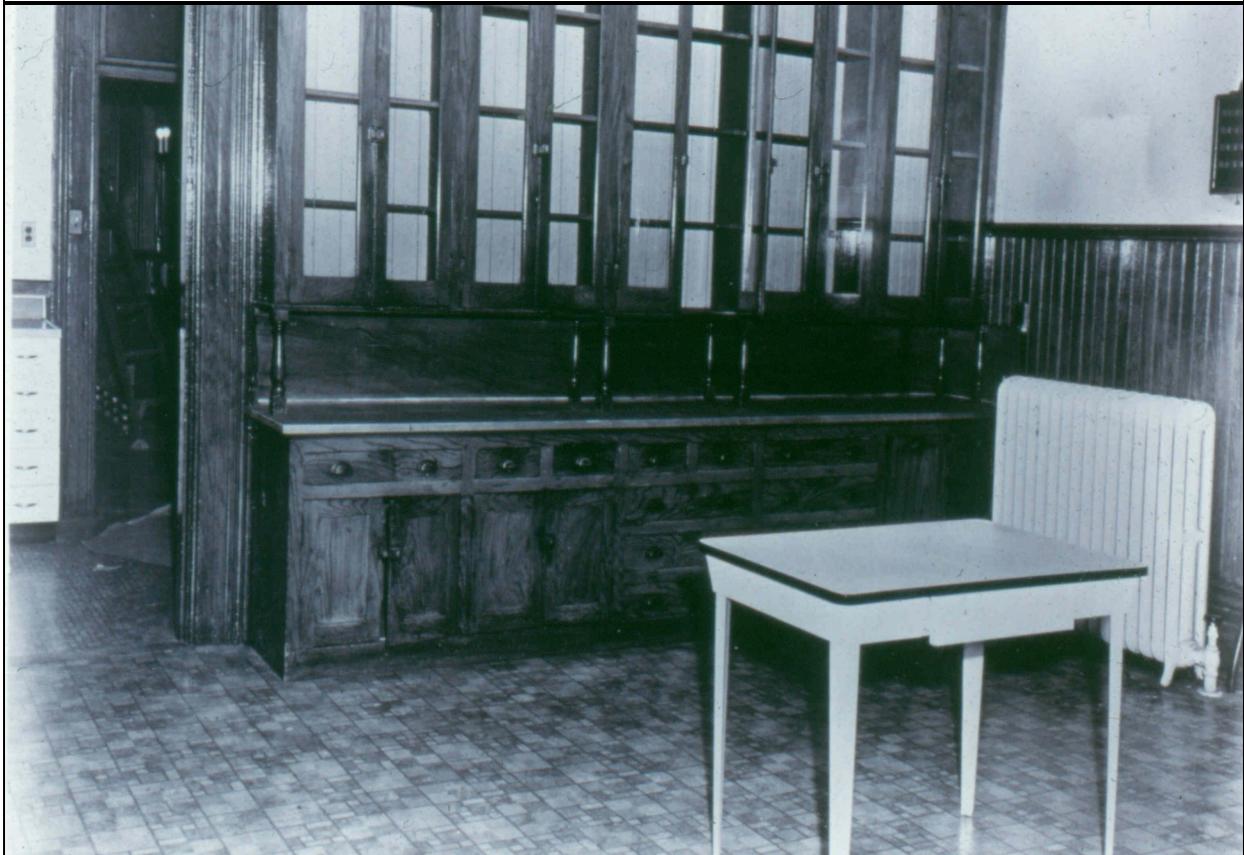
The leather door , made by Arsenal Craftsmen, separating the kitchen and dining room. (AMSAS-HI)



Above Left: The limestone counters used to prepare food in the basement. (AMSAS-HI)

Above Right: A kiln in the basement. (AMSAS-HI)

Below: A picture from 1953 of the kitchen on the first floor, just off of the dining room. Note the large cabinet structure, which currently sits in the basement of Quarters One. (HABS Collection)



The system survives intact with call buttons located in the southwest parlor, the library, the dining room floor, the southeast and northeast second floor bedrooms, the northeast third-floor bedroom and the third floor main hall. Each room in the house was allocated a number, which can be found underneath many of the room door handles. The number then corresponds to the call box system once a buzzer has been pushed, thereby allowing servants to respond to the appropriate room of the house. With the absence of electricity, it is not entirely known



how the call bell system would have operated. However, it is believed a charger-plunger system utilized a static electric charge in order to send communications throughout the house.⁷⁷ Six telephones were put into the house at the beginning of the twentieth century with the ability to make calls only within the house.

A service hallway is next to the kitchen and leads to the patio on the west side of the house. The ceilings in the service hallway drop to eleven feet and the floor changes to a maple wood. The service hallway symbolizes the division of the house into two portions: the social and family quarters and the section of the house used by staff to assist the family. From the service hallway, visitors may also notice strange markings on the exterior of Quarters One near the second floor windows. These markings are the remnants of a conservatory that used to sit on

the rear patio. Sometime after its completion, a glass-enclosed conservatory was added to the southwest corner of the first floor. However, in 1972 it was razed.⁷⁸ The cost of repairing it to its original conditions was considered too expensive. In the early 1900's, the conservatory required significant heating in order to allow the plants to develop throughout the year. In order to heat the conservatory, old rifle stocks were burned, including the prized 1903 Springfield rifle stock that was manufactured at the Arsenal.



The service stairway near the kitchen (HABS Collection)



The Conservatory that used to exist on the rear patio of Quarters One. (HABS Collection)



Inside the Conservatory (AMSAS-HI)

The second floor corresponds closely with the first floor plan. The central hall has an open well in its center with five rooms surrounding the open well. Four of the rooms served as bedrooms for the commanding officer's family as well as distinguished visitors. 2 bedrooms are directly above the library on the first floor and share a bathroom, while another set of bedrooms are directly above the parlors, also sharing a bathroom. A sewing room resides in part of the tower, filled with windows to allow natural light to enter the room throughout the day. The Commanding Officer's bedroom offers a great view of the Mississippi River, the city of Davenport, and the large trees in the yard of Quarters One. The trees often have numerous bald eagles perched on their branches during winter.

Directly across from the Commanding Officer's room is the Lindbergh Room, so named for aviator Charles Lindbergh who stayed in the room while visiting the area in 1927.⁷⁸ Rumors abound about Charles Lindbergh having an uncomfortable stay in the guest bedroom while lodged at Quarters One. The bed in the guest room was quite small for a man over six feet tall, leading many to speculate that he must have had a terrible night of sleep in such a



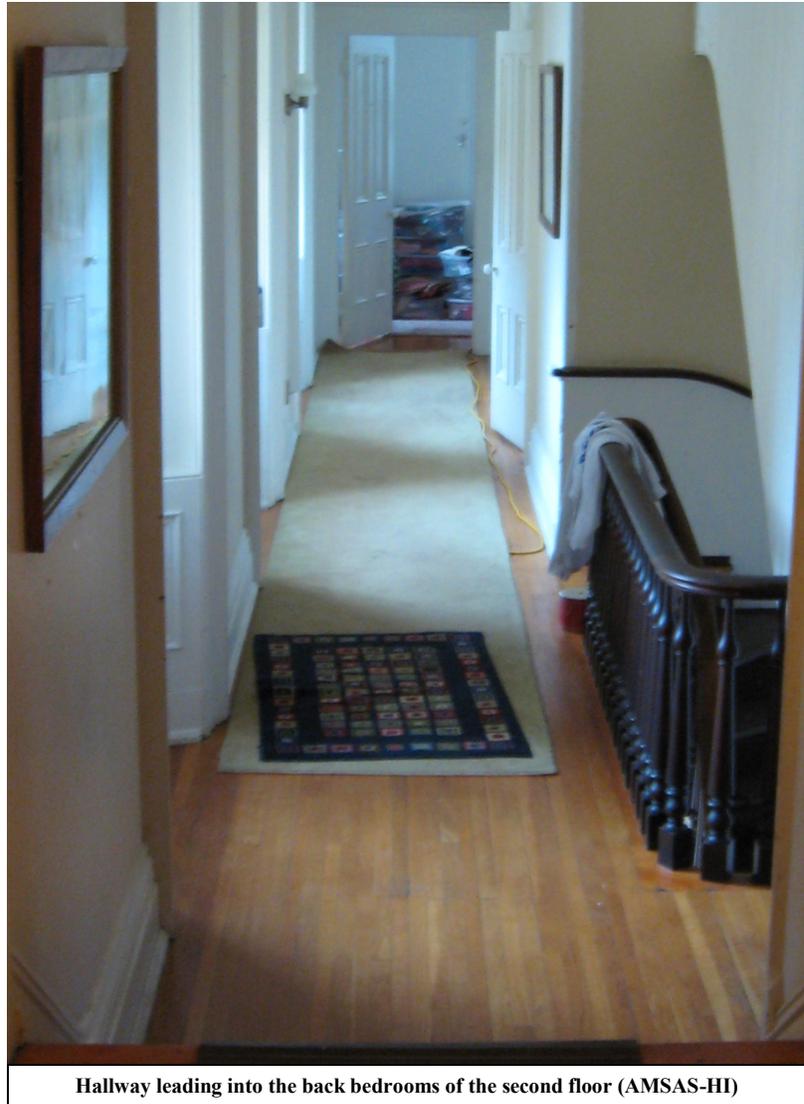
The open well central hall on the second floor. Directly forward is the Sewing room, with guest bedrooms on the left and right. (HABS)

small bed.⁷⁹ The bathroom in the Lindbergh room initially served as a storage room. However, as a greater number of dignitaries came to visit the house, the storage room was remodeled to serve as a private bathroom for distinguished guests. A large bureau now blocks a door once accessing the bathroom the hallway.



The Lindbergh guest bedroom, featuring the bed Lindbergh slept in. (HABS Collection)

Moving towards the rear of the house, a small 3 step staircase once again symbolizes the separation between the family quarters and the section dedicated for staff. Walking down this small set of stairs, a bathroom and bedroom are immediately revealed. This room served as the bedroom for the butler. The room possesses a telephone as well as a speaking tube leading down into the kitchen. Adjacent to the butler's room is another bedroom also used by the commanding officer's staff. In



Hallway leading into the back bedrooms of the second floor (AMSAS-HI)

1871, a commanding officer would enjoy the assistance of a large coterie of 10-12 staff aide's and servants who would fix meals, clean, and provide a wide range of services for the commanding officer. With the exception of the butler, all of the staff assisting the Commanding Officer in Quarters One would live off-island in the local communities. The commanding officer's staff began to shrink following the decline of military spending after World War I and continued to recede throughout the twentieth century, particularly following the Great Crash of 1928. Currently, the Commanding Officer enjoys the assistance of one enlisted aide.

The third floor again corresponds with the design of the second floor and boasts ten rooms. The central hall has an open well in the center that is covered with a plexiglass pane. It is unknown when the plexiglass pane was put in, however, it's purpose was to conserve heat on the first and second floors. At the east end of the third floor is a horseshoe stairway leading up to the third floor of the tower, located above the second floor sewing room. A small hall closet exists directly beneath the horseshoe stairway. The tower



The open well of the third floor. Straight ahead is the horseshoe stairway leading up to the tower landing. Also, notice the glass plating to conserve heat. (HABS Collection)

room contains a stair leading up to the fourth floor and subsequently provides access to the roof of the tower. Rooms containing four to six beds per room are located throughout the third floor. These rooms would have originally accommodated transient soldiers moving westward to various forts and military installations, hosted guests of the commanding officer, and served as lodging for families of military officers and distinguished travelers. Currently, many of the rooms on the third floor show great wear with paint peeling and cracks appearing throughout much of the plaster. It is unclear when the third floor stopped hosting guests. Few command-



A view of Davenport from the roof of the Tower (AMSAS-HI)

ing officers since the 1970's report utilizing the third floor for any purpose other than ascending the tower for great panoramic views of the Quad Cities.⁸⁰

The house contains two main staircases, one in the main entryway and another directly to the side of the kitchen. The primary staircase is U shaped with semi-circle ends containing intermediate landings running from the first to the third floor. Portraits of all of the past commanders who lived in Quarters One line the stairway. The stair is open in the center and is walnut with molded railing.



The 4 1/2 story tower of Quarters One (AMSAS-HI)

At the base of the staircase, a rare, cast-metal statue of an armored soldier holding a torch stands. The torch was originally a gas light but was later converted to electricity.⁸¹ Many believe the face of the cast-metal statue is that of General Rodman due to the statue's distinct nose and beard.

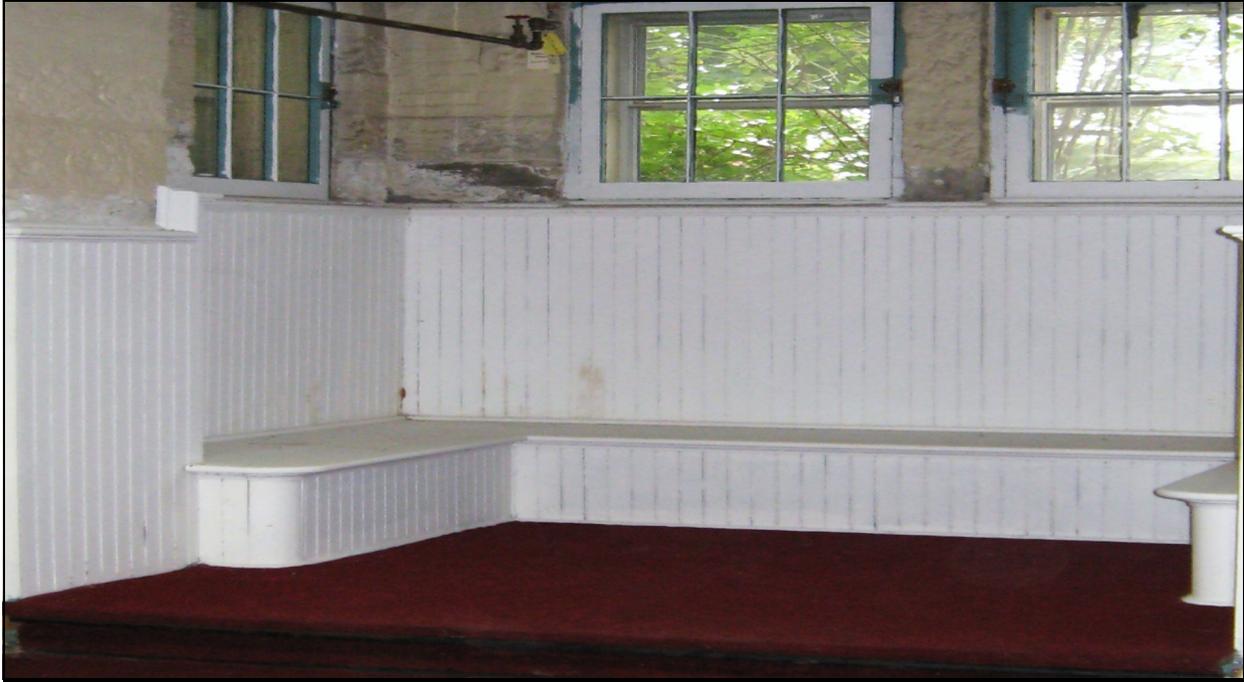
Quarters One possesses plumbing original to the house. Of the original plumbing fixtures, only the marble sinks in the northwest bedroom closet of the second floor and in the north and south bathrooms of the third floor remain.⁸² An old, but not original



The primary staircase in the central hall of Quarters One with portraits of past commanders. The cast-metal statue may show Rodman's face. (AMSAS-HI)

raised toilet sits down in the basement near where the food was cooked in the basement kilns. The toilet is raised two steps above the basement floor and is set inside a vertical stall. The original wood water tank, which was filled from rainwater collected from the roof, survives in the attic, but is no longer in service.⁸³ All of the other plumbing and bathroom appliances are modern.

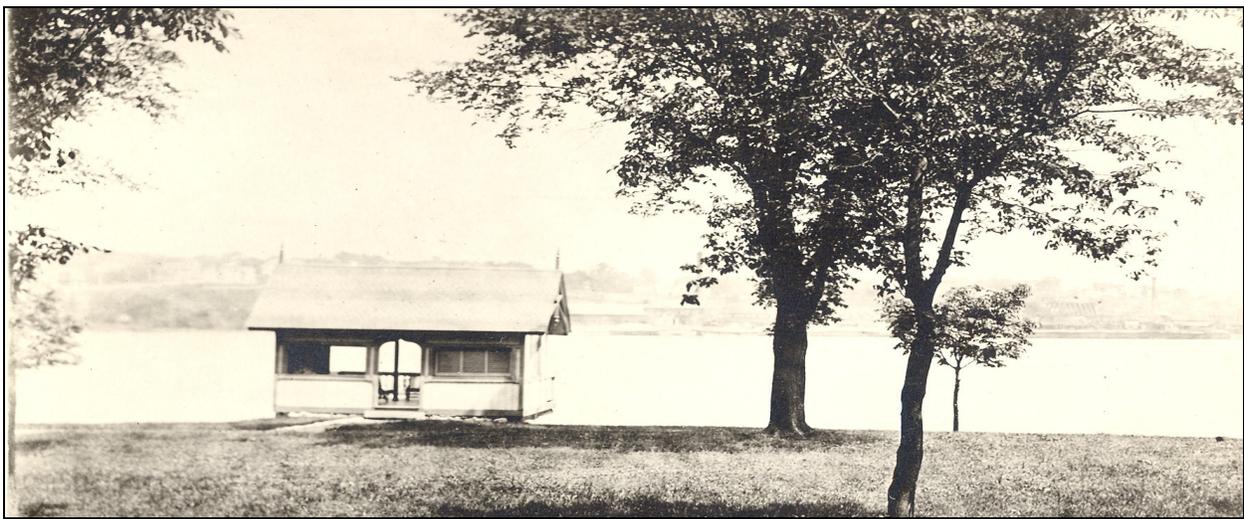
The basement contains 16 rooms, mostly used for storage. One of the rooms in the basement was also used as a courtroom for military tribunals.⁸⁴ A hallway runs beneath the rear patio, which allowed tribunals to occur within the basement without disturbing the commanding officer and their family. The basement also held the original forced air heating system.⁸⁵ Cast-iron heating grates exist in the baseboard of all primary rooms. Steam heated radiators were



The Courtroom located in the basement

later installed to heat the house.

Quarters One stands virtually as it did in 1871. However, the grounds of Quarters One have changed dramatically since 1872. A summer house sat on the bank of the Mississippi River soon after the construction of Quarters One and extended over the water. In 1871, the water level of the Mississippi River was fifteen feet lower as the Lock and Dam system to raise the water level and increase commercial navigability of the river was not installed until 1933.



The original summerhouse on the banks of the Mississippi (AMSAS-HI)



The Japanese style teahouse and formal gardens that once marked the grounds of Quarters One (AMSAS-HI)

Remodeling and landscaping after 1898 saw the summerhouse converted and expanded into a Japanese style tea house.⁸⁶ The tea house rested close to the river, and served as a focal point for social functions as well as a beautiful resting place for the commanding officer. The tea house and its beauty unfortunately would not last forever. Following a period of austere Army



Inside the Japanese Style Teahouse (AMSAS-HI)



Picture of the formal gardens that graced the property of Quarters One in the early 1920's. The formal gardens are gone today, with only outlines of the walkways showing where the majestic gardens once stood. (AMSAS-HI)

budgets after World War I that precluded routine maintenance for the tea house along with harsh winters, the tea house was removed in 1927 due to the deterioration of the abutments under the tea house.⁸⁷

A fountain also sits on the south side of Quarters One. The fountain was renovated in 1997 as for twenty years prior it had been inoperable.⁸⁸ Currently, the fountain is not in use due to the absence of residents at Quarters One and the lack of funds required for maintenance.



The fountain on the South Side of Quarters One (AMSAS-HI)

Commanders who lived in Quarters One often performed maintenance on the house with their own money and time. Many commanders would frequently paint or redesign interior rooms, conduct grounds maintenance and even remodeled the bathrooms. By 2001 Congress set an expenditure limit of \$25,000 for Quarters One, to include utilities, furnishings maintenance and repair.⁸⁹ This limit was set in large part to ensure Quarters One did not disproportionately consume the housing allowance provided to the Rock Island Arsenal due to the deteriorating condition of the Quarters.

The deteriorating condition of Quarters One led to the closure of the home for Commanding Officers in 2008. Army Sustainment Commander Major General Robert Radin was the last commander to reside in the home. Structurally, Quarters One is in good condition. Much of the architectural fabric remains intact and is in need of only routine maintenance. However, due to the massive size of Quarters One and its historic nature, maintenance and preservation of the home is difficult, especially in times of limited funding.

General Rodman's design of the ten stone manufacturing workshops and the officer's quarters at the Rock Island Arsenal provided the main justification for the Arsenal to receive a listing on the National Register of Historic Places. On September 30, 1969 the Arsenal was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Later, in June 1988 the Rock Island Arsenal was as a National Historic Landmark. These historical programs allowed Quarters One to be examined and documented in great detail as part of the National Park Service's Historic American Buildings Survey, leaving a lasting historical tribute and honor to a house and installation that has endured as a great monument to the American experience.

Distinguished Visitors to Quarters One

One of the ways Rodman justified the grand scale of Quarters One was to serve as a guesthouse for prominent visitors. The first documented distinguished visitor to utilize Quarters One was the Chief of Ordnance, Brigadier General S.V. Benet, who arrived in May 1875 and spent six days at Quarters One while inspecting the Arsenal.⁹⁰

General William T. Sherman and Secretary of War J. Donald Cameron visited the Rock Island Arsenal on October 6, 1876. Colonel Flagler, Commander of Rock Island Arsenal, was still supervising the construction of the manufacturing workshops upon their arrival. General Sherman and Secretary Cameron entertained visitors from the local community on October 7, 1876. The visit appeared in the local papers when Flagler took the distinguished visitors on a tour of the island. Flagler, Sherman, Cameron, Sherman's son, and S.M. Cullom, the Republican candidate for Illinois governor, rode in an open three seat wagon under the control of Flagler's driver. Additional wagons with the distinguished gentlemen's wives and staff followed.⁹¹

As the party departed General Rodman's grave, one of the horses pulling the lead wagon grabbed the reigns with its tail, pulling the reigns from the grasp of Flagler's driver. When the driver tried to grab the reigns, the horse kicked him in the face, leaving him bloodied and stunned. Flagler immediately leapt from the wagon in an effort to grab the horses and stop them. He sprained his ankle in the jump, leaving him unable to reach the horses' heads. His injuries confined him to bed rest for the following week. General Sherman and Secretary Cameron leapt from the wagon. Cameron's exit from the wagon was described as exceptionally acrobatic. Sherman and Cameron both landed dusty and shaken but otherwise unharmed. Cullom began to exit the vehicle on the right side, but the horses picked up speed and trees lining the drive convinced him to exit the wagon on the left. He leapt from the wagon and fell spread eagle on the gravel road, sustaining minor cuts and bruises. The younger Sherman sat in his middle seat until the wagon struck a tree. He was ejected from the wagon and landed on the grass without injury. Sherman's doctor, following in a separate wagon, immediately inspected each of

the ejected passengers and treated the minor injuries they sustained. The report stated the distinguished party took the incident in good humor and the lack of serious injury caused the accident to be the source of much amusement and laughter for everyone involved as well as those observing the incident in the following wagons.⁹²

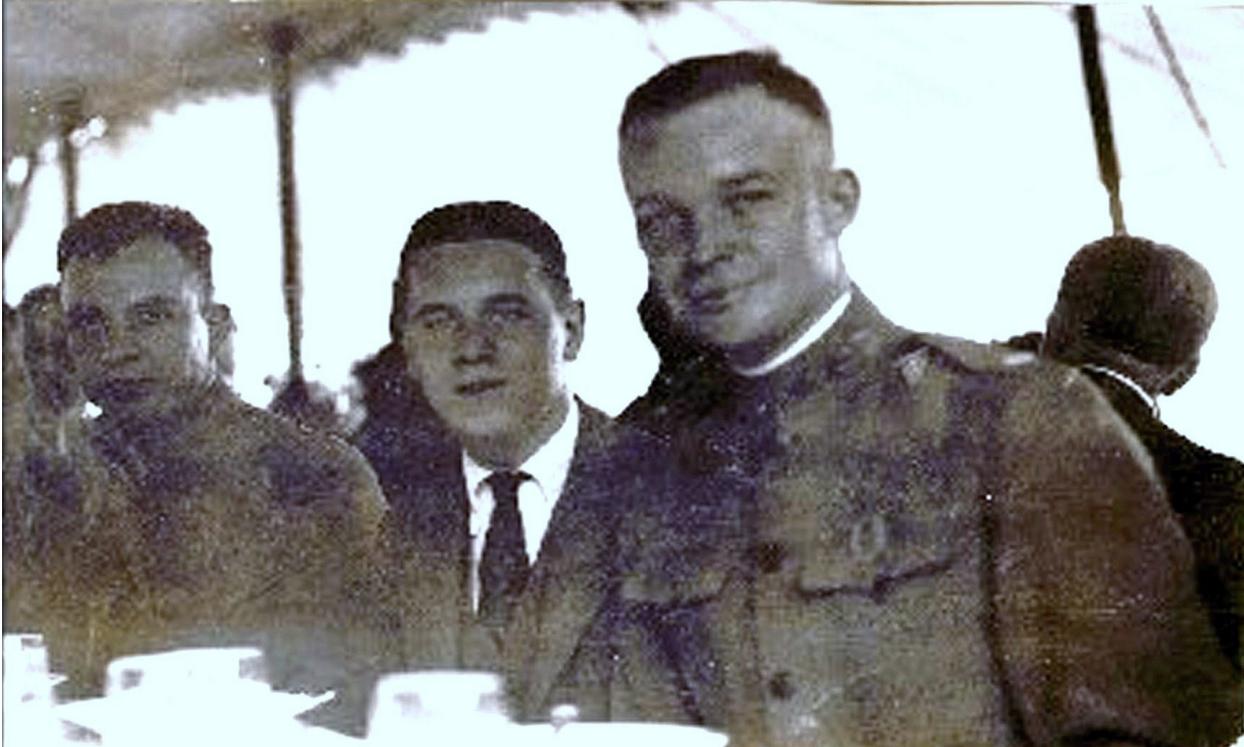
Secretary of War Alexander Ramsey arrived at the Rock Island Arsenal in July 1880. After touring the Arsenal's facilities and points of interest in Rock Island and Moline, Secretary Ramsey hosted an informal reception. Mayor Carse of Rock Island presented Secretary Ramsey with the freedom of the city during his visit.⁹³

General Philip Sheridan, commanding General of the Department of Missouri, visited Rock Island Arsenal in January 1883. At the end of January, in Chicago, Illinois, Sheridan received official recognition and gratitude from the legislature of Illinois for his report on Yellowstone. The state legislature especially approved of Sheridan's views on preventing private interests from stripping the area of its natural resources. Rock Island Arsenal served as Sheridan's primary source of supplies, munitions and leather goods during his campaign against Native Americans in the Great Plains.⁹⁴

Secretary of War William C. Encott toured the Rock Island Arsenal on May 15, 1885. His visit began with breakfast at Quarters One hosted by Colonel Flagler. After a four-hour tour of the Arsenal's workshops and grounds, the party returned to Quarters One for a reception attended by dignitaries and members of the press from the Tri-Cities area.⁹⁵

Secretary of War William Howard Taft spent the last half of 1908 campaigning for the presidential election. During his crisscross travels through the Midwest, he stayed in Quarters One. Taft appeared to have used his stay at Quarters One as a brief sojourn from the rigors of the campaign trail. He did not take to the stump in the area during his visit, but probably enjoyed a round of golf.⁹⁶

Lieutenant Colonel Dwight D. Eisenhower stopped at Rock Island Arsenal in November 1919. The future General and President used the Arsenal's facilities to draft and send his report to the Chief of Motor Transport Corps while returning from the first transcontinental Motor



From left to right: Maj. Sereno Brett, Harvey Firestone, and Lt. Col. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Taken at a lunch hosted by the Firestone family for Army convoy. (AMSAS-HI)

Truck Trip. The trip began with eighty-one Army trucks leaving Washington D.C. It ended sixty-two days, 230 recorded breakdowns and 3,251 miles later in San Francisco, California.⁹⁷

General of the Army John J. Pershing visited the Arsenal on January 6, 1920. He arrived by train early in the morning and was greeted by Col. H.B. Jordan. Pershing spent the morning touring the facilities at Rock Island Arsenal before attending a luncheon hosted by the Rock Island Rotarians. That afternoon they visited Augustana College before returning to the Arsenal.



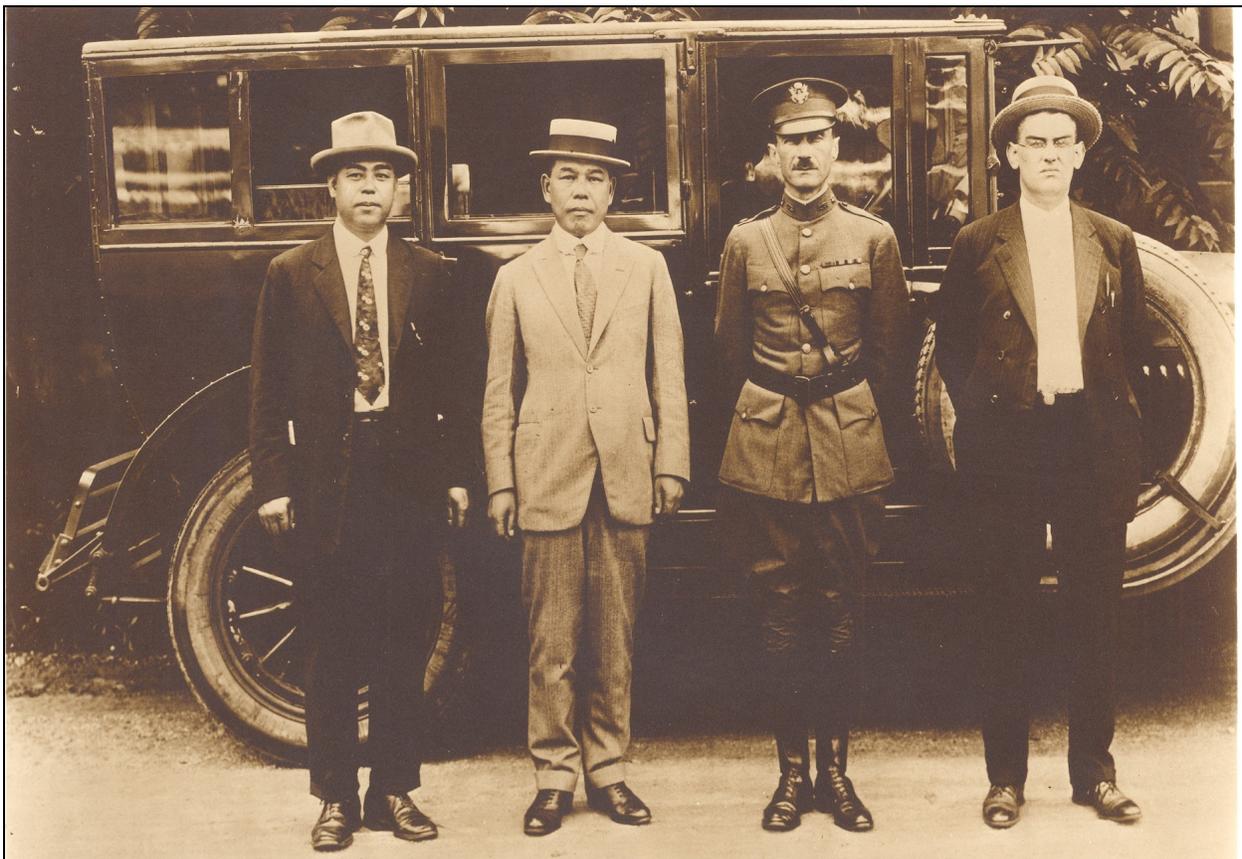
Again the Packard 1 1/2 ton

Packard 1 1/2 ton truck in convoy (AMSAS-HI)

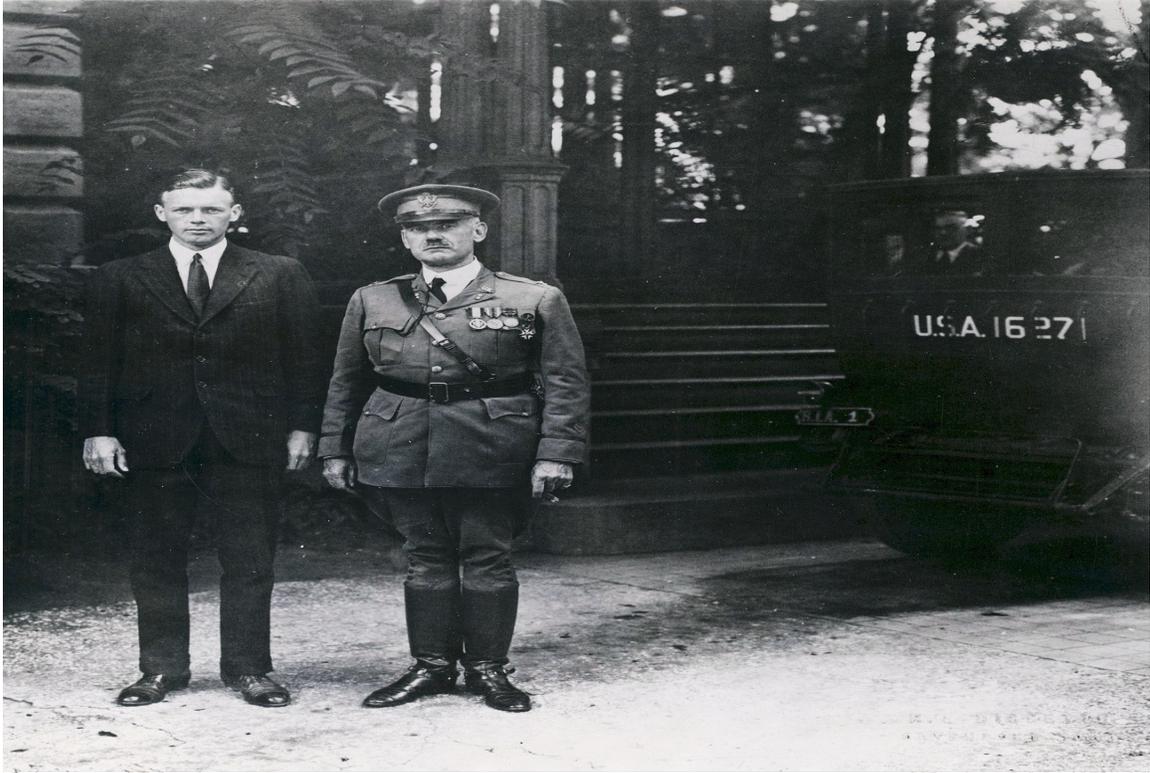
General Pershing and Colonel Jordan traveled in an open top car for the duration of General Pershing's visit. General Pershing is quoted as saying, "If these people can withstand the cold to stand out here to see me, then I can ride in an open car to be seen."⁹⁸ General Pershing was hosted to a dinner at the Black Hawk. Reservations for the event sold out long before the General's arrival.

In 1924, the Japanese Military Mission under Lieutenant General Kameji Wada arrived in the United States from Europe aboard the Atlantic Transport Line's S.S. Minnetonka. The mission visited the United States after completing its tours of Asia and Europe and was traversing the United States to the west coast to return to Japan. Major General N. Kurosaki and Captain Teiji Imamura, members of the mission, visited Rock Island Arsenal in August 1924.⁹⁹

One of the best known visitors to Quarters One was Charles Lindberg. Lindbergh landed at Franing Field, the Moline airport, on August 19, 1927, after a three hour and thirty



Left to right: Capt. Teiji Imamura, Maj. Gen. N. Kurosaki, Maj. G.H. Stewart, Chauffeur Spinsby (AMSAS-HI)



Charles Lindbergh and Col. D.M. King in front of Quarters One (AMSAS-HI)

minute flight from St. Joseph, Missouri. His visit coincided with the end of the Mississippi Valley Fair. An estimated 10,000 Tri-City citizens were on hand to greet the famed aviator.¹⁰⁰

Colonel David King, Commander of Rock Island Arsenal, was a member of the welcoming committee and the first to greet Lindbergh as he deplaned from the “Spirit of St. Louis.” Colonel King accompanied Lindbergh on a twenty-car parade through the Tri-Cities of Moline, Rock Island, and Davenport. The parades maintained a speed of sixteen to eighteen miles per hour to prevent enthusiastic spectators from attempting to board Lindbergh’s vehicle. Colonel King averted a dispute between the Tri-Cities’ mayors by inviting Lindbergh to spend the night in Quarters One. This accommodation mollified the mayors and diffused any potential for resentment between the cities unable to host Lindbergh’s stay. The Rock Island Arsenal’s dining hall hosted a dinner engagement for Lindbergh. During and after the dinner, 2,800 fireworks were fired from Rock Island Arsenal in honor of the famed aviator. Lindbergh left the next morning, flying to Milwaukee. The bed Lindbergh slept in received a plaque commemorating his visit and use of the bed.

As General N.F. Ramsey took command of Rock Island Arsenal in 1937, his son, Norman F. Ramsey II, graduated from Columbia University with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and was bound for Cambridge University, England. Norman Ramsey II studied physics, receiving his second bachelor's degree from Cambridge. He returned to Columbia University, eventually earning his Ph.D. in 1940, writing the first dissertation on magnetic resonance.

Shortly before America entered the war, Norman Ramsey and his new bride visited his father at Rock Island Arsenal. Once America entered the war, he contributed to the war effort during World War II by developing prototype airborne radar systems and later working at Los Alamos on the atomic bomb. He continued to experiment in molecular physics, teaching at Columbia and Harvard, and developed theories and systems that improved the accuracy of the atomic clock and the atomic mapping and study of molecules. Norman Ramsey II received the Nobel Laureate in Physics in 1989.¹⁰¹

Major General W.E. Eicher hosted Japanese Major General Yokochi and Lieutenant



Left to right: Lt. Col. Kitamura, MG Eicher, MG Yokochi, Col. Green (AMSAS-HI)

Colonel Kitamura in June 1978. The group of officers posed for a picture taken in front of Quarters One on 28 June.¹⁰²

Senator Carol Moseley-Braun visited Quarters One and Rock Island Arsenal on 19-20 August 1993. In 1992, Senator Moseley Braun won the election over incumbent Illinois senator, Alan Dixon, becoming the first African-American woman elected to the United States Senate.¹⁰³

Major General James W. Monroe entertained King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden during the royal family's visit to the region 13-15 September 1996. The royal visit commemorated the 150th anniversary of the largest period of Swedish immigration to the United States. The Monroe's hosted the King and Queen on a Mississippi River cruise and a salute from cannons fired from the lawn of Quarters One. The Monroe's also hosted Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen at Quarters One during his visit to Rock Island Arsenal in May 1998. Secretary of the Army and Mrs. Togo West were also entertained by the Monroe's at Quarters One.¹⁰⁴

Rock Island Arsenal continues to be a popular political campaign stop. In 2004, Massachusetts Senator John Kerry toured the facilities at Rock Island Arsenal. President Barack Obama also toured the Rock Island Arsenal while running for the United States Senate.

Social Events at Quarters One

Quarters One has served as a social hub at Rock Island Arsenal. The residence has dutifully served at a number of traditional events as well as a fair number of special functions. Traditional events held at Quarters One include Christmas and New Years receptions, graduation receptions, wives club coffees, garden club meetings, fund-raising cocktail parties, open house events, Easter egg hunts and many other social gatherings.

Golf has also been a popular activity throughout the history of the Arsenal. Colonel Stanhope E. Blunt, occupying Quarters One from 1897 to 1907, was introduced to the game of golf by Lieutenant William S. Pierce, recently of New York. Colonel Blunt, Captain Horney, Lieutenant Pierce and a few additional officers from Rock Island Arsenal formed the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club on 24 July 1897. Colonel (then Captain) and Mrs. Stanhope



Left to right: Mrs. Register, Mrs. Hissong, Mrs. Greenberg, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Custer, Mrs. Stacey, Mrs. Tanner. Enlisted wives club coffee. (AMSAS-HI)

Blunt held a reception for 200 Rock Island Arsenal and community guests from four to six in the afternoon. After the reception, the men crossed the street to the first hole, opposite the driveway from Quarters One and began the first official game of golf on the Rock Island course.¹⁰⁵

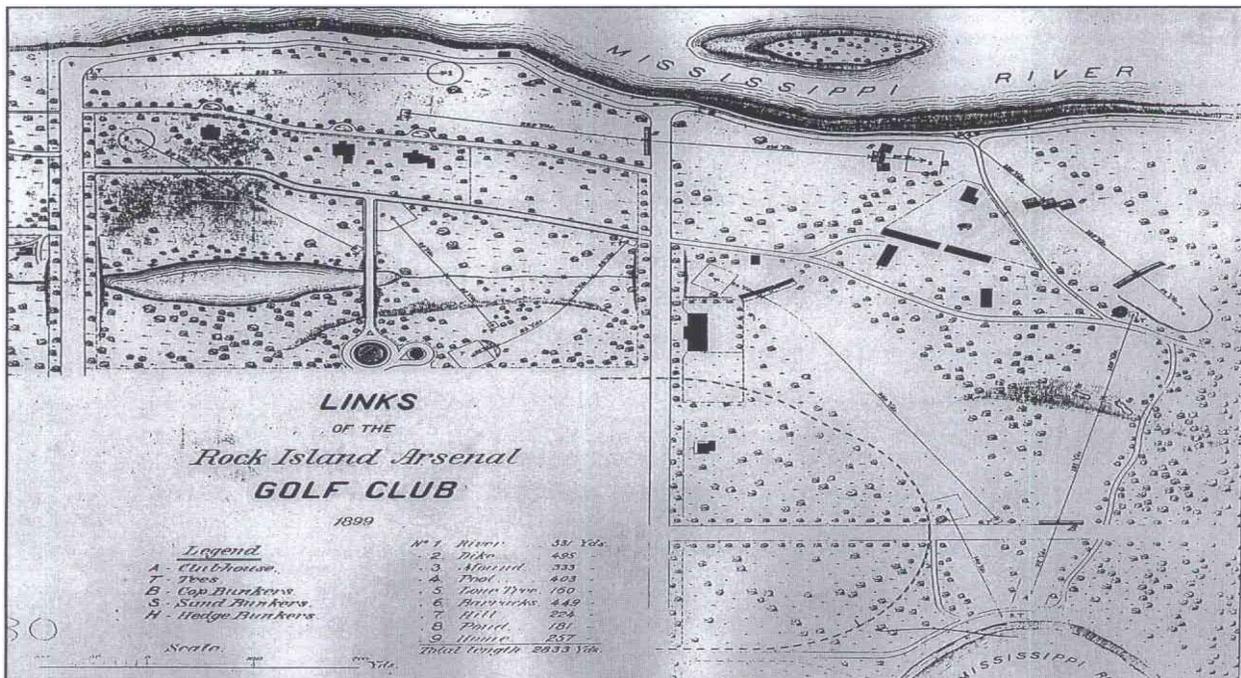


Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club establishment marker (AMSAS-HI)

The original course consisted of nine holes covering a distance of 1,945 yards.

Colonel Blunt hosted the first tournament on 9

September 1897. The club gained admittance to the United States Golf Association as an allied member on 30 March 1898. By November 1898, the golf club hosted men's and women's handicap tournaments. The men competed for a silver loving cup; the ladies competed for a cut glass vase. The presentation of the trophies was made by Colonel Blunt at a reception in Quarters One.¹⁰⁶



Map of original Rock Island Arsenal golf course (AMSAS-HI)

By the spring of 1902, Colonel Blunt and the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club expanded the course, making it an eighteen holes par 81 with a total distance of 3,013 yards. Secretary of War William Howard Taft granted the Golf Club a license to operate in 1905. This authorization allowed the club to build a clubhouse and changed the status of community players from visitor to member. The club hosted its first tournament of the Western Golf Association while the Normandie Golf Club, St. Louis hosted the open tournament. Mason E. Phelps of the Midlothian Club in Chicago, Illinois, won the six-day tournament.¹⁰⁷

Shortly after Quarters One passed its centennial birthday, it hosted its first documented wedding on 21 April 1979. Miss Susan D. Eicher, daughter of Major General and Mrs. William E. Eicher, the residents of Quarters One, married Michael D. Lewis, son of Major General and Mrs. Bennett L. Lewis. Quarters One was decorated in yellow, white, and green for the event.

Daniel Wiersama, a student from Black Hawk College, sang while Lucille Perley, faculty at Black Hawk College, played the piano. Miss Eicher wore a traditional lace-trimmed gown and veil as she made her entrance, descending the winding stairs to the main floor. Lieutenant Colonel Ralph A. Mehring, Command Chaplain, officiated the ceremony. A reception for the one hundred participants and attendees was held at the neighboring Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club.¹⁰⁸



Susan Eicher and MG W. E. Eicher (AMSAS-HI)

Major General and Mrs. Marvin Brailsford hosted a 1940s themed “USO” party on 10 June 1989. The party launched the 75th season of the Quad City Symphony and served as a fundraiser for the symphony. Guests dressed in World War II era uniforms and attire. Quarters One was decorated in the same motif. Ammo cans served as planters and a restored Willy’s Jeep stood as a centerpiece at the top of the drive. Guests purchased hors d’oeuvres and cocktails with “ration coupons.” Dinner consisted of “Mess Sergeant” marinated mushrooms, “Victory at Sea” relishes, “Patriotic Salad,” “Lunch Pail” dinner rolls, “Depth Charge” broccoli, and “Drill Instructor’s Delight” prime rib. The Rod Pierson Big Band from Iowa City and Three’s Company played authentic, 1940s era music for the guests.¹⁰⁹



MG and Mrs. Brailsford during USO themed party (AMSAS-HI)

Major General and Mrs. James Monroe put Quarters One to almost constant social use during their stay between 1995 and 1998.

The Monroe’s estimated over 5,000 guests were entertained at the various functions hosted at their residence. The winter holiday seasons were especially busy with multiple receptions, teas, luncheons and parties for command groups, wives clubs and local civic groups. The Monroe’s hosted the first and second annual American Red Cross “Picnic on the River” on the grounds of Quarters One.¹¹⁰



Guests at USO-themed party (AMSAS-HI)

The Monroe's made several improvements to Quarters One to benefit the residences ability to host social functions. The Monroe's installed exterior floodlights, repaired the second story floor, removed the old, dilapidated fountain and replaced it with a new fountain and installed a hot tub on the back porch.

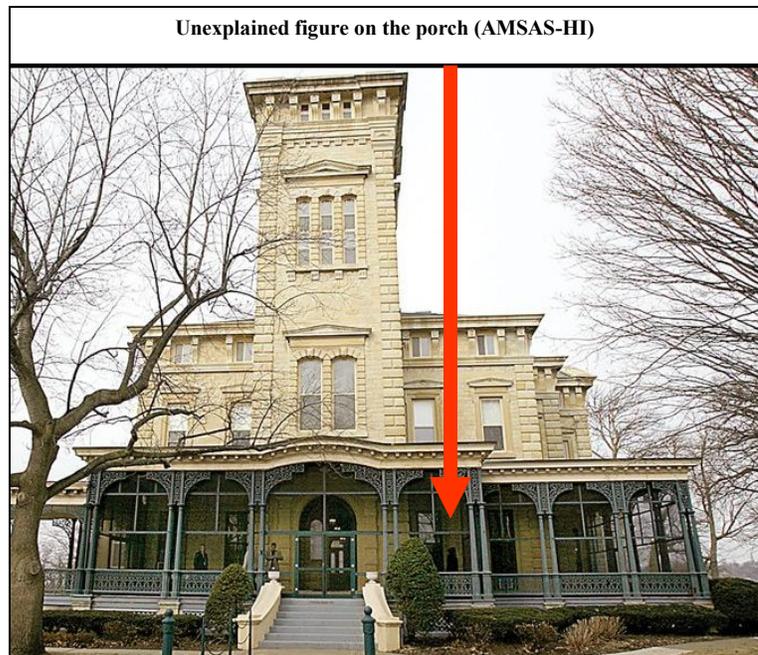
Since its inception, Quarters One has served as a bastion of refined grace and comfort on the rugged frontier of America. As the country grew and matured, the elegance and comfort continued to serve the local community and a long list of distinguished guests.

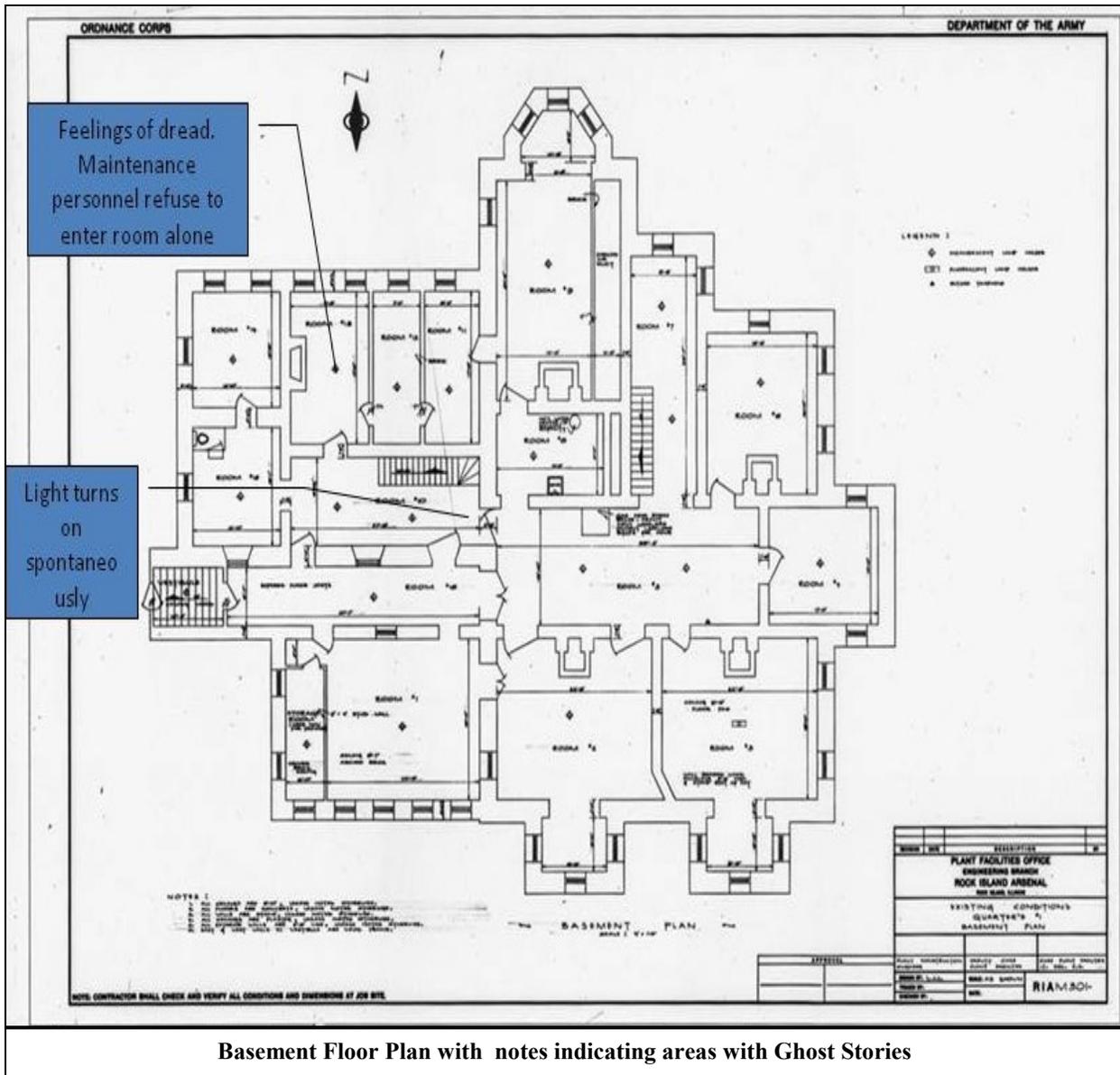
The Haunted Hallows of Quarters One

Few topics are of more interest to visitors of Quarters One than the subject of ghosts. Situated directly across from the Confederate Prisoner of War Camp, the house immediately took on a haunted aura—particularly since over 1,900 Confederate POW’s perished during the camp’s twenty month existence. Many individuals report seeing a Confederate Prisoner of War leaning against the main posts at the entrance to the driveway of Quarters One smoking a pipe, accompanied by the sound of drums.

The Confederate POW is but one of the great ghost legends inside Quarters One. With Quarters One nearly complete, General Rodman died on June 7, 1871, just before the residence would be completed. His death not only marked the first commander to perish while on the Island, but also marked the first public gathering in Quarters One: Rodman’s funeral. The funeral occupied the parlors of Quarters One with throngs of local residents arriving to pay their last respects to the man many considered the “Father of the Rock Island Arsenal.”

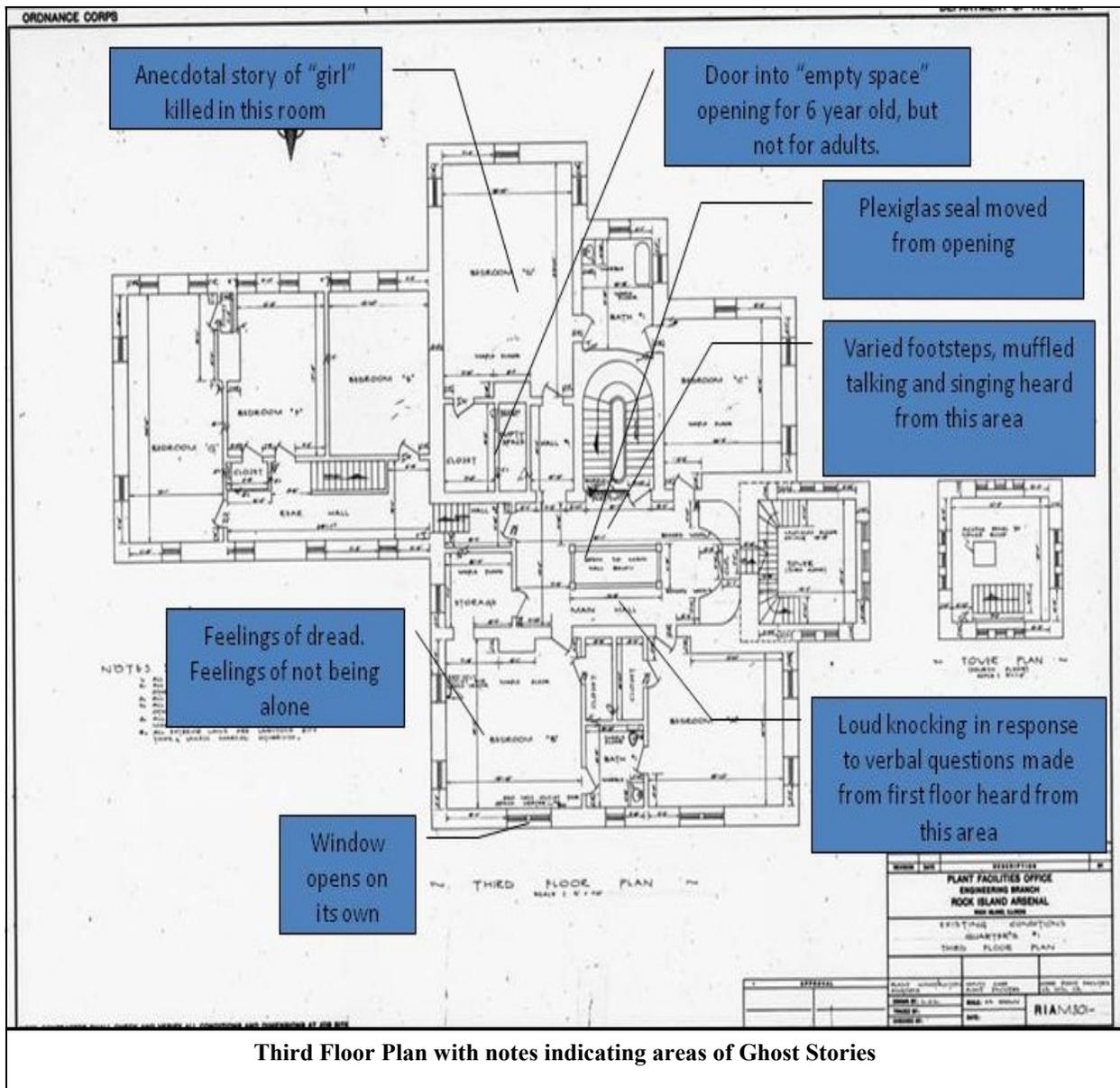
Rodman would not be the last commanding officer to die while at Rock Island.¹¹¹ In 1918 COL LeRoy Hillman, who commanded RIA less than a year, died in Quarters One, an early victim of the influenza epidemic that later swept the nation. In 1932 COL David King, 12th RIA commander, died in Quarters One. The death of three commanding officers, and the existence of the POW camp directly





renowned for opening suddenly, sending a rush of wind streaming throughout the cavernous residence. Some residents even asked the Arsenal Police to secure the residence in the evenings by walking the grounds, ensuring all doors were locked, and looking through the vacant rooms of the third floor, where footsteps are often heard pacing above the master bedroom. Perhaps most eerily, on Halloween night in 2007, all windows of Quarters One were inexplicably open.

Do these ghost stories have any basis in fact? Of course, some are prone to believe and others to disbelieve. The History Office conducted an informal survey from 2007-2009 of a



Third Floor Plan with notes indicating areas of Ghost Stories

of the home. In 2009 a ghost hunter group was allowed in the house and they recorded unexplained audio and took photos of unexplained shadows and forms.

Ghost stories are, most generally, vague and attributed to “a friend” or “a family member.” In the case of Quarters One, some more specifically identified people have told their stories. While in this volume we will suppress their names, except for one, the reader can be assured that the stories come from reliable people.

The enlisted aide to the last commanding general who occupied Quarters One relayed several incidences to the ASC History Office. The aide often heard footsteps on the third floor while she was working on the second floor. One day the aide laid out the Commanding General's uniform in the Rose VIP room. The aide came back an hour later to find the uniform strewn around the room. On another occasion the aide reported that while alone in the house scrubbing the floor she heard footsteps and upon looking up, saw a pair of old fashioned boots flash through her peripheral vision. Another aide reported that he was regularly in trouble with the Commanding General because the lights and doors on the upper floors of the house were on or off, open or closed in a non-regular pattern. The aide insisted that as he went through the house he would close the doors and turn off the lights, but when he went back doors would be open and lights on. The aide made a checklist of every room in the house to ensure he had closed the doors and turned off the lights, to no avail. That same Commanding General, after reading the first edition of this book, asked the ASC Historian why he had not included any ghost stories. When told the aide's story he replied that he had many similar stories himself.

Another longer story tells of similar events. One Commanding General's wife reported enough mysterious events that several rumors about the General's wife began. She was often alone in the house and people discounted her stories as the normal sounds of an old house or maybe that she drank too much in her husband's absence. The Commanding General never reported any such occurrences. One night she called security in a panic insisting that she heard someone walking around the third floor. Security called the colonel who was then commanding the Arsenal. The colonel told security there was no one in the house and no ghosts, but directed security to sweep the house just to make the wife happy. Some years later that same colonel returned to Rock Island arsenal as the Commanding General and moved into Quarters One.

Within a week he told one of his senior leaders that he had heard someone walking the third floor and “maybe Mrs. *** did not drink as much as we all thought.”

Finally, the ASC Historian also witnessed an unexplainable event. While alone in the house he left the third floor and closed the door behind him. He got a few steps down the stairs when someone started knocking on the door behind him. He ran up the stairs and threw open the door assuming someone was playing a trick on him, only to find no one on the third floor. He was, in fact, alone in the house. That alone convinced him that some of the stories might have merit. He is now one of many people who will tell you that every time they enter Quarters One they greet General Rodman out loud and ask how he is doing. The History Office continues to collect ghost stories and actively assists the paranormal groups as they survey the house.

All of these stories add to the intrigue and mystery of Quarters One—leaving a lasting curiosity about the house and those who resided inside her massive walls.

Conclusion

Whether one believes in ghosts or not, Quarters One retains a majestic presence on the Mississippi River. Visible to road and river traffic the house is a reminder of a time gone by. Perhaps those in disagreement with government spending think the house cost too much or was unnecessary, and certainly there were those of the same opinion in 1870 as the house was being constructed. What is relatively universal is a local curiosity about the house's architecture, what it looks like inside, and the history of the house, its occupants and the Rock Island Arsenal. When the house was open to the public in 2008 over 5,000 people took tours of the house. That interest continues, despite the inability to regularly offer tours.

We hope this short volume has answered some questions about Quarters One and set the house in context by explaining the history of the Arsenal. We also intended to cast Quarters One as not only a public building designed for official business and purpose, but also as a home for the senior officer on the Arsenal and their families.

The Quarters are in a new stage and the future is unclear as to use of the building. However, the Army is committed to preserving this national Historic Landmark and retaining the dignity and majesty of General Rodman's finest achievement.

List of Occupants

BG T.J. Rodman 1870-1871
LTC D.W. Flagler 1872-1886
COL T.G. Baylor 1886-1889
COL J.M. Whittemore 1889-1892
COL A.R. Buffington 1892-1897
COL S.E. Blunt 1897-1907
LTC F.E. Hobbs 1907-1911
LTC G.W. Burr 1911-1918
LTC L.T. Hillman 1918
LTC H.B. Jordan 1919-1921
COL D.M. King 1921-1932
COL H.W. Schull 1932-1934
COL A.G. Gillespie 1934-1937
BG N.F. Ramsey 1937-1944
COL C.A. Waldmann 1944-1947
COL W.W. Warner 1947-1953
BG T.A. Weyher 1954-1957
BG W.K. Ghormley 1957-1959
BG O.E. Hurlbut 1959-1961
BG E.J. Gibson 1961-1962
MG N.M. Lynde, Jr. 1962-1964
MG R.B. Anderson 1964-1966
BG W.J. Durrenberger 1966-1968
MG O.E. Hurlbut 1968-1969
MG H.A. Rasmussen 1969-1972
MG J.C. Raaen, Jr. 1972-1975
MG B.L. Lewis 1975-1977
MG W.E. Eicher 1977-1981
MG B.F. Register, Jr. 1981-1983
MG P.G. Burbules 1983-1985
MG F. Hissong 1985-1987
MG M.D. Brailsford 1987-1990
MG P.L. Greenberg 1990-1994
MG D.L. Benchoff 1994-1995
MG J.W. Monroe 1995-1998
MG J.W. Arbuckle 1998-2000
MG W.H. McManus, Jr. 2000-2004
MG J. Johnson 2004-2007
MG. R. M. Radin 2007- 2008

NOTES

1. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal and Arsenal Island*. (Rock Island, IL: Army Sustainment Command, 2011), 9.
2. Frederick I. Anderson, *Joined By A River: Quad Cities*. (Davenport, IA: Lee Enterprises, Inc., 1982), 13-15.
3. Patrick Jung, *The Black Hawk War of 1832*. (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2007), 15
4. *Ibid.*, 17.
5. *Ibid.*, 19-20.
6. *Ibid.*, 20.
7. *Ibid.*
8. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal.*, 9.
9. William T. Hagan, *The Sac and Fox Indians*. (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1958), 66.
10. *Ibid.*, 67-72.
11. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal.*, 20.
12. *Ibid.*, 23-24.
13. *Ibid.*, 25-28.
14. *Ibid.*, 30-38. *See also* Jung, Ch. 3 and Hagan Ch. 13 & 14 for information on the wide array of events and causes leading up to the Black Hawk War.
15. *Ibid.*, 39.
16. Britton, Rick. *What a Beautiful Country It Is*. Robert E. Lee on the Mississippi. *Lee Family Digital Archive* (March 2007). <http://www.leearchive.info/shelf/britton/index.html>
17. *Ibid.*, 38, 75.
18. *Ibid.*, 50-51.
19. *Ibid.*, 52.
20. *Ibid.*, 57-61.
21. *An Act for the Establishment of Certain National Arsenals*. July 11, 1862.
22. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal.*, 75.
23. *Ibid.* *See also* US Army Armament, Munitions & Chemical Command's "A Short History of the Rock Island Prison Barracks." (Rock Island, IL: AMCCOM, 1985).
24. *Ibid.*, 88.
25. *Ibid.*, 81.

26. Ibid., 97.
27. *An Act for the Establishment of Certain National Arsenals. Section 1.* April 19, 1864. See also Annual Report of the Secretary of War, United States Dept. of War. "Report of the Secretary of War Being Part of the Message and Documents Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress at the Beginning of the Second Session of the Forty-Fifth Congress, 1877, pgs. 58-59.
28. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, United States Dept. of War. "Report of the Secretary of War Being Part of the Message and Documents Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress at the Beginning of the Second Session of the Forty-Fifth Congress, 1877, pg. 109
29. Commanders Mansion, Watertown Arsenal. "Rodman Controversy." <http://www.commandersmansion.com/history.html>. (Accessed December 13, 2011)
30. Ibid.
31. Ibid.
32. Ibid.
33. Ibid.
34. Ibid.
35. Ibid.
36. Ibid.
37. Ibid.
38. Ibid.
39. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal.*, 102.
40. Annual Report of the Secretary of War, United States Dept. of War. "Report of the Secretary of War Being Part of the Message and Documents Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress at the Beginning of the Second Session of the Forty-Fifth Congress, 1877, pg. 109
41. Ibid.
42. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal.*, 67.
43. Ibid., 107.
44. Ibid., 102-107.
45. Ibid.
46. Ibid., 100-101.
47. Ibid.
48. "Annual Estimate of Funds required at Rock Island Arsenal During the Fiscal year ending June 30, 1868. Ledger marked "Estimates." Rock Island Arsenal Museum.

49. General Rodman to Col. Treadwell. February 3, 1869. Army Sustainment Command History Office Archives, In Box "Quarters One Materials," Folder: "Short History of Q-1/General Overview," *Commanding Officers Quarters*.
50. March 24, 1869. Colonel Treadwell to Gen. Rodman. March 24, 1869. Army Sustainment Command Office Archives, In Box "Quarters One Materials, Folder:" "Short History of Q-1/General Overview," *Commanding Officers Quarters*.
51. Army Sustainment Command History Office Archives. In Box "Quarters One Materials," "Short History of Q-1/General Overview," *Commanding Officers Quarters*.
52. Ibid.
53. Ibid.
54. Ibid.
55. Ibid.
56. Ibid.
57. Ibid.
58. Ibid.
59. Ibid.
60. Ibid. For more information about the price terms of specific materials for Quarters One, consult this document.
61. Army Sustainment Command, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal.*, 115.
62. Ibid.
63. Box, "Quarters One Materials," Folder, "Rodman, Thomas J." AMSAS-HI.
64. Ibid. The article specifically notes the "Order of Procession," which included over "eight-hundred and sixty-eight Stone cutters, setters, and other employees of the Arsenal, under their master workman."
65. There is disagreement among Historians regarding whether Gen. Rodman actually lived in Quarters One and the available sources make such disagreement inevitable. On the one hand, many historians believe it unlikely that Gen. Rodman and his family would have lived in an unfinished home in June, 1871. Rodman himself notes in correspondence in February 1869 the decaying floors of the "temporary quarters," thereby giving indication that Rodman might have lived in a structure other than Quarters One. Further, in the "Remarks" portion of the June 30, 1868 "Annual Estimate of Funds Required at the Rock Island Arsenal," it is noted that "the Quarters now occupied by the Commanding Officer are of the most temporary kind, having no stone or brick foundation under them; so that by the time new permanent quarters can be built and finished, these will have served the purpose for which they were intended, and be ready for removal from the front of the new quarters." Additionally, with the knowledge that Rodman and his family of two daughters and four sons owned a house in the city of Rock Island, many Historians find the assertion that Rodman lived in Quarters One dubious. However, other Historians are convinced Rodman did indeed reside in Quarters One at some point before he died. In Major Daniel Flagler's history of the Rock Island Arsenal, Flagler notes that "General Rodman died in his quarters at the arsenal." Because it is highly unlikely that Gen. Rodman would have lived in the temporary quarters with his family, the only other quarters Flagler could possibly refer to would have been the nearly completed Quarters One. Those asserting that Rodman lived in Quarters One also find Major Flagler's history reliable due to Flagler's personal knowledge of Rodman's activities and the contemporaneous

nature of his writing. In addition to Flagler's historical writings, many find it entirely plausible that Rodman could have lived in the nearly completed Quarters One. Construction on the residence commenced in 1869 and at the time of Rodman's death in June 1871, most of the house would have been completed. Therefore, some Historians believe Rodman could have moved in to the Quarters prior to the completion of construction.

66. "Annual Estimate of Funds required at Rock Island Arsenal during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868." Ledger marked "Estimates." Rock Island Arsenal Museum.
67. The Vice President's residence at the Naval Observatory is 9,150 square feet.
68. National Park Service, Dept. of the Interior, Historic American Buildings Survey, "Rock Island Arsenal Commanding Officer's Quarters (Quarters 1)." HABS No. IL-1001E. The HABS report is a terrific source of architectural information on the house. The report can be accessed online at: http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/habs_haer/
69. ASC, *An Illustrated History of the Rock Island Arsenal*, 116.
70. *Outside Information For Porch*. Box "Quarters One Material." Folder "Short History of Q-1/General Overview." ASC Archives
71. *Commanding Officer's Quarters*. Box, "Quarters One Material." Folder, "Short History of Q-1/General Overview" ASC Archives.
72. *Outside Information For Porch*. Box, "Quarters One Material," Folder, "Short History of Q-1/General Overview." ASC Archives.
73. The call bell box in the kitchen still possesses the original date-stamp of "1872."
74. *Outside Information For Porch*.
75. Ibid.
76. Ibid.
77. There is also the possibility that the call-bell system was similar in nature to a "Spring Bell" system installed by President Abraham Lincoln. <http://www.mrlincolnwhitehouse.org/inside.asp?ID=29&subjectID=3> (Accessed April 23, 2012)
78. *Quick Notes on RIA*. Box, "Quarters One Materials," Folder, "Short History of Q-1/General Overview." ASC Archives. See also Pamphlet regarding "Outside Information on the Porch."
79. The "Lindbergh Bed" is now located at the Rock Island Arsenal Museum and is available for the public to view.
80. One of the rooms on the West side of the house is painted blue and reportedly was used as a workout room for a Commanding Officer's son. See email of Mr. Dan Carlson, ASC Public Affairs Director. April 20, 2012. Box, "Quarters One Materials," Folder, "Short History of Q-1/General Overview," ASC Archives.
81. NPS, HABS Report
82. Ibid.

83. Ibid.
84. Army Sustainment Command. *Quarters One*, 3rd Edition, Vol. 2. (Rock Island, IL: Army Sustainment Command, 2008), 45.
85. NPS, HABS Report.
86. *Quarters One, Home of the Commanding General, U.S. Army Armament Materiel Readiness Command*, Box, "Quarters One Material," Folder, "Short History of Q-1/General Overview." ASC Archives. See also *Quarters One: Third Edition., Vol. 2.* (Rock Island, IL: ASC History Office, 2008), 29.
87. Ibid.
88. Email from Tom Slattery . October 14, 1999. Box, "Quarters One Materials," Folder, "Short History of Q-1/General Overview." ASC Archives.
89. *Quarters I Media Info.* Box, "Quarters One Materials," Folder, "Housing Reports/Issues." May 23,2001. ASC Archive. See also, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, *Rock Island Arsenal Historical Housing Assessment Report.* September 2005.
90. Army Sustainment Command, *Quarters One*, 3rd Edition, Vol. 2., 49.
91. Ibid. See also, *The Daily Argus*, October 9, 1876; Sherman, William T. "Memoirs of General W.T. Sherman." St. Louis, MO. (1875). Kestenbaum, Lawrence. "Sherman-Ewing-Cameron family of Ohio and Pennsylvania." *The Political Graveyard*, (March 2005). <http://politicalgraveyard.com/families/1233.html> (Accessed August 28, 2007)
92. Ibid.
93. Ibid.
94. Ibid. See also, "Sheridan, Phillip H. "Personal Memoirs of P.H. Sheridan: Vol. 1," Nonguitt, MA (1888).
95. Ibid.
96. Ibid.
97. Ibid. See also, U.S. Army Transportation Museum. "First Transcontinental Motor Convoy, 1919.;" Eisenhower, D.D. "Letter to Chief Motor Transport Corps." *U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Highway Department* (May 2005) <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/convoy.htm> (accessed September 13, 2007)
98. Ibid. See also, *The Daily Times*, January 5, 1920.; *The Davenport Democrat and Leader*, Tuesday Evening Edition, January 6, 1920.; Upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive. "General John Pershing Visits Rock Island. (Accessed August 28, 2007).
99. Ibid.
100. Ibid. See also, "Itinerary." *Time* (July 1927) <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,19171,736817,00.html> (Accessed August 30, 2007); Upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive. "Lindbergh With Mayors." (Accessed August 28,2007).
101. Ibid. See also, Wu, Ona. "Norman F. Ramsey Winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize in Physics." <http://almaz.com/nobel/physics/1989a.html> (Accessed September 13,2007).; Ramsey, Norman F. Interview by John Bryant, 20 June 1991. For the IEEE history Center, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc., and Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

102. Ibid.

103. Ibid.

104. Ibid.

105. Ibid. See also, Webber, Erwin. "Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club: A National Historic Place." Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club, Rock Island, IL. 1997.

106. Ibid.

107. Ibid.

108. Ibid.

109. Ibid.

110. Ibid.

111. There is again discrepancy between sources about whether General Rodman actually died in Quarters One. Major Flagler writes in his history that "Rodman died in his quarters on the arsenal on the 7th of June, 1871." However, a newspaper account from the Rock Island Argus on June 9, 1871 notes that Rodman died "at 1:30 A.M. at the Post Hospital."

