

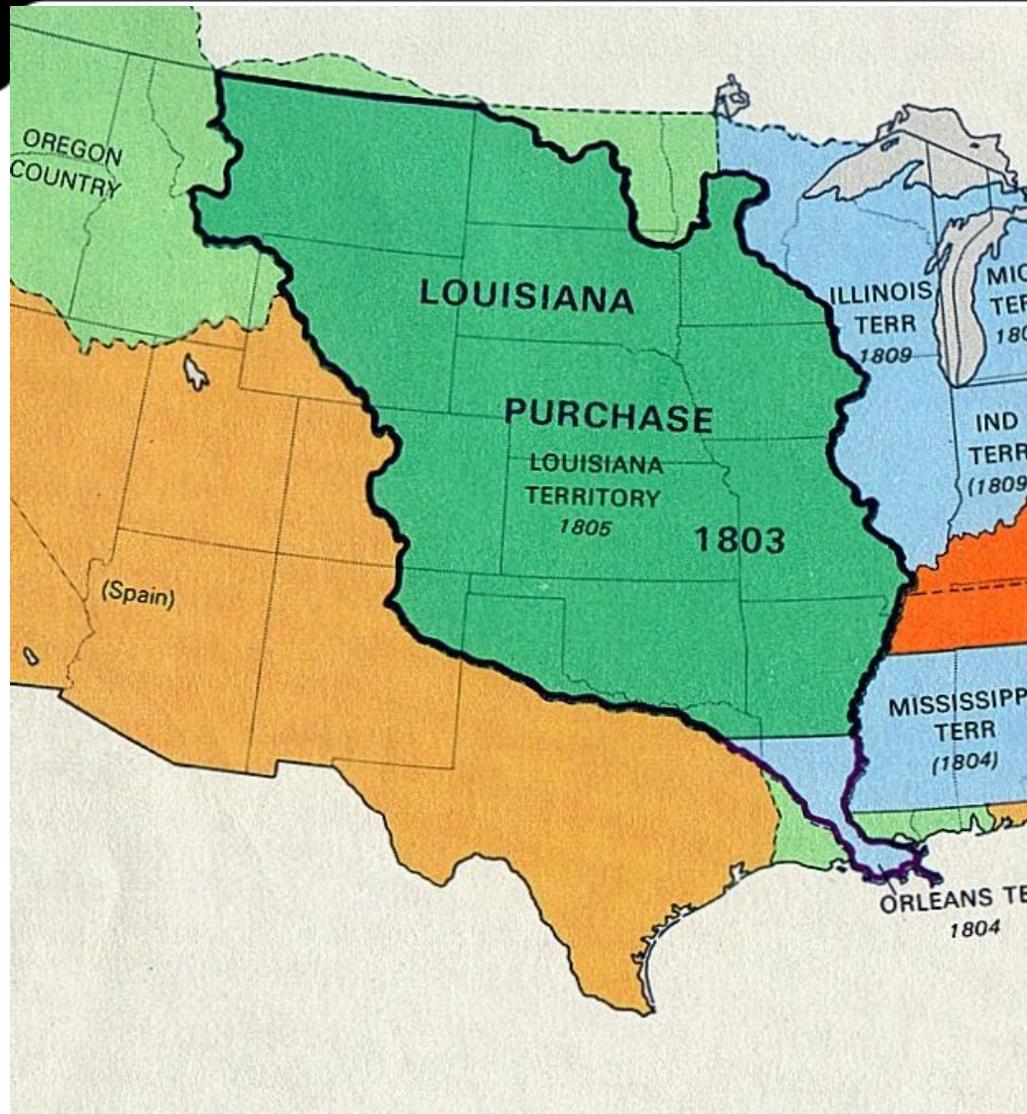


Rock Island Arsenal History 1804-2017

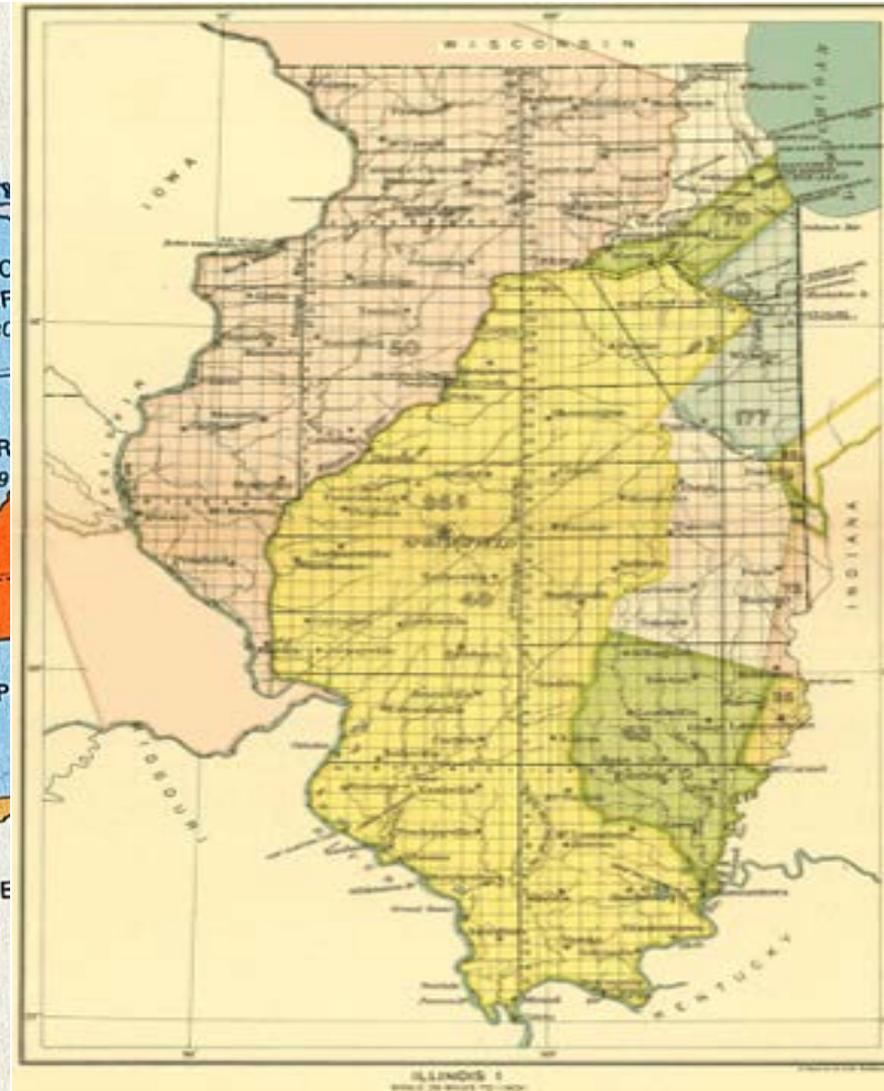




Early Rock Island History



Louisiana Purchase- 1803



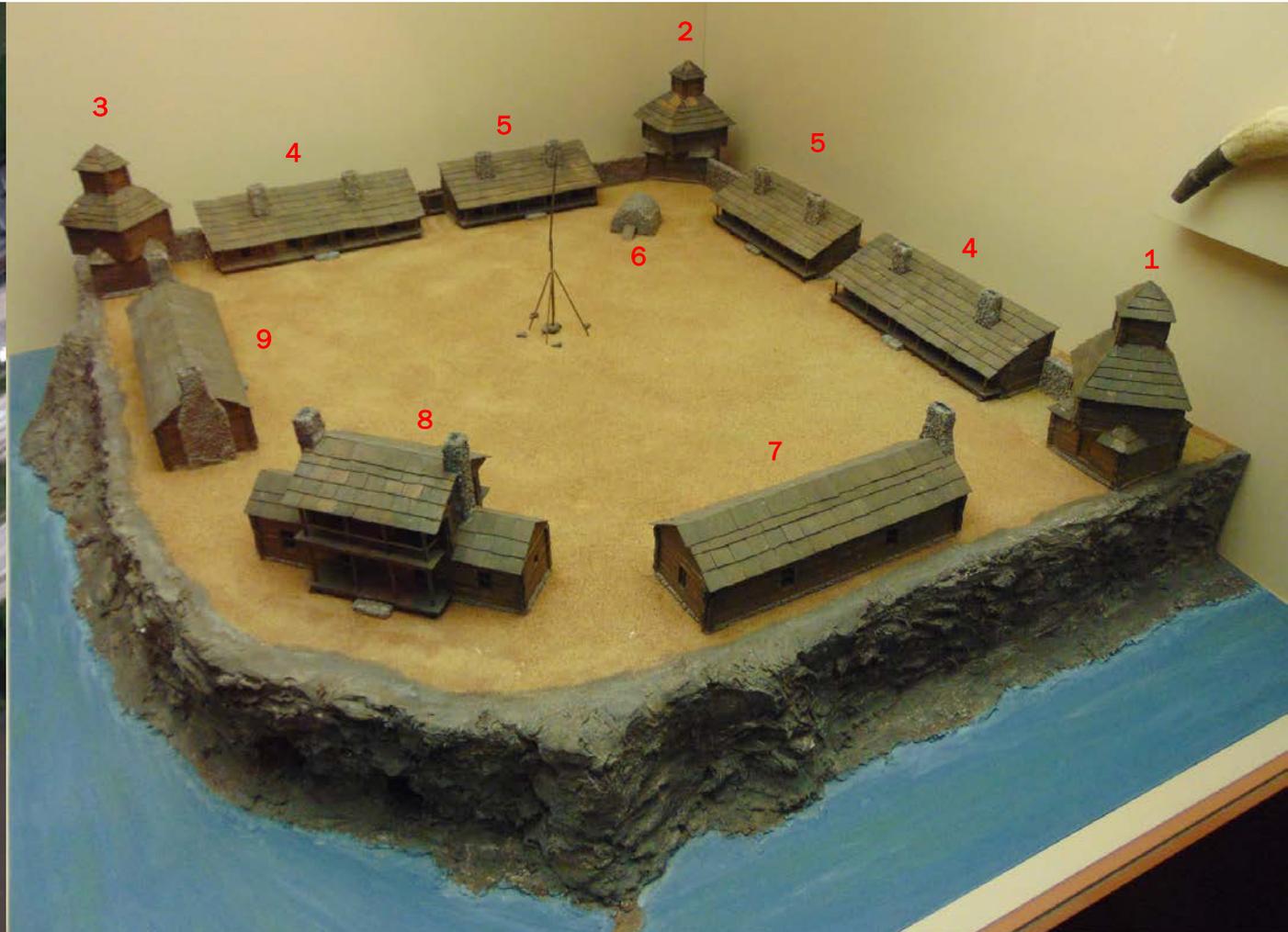
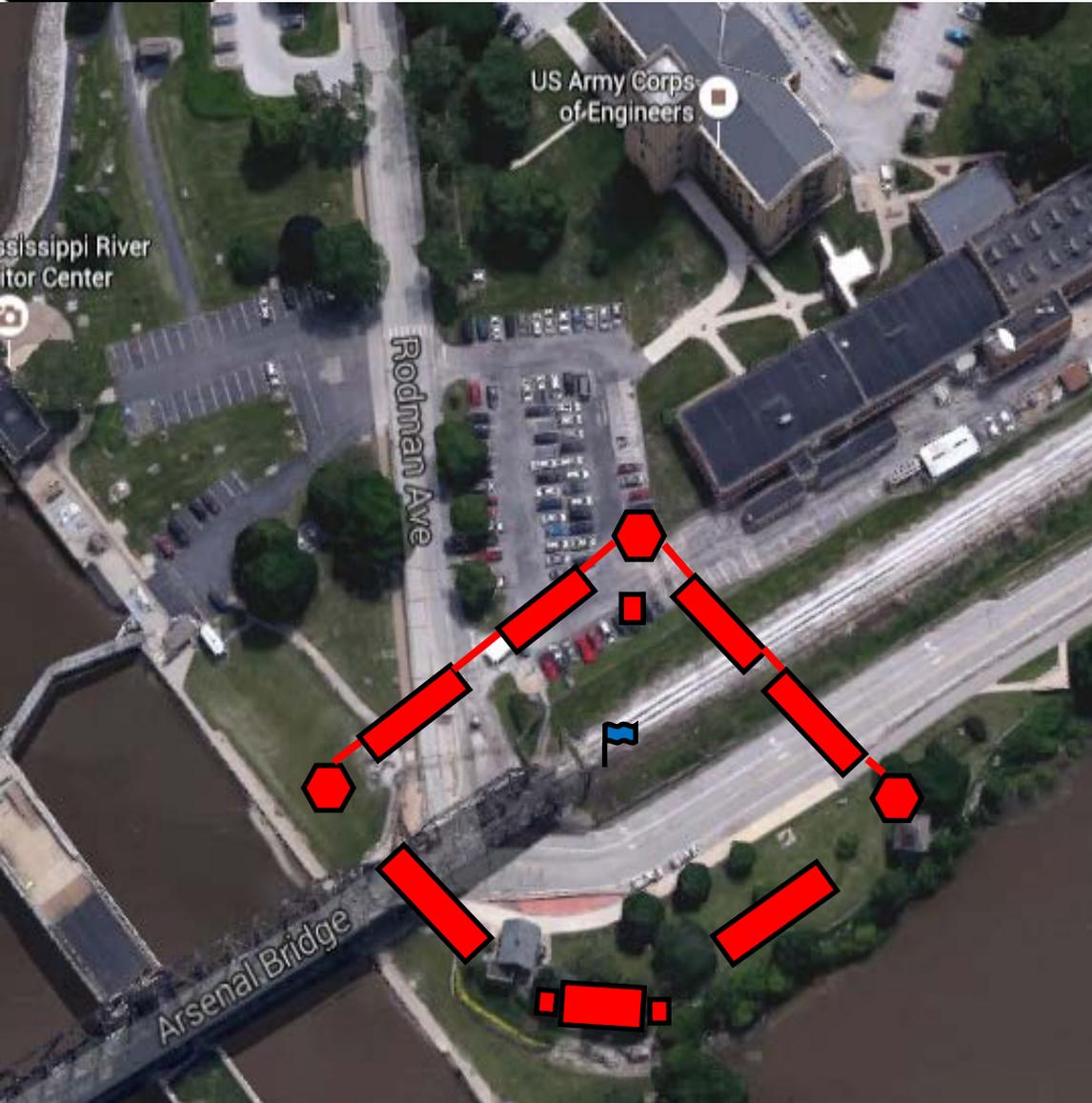
Sac and Fox Treaty of 1804
Approx 50 million acres





UNCLASSIFIED

Fort Armstrong



Fort Armstrong



U.S. ARMY



Fort Armstrong



U.S. ARMY



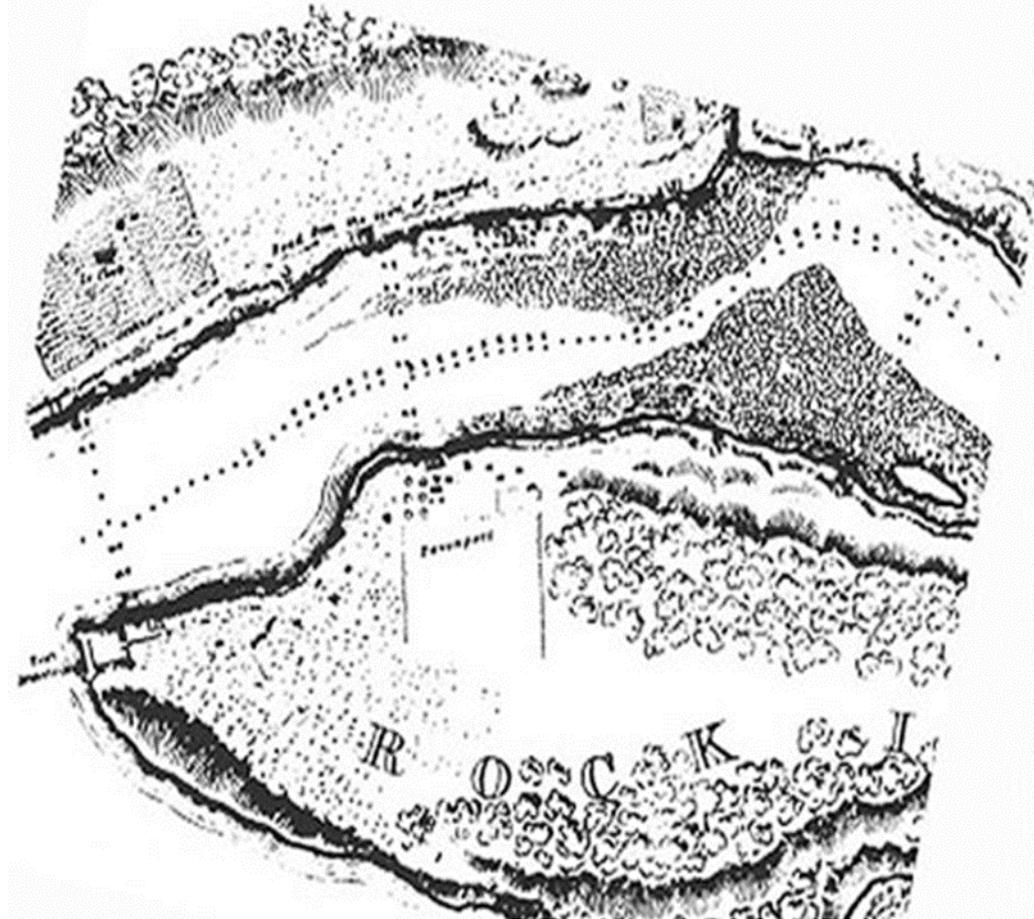
Fort Armstrong: 1816-1845 (Burned in 1856)



Rock Island Rapids Prior to the lock and Dam



U.S. ARMY





U.S. ARMY



 1st Bridge
(Wood)

 2nd Bridge
(Wood)

 3rd Bridge
(Iron)

 4th Bridge
(Steel)





First Bridge 1856-1866

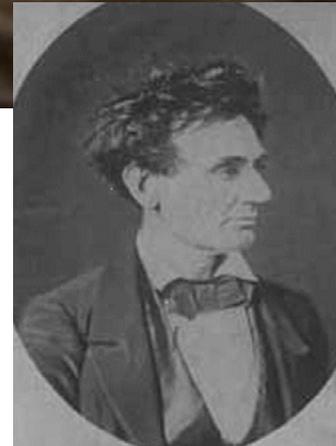
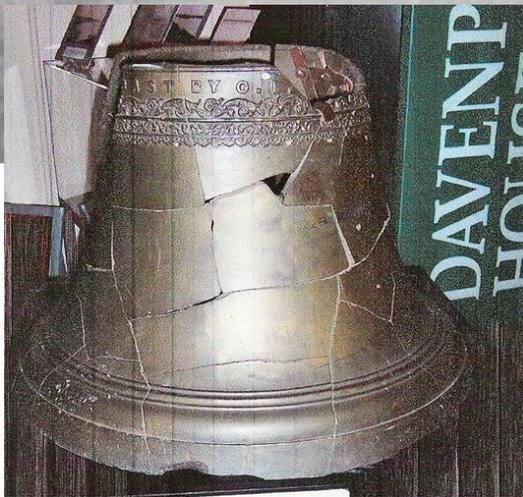
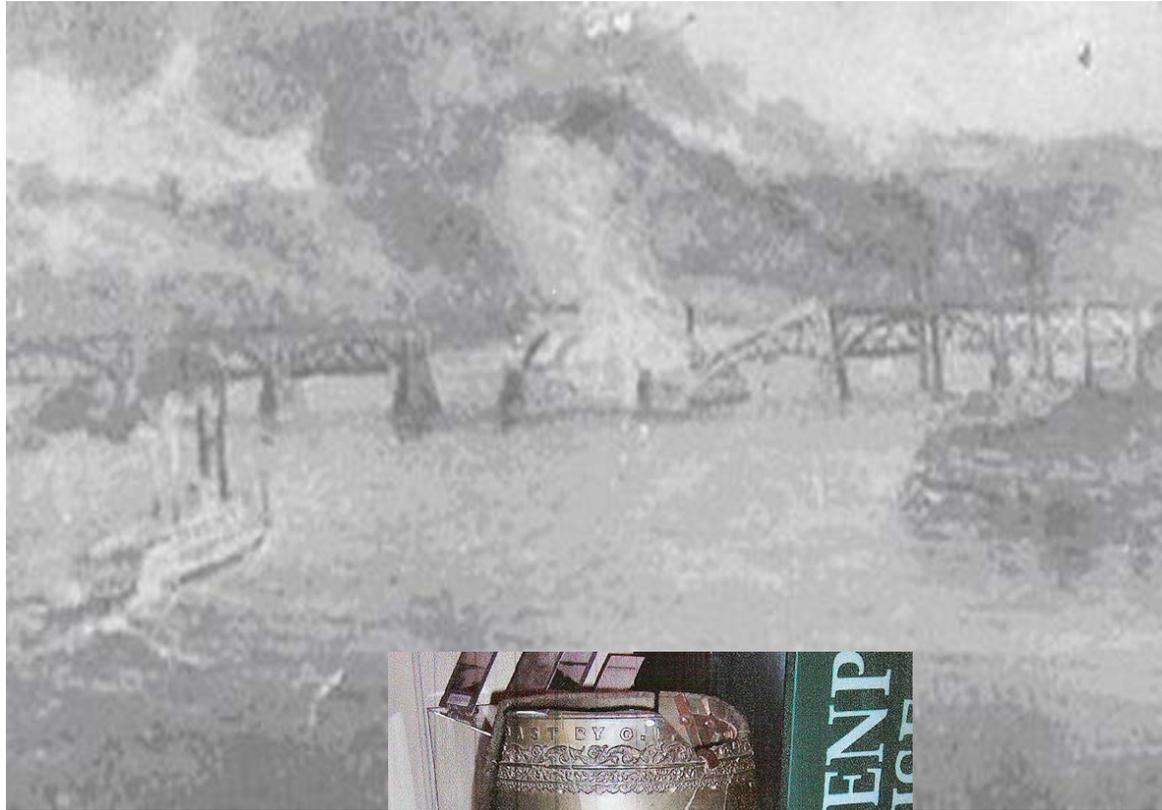
**Completed:
22 April 1856**





Effie Afton Incident

Effie Afton Incident: 6 May 1856





Second Bridge 1866-1872



**Damaged:
Spring of 1868**



Third Bridge- 1872-1896



U.S. ARMY

- First iron bridge
- Double Whipple truss
- Dual deck bridge



Fourth Bridge- 1896



U.S. ARMY



- Bridge expansion
- Ralph Modjeski design
- Known as
“The Government Bridge”



Rock Island Prison Barracks- 1864



U.S. ARMY



1 Military Prison
 2 Rebel Hospital
 3 Garrison Barracks
 4 Officers Quarters
 5 Post Hospital
 6 Garrison Barracks

7 Post Office
 8 Guard House
 9 Post Band Quarters
 10 Rock Island
 11 U.S. Arsenal
 12 Messinghouse & Kitchens

Presented to the office of
 Rock Island Arsenal by
 August 1887. R. Knick

ROCK ISLAND BARRACKS, ILL.

398-3307
 Rock Island Barracks
 about 1864.

-12,192 total prisoners
 -1,967 prisoners died



Morning Roll Call



U.S. ARMY



Main Street of the Civil War Prison Barracks



U.S. ARMY

UNCLASSIFIED



Clock Tower-1867



U.S. ARMY



ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

440-42145 March 28, 1938
Clock Tower Building.

Clock Tower

- Arsenal established 1862
- First permanent building
- Started construction 1863
- Supply difficulties
- Completed 1867



“Father of the Arsenal”



U.S. ARMY



- BVT BG Thomas J. Rodman**
- Command August 1865
 - Considered Father of the Arsenal



Quarters One



U.S. ARMY



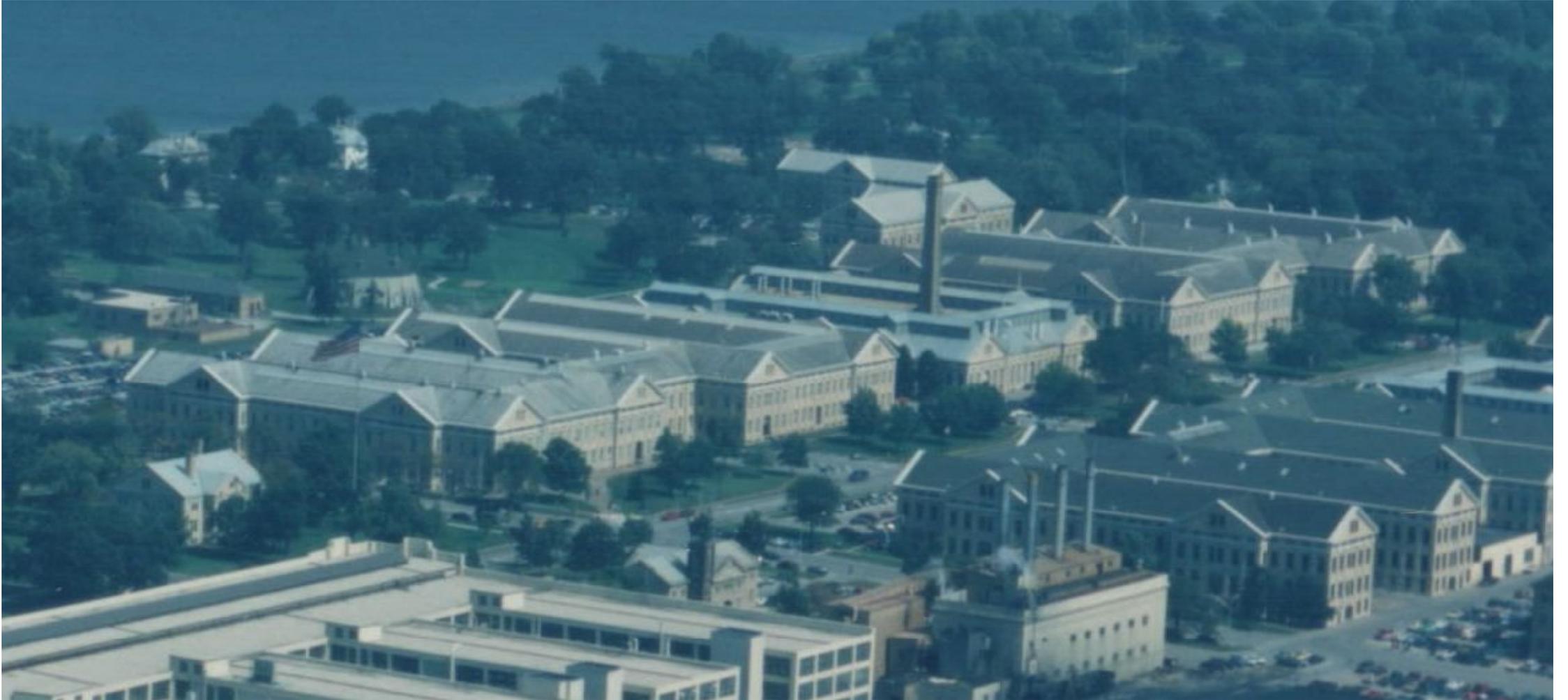
Commanding Officer's Quarters
-Finished 1871
-20,000 sqft



Stone Shops



U.S. ARMY



Stone Shops



U.S. ARMY



Stone shops

- Center of the arsenal
- Each shop was 300' in length
- Made of Joliet limestone
- Intended to make everything a Soldier needed.





First World War

-1914 - 9 % of Rock Island Arsenal workforce is female

-1,800 men

-175 women

-1918 - 10% of Rock Island Arsenal workforce is female

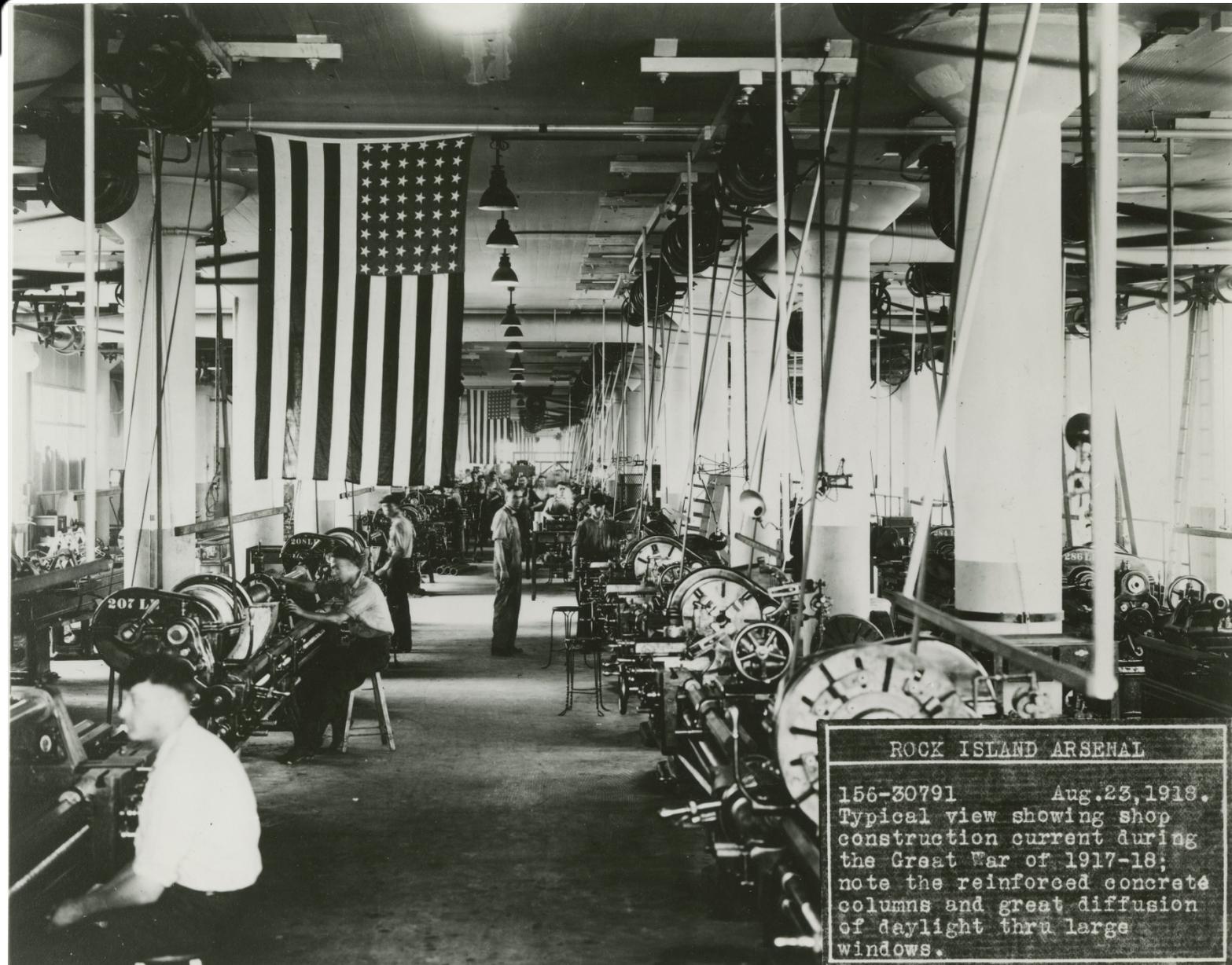
-13,361 men

-1,417 women





First World War



- Rifle production
- Ammunition assembly
- Artillery carriage assembly
- Harness and cloth department

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL
156-30791 Aug. 23, 1918.
Typical view showing shop
construction current during
the Great War of 1917-18;
note the reinforced concrete
columns and great diffusion
of daylight thru large
windows.



Shell filling



U.S. ARMY



First World War



U.S. ARMY



“Girls working at machines or near dangerous machinery will wear the bloomer uniform...others may wear the black sateen uniform.”

COL L.T. Hillman, November 5, 1918





Between the Wars

Mark VIII Tanks– 100 Built in 286 Days-- 1920



Between the Wars

Rock Island Arsenal– The Center for Tank Development 1920-1938 M3 Tank





Second World War

-1924 – 618 employees

-566 men

-52 women

-1943 – 18,675 total

-12,699 men

-5,976 women

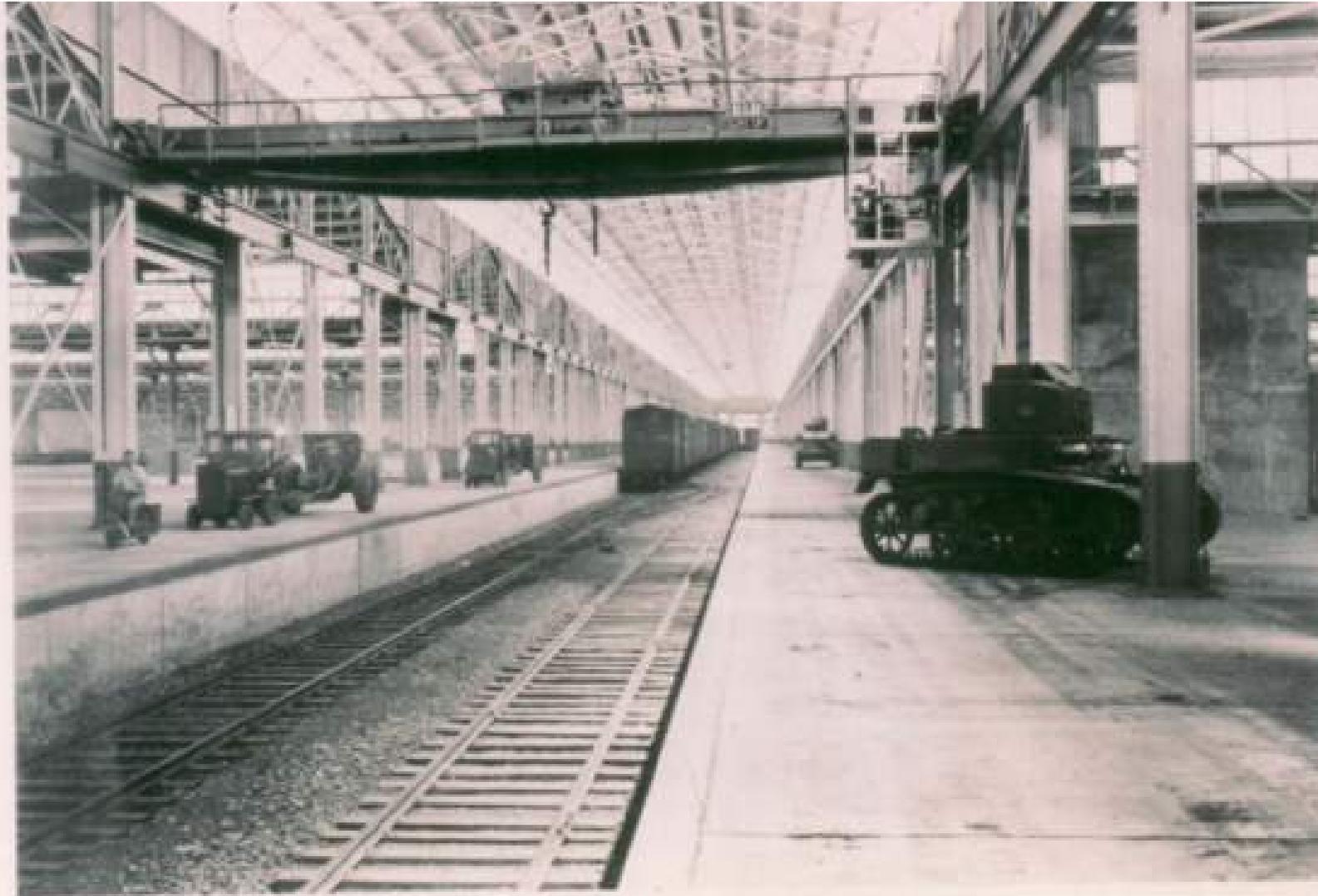
-Females make up over 32% of workers



Second World War



U.S. ARMY



- Machine Gun and Rifle Assembly
- Artillery assembly
- Harness and cloth department
- Parts Depot

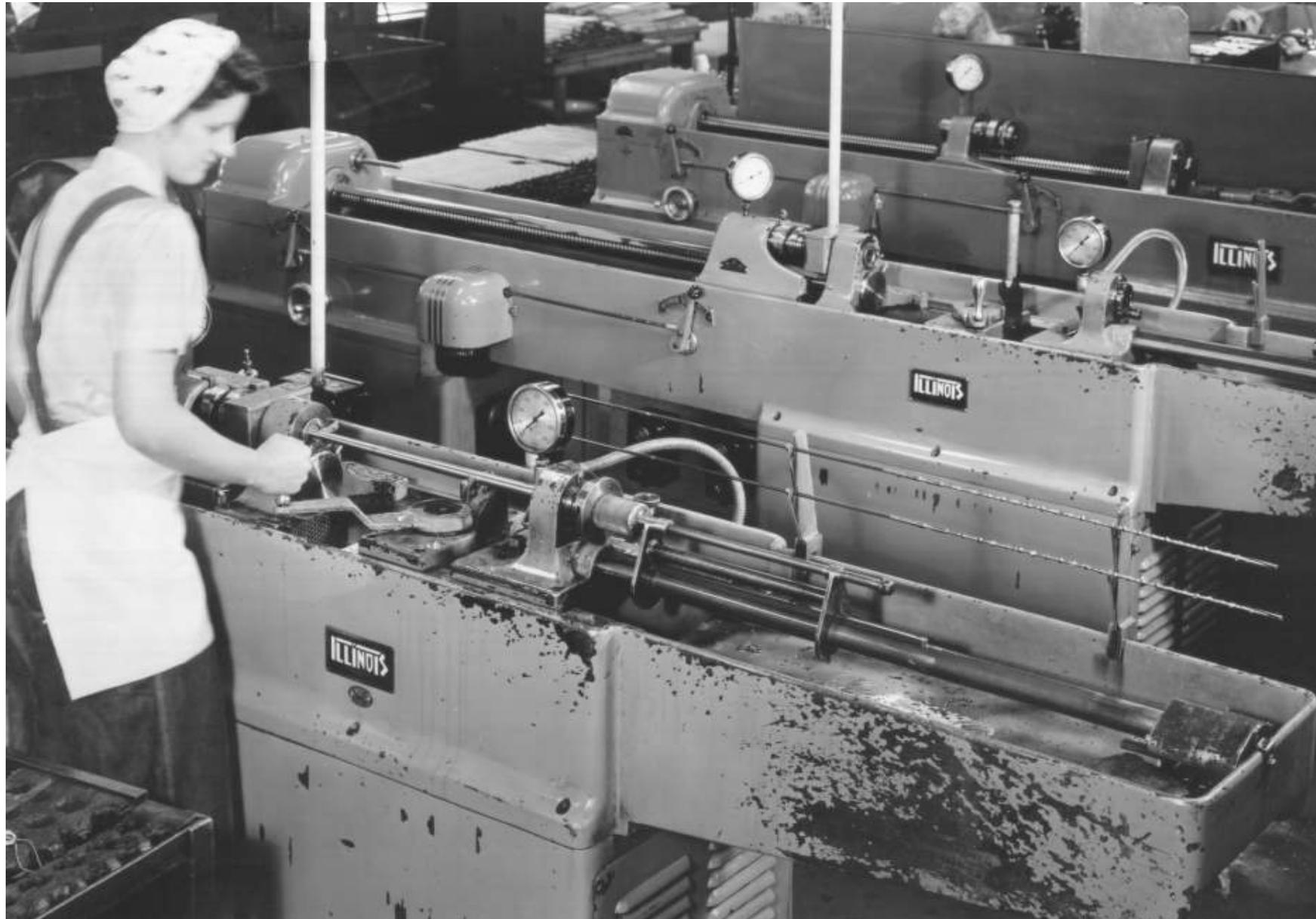
427441 August 10, 1947
 ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT
 Rock Island Ordnance Depot. No. 2. Interior of 25114
 storeroom with various items for storage and assembly.



Second World War



U.S. ARMY





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Cold War



Honest John MGR-1

- First nuclear-capable surface to surface rocket in the US.
- First tested 29 June 1951
- Could also use conventional 1,500 pound warhead
- Deployed to Europe by 1954





UNCLASSIFIED
Cold War

1970s-1980s Artillery Systems



Rock Island Arsenal Today



U.S. ARMY





Rock Island Arsenal Today

More than Just Production

- ✓ **60 Tenants**
- ✓ **1st Army**
- ✓ **Two major AMC commands**
 - ASC
 - JMC
- ✓ **Sections of other AMC commands**
- ✓ **CPOC, Marines, Navy, Coast Guard, Engineers, contractors**
- ✓ **6,500 people on the Island**

