

The original construction of shop space on Rock Island Arsenal began in 1868 and continued through 1893. It was these same stone shops that housed workers producing material for the U.S. Army during the Spanish-American War and World War I. Projects included the M1903 Springfield Program, the 1910 and 1912 Equipment Boards, and numerous pieces of leather.

During World War I, the space needed to meet demands increased so much that new shops were necessary. The core buildings of the modern complex were built at this time. These spaces were utilized during Korea and Vietnam as well, but by 1975 it was determined that streamlining of manufacturing process was necessary. Much of the backside of the modern complex was built during this time during Project REARM, an effort to preserve the historic buildings while repairing the more modern buildings for continued use. Thanks to REARM, the Rock Island Arsenal's Joint Manufacturing & Technology Center continues to provide materiel to Warfighters.

ISTORY



Originally in the stone shops

New complex during World War I

Complex renovated in the 1980s

The Government's only foundry

Part of the larger TACOM

Single largest item: Mark VIII

Still in operation today



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