



HYDRO POWER PLANT & DAM

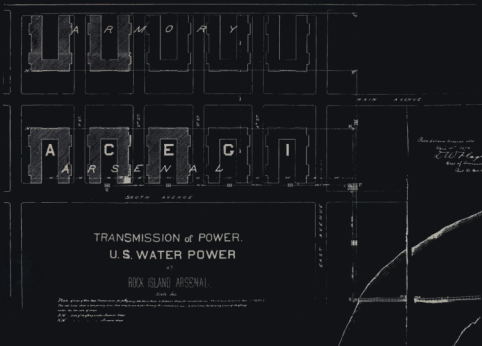
ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL Installation



It should be no surprise that the first form of electrical power at Rock Island Arsenal was generated using water. From 1879, Rock Island Arsenal used the power generated by the Mississippi River to provide both manual and electric power to buildings on the island.

The first power system was what is known as a "telodynamic" system. This utilized a series of turbines that turned a main drive shaft that then transferred momentum to other gears through a series of belts and pulleys. The flow of the river over the turbines and through these mediums allowed machines to operate in each stone shop.

In 1899, the telodynamic system was destroyed by a fire at the power plant and was subsequently replaced with a more modern hydroelectric solid-state system in 1901. Hydroelectric power has provided a percentage of output to the arsenal ever since.



Dam & plant completed 1879

Powered original stone shops

Rebuilt after fire in 1899

Has been continuously updated

Provides ~20% of RIAs power

Has been in continuous use

Co-owned with City of Moline



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