



# FORT ARMSTRONG

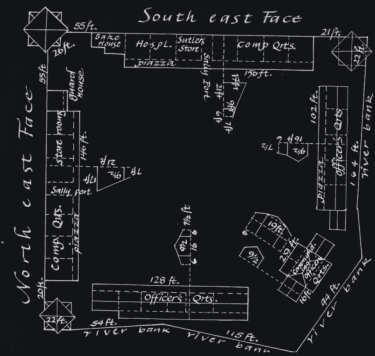


## ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL Installation



Following surveys of the upper Mississippi River, the site of the fort at Rock Island was finally selected. In 1816, the first permanent presence of the federal government was established at Rock Island. Named after the Secretary of War, Fort Armstrong was constructed at the lower end of the island and designed to monitor traffic on the river. However, Fort Armstrong's primary mission was to monitor Sauk and Meskwaki activities in the region.

During the Black Hawk War of 1832, Fort Armstrong served as the U.S. Army's main point of supply. At its peak, the fort sustained and supplied up to 20 percent of the entire force. Up to 10 percent of the Army was stationed at the fort. The war included participation by future presidents Zachary Taylor and Abraham Lincoln. Following the close of the war, Fort Armstrong's mission was completed. The fort was abandoned in 1836 but remained as a depot for storage and supply through 1845. COL George Davenport remained the custodian of the facility until his death.



Established in 1816

Replica blockhouse built in 1916

Had typical fort design

Built to monitor local natives

Main logistics hub in 1832

Up to 20% of the Army supported

Totally abandoned in 1845

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ON THE LINE

