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Rock Island Arsenal
Commanding Officer's Quarters
(Quarters 1)
Gillespie Avenue between Terrace Drive
and Hedge Lane
Rock Island
Rock Island County
Illinois

HABS No. IL-1001E

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL
COMMANDING OFFICER'S QUARTERS
(Quarters 1)

HABS No. IL-1001E

Location:

Gillespie Avenue between Terrace Drive and Hedge Lane,
Rock Island Arsenal,
Rock Island,
Rock Island County, Illinois

USGS Davenport East Quadrangle,
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
15.704480.4599460

Present Owner and Occupant:

U.S. Army

Present Use:

Family housing

Significance:

After taking command of Rock Island Arsenal in 1865, General Thomas Jefferson Rodman devised a master plan for the installation calling for the construction of ten large manufacturing shops, five on each side of the island's major east-west thoroughfare. These core manufacturing structures were supplemented by a variety of administrative, residential, maintenance, storage, and utility buildings. Although only a few buildings were erected prior to Rodman's death in 1871, subsequent construction under Rodman's nineteenth-century successors closely conformed to the original plan.

Located on the island's north-central shore, the Commanding Officer's Quarters was one of the first building's erected under the Rodman plan. Designed by Rodman, it was completed in the fall of 1871, a few months after his death. The richly ornamented limestone structure is a superb example of Italianate architecture. In its scale and detailing, it symbolized the arsenal's importance as a major government installation and strongly influenced the design of three neighboring subaltern officer's quarters (see HABS Nos. IL-1001F, IL-1001G, IL-1001H). The building is part of the Rock Island Arsenal National Register Historic District.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: According to Major Daniel Webster Flagler, who succeeded General Thomas Jefferson Rodman as the arsenal's commandant in 1871, excavation began on May 1, 1870, under the supervision of Lieutenant W. P. Butler of the Ordnance Department. The building was completed in October 1871 (Flagler, p. 258).

Flagler reported that: "Owing to vexatious delays in procuring sufficient supplies of stone from the contractors . . . the walls were not completed during the season for out door work [in 1870], and a great part of the stone work was done during the intense cold weather of winter. Fires and a large use of hot water and salt were required in preparing the mortar, and the walls were not completed until about the middle of January, 1871. This added considerably to the cost of the work. The building was roofed as soon as the walls were finished, and the work on the interior progressed without interruption until the building was completed" (Flagler, p. 259).

2. Architect: General Thomas Jefferson Rodman (Flagler, pp. 258, 260). Rodman's drawings for the Commanding Officer's Quarters were submitted to the War Department in Washington in February 1869 and approved a month later (Flagler, p. 258).

Born in Salem, Indiana in 1815, Rodman graduated from West Point in 1841 and was assigned to Allegheny Arsenal in Pittsburgh as an officer of the Ordnance Department. During the next two decades, he developed techniques for hollow casting cannon and for producing perforated propellant, which revolutionized the manufacture and use of artillery (Zabecki, pp. 55-56; Flagler, pp. 262-266).

As commandant of Watertown Arsenal near Boston from 1859 to 1865, Rodman was responsible for designing that installation's commanding officer's quarters, which was a simplified, brick version of the Italianate stone structure he subsequently planned for Rock Island Arsenal (Baylies and Bahr, p. 37). Rodman assumed command of Rock Island Arsenal in 1865 and died of illness at the installation in June 1871 (Flagler, pp. 116, 261).

3. Original and subsequent owners: U.S. Army.
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: The first shipments of stone were supplied on a contract basis by "Messrs. Sanger & Steele, of

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Joliet, Ill., from their limestone quarries on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, about two miles north of Joliet. The price paid was \$6 per cubic yard, delivered at the quarries and measured in the walls of the [building], excluding all openings and builder's or constructive measurements. The cost of transportation to the arsenal was about \$5.50 per yard" (Flagler, p. 258). After Sanger & Steele defaulted on their contract in August, 1870, stone "almost identical in character and quality with the Joliet stone" was purchased from Edwin Walker of Lamont, Illinois "at an average price of 38 1/2 cents per cubic foot" (Flagler, p. 260).

The building was roofed in slate at a cost of "15.25 per square" under a contract with Aiken & Co. of Pittsburgh; the work was supervised by the company's foreman, Charles C. Hipwell (Flagler, p. 257). The remainder of the construction "was done by day workmen, employed and paid by the Government. The work was directed and superintended directly by officers of the Ordnance Department stationed at the arsenal, and the necessary engineering work, calculations, making of tests, experiments, etc., was also done by the officers" (Flagler, p. 260). A "Mr. Channon" served as "master carpenter" (Davenport Daily Democrat).

5. Original plans and construction: No original drawings or plans have been located. Floor plans published in 1876 document the present arrangement of rooms (Plans of Officer's Quarters, p. 29). A photograph published in 1887 (First Album, n.p.), which is in the picture collection of the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Office (see HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-27), shows the present configuration of the front facade. The photograph is captioned on the front, "Commanding Officer's Quarters." There are no original plans or early views of the garage, which was constructed in 1926 (Real Property Inventory, p. 5).
6. Alterations and additions: Physical inspection of the building shows that chimneys were removed from the northeast and southeast quadrants at undetermined dates.

Before 1905, a one-story, glass-enclosed conservatory was added to the southwest corner. This feature is shown in a 1905 photograph in the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Office, captioned on the front, "Rock Island Arsenal / 380-777 April 3, 1905 / Commanding Officer's Quarters." Although an 1870 newspaper description of the unfinished building states that a conservatory was located "at the rear of the kitchen department" at the northwest corner (Davenport Daily Democrat), this feature is not included in the floor plans published in 1876 (Plans of Officer's Quarters, p. 29). Physical inspection shows that two original windows on the west facade were remodeled into French

doors to provide access to the conservatory, which strongly suggests that the conservatory was not part of the original residence. About 1957, the superstructure of the conservatory was demolished, leaving the basement intact to support a patio (Interview with Bouilly). The Rock Island Arsenal Engineering Plans and Services Division has undated plans for the demolition of the conservatory.

B. Historical Context:

Situated in an officers' residential area on the north-central shore of Rock Island, the Commanding Officer's Quarters was constructed during 1870-1871. It was designed by Thomas Jefferson Rodman, who, during his tenure as commandant from 1865 to 1871, devised a master construction plan for the arsenal that was implemented by his nineteenth-century successors. A massive, lavishly-detailed Italianate building, the Commanding Officer's Quarters symbolized the importance of Rock Island Arsenal as a major government installation, and it set an architectural standard for three neighboring subaltern officers' quarters constructed during 1871-1874 (see HABS Nos. IL-1001F, IL-1001G, IL-1001H). The Commanding Officer's Quarters is still used as a residence by the highest ranking officer stationed at the arsenal. It has been designated as "Quarters 1" at least since 1918 (Map of Rock Island, 1918). (For further documentation see HAER No. IL-20.)

Prepared by: Jeffrey A. Hess
MacDonald and Mack Partnership
February 1985

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The building is an extremely large, three-story limestone residence, dominating both by its size and its location the other three contemporaneous limestone residences (Quarters 2, 3 and 4). It has a hipped (with a single gable) roof with a flat upper deck with skylights and a tall, square tower. The residence has an irregular, rectilinear mass characterized by an irregular main block and a smaller rectangular rear wing with large front and rear porches. The house is a superior example of High Victorian Italianate style architecture. It has experienced relatively few modifications and alterations.
2. Condition of fabric: The house is generally well-maintained but it is in fair condition because of deterioration occurring on the third floor and tower interiors as a result of inadequate maintenance.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The house has an irregular plan with a main block measuring 74' x 52', excluding porches. The east (front) elevation (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, and IL-1001E-5) is five bays wide, excluding two one-bay offsets of the north elevation. Centered in the east elevation is a tower projection measuring 19' x 11'. A rear wing (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-3 and IL-1001E-4) to the west measures 31' x 44' including the base of the former conservatory (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-3). There is an octagonal, one-story, bay window (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-4) at the west end of the north wall of the main block and two rectangular, one-story, bay windows (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-6, and IL-1001E-7) on the south elevation of the main block. A large, one-story porch (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-5, and IL-1001E-6) wraps around the east elevation and most of the north elevation, terminating at its south end in a 19' x 18' porte cochere. A one-story porch (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-4 and IL-1001E-5) fronts the north elevation of the rear wing and the exposed portion of the west elevation of the main block. There is a small rear porch (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-3) on the west end of the south elevation of the rear wing. Both the main block and the wing are three stories with a full basement and unfinished attic. The tower is four stories tall with an exceptionally tall third story. The former conservatory retains its basement.
2. Foundations: Above grade, perimeter foundations are brick with a veneer of smooth, dressed ashlar limestone exterior facing. Below grade, there is a dressed ashlar limestone foundation wall. A similar limestone wall supports brick foundation walls for interior bearing walls. The water table is smooth, dressed limestone.
3. Walls: Coursed, smooth-faced, ashlar limestone (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-5, IL-1001E-6, IL-1001E-7, and IL-1001E-8) with rusticated limestone quoins, having rock-faced faces surrounded by smooth margins, at all exterior corners. The tower quoins (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-5, and IL-1001E-8) terminate in cut-limestone, Doric, capital blocks surmounted by raised, cut, face blocks. Carved limestone brackets (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, and IL-1001E-5) resting on a molded, limestone, belt course at the third-floor level, support the eaves and cornice. The tower brackets and belt course are supported by carved, limestone brackets between the raised, face blocks of the corners.
4. Structural systems: Exterior walls are load-bearing brick faced with limestone. Interior walls are load-bearing brick. Floor

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systems are sawn wood joists. Roof framing is sawn wood rafters and beams.

5. Porches: A full porch (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-5, and IL-1001E-6) extends across the east elevation and around the east end of the north elevation of the main block. Cut limestone piers support elaborate, cast-iron columns typically grouped in pairs or in sets of three at corner piers. At the front of the tower bay of the porch base is a set of limestone steps (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1 and IL-1001E-2), flanked by cut limestone sides, leading from grade level to the porch deck. The steps curve and flare outward as they descend. Near the west end of the north side is a narrower set of limestone steps. This set does not flare and carries an ornate, cast-iron railing with newel posts on each of its sides. The sides are ashlar limestone with cut limestone coping. Inside the porch at its south end a broad flight of wooden steps (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-6) descends to grade level at the porte cochere. Between the other porch base piers, excluding the porte cochere, which is open, is diamond-pattern, wood, lattice infill. Fronting the deck are wood facing beams between the piers. The deck and ceiling are tongue-and-groove board construction. Between the column bases are sets of ornate, cast-iron railings. At the column tops are elaborate, filigree, cast-iron brackets. The entire porch is screened from floor to ceiling. Molded wood fascia with modillions and eaves front a flat roof covered with copper roofing and flashing. The fascia and eaves are level except at the tower bay where they rise to a low, segmental arch. The roof over the porte cochere is substantially lower than the main porch roof. All wood elements are painted tan, except the deck, which is painted gray.

The north wing porch (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-4 and IL-1001E-5) rests upon brick piers supporting square wood posts. At the west end of the porch is a set of wood steps with railing. Between the porch base piers are sets of square-pattern, wood lattice. The deck, facing edges, and ceiling are tongue-and-groove board construction. The porch is screened from floor to ceiling. The wood fascia and eaves, which match those of the east porch, are set below a flat roof covered with copper roofing and flashing. All wood elements of the porch are painted tan to match the limestone, except the deck, which is painted gray.

At the west end of the south elevation of the rear wing is a small porch (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-3) similar in construction to the north porch. It has a simple wooden railing and steps located at its west end.

Adjacent to this porch is a large, concrete terrace (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-3) formed from the former floor of the conservatory.

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A wrought-iron railing painted black encloses the south and west sides of the terrace and extends down both sides of the broad set of concrete steps extending to grade level near the center of the west elevation.

6. Chimneys: Three of the original five chimneys (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, and IL-1001E-5) survive. Two rise from within the south side of the main block roof and the third rises from within the center of the wing roof. The chimneys are cut limestone with flaring, molded, cut caps.

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways: The main doorway, centered in the tower bay of the east elevation, contains a double-leaf door filling a large semi-circular opening. Each leaf is walnut and has three panels. At the bottom is a wooden rectangular panel. Above it is a long, clear-glass panel with a semi-circular head. Above it is a spandrel panel filling between the opening arch and the lower glass panel arch. The doors are varnished on their exterior faces and painted white on their interior faces. With a keystone in its semi-circular arch and a beaded edge molding, the opening is set in a rectangular frame with raised spandrel panels. Flanking each side is a single pilaster with alternating smooth- and raised-panel blocks above a plinth and base and below a Doric capital surmounted by a triglyph supporting a heavily molded entablature. The threshold is formed by a large limestone block. All elements of the opening and frame are cut and carved limestone. The jamb faces and opening arch soffit are covered with panelled walnut facing.

The primary rear entrance (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-3), opening from the former conservatory at the north end of the south portion of the main block west elevation, contains a door with transom and sidelights in a cut limestone opening similar to the adjacent window openings. The four-panel, wood door contains a single glass panel in place of its original, two upper panels and is painted on both sides. The transom contains a three-light fixed sash. The sidelights contain two-light, fixed, sash above single, wood panels. The doorway opening contains a dressed limestone sill block. The jamb faces and transom head have panelled, wood facing. There is a modern, wood, storm door fronting the door.

Near the west end of the north elevation of the wing are two single doorways and near the west end of the south elevation of the same wing are another two doorways. The eastern doorway of the north elevation has a cut limestone frame with a triangular pediment. The original door was replaced with a

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pair of four-light, French doors. The western door has a similar limestone opening, but with a four-panel, wood door below a triple-light, fixed, wood, transom sash. The eastern doorway of the south elevation matches the western doorway of the north elevation. The western doorway of the south elevation was originally a window with ends of the window sill block exposed on the exterior. It retains its limestone window surround and contains a modern, wood door with two panels below a six-light, fixed, wood sash and a three-light, fixed, wood, transom sash above the door. All of these doors are fronted by aluminum storm doors and sash.

The basement entry (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-3), at the west end of the south wing porch, is reached through a small frame structure having a low gable roof and clapboarded walls painted tan to match the limestone. In its west face is a simple, board door in a plain frame from which descends a set of concrete steps giving access to an inner doorway, containing a door with two wood panels below a four-light, fixed, wood sash, a six-light, fixed, wood, transom sash, and single-light, fixed, wood, sidelight transom sash. These are set in a plain, wood frame.

- b. Windows: Typical first- and second-floor main block window openings (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, and IL-1001E-5) contain one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash with cut limestone surrounds having triangular pediments, molded jambs, and flat sills. They are arranged singly or in pairs. The two window openings (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-3) at the south end of the first-floor, main-block, west elevation have had their sash replaced with pairs of wood, French doors, each leaf having an eight-light, fixed, wood sash in its upper section, with a four-light, fixed, wood, transom sash above. These are fronted by modern, wood, storm doors with eight-light sash. The east window sash of the dining room and the north window sash of the library were replaced with pairs of twelve-light, walnut, French doors. The bay window openings (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-6, and IL-1001E-7) are similar to those of the main wall surface, but with flat, cut limestone, molded lintels having a carved, Neo-Grec style motif. The third-floor window openings (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, and IL-1001E-5) contain pairs of single-light, wood, casement sash between the carved brackets, above the belt course, and below the eaves. Centered in the north gable end of the third floor is a window opening (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-5) containing a one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash with a semi-circular head breaking the bottom molding of

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the triangular gable pediment. The opening jambs and arch are formed by smooth, rusticated, cut limestone blocks and voussoirs. The sill is the belt course of the wall. The wing window openings (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-3 and IL-1001E-4) contain one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash with cut limestone surrounds matching those of the main block, but lacking the triangular pediments. The third-floor wing window openings contain single, one-light, wood, casement sash set between the carved brackets, above the belt course, and below the eaves. All of the wing windows are arranged singly except for a pair at the first-floor of the west elevation. All of the first-, second- and third-floor window openings contain aluminum storm sash. Basement window openings typically contain six-light, wood, casement sash. The plain openings of the exterior basement windows have sill blocks projecting at grade level. The small basement entry structure has a fixed, four-light, wood sash centered in both of its sides.

In the north and south first-floor flanks of the tower (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1 and IL-1001E-2) are single windows matching the typical first- and second-floor windows of the main block. Above these, at the second-floor level are longer window openings containing four-over-four, double-hung, wood sash. The openings are cut limestone with triangular pediments and flat jambs and sills. Beneath each pediment is a segmental arch with four smooth, rusticated voussoirs and a keystone with a raised surface. The spandrels above each arch are formed with simple panels. A pair of identical sash are set in a similar surround on the east face of the second floor of the tower. Centered in the north, south, and east faces of the third-floor level of the tower (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-5, and IL-1001E-8) are sets of three, elongated, two-over-two, double-hung, wood sash sharing a common, cut limestone opening. Each opening has a triangular pediment, smooth jambs, and a smooth sill supported by four brackets identical to those supporting the molded belt course above. Beneath the pediment is a set of three segmental arches with smooth voussoirs and keystones matching those of the second-floor tower windows. Spandrel panels, likewise, are similar to those of the windows below. The fourth floor of the tower contains sets of three one-over-one, double-hung, window sash in each of its faces. These are surrounded by the carved brackets, the belt course, and the eaves above.

Centered in the flat deck of the main roof is a hipped, glazed outer skylight, providing light for the central hall of the house. A secondary skylight is located in the roof directly above the main stair hall, providing light for that space.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The main block roof (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, and IL-1001E-5) is a truncated hip with a flat deck and a single gable to the north. The wing roof (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, and IL-1001E-5) is hipped. The flat deck is covered with copper roofing, as are the flat roofs of the porches, the three bay windows, and the tower. The remainder of the roof is covered with asphalt shingling.
- b. Cornice and eaves: The cornice and eaves (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-5, and IL-1001E-8) are cut limestone and are supported by the carved limestone brackets described above, except at the pedimented gable end of the north elevation. There is an ashlar limestone parapet wall (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1 and IL-1001E-2) around the tower roof above the cornice. The bay windows (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-6 and IL-1001E-7) have molded, denticulated, cut limestone cornices and eaves. The copper interior gutter system drains into exterior leaders which serve an underground drainage system.
- c. Dormers, cupola, towers: There is a four-story, square, ashlar limestone tower (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-1, IL-1001E-2, IL-1001E-3, IL-1001E-4, IL-1001E-5, and IL-1001E-8) rising from grade at the east elevation.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. Basement: The basement (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-28) is divided into sixteen rooms closely corresponding to the first-floor plan with the exception of the basement area below the former conservatory, which is comprised of a room and a hallway. The rooms are basically unfinished, with the exception of the trunk room located at the southeast corner of the main block.
- b. First floor: The first floor plan (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-29) revolves around a central hall in the main block. East of this hall is the main entry vestibule beneath the tower. West of the hall is a small, rear vestibule. A small closet was added in the northeast corner of the main hall. Opening into the vestibules and the hall on the south is a pair of parlors, each having its own rectangular bay window. A library located at the northeast corner opens to the east vestibule and to the main hall. Opening directly off the center of the north side

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of the main hall is a large stair hall, north of which is a powder room and a small entry hall. North and west of the stair hall is the dining room, which features an octagonal bay window. Between the dining room and the west end of the main hall and the west vestibule is a storage room and a connecting hallway. Along the south side of the wing is a large stair hall containing a small bathroom and north of which is the kitchen and pantry. At the west end of the wing is a laundry room at the north and a storage room and a small entry vestibule at the south.

- c. Second floor: The second floor plan (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-30) corresponds closely with the first floor plan. The central hall has an open well in its center. Above the east vestibule is a sewing room with a narrow hall connecting it to the main hall. Likewise, a narrow hall above the west vestibule connects the main hall with the wing, having steps to accommodate the difference in floor elevations. From this hall opens a closet corresponding to the dining room storage room below. Above the parlors is a pair of bedrooms having a shared bathroom between them at the south and individual closets at the north between the bath and the main hall. The southeast bedroom has another closet to its north and east located above the east vestibule below. The southwest bedroom has a private bath to its north and west above the west vestibule below. Above the library is a bedroom. The main stair hall continues upward. Behind it is a narrow hall connecting the northeast and northwest bedrooms. North of this hall is a bathroom for the two bedrooms. The northwest bedroom is located directly above the dining room with a closet above the storage room below and a connecting hallway with the main hall corresponding to the hall below. The rear wing stair hall continues its ascent. A bedroom is located above the kitchen and a bathroom and entry hall to the bedroom are found above the pantry. A portion of the rear hall is used for a bedroom closet and a bathroom. Above the laundry and storage room is the sixth bedroom of the second floor.
- d. Third floor: The third floor plan (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-31) corresponds directly with the second floor plan. The central hall again has an open well in its center. At its east end is a horseshoe stairway leading up to the third floor of the tower, located above the sewing room below. There is a hall closet located beneath the horseshoe stairway. The tower room contains a stair leading up to its fourth floor. West of the main hall is a narrow hall with steps connecting the main block with the wing. The south bedrooms are identical to their second-floor counterparts with the exceptions that the southeast bedroom lacks the north closet and the private bath

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of the southwest bedroom is a storage room. The main stairway ceases its upward ascent on the third floor. The north bedrooms are identical to their second-floor counterparts with the exceptions that the bathroom behind the main stair is shared directly by the bedrooms without benefit of a connecting hall and the northwest bedroom has a larger closet than its lower counterpart. The wing stair hall culminates on the third floor. Instead of two bedrooms, there are three bedrooms in the third-floor wing, but no bathrooms, and only one closet, located south of the center bedroom.

e. Fourth Floor and Attic: At the fourth floor level is a single tower room. The attic over the remainder of the house is open and unfinished.

2. Stairways: The primary stairway (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-20) is located in its own hall north of the central hall. Rising from the first through the third floor with an additional flight between the basement and the first floor, it is a U-shaped stair with a semi-circular end containing intermediate landings. The stair is open in its center and cantilevered from the adjacent walls on the other sides. It is walnut with a molded railing; vertical, beaded, tongue-and-groove rail infill and matching wainscoting with chair rail flanking the steps; panelled, walnut infill and stringer facing the well, and a panelled, octagonal, newel post. The newel post features a rare, original, cast-metal statue of an armored soldier holding a torch, originally a gas light, but later converted to electricity. The stair is varnished except for the vertical board infill areas, which are painted white. The flight leading to the basement is much simpler, being a straight-run stair with simple rail and board infill painted white.

The wing stairway (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-24), which also runs from the basement through the third floor, is a very narrow, straight-run stair with winders located at the bottom of the basement flight and both the top and bottom of the first-floor flight. From the first floor to the second, it is open on one side with a molded railing, turned balusters and newel post, and exposed stringer on the open side, and vertical, beaded, wainscoting with a molded chair rail on the wall faces. The stringer and wainscoting are painted white, but the rest is varnished. From the second to the third floors it is enclosed on both sides with the wainscoting continuing upward with the outer side encased with a vertical, beaded, board wall painted white. From the first floor to the basement, it is open at the basement level and has a plain, vertical, board infill supporting a simple molded wood rail.

From the east end of the third floor main hall to the tower room door runs a horseshoe-shaped, single-flight, staircase (HABS Photo

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No. IL-1001E-25) with mirror flights of stairs rising from each side of the hall and curving to meet at a common landing in front of the doorway. Its basic construction components are identical to those of the rear wing stair from the first to the second floors. However, this stair is completely varnished. This stair is completed with a short, upper flight of steps running east into the tower room.

The tower contains an open, U-shaped, stairway (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-26) with winders in the tower corners and landings at the top and midway along the south wall at a doorway leading into the main-block attic. It has a vertical, beaded, board wainscoting and rail infill with similar railing and chair rail. The vertical boards are painted white, but the rest is varnished.

From the fourth floor of the tower to the roof hatch above runs a very steep, open riser stair. It has a pair of round, varnished, walnut handrails.

3. Flooring: Basement flooring is unfinished poured concrete, with the exception of the trunk room, which has a wide pine board floor. First-story flooring in the main block is typically alternating oak and walnut (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-15, IL-1001E-17, IL-1001E-18, IL-1001E-19, and IL-1001E-20). The parlors have oak flooring (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-12 and IL-1001E-13) with parquet borders in a diamond pattern. The first-story wing floors (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-24) are wood covered with sheet linoleum. The second-story, main-block flooring (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-22) is typically varnished, narrow oak. The central second-floor hall (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-21) has alternating walnut and oak flooring. The sewing room has a sheet linoleum floor, as do the south bedroom closets. The north bedroom in the wing has a maple floor (not original) and the west bedroom adjacent to it has an original pine floor. The third story typically has wide pine flooring. Maple floors were added to the northwest, northeast, and southwest bedrooms and the storage room adjacent to the southwest bedroom. The tower room (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-26) has a linoleum floor on its third level and a pine board floor at its fourth level. All bathroom floors are covered with modern linoleum or ceramic tile.
4. Wall and ceiling finishes: Basement walls are painted limestone and brick and the ceilings are painted plaster, except the ceiling below the former conservatory, which is corrugated sheet steel with exposed steel beams. First-, second-, and third-floor walls and ceilings (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-12, IL-1001E-13, IL-1001E-14, IL-1001E-15, IL-1001E-16, IL-1001E-17, IL-1001E-18, IL-1001E-19, IL-1001E-20, IL-1001E-21, IL-1001E-22, IL-1001E-23, IL-1001E-24, IL-1001E-25 and IL-1001E-26) are

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painted plaster. The fourth-floor tower walls are unpainted asblar limestone and its ceiling is painted tongue-and-groove boards.

Panelled wainscoting is located in the first-floor central hall (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, and IL-1001E-20), the east vestibule (HABS Photo No. IL-20E-10), the main stair hall, the first-floor ball behind the main stair hall, the hall to the dining room from the main hall, the two bay windows of the parlors (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-13), and the dining room (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-16, IL-1001E-17, IL-1001E-18 and IL-1001E-19), with the last-named alone retaining its original varnish coat and the others painted. Vertical board wainacoting is located along the main stair walls (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-20) to the second and third floors, the rear wing stair (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-24) between the first and second floors, the third floor stair (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-25) to the tower, the tower stairway (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-26), the west end of the first-floor wing hall, the walls flanking the steps leading from the third-floor front to the wing, the southeast, northeast and northwest second-floor bedroom closets, the second-floor rear hall bathroom, the third-floor bathrooms, the infill wall at the third-floor main stair landing, the pantry, the dining room storage room, the laundry room, and the trunk room. Only the upper stairway wainscoting retains its original varnish coat with the others painted. Bathrooms typically contain modern ceramic tile wainscoting.

Molded, painted, plaster cornices are located in the central halls (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-20, IL-1001E-21, and IL-1001E-25) on all three floors, the east (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-10) and west vestibules, the main stairway on all three floors, the parlors (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-12 and IL-1001E-13) and their bay windows, the library (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-15), the dining room (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-16 and IL-1001E-18) and its bay window (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-17), the sewing room, and the primary second-floor bedroom (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-22). The cornices of the main halls and east vestibule are particularly elaborate with scrolled modillions. Extremely elaborate cornices are also found in the parlors and their bay windows, the library, and the dining room and its bay window. Additional running plaster moldings are found on the ceilings of the parlors (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-12 and IL-1001E-13), the library (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-15), and the dining room (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-18). The third-floor ceiling of the main hall (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-25) has steeply curving sides with plaster panels framed with plaster waterleaf molding. Elaborate painted, plaster, ceiling rosettes are located in pairs on the ceilings of all three main halls (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-21, and IL-1001E-25), and centered on the ceilings of the east and west vestibules, the parlors and their bay windows, the library, the dining room and its bay

window, the sewing room, and the four primary second-floor bedrooms. The open wells of the central halls (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-21, and IL-1001E-25) are lined with painted, panelled facings. The bottom edges of these wells are lined with plaster moldings and there are plaster drops at each of their lower corners. There is a similar panelled facing below the main stair skylight with a plaster edge molding, but no drops.

Most painted surfaces are white.

5. Openings:

- a. Doorways: Typical first-, second-, and third-floor doorways (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-12, and IL-1001E-22) contain four-panel doors with wide, molded casings. The jambs and heads of the doorways are typically faced with panelling where they are set in the thick masonry bearing walls. All doors and their casings are painted white, except those facing the dining room and the library, which retain their original varnish coats. The door between the dining room and pantry was replaced with a double-swinging leather door having a single-light, fixed, wood, transom sash above. The doors opening from the main hall to the parlors (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, and IL-1001E-12) have been removed.

The inner set of doors at each end of the central hall (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10 and IL-1001E-11) opening to the east and west vestibules are similar to the main front doors. They have a pair of doors set in a semi-circular opening with a panel arrangement in the door leaves matching the main exterior doors. These doors retain their original, decorative, etched-glass panels in the upper two panels of the doors above a lower, raised, wood panel, except for the primary center panel of the south leaf of the west doorway, which has been replaced with vertical, striated, frosted glass. The wide, molded, wood casings continue on both sides by sharing their jambs with sidelights. Each sidelight is a smaller version of the center doorway with a semi-circular head. Each has a raised, wood, base panel corresponding to those of the doors, above which is a decorative etched-glass panel matching those of the adjacent doors.

There are a number of large archways without doors. Typical archways are composed of elliptical arches framed with wide casings having panelling on their jamb and soffit faces. Archways of this type are located at the juncture of each of the three bay windows (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-13 and IL-1001E-14) with their adjacent rooms, the main stairway (HABS IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-20, IL-1001E-21, and IL-1001E-25) st

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each of its three primary landings, the opening (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-20) between the main hall and the short hall leading to the dining room, the main hall and the short halls leading to the northwest bedroom on the second and third floors, the second-floor wing hall and the east hall leading to the east bedroom, the second-floor west bedroom dividing the two major sections, and the main hall and the short hall (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-21) leading to the sewing room on the second floor. There is a similar archway (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-20) with a greatly flattened arch located between the main stair and the short hall immediately north of it on the first floor.

Between the front and rear portions of the first and second floor are segmental-arched openings with widely-chamfered narrow wood edges. The first-floor opening has a door in it having two-panels below a four-light, frosted-glass, fixed, wood sash. There is a fixed, two-light, wood transom sash above. The north, second-floor bathroom also has a fixed, two-light, wood, transom sash. There is a pair of four-panel pocket doors (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-12 and IL-1001E-13) between the two parlors. The doors and their casings match those of the other doorways of the house with the exception that they lack the panelled jamb and soffit faces. A plain, wood, upper panel with scrolled ornaments has been added to its top on the east side.

Typical basement doorways contain wide, board doors with beaded, vertical, tongue-and-groove boards on one side and beaded, diagonal, tongue-and-groove boards on the other. They are set in plain wood frames in masonry openings with segmental brick arches formed by the foundation walls. A similar board door (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-25) is located in the small closet beneath the horseshoe stairway leading from the central hall to the third-floor tower room. At the attic landing in the tower is a segmental-arched opening containing a pair of two-panel doors (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-26).

- b. Windows: Typical first- and second-floor windows contain wide, walnut casings with folding shutters concealed in their jambs. One side contains a single, panelled shutter and the other, typically, contains a bi-folding shutter with one shutter panelled and the other with operable slats. Most shutters have been removed, except those in the library, the dining room and its bay (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-16 and IL-1001E-17), and a few windows in the first-floor wing. Below the windows are single-panel, wood bases to the floor. With the windows fronting the porches these bases form part of the sash so that the lower sash can be raised to form a doorway opening. The win-

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dows of the octagonal bay window (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-17) of the dining room extend to the floor. The windows of the two rectangular parlor bays (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-13) rest on the panelled wainscoting. The third-floor and upper tower windows typically contain wide molded casings with panelled jambs and heads, but without shutters or lower panels. The basement windows lack casings. All windows are painted, except those of the dining room and the library, which retain their original varnish coats.

The third-floor main hall contains an inner, fixed, three-light, wood skylight sash glazed with frosted wire glass, centered in its ceiling above the open wells below. The main stair hall has a long, oval, three-light, fixed, wood-sash skylight over the stair.

There are a number of interior windows, in addition to those mentioned above. Circular, single-light, fixed wood sash with frosted glass are located at the first-floor main stair landing and in the south wall of the second-floor north bathroom. Between the dining room storage room and the west vestibule is a pair of two-light, fixed, wood sash with clear glass painted over on the storage room face. The first-floor rear wing hall contains a single-light, fixed, wood sash with frosted glass in the bathroom wall. East of it is a four-light, fixed wood sash in the basement stair wall. In the wall between the hallway leading from the front to the rear of the second floor and its north closet is a four-light, wood, awning sash. The second-floor rear hall contains a three-light, fixed, wood sash in the bathroom wall. Directly east of it is a four-light, fixed, wood sash. In the infill wall at the third-floor landing of the main stair is a sixteen-light, fixed, wood sash. Flanking each side of the third-floor hall between the front and wing are four-light, fixed, wood sash in the closet walls. These interior window sash have similar casings to the exterior windows, but lack shutters and lower panels.

In the interior basement walls of the south hall of the west wing, there are large window openings, some of which retain six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash. All of these openings have ashlar limestone jambs and dressed limestone sill and lintel blocks.

6. Decorative features and trim: Throughout the first, second, and third floors there are wide, molded wood baseboards (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-12, IL-1001E-13, IL-1001E-14, IL-1001E-17, IL-1001E-20, IL-1001E-21, IL-1001E-22, IL-1001E-24, IL-1001E-25, and IL-1001E-26) painted white except those in the dining room and library, which retain their original varnish

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coats. At the exposed corners of each fireplace (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-12, IL-1001E-14, IL-1001E-22, and IL-1001E-23), except the library, there are turned wood base guards rising from the floor to several inches above the baseboard. In the dining room (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-18 and IL-1001E-19) these corner guards continue upward above the wainscoting level, as well. The dining room also contains a molded, varnished, walnut plate rail (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-16, IL-1001E-18 and IL-1001E-19). Simple, round corner guards running from floor to ceiling are located in the rear hall of the first floor, the exposed corners of the southeast, southwest, and northeast second-floor bedrooms (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-22 and IL-1001E-23), the eastern second-floor wing bedroom fireplace corners and doorway, the western second-floor wing bedroom fireplace corners and the adjacent wall corner, and the third-floor rear hall wall corner.

A surprisingly large amount of apparently original furniture, mostly walnut, is retained in the house. Only that furniture which has been built into the house is described below.

Between the window and library doorway in the north wall of the east vestibule is a built-in walnut coat tree with a cabinet base incorporating a cast-iron heat register and flanked by umbrella stands. In the wall opposite it (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-10) is a freestanding walnut chest with a white marble top, above which is a walnut clock built into the wall.

Wall clocks are also attached to the upper walls at the center of the south wall of the second-floor main hall and the south wall of the kitchen.

The dining room retains a built-in china closet (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-16). This china closet, which complements a freestanding walnut sideboard having a dark gray marble top, is set in a shallow niche in the masonry wall. The flat-walled niche has a semi-circular arch at its top. The closet has a projecting base level with the chair rail of the adjacent wainscoting. The base contains two sets of three drawers above a larger bottom drawer. Above the base is a shallow china case with a pair of glazed doors set in the semi-circular opening. The opening has a heavily molded walnut label. Also in the dining room, the doorway formerly opening to the adjacent storage room (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-18 and IL-1001E-19) has been filled with a china cupboard with a lower set of drawers surmounted by a pair of glazed doors fronting open shelves.

The library retains its original set of varnished, walnut bookcases (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-15). There is a built-in walnut desk centered in the east wall.

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The west vestibule also has a small, non-original writing desk built into its southwest corner.

Tall, wood cabinets are found in the first floor pantry, the dining room storage room, laundry room, and the basement room beneath the southwest parlor. The dining room storage room cabinets retain original graining (also seen on the risers of the steps between the front and rear of the third floor). The basement cabinet is varnished pine and the pantry and laundry room cabinets are painted. A wood access ladder for the pantry cabinet is on the south wall adjacent to the cabinet. Cabinetry in the kitchen is recent in origin.

Built-in chests are located in the closets of the southeast, northeast, and northwest second-floor bedrooms, the second floor hall closet west of the main hall, and in the four main bedroom closets of the third floor.

There are ten fireplaces in the house - four on the first floor and six on the second floor. The parlor fireplaces (HABS Photo Nos. 11-1001E-12 and 11-1001E-14) have elaborate, cut and polished, light gray marble mantelpieces and hearths; the library (HABS Photo No. 11-1001E-15) has a non-original, red brick fireplace with egg-and-dart-molded, upper edges and a red brick hearth; the dining room (HABS Photo Nos. 11-1001E-18 and 11-1001E-19) has an elaborate, cut and polished, gray marble mantelpiece and hearth; the northwest and southeast bedrooms (HABS Photo No. 11-1001E-23) each have an elaborate, cut and polished, white marble mantelpiece and hearth; the northeast and southwest bedrooms (HABS Photo No. 11-1001E-22) each have simpler, cut and polished, dark gray marble mantelpieces and hearths; and the two second-floor wing bedrooms have relatively plain, white marble mantelpieces and hearths. The elaborate mantelpieces are similar to each other, differing in small details within a broad stylistic genre. The simpler dark gray marble mantelpieces have semi-circular, arched, fire openings (as opposed to the rectangular openings of the other fireplaces) and have a carved marble shield centered above each opening. The plain white marble mantelpieces are similar to the dark gray marble mantelpieces with the primary difference being that they do not have carved spandrel panels on each side of the opening, but have flat slabs of marble with their only decoration being carved shields centered over the openings. Original fireplace hardware (HABS Photo Nos. 11-1001E-12, 11-1001E-14, 11-1001E-18, 11-1001E-19, and 11-1001E-23) appears to have survived in the parlor, dining room, and southeast bedroom fireplaces.

Along the north and west walls of the west room of the wing basement there is a cut limestone shelf supported on brick piers about

three feet above the floor. The historic use of the now-deteriorated shelf is unknown.

7. Hardware: A substantial amount of original hardware survives. The original, ornate, cast-brass, front doorbell is north of the doors. The front doors retain ornate, cast-brass hinges and knob sets. The exterior knobs (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-9) have a dog's face cast into them. The interior knobs have the silhouette of a Renaissance soldier in them. The dog motif is found on the knob adjacent to the pantry door from the dining room and the soldier motif is also used on the vestibule and central hall doors on the first floor and the exterior door into the small hall north of the main stair. Typical original door hinges and knob sets in the first and second floors of the main block are elaborate, cast brass. Equally elaborate, and rarer, terra cotta knobs are located on the inside of the false door from the east vestibule to the library, the inside of the small closet door in the first-floor central hall, the sewing room door, the inside of the southeast and southwest second-floor bedroom closets, and inside the closet in the hall west of the central, second-floor hall. The first- and second-floor wing doors feature plain cast-iron hinges, locks and lockboxes, and white porcelain knobs. The third floor uniformly has cast-iron hinges, locks and lockboxes, and white porcelain knobs. About half of the basement doors have simple cast-iron hinges and thumb latches with the other half having porcelain knobs and cast-iron lockboxes.

Window hardware consists of elaborate, cast-brass, sash locks, rope sash cords with iron pulleys and weights, and iron sash lifts on the double-hung sash. The shutters have simple cast-iron hinges.

8. Mechanical equipment:
 - a. Heating, air-conditioning, ventilation: The house is heated by means of steam radiators (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-13 and IL-1001E-16) with a modern boiler in the basement. There appears to have been an original system of forced-air heating and, possibly, cooling. Cast-iron heating grates (HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-11) are set in the baseboards of all primary rooms. This system was supplemented with the fireplaces. A modern air-conditioning system makes use of the cast iron wall grates.
 - b. Lighting: Lighting appears to have been originally by means of gasoliers and other gas fixtures. The light fixture on the newel post of the main stair (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-11 and IL-1001E-20), as noted above, appears to be original to the house. An electrified five-burner ceiling fixture (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-13 and IL-1001E-14) in the southwest parlor also

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appears to survive from the original construction. The present lighting is by means of incandescent ceiling and wall-mounted fixtures (HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-10, IL-1001E-11, IL-1001E-13, IL-1001E-16, IL-1001E-17, IL-1001E-18, IL-1001E-19, IL-1001E-20, IL-1001E-21, IL-1001E-22, IL-1001E-23, IL-1001E-24, IL-1001E-25, and IL-1001E-26) with the vast majority appearing to date from the electrification of the house.

- c. Plumbing: The house was plumbed originally. Of the original plumbing fixtures, marble sinks survive in the northwest bedroom closet of the second floor and in the north and south bathrooms of the third floor. There is an old, but not original, toilet in the southwest room of the wing basement. The toilet is raised two steps above the basement floor and is set inside a vertical, beaded, tongue-and-groove, board 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. All other plumbing fixtures are modern.
- d. Communications systems: With the electrification of the house the original call bell system was replaced with a telephonic intercommunication system connecting the primary rooms with the kitchen. This system survives intact and remains in use. Call buttons are 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. Telephone sets for the system survive in the kitchen, the hall north of the first-floor main stair, the northwest bedroom closet on the second floor, and the basement room beneath the dining room.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house is set in a parklike area of the arsenal north of a golf course club house, caddy house and bath house, south of Terrace Drive, and west of Gillespie Avenue. The site is characterized by large trees, typical early twentieth-century, incandescent street lighting, sweeping expanses of mowed lawn, and a view to the north of the Mississippi River. It is served on its north, west, and south sides by asphalt-paved service drives. A relatively simple wrought-iron fence (not original) with a pedestrian gate and cast-iron gate and corner posts, runs along the Gillespie Avenue side of the yard. The drive entrance is flanked by two large, rock-faced, ashlar, limestone piers, each topped with a cast-bronze outspread eagle and having in each east face a non-original octagonal bronze electric light standard.

2. Outbuildings: To the rear of the house, fronting south onto the service drive is a double garage. It is a one-room, rectangular, frame structure having clapboard walls with applied boards which could be described as either Stick-style or an imitation of Tudor style half-timbering. The garage has a pair of gable roofs covered with asphalt shingles. There are four, two-over-two, double-hung, wood, window sash in its east, west, and north walls. The east portion originally contained in a large doorway off-center in its south elevation having a pair of hinged doors with decorative boards similar to those on the walls. The west portion originally contained a similar doorway centered in its south elevation, but containing a pair of bi-folding, hinged doors similar in style to their neighbors. These original hinged doors have been replaced with modern wood overhead doors.

Prepared by: David Arbogast
Architectural Conservator
February 1985

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural Drawings:

The Rock Island Arsenal Engineering Plans and Services Division has undated floor plans and elevations (see HABS Photo Nos. IL-1001E-28 through IL-1001E-35), as well as an undated drawing entitled, "Repair Conservatory -- Qutrs. #1 Demolition," which may be prepared for the demolition of the conservatory in the 1950s.

- B. Early Views: An early photograph (see HABS Photo No. IL-1001E-27), which is in the picture collection of the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Office, shows the front facade in its present configuration. It is captioned on the front: "Commanding Officer's Quarters." The photograph is reproduced in First Album of the City of Davenport, Ia (Davenport: Huebinger's Photographic Art Gallery, 1887), n.p.

C. Interviews:

Dr. Robert Bouilly, Historical Supervisor, Rock Island Arsenal Historical Office. December 5, 1984. Dr. Bouilly supplied information concerning the date of demolition of the conservatory.

D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Baylies, Libby and Bahr, Betsy. "Historic American Buildings Survey of the United States Materials and Mechanics Research Center, Watertown, Massachusetts." 1982. HAER No. MA-20, HABS/HAER Collection, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress. Discusses Rodman's architectural work at Watertown Arsenal.

Hess, Jeffrey A., and Mack, Robert C. "Historic Properties Report Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Illinois". Prepared by MacDonald and Mack Partnership, and Building Technology Incorporated for the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1985. The report, with accompanying inventory cards, is filed as field records in the Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, under HAER No. IL-20.

Map of Rock Island Arsenal and Vicinity, 1894, revised March 1918, No. 156-H-93, Record Group 156, Still Picture Branch, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Real Property Cards, Engineering Plans and Services Division, Rock Island Arsenal. Briefly describes building's structural characteristics and provides sketchy history of maintenance operations.

Real Property Inventory, computer printout, March 31, 1982, Engineering Plans and Services Division, Rock Island Arsenal. Lists date of construction of garage.

2. Secondary and published sources:

"Island of Rock Island." Davenport Daily Democrat, November 10, 1870, typewritten transcript. Rock Island Arsenal Historical Office. Provides detailed description of the half-finished building.

First Album of the City of Davenport, Ia. Davenport: Huebinger's Photographic Art Gallery, 1887. Rock Island Arsenal Historical office. Reproduces an early photograph of building, showing front facade in its present configuration.

Flagler, D[aniel] W[ebster]. A History of the Rock Island Arsenal from Its Establishment in 1863 to December 1876. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1877. The most detailed account of the building's construction, written by the arsenal's commandant from 1871 to 1886.

Nothstein, Ira O. and Stephens, Clifford W. A History of Rock Island Arsenal from Earliest Times to 1954. Rock Island: U.S. Army, Rock Island Arsenal, 1965. 3 vols. Rock Island Arsenal. The best account of the arsenal's general operations, with brief information on the construction of officers' residences.

Plans of Officers' Quarters at the Arsenals and Armory. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1876. Reproduces first- and second-floor plans.

Zabecki, David T. "Father of the Rock Island Arsenal." Field Artillery Journal, 49 (January / February, 1951), 55-56. Discusses Rodman's pioneering work in cannon and propellant design.

E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated:

Record Group 156 at the National Archives contains correspondence on the construction and operation of Rock Island Arsenal from 1871 to 1903. This material is also available on 216 reels of microfilm at the Browning Museum, Rock Island Arsenal.

F. Supplemental Material:

From "Island of Rock Island," Davenport Daily Democrat, November 10, 1870: "Among the many superb points that attract the attention here, and call for at least a partial description, is the elegant edifice now but partially completed, known as the Commandant's Headquarters -- the probable residence of General Rodman, present Commandant, and such as may come after him, when he is no more among us. It is an exceedingly imposing and spacious building -- bidding fair when completed, to be the finest west of the Alleghanies. It is located . . . in the midst of spacious grounds commanding one of the choicest views the Island affords; built in the Italian Villa style, 55 by 57 feet in the main, with a western projection of 31 by 44, and another on the Iowa, or main channel front, of about 17 by 25. The principal front is toward the east, parlor frontage south, dining hall fronting to the north. It is two stories in height, exclusive of high basement, and the upper, or dormer story. The entire walls are of pointed dimension Joliet stone, bush-hammered water tables, pedestals and sills; quoined rustic corners, with drove edges. The main entrance is in finely cut, Elizabethan style, over which the massive tower 18 by 18 arises to the height of 64 feet, embellished with single and double-mullioned windows -- frames and mullions in rubbed stone work, also in Elizabethan style of finish, producing a very rich and massive effect. The window jambs are of a rubbed stone, in kneed

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architrave work, with Corinthicaps. On the south side, project in carefully wrought stone work, two spacious bay windows, opening from the double parlors; and on the north a full length embayed window, still more spacious than the others.

"The basement story is 10 feet in height, reaching five feet about the surface line. The first story 14 feet, the second 13 1/2 feet, and the upper 8 feet. The roofing is to be in slate and copper. The general arrangement of all the rooms originates at the lower foundation. Here the partition walls that are to divide the first, second and third stories are commenced and carried up with the outer walls in thirteen inches of brick. This holds good through the entire building with the exception of the dressing rooms, closets and bath rooms, which are partitioned off from main rooms in the ordinary way. The basement has eight rooms, so has each floor above, with the exceptions already alluded to which make a dozen more. The basement is to be devoted principally to storage room, steam heating and laundry purposes. Entering the main doorway by a flight of massive stone steps, flanked on either side by a beautiful Italian piazza that extends to the bay windows on the north and south sides, first comes the roomy vestibule, from which access is gained on the right to the drawing room, or by the left to the east parlor. Passing through folding doors the main hall is reached -- a spacious lofty room, into which light is flooded down from a sky light in the roof. To the right centre is a side hall from which the broad stair case mounts to the second story, a little farther along the entrance to the spacious Dining Hall, from the embayed window of which, a magnificent view of the wide sloping lawn, the rapid current of the broad Mississippi, the glorious bluff lands of Davenport, is taken in a glance from any point of observation. Leaving the hall from the left, a door opens into the west parlor. These parlors are separated by sliding doors, each of itself a large room -- together they are fifty feet long by about twenty wide, with noble twin bay windows, and commanding the fine views in every direction, save the north. Leaving the hall again toward the west through another set of folding doors, and the western vestibule is reached, thence into the spacious kitchen; farther along to the cook's parlor, to the china closet and butler's pantry; or by the west door way the grounds are again reached. On this floor, also north east corner, is the commandant's private office, or library, reached either by inner door, or by private outer entrance.

"From the main hall again, by the broad staircase on the right, with two landings, the second floor is reached. On both sides of the halls are spacious sleeping apartments, with dressing rooms, private bathrooms, conveniently attached, and at the east end of this hall, the second story of the west wing, or kitchen department, is reached,

and here also are more fine rooms, linen room, closets, and general bathroom; also a rear stair-case leading below and above into the upper story, where are the servants' sleeping rooms.

"The house throughout is to be heated by steam from a boiler in the basement also at pleasure by open grates for which provision is made in all the principal rooms. By a pipe from the main reservoir of the island, cold water is served to all parts of the house and from the kitchen boilers hot water is abundantly provided. Systems of announcing bells and speaking tubes communicate with all parts of the house. At the rear of the kitchen department, over the fuel bins and accessible from the main hall or parlors, the conservatory is located. In addition to those already mentioned, piazzas sweep the north and south sides to the west from the bay windows on either side -- in fact they encompass every side but the extreme west.

"Thus in brief, and without attempt at particulars, we have imperfectly sketched the appearance of this magnificent building as we saw it last week. As yet the walls are incomplete; may not be covered in until spring. The interior finish will be elaborate in polished black walnut and white ash, and when the building is complete all through, as it probably will be in about one year from this time, it will undoubtedly be the most elegant as certainly as it will be the most substantially built in this part of the country. It is but proper that the great central armory of the Union should be provided with just such headquarters. Without it the work of improvement would be incomplete. The building was maturely planned by General Rodman, the details by Mr. Channon, the skillful master carpenter of the Island work. Long may he who planned it, and the noble works that surround it, live to enjoy the work that is being so thoroughly and so acceptably done."

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was part of a program initiated through a memorandum of agreement between the National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Army. Stanley J. Fried, Chief, Real Estate Branch of Headquarters DARCOM, and Dr. Robert J. Kapsch, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, were program directors. Sally Kress Tompkins of HABS/HAER was program manager, and Robie S. Lange of HABS/HAER was project manager. Building Technology Incorporated, Silver Spring, Maryland, under the direction of William A. Brenner, acted as primary contractor, and MacDonald and Mack Partnership, Minneapolis, was a major subcontractor. The project included a survey of historic properties at Rock Island Arsenal, as well as preparation of an historic properties report and HABS/HAER documentation for

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38 buildings. The survey, report, and documentation were completed by Jeffrey A. Hess, historian, Minneapolis; Barbara E. Hightower, historian, Minneapolis; David Arbogast, architectural historian, Iowa City, Iowa; and Robert C. Mack, architect, Minneapolis. The photographs were taken by Robert A. Ryan, J Ceronie, and Bruce A. Harms of Dennett, Muessig, Ryan, and Associates, Ltd., Iowa City, Iowa. Drawings were produced by John Palmer Low, Minneapolis.