



# ***News Release***

**U.S. ARMY SUSTAINMENT COMMAND**

***March 25, 2008***

## **TOURS OF QUARTERS ONE BEGIN MARCH 29**

Guided tours of Quarters One will be available beginning this weekend. The tours are free and open to the public.

Quarters One tours have been scheduled for Saturday, March 29, and Sunday, March 30, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tours will also be held the weekend of April 5-6 during the same hours. More tours are currently scheduled for Saturday, May 17; additional public tours may be held on Saturdays later in the year, on dates to be announced.

All tours will depart from the RIA Museum on Rock Island Arsenal. Those taking the tours will be transported from the museum to Quarters One in a van, and shuttled back to the museum after completing the tours. Individuals will be taken on the tours in groups of fifteen.

The tours will take about one hour to complete, from the time the van departs the museum to the time it returns. The departure time for the final tour each day will be 2 p.m.

Anyone interested in taking a Quarters One tour can reserve a spot by registering in advance on the Rock Island Arsenal Web site. The following link will take you directly to the registration form: [http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/pa\\_tours](http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/pa_tours)

Though advance registration is not required, individuals holding reservations will be given precedence over walk-ins, who may wait for the next available slot. Those who do not appear at the time they registered for will give up their slots, and be handled as walk-ins if they show up later.

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can reserve a slot by calling the RIA Museum at (309) 782-3488. That's also the number to call for more information about the tours.

The Quarters One tour will cover the three main floors of the historic residence. Tour guides will explain the unique features of Quarters One, relate some of the residence's history, and answer questions.

Construction of Quarters One began in 1870, and the residence was ready for occupancy in 1872. It served as the family home of the highest-ranking officer on the Arsenal and was the second-largest single family residence owned by the federal government, behind only the White House.

Two years ago, the Army determined that Quarters One needed approximately \$3 million in repairs and upgrades to bring it up to modern standards. Earlier this year, Maj. Gen. Robert M. Radin and his wife, Sara, moved out of Quarters One to Quarters Six, another historic residence on the Arsenal. Future uses for Quarters One are currently being considered.

The upcoming tours are the first offered to the public since April 30, 2005. On that date, and on previous occasions, the Rock Island Arsenal Women's Club offered tours of Quarters One and other historic residences on the installation. Fees were charged, with proceeds benefiting local and military charities.

Anyone interested in taking a tour of Quarters One should note the following:

- You can enter Rock Island Arsenal via the Moline and Davenport gates. Those over the age of 16 must show photo identification. For security reasons, only U.S. citizens will be allowed to enter the Arsenal to take the tours.
- The RIA Museum is located in Bldg. 60 at the intersection of Rodman and Gillespie Avenues. Parking will be available in the lot north of the museum, across from the museum's main entrance.
- Quarters One is not accessible to the disabled and cannot accommodate wheelchairs. Those taking the tours must be able to climb stairs.
- Strollers will not be allowed in Quarters One. Children taking the tours must be accompanied by adults and supervised at all times.
- To protect the floors of Quarters One, those taking the tours must wear foot covers, which will be provided at the door.
- The restrooms in Quarters One will not be available for public use. Public restrooms are available in the RIA Museum.
- Still and video photography of the exterior and interior of Quarters One, and of the interior of the RIA Museum, will be permitted. No photographs or videos can be taken of other areas of the Arsenal.
- Food and drink are not allowed inside Quarters One or the RIA Museum.
- Smoking is forbidden inside Quarters One, the RIA Museum, and the shuttle van. Smoking is only allowed in outside areas of the Arsenal at least 50 feet from building entrances.

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