

The fort of Saint-Menge (or Ligniville)

Construction : 1874 – 1881.

Nature : Fort of belt.

Form : Trapézoïdal.

Situation : 4,66 miles in the Northern West of Langres.

Altitude : 0,27 miles.

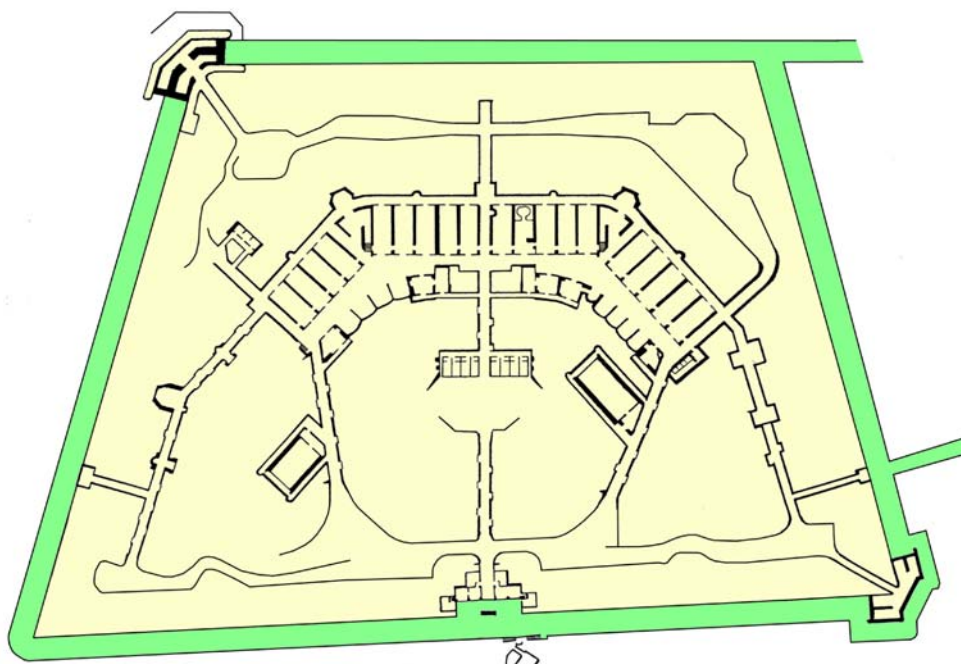
Area : 22 hectares.

Capacity : 800 men among 19 officers and 37 non commissioned officers.

Armament: 68 details all in all among which 55 details of rampart, 3 details with indirect shootings and 10 details of flanquement.

Close works:

2 secondary batteries.



Supply in water :

Artificial water :
System ROUBY with water tank of 200 m³.

Natural waters :
Well of 0,01 miles (10 m³/24 h) – Natural Spring at Jorquenay (10 m³/24 h).

Waste waters:
Drainage on screeds then trenches towards ditches and catch basins or outside the fort.
2 latrines on fixed pits.

Owner: private property

No Conducted Visits

Story :

Placed on spur dominating the valley of the Marne and the railroad Paris-Basel, it is a work which gives a complex consisted of an envelope in the North, a cubbyhole in the South and two batteries in the East and on the West.

The trapézoïdal cubbyhole to rider was equipped with four bunkers with indirect shootings the orientation of which allowed the control of outlets over both valleys above. The envelope possesses, besides a chapel of pilgrimage dated 1840, some light shops as well as a battery in capital asked to control the heights of the West of the Marne.

With Dampierre, it is the only fort to be equipped with an infirmary adding up about fifty beds. Endowed initially with shops with powder of an unusual width of 8 metres, it will be completed by a shop-cave with goods lift in 1885 intended to welcome special ammunitions with breaking explosives. It also preserves an arm pump of origin settled over the 0,01 miles well. Its « caponnières » both double still preserve embrasures provided with sliding sectors of protection still in place.



© Photos : Jean-François Feutriez
Texts realised with the co operation of
the Service Heritage of Langres