

Press Release

Vicksburg National Military Park Foundation Document Project

Release Date: Friday December 20, 2013

The National Park Service is preparing a foundation document to guide planning and management of Vicksburg National Military Park. The park would like to invite the public to join in this effort. A foundation document involves examining a national park unit's core purpose and significance, its most important resources and values, and the interpretive themes that tell the park's important stories.

The foundation document will affirm the underlying guidance for future management and planning decisions at Vicksburg National Military Park. Because many of the park's planning documents are out of date, preparing the foundation document is the first step for considering the park's future planning and study needs. Although the document does not make decisions about the future of the park, it describes a shared understanding of what is most important about the park.

All park units in the national park system will have a foundation document by 2016, the 100-year anniversary of the creation of the National Park Service. Vicksburg National Military Park is part of a nationwide effort to complete foundation documents for all 401 park units in the park system.

The National Park Service invites the public to play a role in charting the park's future by sharing their thoughts on what is most important about Vicksburg National Military Park, and to help identify its most pressing threats and its greatest opportunities. This input will be taken into consideration by the project team. Please submit your feedback at the park planning website for Vicksburg National Military Park at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/VICK>. Comments submitted by email or using the park planning website will be most helpful if received by January 27, 2014.

The public is also invited to attend an open house at the Vicksburg National Military Park Visitor Center on Monday, January 27, 2014 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This open house will be an opportunity to discuss the foundation document process with National Park Service staff and to submit your thoughts and ideas to the project team. The visitor center is located at 3201 Clay Street, Vicksburg Mississippi 39183.