

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Vicksburg National Military Park
Vicksburg, Mississippi



Vicksburg National Military Park Cultural Landscape Report

Cultural Resources
Southeast Region

Vicksburg National Military Park

Vicksburg, Mississippi

Cultural Landscape Report

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About the front cover: View of the Illinois Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park, January 31, 2007.

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Vicksburg National Military Park Cultural Landscape Report

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Chief, Cultural Resources
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- 76 A cannon siting into woodland.
- 77 Privet forms a screen planting along the park boundary to the northeast of Grant Avenue.
- 78 The park's educational and interpretive land use is well-represented outside the visitor center.
- 79 Maintenance land uses are focused within the maintenance complex, north of the visitor center.
- 80 Clay Street is a heavily utilized municipal road that bisects the park.
- 81 Union Avenue is the one-way asphalt-paved half of the park tour road.
- 82 Pemberton Avenue connects Union and Confederate Avenues.
- 83 A spur of the tour road follows the historic Jackson Road trace.
- 84 Graveyard Road connects Union and Confederate Avenues in the northern part of the park.
- 85 Grant Circle marks the site of Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's headquarters.
- 86 Sherman Circle has a very different vegetative character than other areas of the park.
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106 Replica earthworks and associated features near the visitor center.
107 The Missouri State Memorial has been affected by the change in orientation of the tour road.
108 The Arkansas State Memorial, designed in 1954.
109 The Mississippi State Memorial is a 75-foot obelisk.
110 The Illinois State Memorial is one of the largest and most ornate in the park.
111 The Minnesota State Monument is a 90-foot granite obelisk.
112 There are eight of the original nine Melan Arch bridges extant in the park.
113 Two contemporary bridges convey the park tour road over modern Jackson Road.
114 The Hall's Ferry Road Bridge is now on city-owned property.
115 The Memorial Arch at the entrance to Vicksburg National Cemetery.
116 The Memorial Arch is now the portal through which visitors begin the park road tour.
117 The concrete tunnel leading beneath Union Avenue to the Thayer's Approach site.
118 Park entrance fees are collected at manned booths in two locations.
119 The close juxtaposition of tablets and position markers indicate how close the two armies came.
120 The park includes hundreds of cast iron tablets and position markers.
121 The larger tablets indicate battle lines, while the smaller markers indicate troop positions.
122 Portraits of the "common soldier" are among the most prolific statuary within the park.
123 Sculpted by William Couper in 1911, the bust of Union Brig. Gen. Isaac F. Quinby.
124 Relief panel depicting Brig. Gen. John D. Stevenson.
125 Statue of a mounted Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant.
126 Cannon are used to mark battery sites.
127 Another example of emplaced artillery that, today, is aimed toward a wooded area.
128 An elaborate system of curbs, gutters, and culverts control the overland flow of stormwater.
129 Another example of a drainage structure is a concrete culvert inlet.
130 Other culverts within the park are made of brick.
131 A CCC-era concrete gutter.
132 A concrete retaining wall, on a switchback curve made by Union Avenue.
133 A brick retaining wall, edging the slopes of Fort Hill.
134 A USGS benchmark within the park marking a surveyed elevation.
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142 The Louisiana Circle parcel features a remnant Confederate earthen fortification.
143 The landform at Louisiana Circle falls gently towards the river and more steeply along the street
144 A concrete road circles around the base of the fortification at Louisiana Circle.
145 Vehicular parking at Louisiana Circle.
146 Pedestrians access the fortification at Louisiana Circle via a concrete stair and walk.
147 Two metal tablets flank the "Widow Blakely" rifle at Louisiana Circle.
148 The walkway at Louisiana Circle does not continue on to the summit of the fortification.
149 On the southern side of the knoll at Louisiana Circle are five granite monuments.
150 A black, chain-link fence guards visitors to Louisiana Circle from the steep western slope.
151 The concrete paving at Louisiana Circle has been patched with a black asphaltic material.
152 The upper walkway at Louisiana Circle includes a trip hazard near the approach to the cannon.
153 There are bald spots in the turf grass on the earthen fortification at Louisiana Circle.
154 The bronze plaques at Louisiana Circle set within the granite markers are stained.
155 Views from the fortification are affected by non-historic commercial developments.
156 Map of South Fort.
157 There is currently no public access to South Fort.
158 Two artillery pieces have been placed on the edge of the fortification's parapet wall.
159 Commercial development along South Washington Street is visible from South Fort.
160 A bronze marker commemorating the role of Iowa brigades in the Civil War siege.
161 A social trail runs along the top of the rise at South Fort.
162 The parapet walls of the fortification at South Fort remain in good condition.

- 163 A metal position marker tablet locating Company G of the 1st Louisiana Heavy Artillery.
- 164 The two cannon placed within the interior of South Fort face south.
- 165 The artillery piece facing the river interprets the original 10-inch Columbiad.
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OCOKA Military Terrain Analysis

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Figure Credits

Except as noted below, maps and photographs in this document were prepared by the authors in 2007.

Introduction

- 1 VNMP archives, copy included in Kevin Risk, *Draft Cultural Landscape Report, Vicksburg National Military Park* (Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, Southeast Region, n.d. [2000]).
- 2 VNMP archives, copy included in Risk, *Draft Cultural Landscape Report*.
- 3 VNMP archives, box 22, image 244.1.

Site History

- 9 Plate from *A Journey in North America, containing a Survey of the Countries watered by the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri, and other Affluing Rivers . . .* (Paris: Arthus Bertrand, 1796). Engraved by P. F. Tardieu.
- 10 Lithograph by Adolphus F. Forbriger, printed by Onken's Lith, Cincinnati, Ohio, [1851]. From John W. Reps, *Cities of the Mississippi: Nineteenth-Century Images of Urban Development* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1994), 140.
- 11 VNMP archives, box 7.
- 12 Surveyed by Lt. L. A. Wrotnowski, Top. Eng., drawn and lithographed by A. F. Wrotnowski, C.E., 1863.
- 14 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 99614196. Illustration from *Harper's Weekly* 7 (March 7, 1863), 149.
- 15 from Illinois Infantry, 13th Regiment, Military History, 1892.
- 16 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C.
- 17 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2003668335. Illustration in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* 16, no. 391 (March 28, 1863), 8–9.
- 18 VNMP archives, box 9.
- 19 VNMP archives, copy included in Risk, *Draft Cultural Landscape Report*.
- 20 VNMP archives map collection.
- 21 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Detroit Publishing Company Photograph Collection, Card No. det1994004474/PP.
- 22 VNMP archives, box 19.
- 23 VNMP archives, box 9.
- 25 VNMP archives, copy included in Risk, *Draft Cultural Landscape Report*.
- 26 Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, Washington, D.C. (Map created by U.S. Geological Survey, 1935).
- 27 VNMP archives, box 22, image 461.1.
- 28 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.
- 29 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.1.
- 30 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.2.
- 31 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.3.
- 32 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.4.
- 33 VNMP archives, box 2, image 156.
- 34 VNMP archives, box 16, image 45, J. B. Unglaub, Photographer, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- 35 VNMP archives, box 16, image 46, J. B. Unglaub, Photographer, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- 36 VNMP archives, box 16, image 73, J. B. Unglaub, Photographer, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- 37 VNMP archives, box 16, image 108, J. B. Unglaub, Photographer, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- 38 VNMP archives, box 16, image 117, J. B. Unglaub, Photographer, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- 39 VNMP archives, box 22, image PW-1226.3.
- 40 VNMP archives, box 22, folder 7.
- 41 VNMP archives, box 22, image PW-1224.4.
- 42 VNMP archives, box 7.
- 44 VNMP archives, box 22, folder 20.
- 45 VNMP archives, box 22, folder 21.
- 46 VNMP archives, box 22, folder 16.

- 47 VNMP archives, box 22, folder 16.
- 48 National Park Service, Denver Service Center, drawing 306-41005A.
- 50 National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office.
- 51 National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office.
- 52 NPS photograph.
- 54 Based on Historic American Engineering Record, "Vicksburg Military Park Tour Roads," 1997.

Existing Conditions

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Analysis and Evaluation

- 184 VNMP archives, box 9.
- 185 VNMP archives, box 2.
- 187 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.
- 188 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.2.
- 189 VNMP archives, box 22, image D-474.4.
- 190 VNMP archives.
- 191 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-3180.
- 194 VNMP archives, copy included in Risk, *Draft Cultural Landscape Report*.
- 196 VNMP archives, box 22, folder 16.
- 198 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001994/PP
Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- 200 VNMP archives, box 18, image 164.
- 201 VNMP archives, copy included in Risk, *Draft Cultural Landscape Report*.
- 202 VNMP archives, box 2.
- 204 VNMP archives, box 18, image 147.
- 206 VNMP archives, box 2, image H-33.1.
- 208 VNMP archives, box 18, image 145.
- 210 VNMP archives.
- 212 Historic postcard, printed by E. C. Kropp Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, No. 6727, JMA collection.
- 214 VNMP archives, box 18, image 142.
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Detroit Publishing Co. No. 073347.
- 230 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, 14863.
- 231 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. det1994020112/PP,
Detroit Publishing Co. No. 073345.
- 233 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. det1994020108/PP,
Detroit Publishing Co. No. 073340.
- 235 VNMP archives.
- 236 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, 14182.
- 238 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-3173.
- 240 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-2180.
- 242 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-3184.
- 244 Historic postcard, printed by E. C. Kropp Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, No. 17354, JMA collection.
- 246 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, 14199.
- 248 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-25254.
- 250 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-64170.

- 252 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. det1994000240/PP, Detroit Photographic Co. No. 53527.
- 254 Curt Teich Postcard Archive, Lake County Discovery Museum, Wauconda, Illinois, A-3178.
- 256 VNMP archives.
- 257 Based on the 1902 Park Commission maps.
- 258 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Call No. G3984.V8:2V5 1925 .P6 CW 282.5, illustration by Poole Brothers, Chicago, for Illinois Central System pamphlet entitled "Vicksburg for the Tourist," 1925.
- 259 Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, Washington, D.C. (Map created by U.S. Geological Survey, 1935).
- 260 VNMP archives.
- 261 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001988/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- 263 Historic postcard, private collection.
- 265 VNMP archives, box 18, image 168.
- 267 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001989/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- 268 Historic postcard, private collection.

Treatment

- 301 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 89706344, illustration from *Harper's Weekly* (August 1, 1863), 488–489.
- 302 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 89706344, illustration from *Harper's Weekly* (August 1, 1863), 488–489.
- 309 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2003665216, Middleton, Strobridge & Co., 1863.
- 310 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2003664897, Middleton, Strobridge & Co., 1863.
- 311 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2003665218, Middleton, Strobridge & Co., 1863.
- 312 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2003665217, Middleton, Strobridge & Co., 1863.
- 313 Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2002736816, wood engraving after Theo. R. Davis, illustration from *Harper's Weekly* (July 11, 1863).
- 316 VNMP archives, box 19.
- 317 VNMP archives, box 9.
- 318 VNMP archives, box 18, image 139.

Appendix E

- E1 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001984/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- E2 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001989/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- E3 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001990/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- E4 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001991/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- E5 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001992/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- E6 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. pan1993001994/PP Photograph by Haines Photo Co., Conneaut, Ohio.
- E7 Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Call No. G3984.V8:2V5 1925 .P6 CW 282.5, illustration by Poole Brothers, Chicago, for Illinois Central System pamphlet entitled "Vicksburg for the Tourist," 1925.

- E8 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Map and Geography Library, Urbana, Illinois. VNMP archives has an annotated copy of this map set.
- E9 Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, Washington, D.C. (Map created by U.S. Geological Survey, 1935).

Foreword

To be prepared by Southeast Regional Office.

Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank the following for their assistance in the preparation of this report: staff of the Vicksburg National Military Park, including Superintendent Monika Mayr, Chief of Maintenance Jerrel Cooper, Natural Resources Program Manager Virginia DuBow, Chief of Interpretation Tim Kavanaugh, Chief of Operations Rick Martin, Supervisory Park Ranger Patricia Montague, Assistant Chief of Maintenance Jehu Walker, and Park Historian Terry Winschel; staff of the NPS Southeast Regional Office, including J. Tracy Stakely, Tommy Jones, Mark Kinzer, Tim Pinion, and Dan Scheidt; and staff of the NPS Denver Service Center, including Melissa Stedeford, Michael Edwards, and Michelle Schneider; and Jonathan Bourdeau and Josh Jenkins of Mactec.

Introduction

Vicksburg National Military Park was established on February 21, 1899, “to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg, Mississippi, and to preserve the history of the battles and operations of the siege and defense on the ground where they were fought and carried on.”¹ With Antietam, Chickamauga/Chattanooga, Gettysburg, and Shiloh, Vicksburg was one of the first five national military parks established by the federal government in the 1890s to protect the sites of decisive battles for military education, to commemorate the battles, and to support national reunification. These parks were initially administered by the War Department. In 1933, they were transferred to the National Park Service and have since been managed as part of the National Park System.

Today, Vicksburg National Military Park and the contiguous Vicksburg National Cemetery together encompass more than 1,800 acres over six noncontiguous park units. The park includes more than 1,340 monuments, sixteen miles of tour roads, and numerous examples of earthen fortifications depicting the primary components of the Union and Confederate armies during the siege.² Vicksburg’s natural and cultural resources vary in their character and management needs. The NPS currently faces numerous challenges associated with the management and maintenance of this

national treasure. As part of a broader planning process intended to support decisions regarding management of the park, the NPS engaged Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., of Northbrook, Illinois, (WJE), and their subconsultant John Milner Associates, Inc., of Charlottesville, Virginia, (JMA), to prepare a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) for Vicksburg National Military Park. The CLR is intended to provide the NPS with an assessment of the character-defining features of the Vicksburg National Military Park landscape, document historic and existing conditions, and develop specific treatment recommendations to ensure the future protection of the park and its natural and cultural resources.

As noted in the project scope of work:

Vicksburg Battlefield, as it exists today, bears little resemblance to the landscape at the time of the siege and defense of Vicksburg. The once-cleared topography is now densely forested due in part to nearly eighty years of growth from the 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps plantings to minimize soil erosion. Subsequent NPS management allowed additional lands to be reclaimed by forest growth as a means of reducing operating expenses. Today, these areas serve as important wildlife habitat in a unique loess bluff environment. Failure to complete this CLR and implement informed landscape treatment will result in continued misrepresentation of the historic battlefield condition, inhibit visitor understanding of park resources and the events which the park commemorates, and potentially impact natural resources and habitat through battlefield restoration efforts that do not adequately consider environmental consequences. The ultimate goal of work at the Vicksburg Battlefield is to restore portions of the battlefield to the historic battle-era condition,

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1. Hosea W. Rood, comp., *Wisconsin at Vicksburg: Report of the Wisconsin Vicksburg Monument Commission Including the Story of the Campaign and Siege of Vicksburg in 1863 with especial Reference to the Activities therein of Wisconsin Troops* (Madison, Wisconsin: Wisconsin State Printer, 1914), 21.
 2. The figure of 1,340 monuments was provided by Virginia DuBoway at Vicksburg National Military Park via e-mail, March 24, 2009.

while preserving later historic additions from the commemorative era and minimizing potential impacts to park natural resources and contemporary operational needs. Thus, it is not anticipated that the entire battlefield will undergo a true landscape “restoration” as defined by the Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. However, for clarity, the term “restoration” will be used throughout this document in referring to proposed landscape work at Vicksburg Battlefield. This CLR will provide needed documentation of the cultural landscape and facilitate development of appropriate treatment alternatives to guide future battlefield restoration.³

The scope also notes that the CLR is intended to support future completion of a General Management Plan, a Comprehensive Long-Range Interpretive Plan, and compliance documentation for implementation of recommended CLR landscape treatment as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. These documents are essential tools that will guide future management of the park’s unique and complex resources on the eve of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

Historical Summary

Union Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant understood the strategic role that the Mississippi River played in Confederate transportation and supply operations, as well as its pivotal geographic role in the cohesion of the Confederate block. His decision in March 1863 to seek control of this waterway was dictated by the general-in-chief of the Union armies, who noted: “The great objective on your line now is the opening of the Mississippi River, and everything else must tend to that purpose. The eyes and hopes of the whole country are now directed at your army. In my opinion, the opening of the Mississippi River will be to us of more advantage than the capture of forty

Richmonds.”⁴ The Confederacy also understood the potential value of the river to meeting Union objectives. To protect this vital lifeline, the Confederacy “erected a series of fortifications at readily defensible locations along the river from which the Union advance could be checked.”⁵

Located high on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River, the Confederate earthworks formed a crescent-shaped ring of manned gun emplacements aimed at all potential Union avenues of approach to the city by land and by river. The earthworks were initiated in September 1862, and remained untested until the spring of 1863, when “pushing southward from Illinois by land and northward from the Gulf of Mexico by river, the Union army and naval units attacked the Confederate strongpoints from both ends of the line. They captured post by post and city by city until. . . Vicksburg alone barred complete Union possession of the Mississippi River.”⁶ Then began the Union campaign for Vicksburg. Waged between March 29 and July 4, 1863, the campaign included battles in west-central Mississippi at Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hill, and Big Black River Bridge, as well as forty-seven days of Union siege operations against the Confederate forces defending the city of Vicksburg before victory was achieved (Fig. 1). The surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, effectively left the Confederacy split in two and vulnerable to Union attack in the Western Theatre. This decisive campaign, coupled with the fall of Port Hudson, Louisiana, five days later, divided the South and gave the North undisputed control of the river.

After the Civil War, various entities, including veterans groups, states, and the federal government, initiated efforts to honor, commemorate, and protect for military training purposes some of the most decisive battlegrounds. Between 1890 and 1899, the U.S. government established five National Military Parks—

3. National Park Service, “Scope of Work: Cultural Landscape Report for Vicksburg Battlefield, Vicksburg National Military Park” (Atlanta, Georgia: Southeast Regional Office, July 2006), 1–2.

4. William C. Everhart, “Vicksburg National Military Park, Mississippi” (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1954), 2.

5. Ibid., 2–3.

6. Ibid., 2–3.

Chickasaw and Chattanooga, Antietam, Gettysburg, Shiloh, and Vicksburg—where they set aside land for teaching military tactics and strategies, and marking the events of these important battles. Vicksburg National Military Park was authorized on February 21, 1899, “to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg, and to preserve the history of the battles and operations of the siege and defense on the ground where they were fought and carried on.”⁷ The input of veterans in identifying and marking the events of the battles in their proper locations played a crucial and significant role in this effort. At Vicksburg, in addition to the marking of important siege and battle events through the placing of metal tablets and monumentation (Fig. 2), including significant testimonials by representatives from each state present during the siege, a tour road was established in the early 1900s to allow access to the opposing lines of fortifications. These National Military Parks were managed by the War Department until transferred to the National Park Service in 1933.

During the 1930s, through make-work programs developed by the federal government to provide employment during the Great Depression, four Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps were established at Vicksburg. Severe erosion of the local loess soil had led to the collapse of portions of the tour road corridors and threatened the stability of some monuments and markers. The CCC addressed these problems through massive regrading efforts, ditching and terracing of steep slopes, and planting of turfgrass to hold the soil in place (Fig. 3).⁸ The park underwent further important physical changes during the 1960s. In 1963, Vicksburg gained a large area of battlefield along the northern boundary. To acquire this land,

7. Rood, 21.

8. Park staff have reported that CCC work included planting of trees within the park as part of soil stabilization efforts. As noted in the Site History chapter, only limited documentation of CCC-era tree planting has been found to date. Photographic documentation reviewed for this study does not provide evidence of the location, extent, or scale of any tree planting by the CCC.



FIGURE 1. A nineteenth-century engraving of the surrender interview between Union Maj. Gen. U.S. Grant and Confederate Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton, July 3, 1863.

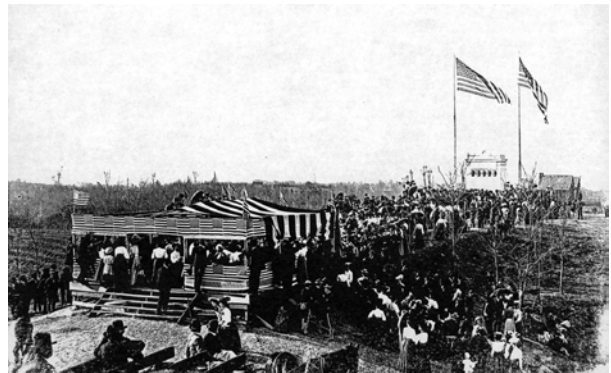


FIGURE 2. Dedication of the Pennsylvania Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park, 1906.



FIGURE 3. Regrading of the slope on the north side of Graveyard Road at Ohio Circle, July 16, 1934.

the park entered into an agreement with the city of Vicksburg, exchanging parcels extending along South Confederate Avenue from Fort Garrott south to South Fort. The city agreed to maintain the road corridor with a park-like character, while the park agreed to maintain monuments located along the corridors. This arrangement continues today.

In 1968–1970, a new visitor center was constructed to replace the previous building near the Confederate Avenue entrance and the park roads in the vicinity of the new visitor center were reconfigured. In 1956, historian Edwin C. Bearss led a successful effort to locate the sunken gunboat, the *Cairo*, which was recovered and restored. Construction of the Cairo museum, which is partially embedded in the adjacent hillside on a site within the boundaries of the National Cemetery parcel, was completed in 1980 and the restored gunboat opened to the public in 1985.

Scope of Work

As discussed in the project scope of work developed by the NPS,

A CLR must establish preservation goals for a cultural landscape. The goals must be grounded in research, inventory, documentation, and analysis and evaluation of a landscape's characteristics and associated features. The content of a CLR provides the basis for making sound decisions about management, treatment, and use. Information about the historical development, significance, and existing character of a cultural landscape is also valuable for enhancing interpretation and maintenance.⁹

Given the above-referenced goals for a CLR, the specific scope of work for this project as identified by the NPS includes the following tasks:

1. Describe the historical development of the landscape;
2. Identify historic character-defining features, including historic military terrain features (observation and fields of fire, cover and concealment, obstacles, key terrain, and avenues of approach—collectively referred to by the military acronym OCOKA) and other features as appropriate, including but not limited to the environmental setting, physical layout, spatial organization, pedestrian and vehicular circulation, land use practices and patterns, cultural or ethnographic expressions, views and vistas, vegetation, structures, small-scale features, and significant natural resources;
3. Document the existing site conditions;
4. Provide analysis of the landscape's National Register significance and integrity;
5. Confirm the primary period of significance and identify other potential periods of significance; and
6. Identify the preferred treatment alternative, including mitigation for potential environmental impacts from treatment, and develop a strategy for battlefield restoration.

The project statement of work divides the CLR into two parts. Part 1 includes the Site History, Existing Conditions Documentation, and Analysis and Evaluation portions of the study. Part 2 contains the Treatment component of the project. The two parts together comprise the final CLR.

The primary focus of this CLR is the main battlefield unit of Vicksburg National Military Park, which was the site of confrontations related to the siege of the city from May 18 to its surrender on July 4, 1863, and the three parcels that protect fortifications overlooking the river along Washington Avenue—South Fort, Louisiana

9. National Park Service, 2007. "Scope of Work: Cultural Landscape Report for Vicksburg Battlefield," 4.

Circle, and Navy Circle. Also considered to a lesser degree of detail are the Grant's Canal and Pemberton's Headquarters park parcels, the city-managed road corridors that extend south from the park, and the parcel quitclaimed to Warren County along the park's northern boundary.

Prepared concurrently with the CLR was an Environmental Assessment (EA) of proposed rehabilitation treatments. CLR team members participated in the preparation of the EA report and its attendant workshops and public meetings to ensure a unified product.

Project Methodology

This Vicksburg National Military Park CLR was prepared in accordance with the guidance offered in the most recent versions of various federal standards documents, including:

- *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*
- *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*
- NPS Director's Order 10A: *Design and Construction Drawings*
- NPS Director's Order 12: *Environmental Impact Analysis*
- NPS Director's Order 28: *Cultural Resources Management*
- NPS Director's Order 77—Reference Manual 77: *Natural Resource Management*
- *NPS-SER-82: Biotic Cultural Resources: Management Considerations for Historic Districts in the National Park System, Southeast Region*
- *The Uniform Federal Accessibility Standard (UFAS) and Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)*

- *The National Park Service's Guiding Principles of Sustainable Design*
- National Register Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*
- National Register Bulletin 30: *Guidelines for Documenting and Evaluating Rural Historic Landscapes*
- National Register Bulletin 40: *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating and Registering America's Historic Battlefields*

In addition, the methodology used by the project team members in preparing each component of this study is described in detail below.

Background Research and Data Collection

To initiate work on the project, CLR team members collected documents and materials pertaining to the project and site. These included photographs from the on-line collection of the Library of Congress, HABS/HAER documentation, and the List of Classified Structures data available on-line. Also available for review, as provided by the Southeast Regional Office of the NPS, was a draft CLR initiated in 2003 and associated AutoCAD base mapping, which was printed for use during field investigations at the park.

Start-up Meeting

On January 30, 2007, project team members from WJE and JMA met with park and regional NPS personnel at the Vicksburg National Military Park Visitor Center to initiate the project. Those participating in the meeting included:

National Park Service, Vicksburg National Military Park

- Monika Mayr, Superintendent
- Jerrel Cooper, Chief of Maintenance
- Virginia DuBow, Natural Resources Program Manager

- Patricia Montague, Supervisory Park Ranger
- Jehu Walker, Assistant Chief of Maintenance
- Terry Winschel, Park Historian

National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office

- J. Tracy Stakely, Historical Landscape Architect and Contracting Officer's Technical Representative

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

- Deborah Slaton, Project Manager and Architectural Historian
- Kenneth Itle, Architectural Historian

John Milner Associates, Inc.

- Liz Sargent, Project Manager and Historical Landscape Architect
- Jenny Mikulski, Project Landscape Architectural Designer

At the meeting, the project team discussed the purpose, goals, and methodology of a CLR, as well as the mission, purpose, and significance of Vicksburg National Military Park. Park staff described the events of the battle, the history of commemoration at the park, and the value of the site to the public today. The group discussed the role and value of the OCOKA military terrain analysis to be prepared as part of the study, as well as a comparable analysis of natural resources. Finally, the NPS provided an overview of the various management issues and concerns to be addressed in the study. The team also discussed the documentation available to the project team, including inventories and mapping data.

Team members later met individually with park staff to gain more detailed information about their respective areas of expertise, including Jerrel Cooper, Chief of Maintenance, who provided observations on maintenance issues, such as the application of various vegetative cover types and mowing regimes; Rick Martin, Chief of

Operations, who provided valuable input about the nature of interpretive services and exhibits, the natural resource studies being prepared for the park, and the threat that relic hunters represent; and Terry Winschel, Park Historian, who accompanied the team on an initial site tour and afforded access and insight into the park's archival collections.

Field Investigations

Between January 30 and February 1, 2007, WJE and JMA personnel conducted field investigations to document the existing landscape conditions associated with Vicksburg National Military Park (Fig. 4). Team members systematically recorded the park's landscape features by traversing the tour roads and trails. The team photographed primary and representative landscape features and annotated base maps with information about the features and their condition. The location and orientation of the photographs were noted on the field maps, as were observations to be included in the existing conditions documentation chapter of the CLR. The team also conducted a windshield survey of city-owned parcels that follow the historic Confederate siege line and of the park's noncontiguous parcels.

Historical Landscape Documentation/Site Physical History

Research for the site history was conducted by the project team at the library and archives of Vicksburg National Military Park. Maps and written documents were photocopied, and historic photographs in the archival collection of the park were scanned. Other documents and contemporary photographs by park staff were provided electronically on CD-ROM. Copies of research documents were obtained from the NPS Denver Service Center, which included primarily previous studies and reports prepared by NPS, project completion reports, and drawings for previous work at the park. Additional historic context materials were obtained on the internet and from the Library of Congress.



FIGURE 4. National Park Service personnel accompanied project team members on a tour of the park at the start of field work.



FIGURE 5. Views and vistas, such as this view from Fort Hill overlooking the national cemetery and Yazoo River Diversion Canal, were among the existing conditions documented in the park.



FIGURE 6. The recommendations of the CLR and EA studies were reviewed during public meetings.

Base Mapping

An AutoCAD base map was developed for the project utilizing files afforded by the NPS from the 2003 draft CLR. The files were updated with information collected during field investigations at the park.

Historic Period Plan Preparation

Historic period plans of Vicksburg National Military Park were prepared to represent the site during various key phases of its evolution, including the Civil War, CCC, and Mission 66 eras. The team developed the historic period plans through comparison of historic mapping sources with existing conditions information, so preparation of the existing conditions base map preceded work on the period plans. Once this information was developed, the project team utilized primary source materials to create a skeletal historical base map. Examples of the primary sources consulted to prepare the base map included historic maps depicting the siege of Vicksburg and the placement of troops, USGS mapping, and historic aerial photographs. Secondary sources included historic base maps prepared by park historian Ed Bearss in 1958 and various NPS-generated studies. Secondary sources were typically evaluated for their credibility prior to being employed and were utilized with caution.

The team augmented the skeletal historical base map using historic photographs, postcards, and written descriptions of the landscape found in research materials collected for the project. Written sources were used to identify potential features and elements within the landscape for which no graphic information was available.

Existing Conditions Documentation

The documentation of existing conditions was developed through cross-referenced narrative, graphic, and photographic materials, organized in accordance with the framework established in National Register Bulletin 30: *Guidelines for Documenting and Evaluating Rural Historic Landscapes*. This bulletin identifies various landscape characteristics for presenting existing conditions documentation information.

Landscape characteristics utilized to describe the Vicksburg National Military Park landscape include:

- Natural Systems and Features
- Responses to Natural Resources
- Topography and Topographic Modifications
- Patterns of Spatial Organization
- Land Uses and Activities
- Circulation Patterns and Features
- Cultural Vegetation
- Views and Vistas
- Buildings
- Structures
- Small-scale Features
- Archeological Resources

Existing conditions documentation was prepared using information derived from base mapping, field investigations, review of photographs taken in the field, examination of park planning documents and files, and other relevant cultural and natural resource documents received from NPS or acquired through research.

The existing conditions chapter includes photographs of representative landscape features (Fig. 5). These photographs are referenced in the text. A documentation notebook containing all

existing conditions documentation photographs and a set of maps indicating photographic station points will be provided to NPS at the end of the project to supplement the representative photographic coverage included in this report.

The team also prepared an inventory of existing landscape features based on documentation of the site and an understanding of historic conditions. Because the size, topographic complexity, and heavily monumented character of the park prohibit a comprehensive description of the park in its entirety, documentation focuses on those key features that represent the range and scope of management issues to be addressed in the treatment plan. These key features are associated with the battlefield and commemorative landscapes, as well as the natural environment. Introductory paragraphs present an overview of the key features described under each landscape characteristic. This framework is also used to convey feature condition assessments. The assessments are based on the methodology presented in the *Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide*. Ratings of Good, Fair, Poor, and Unknown are assigned to each key feature or feature type. Categories are defined as follows:

Good. Indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions.

Fair. Indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within three to five years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor. Indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid

deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

Unknown. Not enough information is available to make an evaluation.

The condition ratings were annotated to include specific condition-related observations made in the field that help justify the ratings.

Evaluation of Significance

A 1977 draft National Register nomination for the park served as the preliminary basis for evaluating site significance. This information, as well as the National Register Criteria and National Register Bulletins 15, 30, and 40, were taken into consideration in developing the CLR evaluation of significance. Several areas of significance were identified, including the events of the siege and defense of Vicksburg, association with the lives of persons important in American history, efforts to commemorate, and other themes. Once the various themes were identified, two periods of significance—primary and secondary—were defined based on the time during which those themes had impacts on the park landscape.

Comparative Analysis of Historic and Existing Conditions

To better understand the relationship between the existing park landscape and the character of the landscape during either of the identified periods of significance, the project team prepared a comparative analysis of historic and existing landscape conditions. The analysis focused on extant primary features and their dates of origin. The three primary goals of the comparative analysis were to:

1. understand which features survive from the period of significance;
2. establish the basis for an integrity assessment; and
3. provide an understanding of the similarities and differences between historic and existing

conditions that would contribute to the development of a well-grounded treatment plan for the cultural landscape.

Identification of Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources

Through the development of the comparative analysis of historic and existing landscape conditions, three lists were prepared identifying contributing, non-contributing, and missing features. Contributing features survive from the period of significance; non-contributing features originated after the period of significance; and missing features are resources known or thought to have existed during the period of significance that are no longer evident, except possibly in the archeological record. Conjectural information was indicated as such within the lists.

Assessment of Integrity

Based on the comparative analysis, significance evaluation, and the guidance offered in National Register Bulletins 15, 30, and 40, the CLR team prepared an assessment of park integrity. The assessment focused on the existence and condition of physical features dating from the periods of significance and the degree to which the seven aspects of integrity—location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association—were present. Special consideration was paid to the recommendation in Bulletin 40 that notes “the most important aspects of integrity for battlefields are location, setting, feeling, and association.”¹⁰ For this reason, the integrity of the Civil War-era landscape was assessed slightly differently than the commemorative-era landscape.

10. Patrick Andrus, 1999. National Register Bulletin 40: *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating and Registering America's Historic Battlefields* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1992, rev. 1999), http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb40/nrb40_5.htm, 10, para. 2. (accessed June 6, 2007).

OCOKA Analysis

The CLR project team conducted an OCOKA analysis of the military terrain of Vicksburg battlefield as part of this study. The analysis was guided by the approach recommended by the American Battlefield Protection Program, which notes: “The U.S. military has developed a process for analyzing the significance of terrain called OCOKA. By studying the military significance of the terrain, a surveyor can identify the battlefield terrain ‘hidden’ in the modern landscape and view it through the soldiers’ eyes.”¹¹ Military terrain is analyzed using the five aspects of OCOKA:

- Observation and Fields of Fire
- Cover and Concealment
- Obstacles
- Key Terrain/Decisive Terrain
- Avenues of Approach/Withdrawal

To conduct the analysis, the project team utilized the guidance afforded by the American Battlefield Protection Program to identify the features associated with each of the five aspects of OCOKA. Of particular interest, was Walter Grabau’s exploration of the connection between the site’s geology, geomorphology, and military events depicted in *Ninety-Eight Days*. Descriptions of the events of the siege as provided by military personnel in the Official Records were also reviewed as time allowed to understand the role of terrain features in the siege and associated combat events. The locations and configurations of features associated with the Civil War-era siege were also identified through review of the historic base maps prepared by former park historian Ed Bearss in 1958. The integrity of historic military terrain features as compared with current park conditions was assessed to support treatment and interpretation recommendations elucidating the

connections between terrain and military history, the maneuvers of both armies, and their engagement at Vicksburg.

Treatment Plan

Development of the CLR treatment plan was based upon the guidance provided in the NPS project scope of work, the findings of each of the chapters included in the CLR, and additional specific guidance conveyed by park and regional NPS personnel during meetings and conference calls. The management goals, issues, and concerns to be addressed by the CLR’s treatment plan were identified in two ways. The majority were conveyed during a CLR kick-off meeting held at the park on January 30, 2007, which was attended by NPS park and regional personnel and members of the WJE/JMA consultant team. Other goals, issues, and concerns were gleaned from Environmental Assessment (EA) scoping sessions conducted by representatives of the NPS and Mactec (the professional consulting firm performing the EA study) to develop purpose, need, and issues statements for the project (see below).

Based on an understanding of the site and the park’s management goals, the CLR team facilitated the development of six conceptual treatment alternatives for the Vicksburg NMP cultural landscape during a CLR/EA Workshop, held on November 13–14, 2007. The conceptual alternatives were later refined and revised based on comments received from reviewers comprised of NPS regional, park, and EA project team members. These concepts were evaluated as part of the EA process, which considered the input of the public through a series of meetings, as well as the results of a June 2008 Choosing by Advantage workshop (see below).¹² Based on the results of the Choosing by Advantage workshop, which identified the preferred and environmentally preferred

11. National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program, “Mapping Battlefields: Survey and Inventory.” PowerPoint presentation accessed April 2007.

12. *Choosing by Advantage* is a decision-making process that ranks alternatives based on the advantages they provide for the park. The process results in the identification of a preferred alternative and an environmentally preferred alternative.

treatment alternatives, the CLR team prepared a treatment concept statement that would direct the development of treatment guidelines and recommendations. The guidelines and recommendations that were then developed further delineated the preferred alternative while responding to the NPS management issues and concerns, the condition assessments of site resources, and the results of the comparative analyses and integrity evaluations.

Environmental Assessment

An EA was prepared concurrently with the CLR by a team comprised of NPS personnel and representatives of Mactec. The EA and CLR project teams worked closely together to ensure that the two studies informed each other throughout the process. Members of the CLR team also participated in the workshops and public meetings conducted on behalf of the EA (Fig 6). The CLR reflects the input of a broad range of professionals as well as the public in its approach and findings. See the Environmental Assessment report for more information about the methodology for the project.

Addition of the Three Riverfront Parcels to the CLR

In April 2008, the park requested that the CLR team revise the scope of work for the project by including the three riverfront fortification parcels in the document. During an already-scheduled visit to the park for a public meeting, the team conducted research and site documentation of the parcels. Site physical history information, existing conditions documentation, comparative analysis, and OCOKA analysis relating to these parcels was included in the Part 2 CLR 75 percent draft. Due to the relatively small size of the parcels, documentation was completed at a high level of detail. While the site history information relating to the parcels has been integrated into the existing site history narrative, the existing conditions documentation, comparative analysis, and OCOKA analysis for these parcels have been included as separate sections that follow the narrative addressing the main battlefield unit.

Description of Study Boundaries

Refer to Fig. 7 and Fig. 8, location and context, and study boundary maps. Vicksburg National Military Park consists of six noncontiguous parcels. These include the main battlefield unit, Louisiana Circle, South Fort, Navy Circle, Grant's Canal, and Pemberton's Headquarters. Vicksburg National Cemetery abuts the park and is also administered by the National Park Service. Two areas of former parkland are located to the north and south of the main battlefield unit. These include land quitclaimed to the city of Vicksburg (to the south) in 1963 and Warren County (to the north) in 1964.

The CLR primarily focuses on the main battlefield unit and the three fort parcels located along the river: Louisiana Circle, South Fort, and Navy Circle. Documentation of the park's other two parcels—Grant's Canal in Louisiana and Pemberton's Headquarters in downtown Vicksburg—and city- and county-owned parcels was conducted to a lesser degree of detail. Vicksburg National Cemetery was not addressed as part of this CLR.

The park's main battlefield unit, which encompasses the majority of the earthen fortifications and areas of engagement, edges the city of Vicksburg to its north and east. A small portion of the park extends into the Yazoo River Diversion Canal, located on the site of the former channel of the Mississippi River. From here, the park boundary generally heads northeast, paralleling U.S. Business Route 61 to its west for 1/3-mile before turning east, and then continuing in a northeasterly direction to the east of the highway past the Union Navy Memorial and Union Avenue. The park's northwestern boundary is located another 1/2-mile northeast of the Navy Memorial. At this point, the boundary turns east, forming an irregular edge along the park to the north, encompassing Union Avenue in its entirety. The northeastern corner of the park encompasses Sherman Circle and the Grant's Headquarters Area, including Grant Avenue to its east. This area includes numerous state monuments but is

relatively isolated visually from the rest of the park. The park boundary subsequently turns to the southeast, edging Grant Avenue, and then continues in a southwesterly direction toward Graveyard Road. The park boundary then follows a southerly orientation, encompassing and paralleling Union Avenue to the east. Near Battery DeGolyer, the boundary begins to follow a southwesterly orientation, which it continues until reaching U.S. Highway 80.

The park entrance and Visitor Center are located along U.S. Highway 80, locally known as Clay Street, within a quarter mile of Exit 4B along Interstate Highway 20. Clay Street bisects the city along an east/west axis, and passes through the park about a mile north of its southern boundary.

After intersecting U.S. Highway 80, the boundary bows to the southeast to encompass part of the rail line associated with the historic Southern Railroad of Mississippi (now known as the Kansas City Southern Railroad), before turning southwest, west, and northeast to encompass the park's South Loop. The boundary again crosses the rail line and U.S. Highway 80. Thereafter, it parallels Confederate Avenue to the west following a crescent orientation until it nears Fort Hill. Here, the boundary jogs west until returning to the Yazoo River Diversion Canal margin.

The park includes three noncontiguous parcels along the Mississippi River, marking the southern end of the Confederate and Union lines. From north to south, these parcels are known today as Louisiana Circle, South Fort, and Navy Circle. Louisiana Circle is a 1.3-acre parcel featuring a remnant Confederate earthen fortification sited on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. The South Fort parcel contains an earthwork where Confederate guns commanded the river approach to the city as well as the former Warrenton Road (contemporary South Washington Street). Navy Circle is the southernmost of the park's three noncontiguous parcels along the Mississippi River. The approximately 2.75-acre parcel protects the surviving evidence of a Union fortification and gun emplacement sited to attack Confederate defensive positions during the spring and summer of 1863.

Former park lands to the north of the existing boundary quitclaimed to Warren County in 1963 included 24.4 acres along Sheridan Avenue. Most of the monuments along the road were moved onto other park land at the time. Five monuments remained on private land until 2008, when three were moved into the park.

Former park lands to the south of the existing boundary quitclaimed to the city of Vicksburg included 154 acres that protect the remains of the historic Confederate line along South Confederate Avenue and a series of roads leading off of this corridor. These corridors are lined with numerous commemorative monuments, markers, and tablets. While this land is maintained by the city of Vicksburg, the monuments are maintained by the NPS.

The city-owned parcels begin at the western edge of the main battlefield unit along the South Loop. To the north, this road is known as Mission 66 Road; to the south, the road is known as South Confederate Avenue. South Confederate Avenue is edged along much of its length by monuments maintained in a park like setting of mown turf. Several road corridors intersect South Confederate Avenue and are also edged by monuments and markers, and other evidence of the Civil War siege. These include portions of Indiana Avenue, Wisconsin Avenue, Halls Ferry Road, Iowa Avenue, and North Frontage Road, which leads to the Louisiana Circle parcel.

Two other noncontiguous parcels are included within the national park. The Grant's Canal parcel is located across the Mississippi River in Louisiana. It protects the remains of canal-building efforts conducted in 1862 by Union Gen. Thomas Williams and in 1863 by Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in an attempt to bypass the city of Vicksburg by water, prior to the siege. The park also includes Confederate Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton's Headquarters. This is an extant dwelling located in downtown Vicksburg.

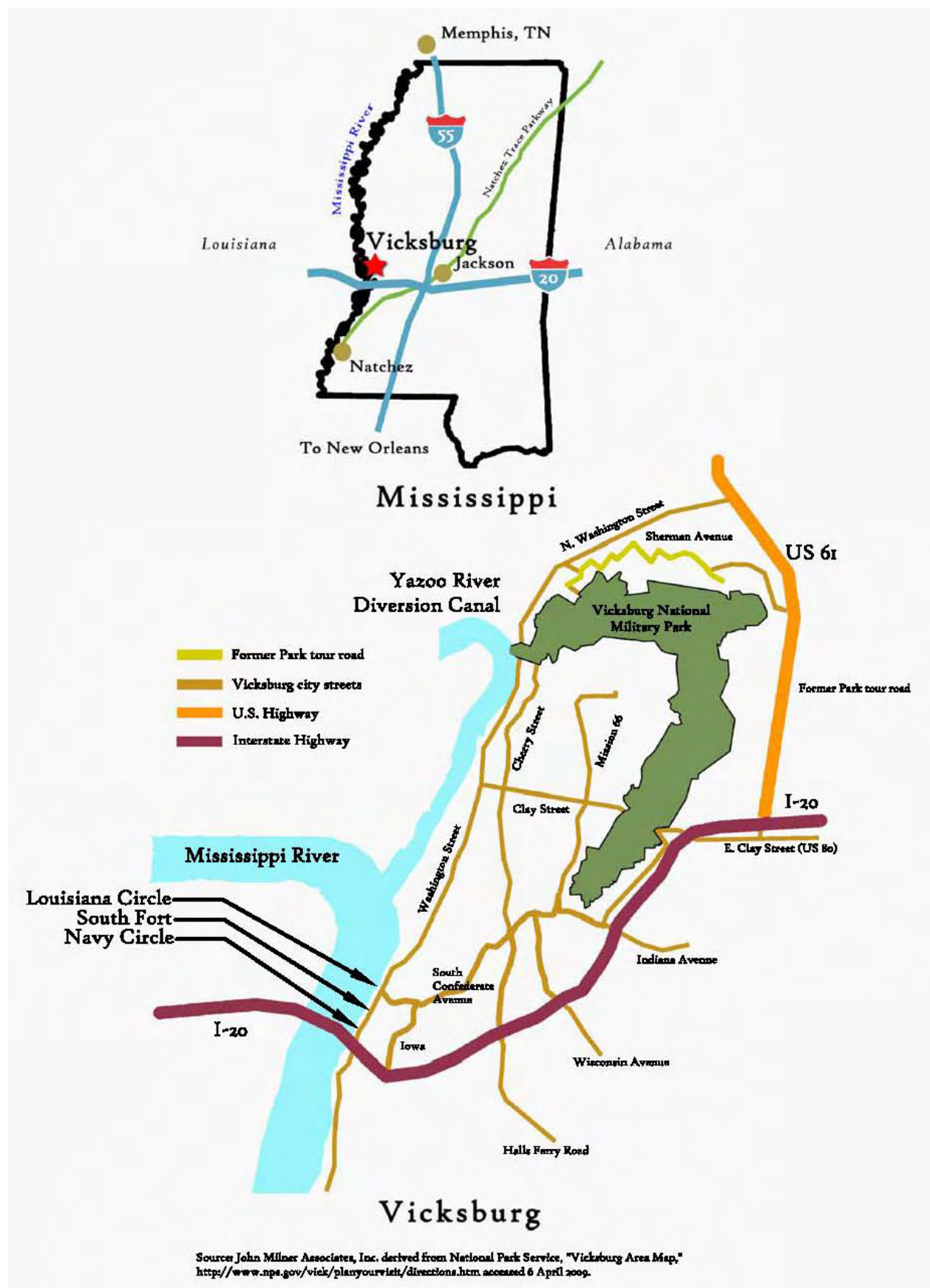


Figure 7. Site Location and Context.

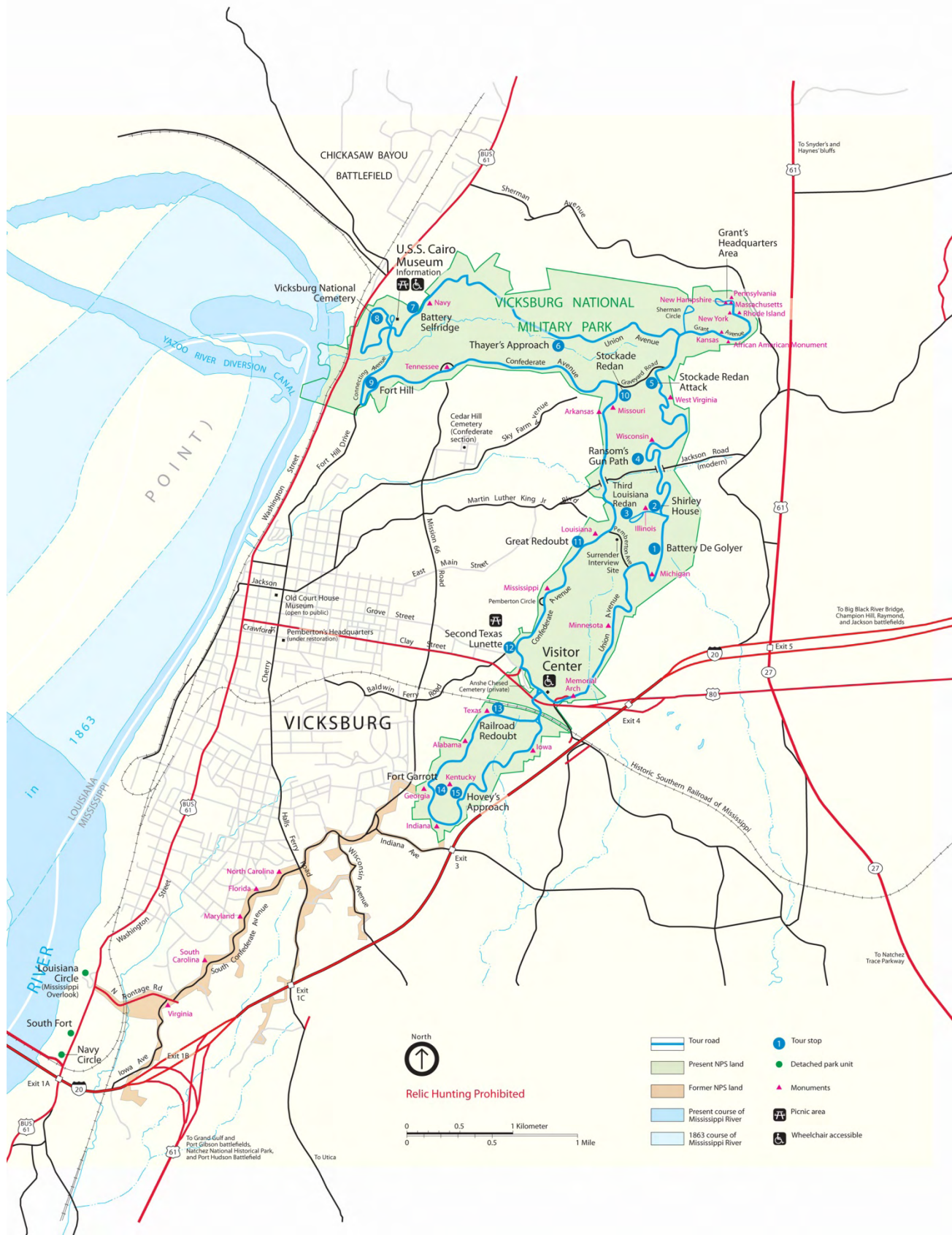


Figure 8. Study Area Boundary Map.

Summary of Findings

Vicksburg National Military Park is a memorial to the soldiers and civilians who participated in the campaign, defense, and siege of Vicksburg in 1863. The park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for its national significance as the site of a decisive event in a military campaign, for its association with the lives of many persons significant in our past, including Union Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton, for examples of commemorative sculpture of high artistic value, and for its information potential.

While the existing 1977 National Register nomination defines the period of significance broadly as the nineteenth century, research performed for this study suggests that a more definitive period of significance be identified. The CLR suggests a primary or establishing period of significance of the Vicksburg Campaign extending from March 29 through July 4, 1863, and within that the siege and associated engagements of Vicksburg extending from May 18 through July 4, 1863. The CLR also suggests a secondary period of significance be considered that encompasses commemoration of the battle including the placing of monuments and memorials, veterans' reunions, and the establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park in 1899. As one of five national military parks established by the federal government in the 1890s, Vicksburg falls within a national context of an unprecedented act of conservation and commemoration. The secondary period of significance extends from the placement of the first monument on the battlefield at the surrender site in 1864 through 1957, the fifty year age consideration for listing in the NRHP at the time this report was initiated. The closing date of 1957 provides an opportunity to encompass the ongoing process of commemoration that has included the erection of carefully designed and constructed monuments and memorials.

Comparison of the park today with conditions present during the primary and secondary periods of significance was conducted as part of a CLR integrity assessment. Based upon a comparative

analysis of historic and existing conditions, the park's cultural landscape was found to possess sufficient integrity for both periods of significance to continue to convey its important historic associations to the visitor, including the Civil War siege as well as development of the park by veterans and others to commemorate the siege. Many cultural landscape features survive from key moments in the site's history, including physical evidence of the 1863 siege in the form of landform and topography, patterns of spatial organization, natural resources, the Shirley House, and remnants of the earthen fortifications and batteries established by the opposing armies; and resources associated with early park establishment and the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps that stabilized the park landscape in the 1930s and early 1940s. These resources include park roads and bridges, monuments, tablets, busts, reliefs, signage, rehabilitated earthworks, the Old Administration Building, and the maintenance complex. Throughout the site's history, there remains a strong connection between natural features and processes and cultural events, activities, and resource development. This connection remains clear and in evidence today.

Conditions that have served to diminish this integrity include alterations to the original tour road system, construction of the Visitor Center complex, removal of early park observation towers, land exchanges with the city of Vicksburg and Warren County, and extensive growth of woody vegetation over formerly open areas.

The treatment plan prepared for the park's cultural landscape considers the findings of the significance evaluation and integrity assessment. It also considers the various management issues identified by NPS park and regional personnel for consideration in the project, some of which were concerned with enhancing the park's historic integrity.

Taking these factors into consideration, the CLR recommends that the park adopt a rehabilitation approach to future management of the Vicksburg NMP cultural landscape. Because rehabilitation is defined in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties as the act or

process of making possible a compatible use for a property, this approach allows for protection of the site's historic character and resources while carefully addressing the park's interest in limited scene restoration, enhancement of interpretive opportunities and circulation routes, ecological maintenance and restoration, and the improvement of visitor amenities, thereby affording the park the opportunity to meet their current and projected future interpretive, functional, and management goals.

As part of the rehabilitation approach, stabilization, protection, and preservation of historic and natural resources are recommended as taking precedence, while new uses are accommodated. As part of the CLR treatment plan, those resources and systems within the park that are to be the focus of stabilization, protection, and preservation, such as water resources, important plant communities and wildlife habitats, soil profiles, and archeological resources, are noted. Sensitive habitats and biotic resources, as well as sites of known and potential archeological resources, for example, should be treated with great care. In general, the CLR recommends preservation of archeological resources unless a compelling research question or informational need justifies disturbance or excavation, or mitigation to accommodate unavoidable change is necessary.

The other key element of the rehabilitation treatment plan is removal of non-contributing woodland to more closely approximate historic patterns of open landcover within areas of key military engagement. As part of this action, the CLR recommends enhancing interpretation of the resulting improved visual connections to and between battlefield resources. To assist the park in these goals, the CLR treatment plan concept is as follows:

The overarching concept for cultural landscape treatment at Vicksburg NMP is to better convey the story of the battles and the siege leading to the surrender of the Confederate forces, and the establishment of a park on this important ground, by reinstating historic conditions in carefully chosen locations and establishing aids to

interpreting missing landscape features. Contemporary park visitor access and interpretation needs are accommodated in the least intrusive manner possible, and landscape management is guided by the principles of sustainability to diminish the financial and environmental costs associated with maintenance and management.

Vegetation and natural resource management, interpretation, and consideration of the overall visitor experience are of the highest-priority based on the park's purpose and need statement for the CLR. The recommended approach to vegetation management, including selective tree clearing, supports a crucial interpretive goal at the park: enhancement of visual accessibility. Removal of specific non-contributing woodland areas, control of invasive alien plants, and restoration of the historic character of areas of key military engagements will help visitors better understand the events of the siege. The plan considers the highly-erodible nature of the park's loess soils in the approach to converting woodland to a more open vegetative cover, and includes numerous mitigation strategies for protecting existing landform and topography.

In addition to vegetation management, the treatment plan recommends the development of new exhibits and interpretive features that connect the visitor to key physical resources and the historic use of the landscape. The park is currently in the process of developing a long-range interpretive plan, which will establish the specific goals and vehicles for park interpretive programs. The treatment plan provides numerous items for consideration within the interpretive plan based on the link between landscape management and interpretation. In particular, the treatment plan suggests assisting visitors with understanding the extent and character of the numerous military landscape features that are no longer present within the park such as abatis, cheveaux-de-frise, fascines, gabions, headlogs, gun platforms, military roads, pickets, rifle pits, approach tunnels, scaling ladders, etc.

Interpretation of the work of the veterans, park commissioners, and later the CCC to protect,

preserve, and manage this significant historic landscape is recommended herein. The treatment plan recommends that information about these endeavors be presented to the public to instill a sense of stewardship and appreciation of this fragile site, and to inspire the public. At a minimum, these recommendations will help visitors to distinguish between existing layers of history that frequently occupy the same site, for example earthworks, commemorative markers, and tablets. To guide implementation of the treatment plan recommendations, the CLR includes more detailed guidance relating to implementation of eight projects, ranging from clearing non-contributing woodland using best management practices, to enhancing interpretation within the park emphasizing the cultural landscape.

Recommendations for Further Research

The following subject areas are recommended for further research:

- Consider including additional features on the List of Classified Structures. For example, many of the bridges and earthen fortifications are not currently included in the federal list. The LCS affords special protection for historic resources located on national park property, and the park will ultimately benefit from their inclusion on the list. In addition, correct existing entries that indicate that many of the major Confederate earthworks were reconstructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps if further investigation indicates that this is incorrect.
 - Conduct additional research to determine whether a cyclorama painting of the battlefield ever existed. Investigate the painter Phillipoteaux. Consider monitoring sources such as EBay for any related memorabilia that might be available for sale.
 - Update the existing National Register nomination, which includes outdated information as well as inaccuracies. Include
- the recently-acquired Pemberton's Headquarters in downtown Vicksburg in the nomination.
 - Prepare a General Management Plan for the park.
 - Prepare a Historic Resources Study for the park.
 - Complete a Long-Range Interpretive Plan for the park that considers the information provided herein.
 - Conduct an Archeological Overview and Assessment of the park.
 - Conduct additional research to locate the remaining sections of an early park era survey of the original national military park. Copies of a six-sheet master plan that indicates the final configuration of park features, completed from the survey, have been located. However, only one of the six sheets has been found of the survey, which provides otherwise undocumented information about the character of the landscape circa 1900.
 - Conduct additional research into the specific history of CCC efforts to stabilize areas of soil erosion and provide plantings, to determine the exact locations of the projects and their scopes. Further research to attempt to identify site plans, aerial photographs, or written descriptions confirming the nature, location, and extent of plantings by CCC would also be extremely valuable.

