

## Structures

See Fig. 220 through Fig. 251.

**Summary Analysis.** Four types of structures are present within the park. These include the remnant earthworks associated with the siege, large monuments such as state memorials, engineered features such as bridges and culverts, and a tensile structure.

- *Earthworks.* The gun emplacements, artillery positions, and rifle pits associated with the Civil War siege of Vicksburg are key character-defining features of the park landscape and contributing resources. Physical evidence of these features survives. Efforts conducted by the War Department, and later the CCC, stabilized and rehabilitated many of these earthworks. The interpretive earthwork at the visitor center post-date 1959, and are non-contributing resources.
- *Large Monuments.* The majority of the large monuments located within the park, including most state monuments, the Memorial Arch, and the U.S. Naval Memorial, are contributing resources due to their age. State monuments erected after the period of significance are listed as non-contributing resources due to their age, but remain character-defining features of the park landscape.



**FIGURE 220.** Thayer's Approach Tunnel, undated photograph, early twentieth century.

- *Engineered Structures.* Numerous bridges were constructed during the early park establishment period as part of the road network that provided visitor access to the important resources of the park. Those that survive are contributing resources. A few of these bridges have been replaced with contemporary bridges and box culverts. These replacement structures are non-contributing. Three towers established during the early park development period were removed in the 1960s and constitute missing historic features. The concrete tunnel beneath Union Avenue at Thayer's Approach is visible in an early twentieth century photograph. The feature appears to date from the early park development period, although a tunnel existed in this location during the siege (Fig. 220 and Fig. 221).
- *Other Structures.* The tensile structure protecting the USS *Cairo* post-dates the period of significance and constitutes a non-contributing resource. Missing structures include the contact stations that existed at the park during the period of significance.



**FIGURE 221.** The same view, 2007. The tunnel and the road corridor that crosses it survive, but a large earthen mound to the right in the historic photograph appears to have been lost or removed, and there is far more woody vegetation.

### **Structures Characteristic of the Site prior to 1861.**

- A battery was part of Fort Nogales during Spanish occupation. Fort Nogales was the name given to the eighteenth century Spanish military fortification located near present-day Vicksburg National Cemetery. The fortification included Fort Sugar-loaf, sited on the mound in the present-day cemetery and Fort Mount Vigio at current-day Fort Hill. This structure was renamed Fort McHenry after the United States gained control of this region in 1797.
- Antebellum accounts of the Shirley House landscape suggest that the property included a cistern, stable, and hen house.

### **Structures Characteristic of the Site during the Civil War (1861–1865).**

- All traces of Fort McHenry had disappeared by the Civil War. The site was used to construct the Confederate fortifications known as Fort Hill. These fortifications were further adapted for use by the Union forces that occupied the region after the siege.
- Early on during the war, river batteries were established along the water's edge near Vicksburg. In September 1862, Confederate engineers began to construct a system of land defenses to further protect the position and river at Vicksburg. Nine major fortification structures anchored the system. These were composed primarily of earth, with log parapets reinforced with cylindrical baskets of native cane called gabions. Tightly-bound bundles of brush called fascines were used as a reinforcement for the unstable loess.
- The Water Battery was a Confederate battery position that controlled the bend in the Mississippi River above Vicksburg.
- Fort Hill was the anchor of the Confederate defensive line on the north and an observation point to monitor Union naval operations on the river.

- The Second Texas Lunette was a Confederate defensive strong point guarding Baldwin Ferry Road.
- The Great Redoubt was a Confederate stronghold guarding Jackson Road.
- The Stockade Redan was the central fort, flanked by the Twenty-seventh Louisiana Lunette to the west and Green's Redan to the east, key to the defenses guarding the Graveyard Road. Several bloody assaults were made on this position by Union forces, and General Green was killed at the site. The Twenty-seventh Louisiana Lunette was the object of the Fourth West Virginia Infantry attack.
- The Third Louisiana Redan guarded the Jackson Road, and was the scene of Union mining operations. Explosives were set beneath the parapet of the fort and ignited.
- Fort Garrott, which was also known as the Square Fort, was located south of Railroad Redoubt.
- Railroad Redoubt was the Confederate guardian of the Southern Railroad of Mississippi rail line that ran east from Vicksburg.
- The Union army conducted at least two mining operations to reach and destroy the parapet of the Third Louisiana Redan that guarded Jackson Road.
- The Salient Work, also referred to as the Horn Work, commanded the Halls Ferry Road into Vicksburg. It was called the salient work due to its forward position as related to the remainder of the line. It consisted of an irregular redan with a short northerly face and longer south face with an oblique angle at the end. Two artillery pieces were stationed within the work. It was the object of Federal sap operations.

- South Fort anchored the southern end of the Confederate line along the river, and also guarded the Warrenton Road.
- Battery Barnes was a secondary fort built prior to the siege to guard the river approach from the south. It reinforced South Fort. Today, Battery Barnes is protected as part of the Louisiana Circle unit of the park.
- On May 19, 1863, the Union army assaulted Stockade Redan along the Graveyard Road approach to the city. Confederate defenders rolled cannon balls down the parapet onto the attackers.
- On May 22, 1863, the Union army conducted a second attack on Stockade Redan. Federal troops also attacked the Third Louisiana Redan (known as Fort Hill by the Union army), the Great Redoubt, Railroad Redoubt, Second Texas Lunette, Fort Garrott, and South Fort. At first successful in attacking Railroad Redoubt, the Union forces were later repulsed. Based on these failed attempts to overrun the Confederate defenses, Grant shifted his approach to gaining Vicksburg, assuming that the defenders would not last a protracted siege.
- During the siege, Federal batteries were sited on ridgelines where their artillery could fire upon the Confederate strongholds.
- Battery Selfridge was a position manned by men and artillery drawn from Union gunboats in the Mississippi River and added to the Union siege.
- Battery DeGolyer amassed the largest concentration of Union artillery along the siege lines. It was composed of four batteries including the Second Illinois, Third Ohio, Eighth Michigan, and Yost's (independent) Ohio battery.
- Battery Benton was a Union anchor position on the south end of the siege line, commanded by naval personnel from the USS *Benton*.
- At least one lookout tower was built by the Union army. It was known as Coonskin tower, and used as a sharpshooter position for firing on the Third Louisiana Redan.

**Structures Characteristic of the Site between 1865 and 1959.**

- Vicksburg National Cemetery was established in 1866 on land that was partially occupied by Union forces during the siege. The original entrance to the cemetery occurred from the riverfront road (Warrenton Road). A masonry arch marked the entrance after 1920.
- In 1887, the Louisiana Monument on Monroe Street was erected and dedicated.
- Vicksburg National Military Park enabling legislation directed park commissioners to commemorate the siege of Vicksburg. Commemoration, including the establishment of monuments and markers in memory of the soldiers stationed on the site, the restoration of the forts and lines of fortifications, and demarcation of the lines of battles and other points of interest with tablets.
- Three observation towers were constructed within the park in the early 1900s. These were located at Logan Circle southeast of intersection of Union Avenue and Old Jackson Road; on a high mound along Confederate Avenue to the east of Fort Hill; and near the southern end of the Confederate Avenue extension beyond current park boundaries.
- Nine Melan arch bridges were constructed in association with ravine and stream crossings of Union and Confederate Avenues in 1903. One of these, Bridge No. 5, was removed and replaced with a box culvert in 1997. Bridge No. 1 was a Melan arch bridge constructed across a branch of Durden Creek northeast of the current visitor center. Bridge No. 2 was a Melan arch bridge across a drainageway near the Battery De Golyer. Bridges No. 3, 4, and 5 were Melan arch bridges along North Union Avenue associated with branches of Mint Spring Bayou. Bridge No. 7 is a Melan arch

bridge along the South Loop near the Indiana Monument. Bridge No. 8 is a Melan arch bridge located just north of Bridge No. 7 near Hovey's Approach. Bridge No. 9 is a Melan arch bridge located farther north near tour stop 15. Bridge No. 10 is also a Melan arch bridge located south of the Iowa Monument along the South Loop.

- Four steel bridges were also constructed in 1903 in association with the park's tour road system, none of which survive. Steel bridges were formerly associated with the Union and Confederate Avenue crossings of the ravine where modern Jackson Road is currently located. Bridge No. 6 was the Confederate Avenue steel bridge crossing of modern Jackson Road that was replaced in the 1970s and removed in 2003. Another steel bridge was formerly located across Stout's Bayou and a rail line spur at the end of South Confederate Avenue. This was replaced with a steel, brick, and concrete bridge in 1938.
- The Maloney Circle Bridge was built in 1908 across the tracks of the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad to provide access to Battery Maloney.
- The 1937 Halls Ferry Bridge was built by CCC labor to provide a separated grade crossing at the busy intersection of Halls Ferry Road and South Confederate Avenue. It is located on former park land currently maintained by the city.
- The Massachusetts State Monument was built in 1903 (Fig. 224 and Fig. 225).
- The New Hampshire State Monument was established in the park in 1904 (Fig. 226 through Fig. 229).
- The Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Illinois State Monuments were erected in 1906 (Fig. 230 through Fig. 234).
- The Minnesota and Virginia State Monuments were built 1907 (Fig. 235 through Fig. 237).



**FIGURE 222.** View north from behind the Illinois State Memorial toward the site of the Wisconsin State Monument, circa 1903, showing a bridge crossing Glass Bayou.



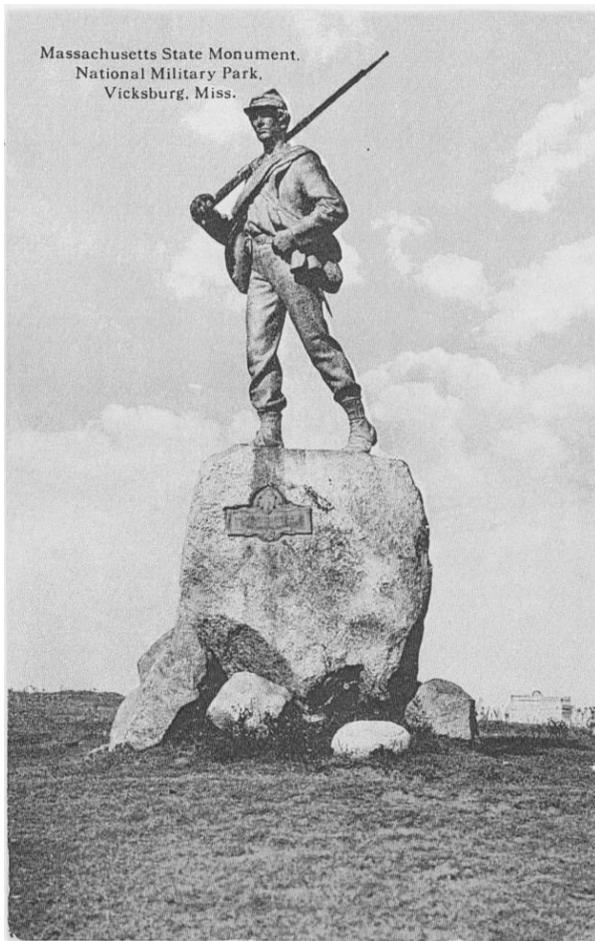
**FIGURE 223.** A similar view, 2007. Woody vegetation in the contemporary photograph obstructs views. The early bridge was removed and replaced circa 1970.

- The Rhode Island State Monument was completed in 1908 (Fig. 238 and Fig. 239).
- The Mississippi State Monument was established in the park in 1909–1912 (Fig. 240 and Fig. 241).
- The Wisconsin State Monument was erected in 1911 (Fig. 242 through Fig. 247).
- The Union Navy Memorial was built in 1911 (Fig. 248 and Fig. 249).
- The Michigan State Monument was completed in 1916.

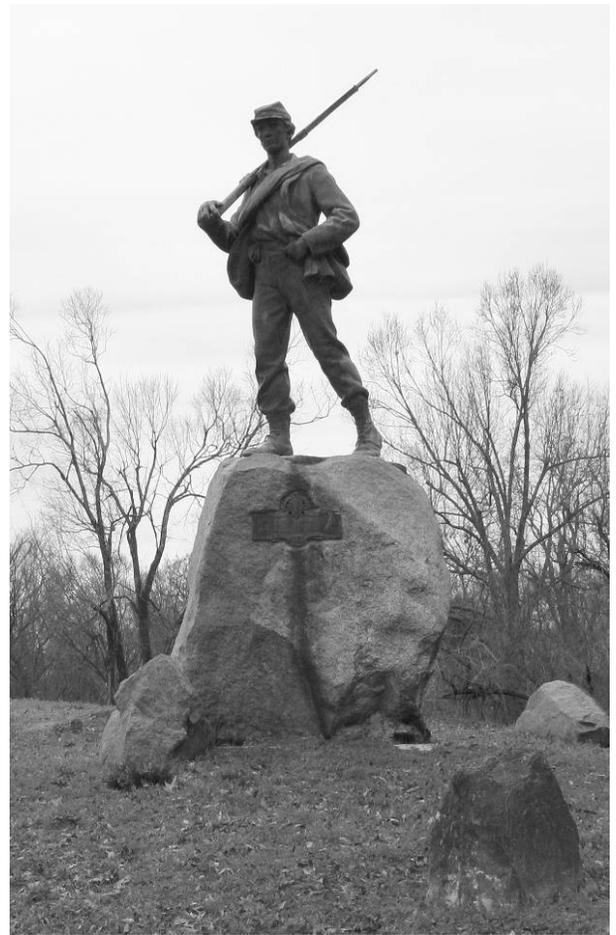
- The Missouri and New York State Monuments were established within the park in 1917 (Fig. 250 and Fig. 251).
- The Louisiana State Monument was built in 1920.
- In 1920, a Memorial Arch was placed at the entrance to the park. The entrance was then located along Clay Street west of Confederate Avenue. The memorial was funded by monies remaining after the 1917 veterans' reunion. A second arch was placed at the entrance to the national cemetery along the riverfront road (Warrenton, Washington, or U.S. Business Route 61).
- During the 1930s, the CCC restored monuments, constructed bridges—including Halls Ferry Road bridge—and rehabilitated earthworks including the Water Battery, Fort Garrott, Great Redoubt, Railroad Redoubt, and Fort Hill. Some earthworks, such as the Second Texas Lunette located within the Hebrew Cemetery, were not rehabilitated.
- The Alabama State Monument was built in 1951.
- The Arkansas and Florida State Monuments were erected in 1954.
- The remaining three iron bridges constructed in the early 1900s were replaced in the 1970s.
- Two entrance booths were constructed in 1987 to collect park entrance fees at the Memorial Arch near the visitor center and along Fort Hill Drive.
- In 1996 the Tennessee State Monument was erected.
- In 1997, Melan Arch Bridge No. 3 was repaired and Bridge No. 5 was replaced by a box culvert.
- The Mississippi State Monument was rehabilitated 2001.
- The Kentucky Monument was erected and dedicated in 2001.
- The early 1900s steel arch bridge carrying Confederate Avenue over modern Jackson Road and Glass Bayou was demolished in 2003.
- In 2004 the Mississippi African American Monument was built.
- The Connecticut Monument was dedicated in 2008.

### **Structures Characteristic of the Site after 1959.**

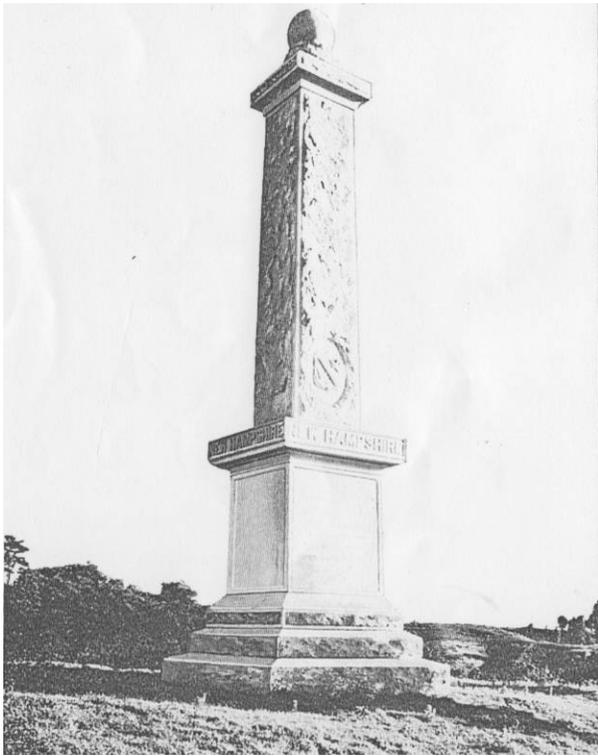
- The three park observation towers were demolished between 1963 and 1966.
- In 1964, the USS *Cairo* was raised from the Yazoo River bed. Construction of a protective structure and museum were completed by 1980. Restoration of the boat was completed by 1985.
- In 1969 the steel arch bridge along North Union Avenue, between the present-day Wisconsin and West Virginia Monuments, was demolished and replaced with a culvert.



**FIGURE 224.** The Massachusetts State Monument, looking north, circa 1908



**FIGURE 225.** The same view, 2007. The monument appears to survive in good condition, although some of the boulders at the base of the monument shown in the historic image appear to have been moved in the 2007 image. Otherwise the primary difference in the views is the dramatic increase in vegetation seen behind the monument.



**FIGURES 226 and 227.** The New Hampshire State Memorial, looking west, circa 1908; looking east, circa 1910–1920.



**FIGURES 228 and 229.** The New Hampshire State Memorial, similar views, 2007. Located with many other state monuments along Grant Circle, the New Hampshire State Memorial was the second state monument placed at the park. Both views indicate that the monument itself retains a high degree of integrity, and continues to be set on a knoll maintained in open turf lawn. Behind the monument both to the east and to the west, however, the setting has changed through the addition of extensive expanses of woodland. The woodland cover obscures views of the park to the west, and the rolling terrain to the east. In the contemporary view looking east, a transmission tower is visible in 2007 that was not present during the early twentieth century.



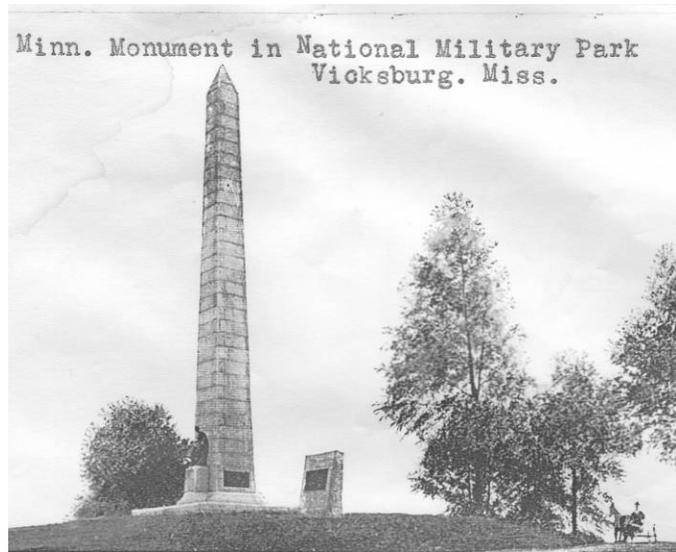
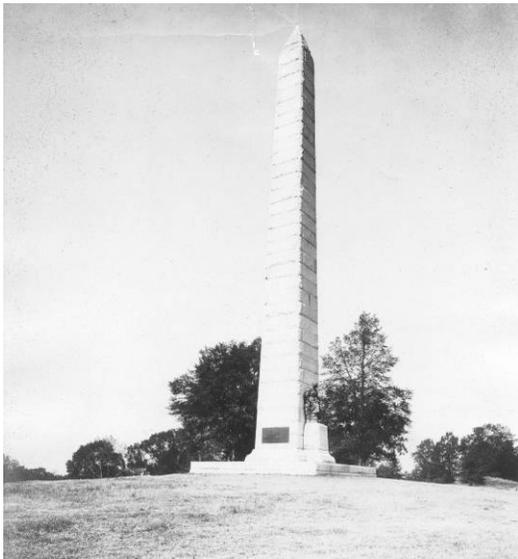
**FIGURE 230 and 231.** Left: The Pennsylvania State Memorial, looking east, 1907. Right: The same view, circa 1910–1920.



**FIGURE 232.** The same view, 2007. Dedicated in 1906, the Pennsylvania State Memorial is located along Grant’s Circle. The memorial survives with a high degree of integrity. Changes to the landscape include the addition of dense woodland vegetation behind the monument, and a narrow concrete walk leading to the monument from the road nearby. Historic maps indicate that a circle drive was intended for this monument, which is no longer present.



**FIGURE 233 and 234.** Left: The Illinois State Memorial, looking east toward the Shirley House, circa 1910–1920. Right: The same view, 2007. Dedicated in 1906, the Illinois State Memorial is one of the largest and most ornate state monuments in the park. Changes that have occurred in association with the monument over time include the addition of a parking area in front of the monument, a shift in the alignment of Jackson Road fronting the monument, revegetation of an access route leading around the western side of the memorial with grass, loss of trees edging the Shirley House precinct beyond the monument, and the addition of a transmission tower in the far distant view. Cannon that once flanked the stairs leading to the memorial are no longer present. There are many more trees visible behind the monument in the 2007 photograph than in the historic image.



**FIGURE 235 and 236.** Left: The Minnesota State Monument, looking northwest, circa 1907. Right: looking south, no date.



**FIGURE 237.** The Minnesota State Monument, looking south, 2007. Erected in 1907, the Minnesota State Monument was recently recognized for its centennial. Comparison of historic and contemporary views of the monument indicates the changes that have occurred to the structure and its setting over the past 100 years. The contemporary photograph includes temporary interpretive signage marking the centennial. The photographs suggest that the monument itself is little changed since its dedication. In addition, it continues to be sited on a broad, gently-sloping knoll maintained in turf grass that edges Union Avenue. Changes to its setting include the large increase in woodland behind the monument, loss of the circle drive that once afforded views of the monument from all sides, and the more open nature of the knoll that allowed for these views.



**FIGURE 238 and 239.** The Rhode Island State Memorial, looking east, 1908; and the same view, 2007. The Rhode Island State Memorial is located along Grant Avenue near Grant Circle. It was dedicated in 1908. Comparison of an early twentieth century view and a 2007 photograph from a similar perspective suggests that the monument survives in good condition. Once again, tree cover behind the monument is far more extensive, changing the character of the monument's setting.



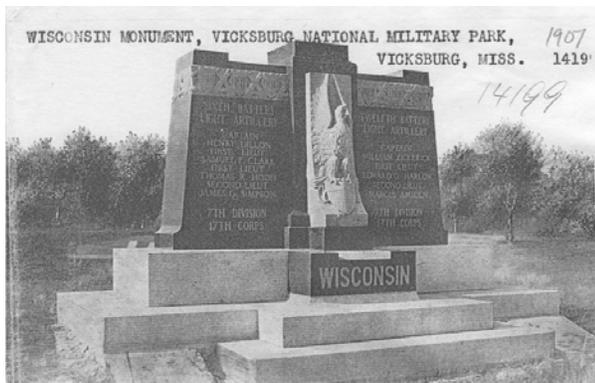
**FIGURE 240 and 241.** The Mississippi State Memorial, looking northwest, 1908; and the same view, 2007. Dedicated in 1909, this memorial is located along Confederate Avenue. A postcard dated 1908 illustrates the monument soon after its construction in 1907. Comparison of the postcard with a similar view suggests that the road may have been realigned away from the monument at some point. Once again, tree cover behind the monument is more extensive in the contemporary view than in the historic image. Bronze sculpture known to have been installed in 1912 is absent from the monument in the historic view.



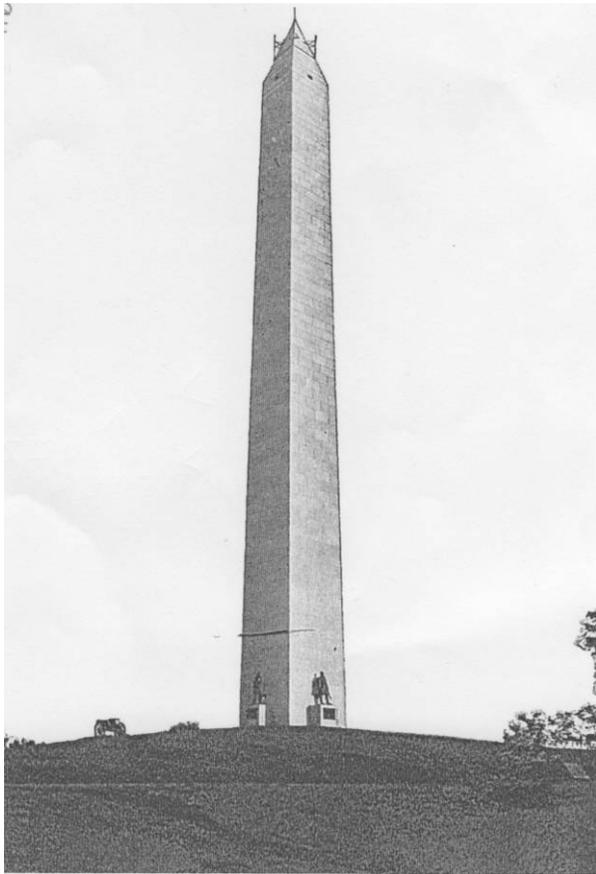
**FIGURE 242 and 243.** Left: Wisconsin Infantry Monuments flanking Union Avenue, looking northeast, 1908. Right: The same view, 2007. Much of the landscape retains its historic character of 100 years ago. Union Avenue retains a similar character and alignment, although the road has since been surfaced with asphalt and curbing along the uphill side of the road in the historic view has been removed. The predominant land cover is turf grass in both images. However, the historic image suggests that meadow grasses and flowering bulbs formerly grew at the base of the monument. The postcard predates construction of the Wisconsin State Memorial, which appears in the 2007 photograph. The earlier view indicates the open nature of the knoll behind the monuments that is now wooded.



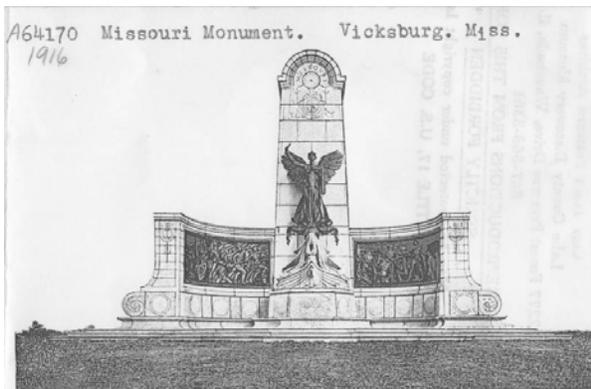
**FIGURE 244 and 245.** Left: The Wisconsin State Memorial, looking east, circa 1912. Right: The same view, 2007. The Wisconsin State Memorial was erected in 1911. The memorial remains remarkably consistent in appearance since its construction. Like many of the park's memorials, the setting around the monument continues to be maintained in turf lawn, but trees are seen to have encroached on the landscape behind the monument by 2007. The original circle drive that afforded views of the monument from all sides is no longer extant.



**FIGURE 246 and 247.** Left: The Wisconsin Twelfth Battery Monument, looking southwest, 1907. Right: The same view, 2007. Sited on a knoll overlooking Union Avenue, the monument marks the location of a Federal battery. Comparison of the views shows that the monument base was altered through the placement of a concrete apron to protect the monument from damage by mowers. The setting for this monument is changed by the growth of trees, although the 1907 view shows a grove of young trees near the monument.



**FIGURE 248 and 249.** Union Navy Memorial, looking west, 1911; and the same view, 2007. The Union Navy Memorial was constructed in 1911. The monument remains consistent in appearance from its original design and construction. The setting for the monument, however, has changed through the establishment of woodland on the slopes behind the monument.



**FIGURE 250 and 251.** Left: The Missouri State Memorial, looking southeast, circa 1916. Right: The same view, 2007. Dedicated in 1917, this monument is located along Confederate Avenue south of Stockade Redan. The monument survives with a good degree of integrity, although the monument's setting has changed due to the growth of woody vegetation behind it. Visitor appreciation of the monument has been affected by the reorientation of Confederate Avenue. Designed to be viewed from the south, the monument is now approached from the north, altering the intention of the designed view of the monument.

## Small-scale Features

See Fig. 252 through Fig. 255.

**Summary Analysis.** There are no small-scale features that survive from the Civil War period of the park's history. Small-scale features present during that time included abatis, cheveaux-de-frise, headlogs, sap rollers, and the stockade fence of the Stockade Redan.

Numerous small-scale features survive from the period of significance and contribute to the historic significance of the park landscape. Most of these are associated with the early park development period and include small monuments, busts, reliefs, tablets, identity and road signs, and cannon. Additional small-scale features survive from the 1930s and CCC activities such as signs and culverts and other drainage structures. Surviving small-scale features also include concrete retaining walls along segments of the Union and Confederate Avenue road corridors, and the Shirley gravestones.

Some of the features established by the CCC are no longer extant. These include rustic-style signs, guard rails, picnic benches, and stone grills. Fencing used by residents with life leases to maintain their agricultural crop fields and pastures that existed during the commemorative period into the 1930s is also no longer extant.

Non-contributing small-scale features include the site furnishings and exhibits associated with the visitor center.

### Small-scale Features Characteristic of the Site prior to 1861.

- It is not currently known what small-scale features existed within the Vicksburg National Military Park landscape prior to the Civil War. Likely present, however, were fences of various types.

### Small-scale Features Characteristic of the Site during the Civil War (1861–1865).

- There were many small-scale features associated with the earthworks and fortifications of the siege and the soldier camps. These included headlogs, abatis, cheveaux-de-frise, animal enclosures and tying posts, water collection and distribution features, and tents.
- Obstacles placed by Confederate troops as part of the defensive system included larger trees with branches sharpened into spikes called abatis, or laid horizontally with intersecting diagonal rows of sharpened spikes called cheveaux-de-frise. Other obstacles were created by cabling downed timber with vines and wires.
- Union soldiers dug a series of protected approach trenches toward the Confederate lines with the intent of planting mines beneath Confederate fortifications. They hid behind sap rollers.
- On July 4, 1864, a small stone obelisk was placed to mark the site of the Surrender Interview. A square base, surmounted by an ornamental ball of marble, was surrounded by masonry protected by Roman cement and an iron fence of simple but appropriate design.

### Small-scale Features Characteristic of the Site between 1865 and 1959.

- After the war, the Surrender Interview Site Monument was damaged by visitors who removed pieces of its shaft. It was moved in 1867 to the Cherry Street Railroad Station, in 1868 to the Indian Mound in Vicksburg National Cemetery, and later to the visitor center. In the late 1860s, an upright cannon tube engraved with a commemorative inscription was erected to again mark the site.



**FIGURE 252.** View south from the vicinity of the Surrender Interview Site Monument, circa 1900.



**FIGURE 253.** Attempt to photograph a similar view, 2007. This pair of images suggests a great degree of change has occurred in the landform and topography below the monument. Given the more steeply sloped landscape below the monument in the historic image, this photograph may have been taken from a different angle. However, the monument and its surrounding stone wall appear similar in the two images.



**FIGURE 254.** A 1908 postcard of the Lee Memorial, a statue of the Confederate leader, looking west.



**FIGURE 255.** A similar view, 2007, along the South Loop of Confederate Avenue. The statue appears to retain a high degree of integrity. Tree cover behind the monument is extensive in the contemporary view.

- Vicksburg National Cemetery was established in 1866 on land that was partially occupied by Union forces during the siege. Headstones and other burial markers are some of the small-scale features associated with the cemetery.
- Within the Vicksburg area, road building and maintenance was rendered challenging by the erodibility of the soil. Large culverts were used in association with local streets to convey stormwater and diminish the threat of erosion.
- After 1899, Vicksburg National Military Park began to mark the lines of battles and other points of interest with cast iron tablets.
- Iron gun carriages were acquired in 1903–1905 to mark artillery positions.
- A 10-inch Columbiad referred to as the Widow Blakely was acquired by the park through donation in 1935. This is the only artillery piece displayed at the park that was actually used during the siege. Arrangements were made to mount it in front of the Administration Building, but it was ultimately placed at Louisiana Circle.
- A picnic grounds was established by the CCC in 1936. Signage associated with the picnic grounds was fashioned in the Colonial Revival style. Rustic wood benches and grills or camp stoves composed of stacked stones arranged in a horseshoe shape were placed within the picnic grounds.
- Guard rails were used along many segments of road identified by the CCC as having a dangerous proximity to steep slopes. These were generally constructed in the “rustic” style and comprised of local cedar and locust.
- Some road and erosion control work required the CCC to move and reset historical markers and monuments.
- The CCC built concrete gutter in various places to convey stormwater.

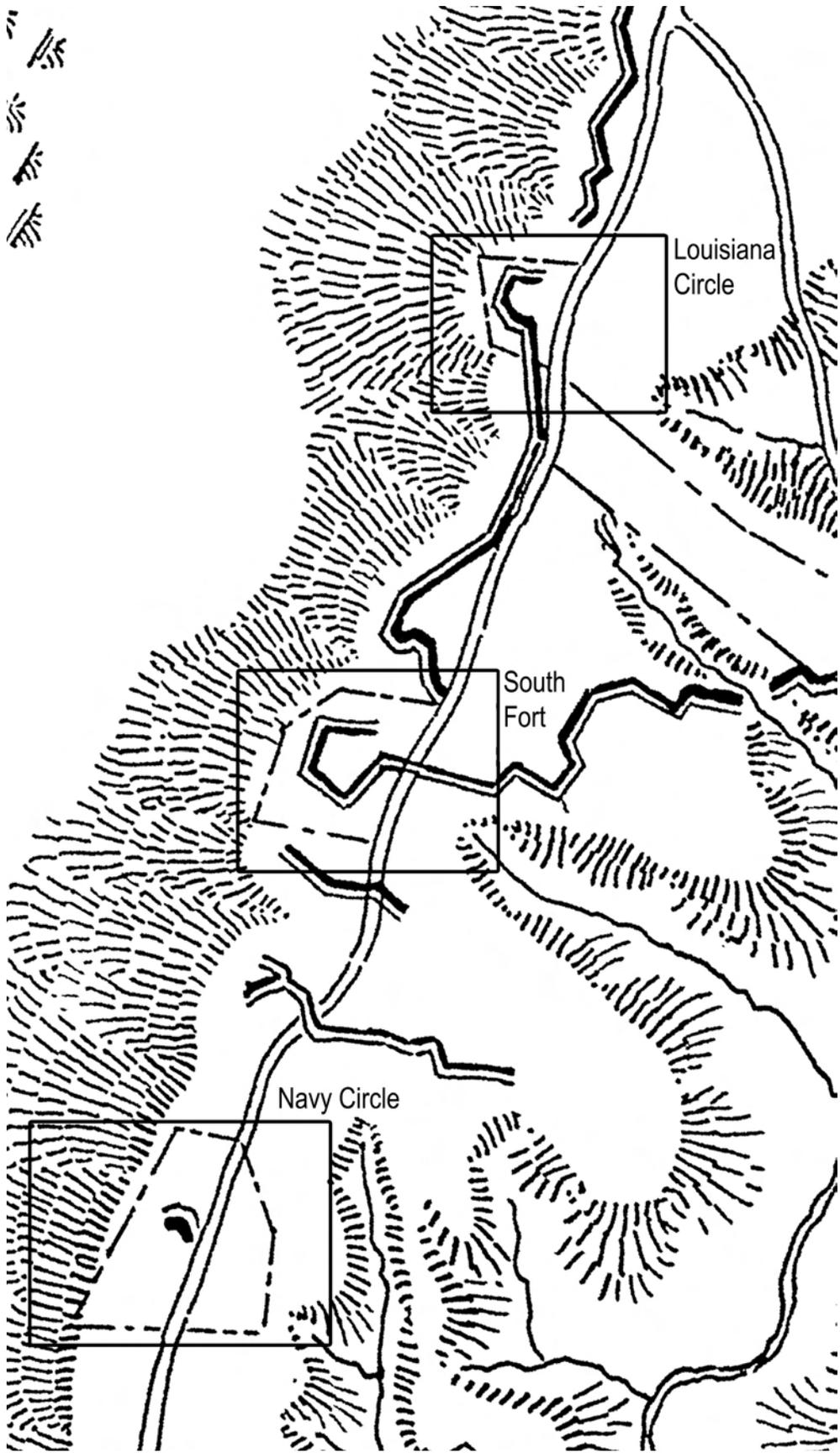
- In support of the World War II metal drive, numerous cast iron markers were removed from the park. Included were 143 of the largest tablets and markers.

### **Small-scale Features Characteristic of the Site after 1959.**

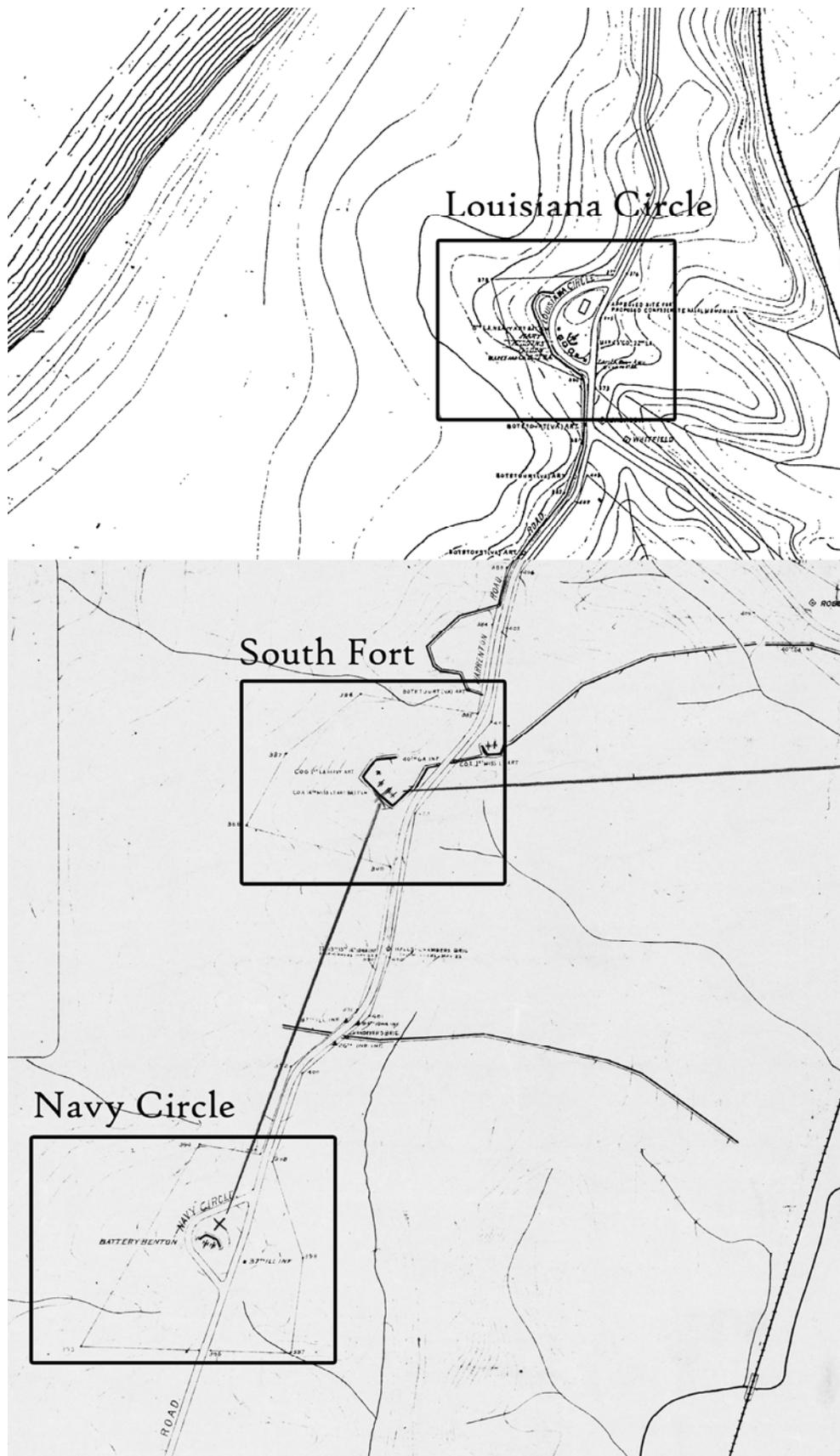
- Twenty-two of the cast iron markers removed in support of the World War II metal drive have been replaced.
- The 1968–1969 Visitor Center and adjacent parking area, as well as the nearby living history demonstration area include various small-scale features.
- Interpretive waysides, directional, informational and wayfinding signs, and traffic signs have been added to the park since 1959.
- Small monuments, statues, busts, and portrait reliefs have been added to the park since 1959.
- Drainage and stormwater management features have been added to the park since 1959.

### **Noncontiguous Parcels**

The following section provides a comparative analysis for the three noncontiguous park parcels included in the scope of this study: Louisiana Circle, South Fort, and Navy Circle. Fig. 256 through Fig. 260 provide overview maps and aerial photography for all three parcels.



**FIGURE 256.** Conditions after the siege, circa 1863 (from a 1938 drawing).



**FIGURE 257.** Park commission survey, 1902.



**FIGURE 258.** Detail of 1925 bird's eye view by Poole. The location labeled "South Fort" is actually the Louisiana Circle parcel.

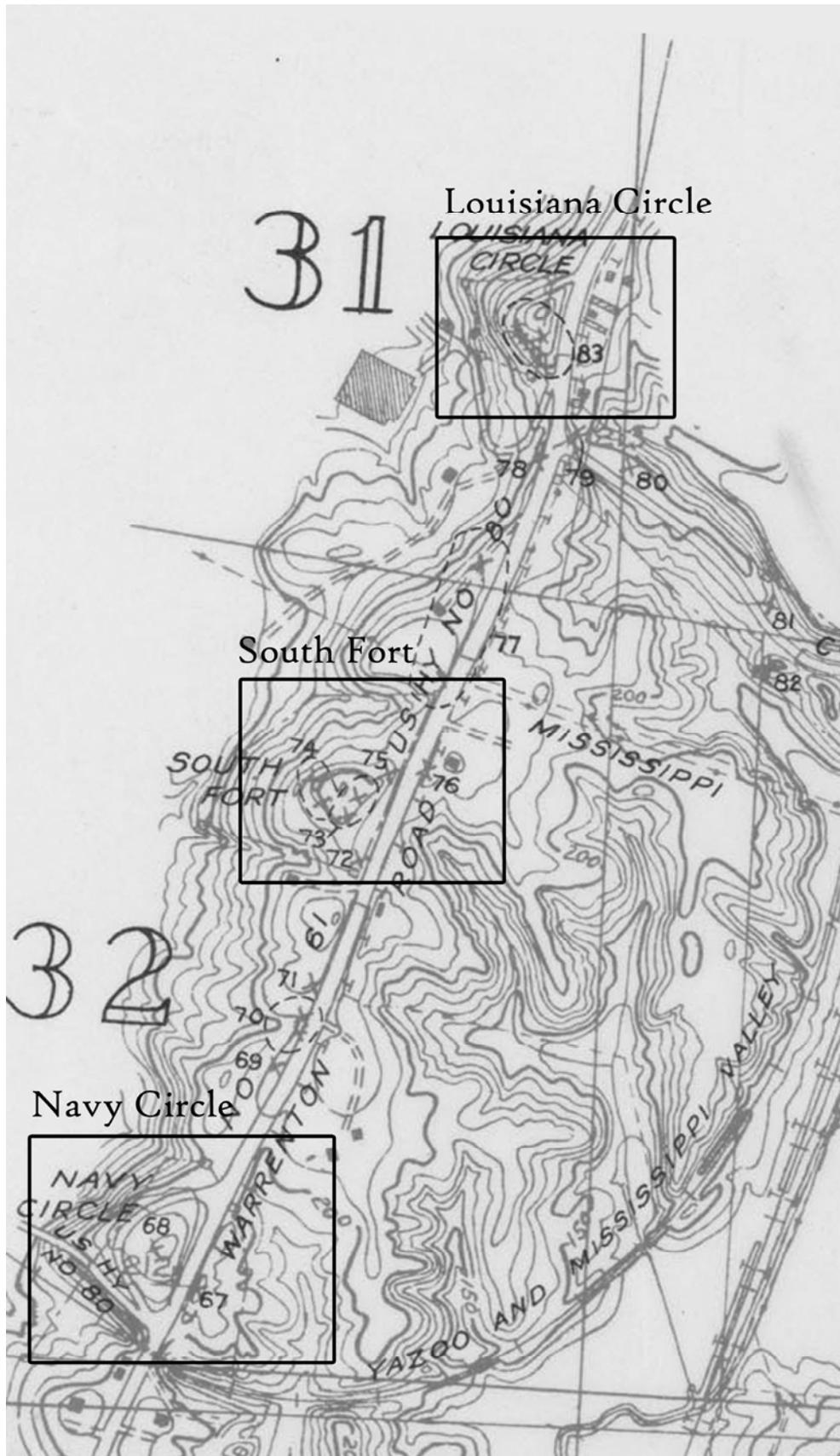
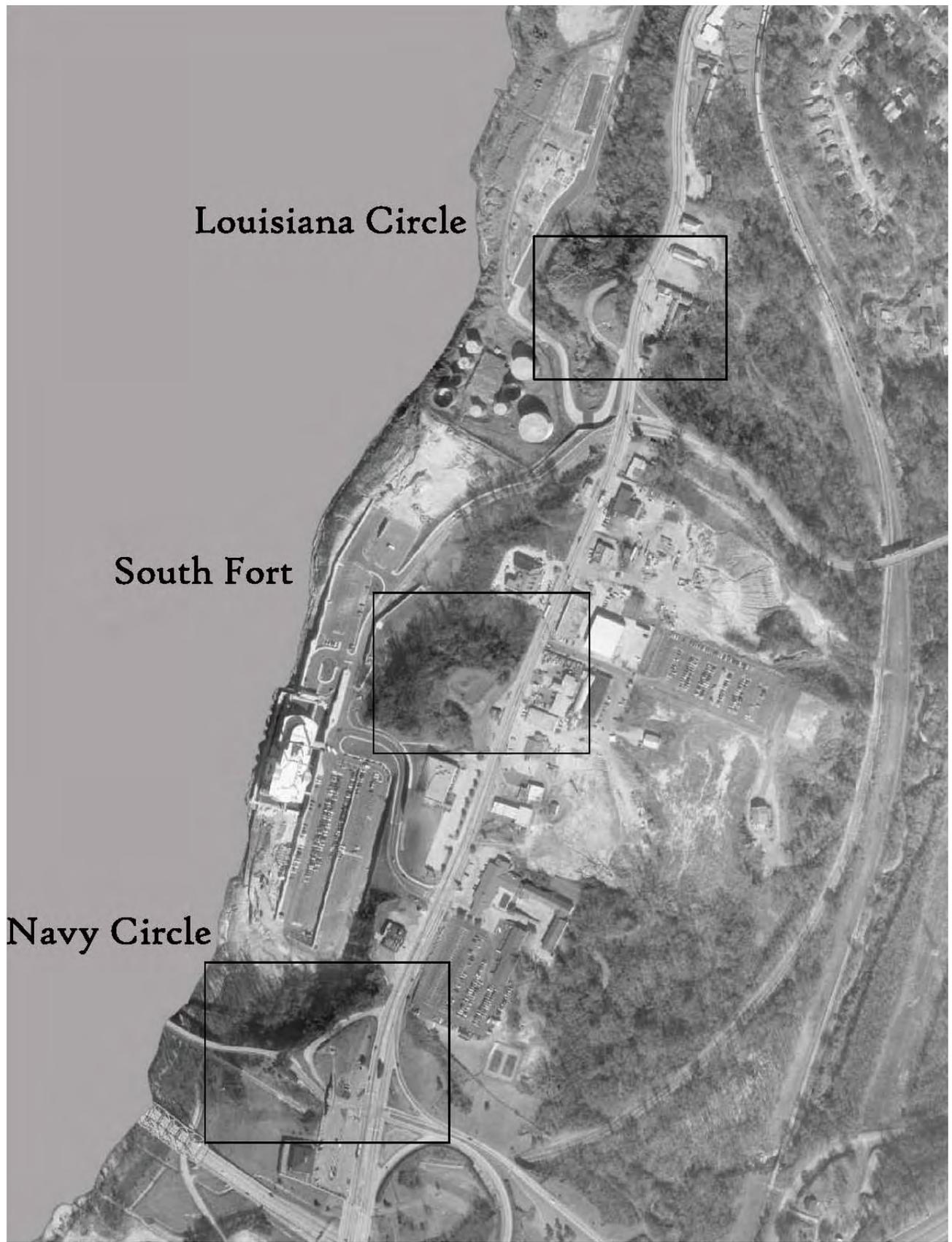


FIGURE 259. USGS survey map, 1935.



Louisiana Circle

South Fort

Navy Circle

**FIGURE 260.** Contemporary aerial photography, early 2000s.

**Louisiana Circle.** The fortification featured within the park's Louisiana Circle unit was part of the southern anchor of the Confederate line of defenses around the City of Vicksburg. Surviving historic evidence of the landscape of the fortification during the siege and the early part of the twentieth century includes various maps (Fig. 256 through Fig. 260) and photographs. A 1902–1903 topographic survey, prepared for the park commissioners, shows Louisiana Circle with many of its existing elements, including the access road, five granite monuments, and artillery piece, as built (Fig. 257). The survey shows the parcel boundary, as well as a rectangular form with a note indicating it as the approved site of the proposed Confederate Naval Memorial, apparently never built. The memorial was sited to the north of the artillery piece within the circular access road. Also shown on the survey is the exterior line of the Civil War entrenchment which followed the southern and western edge of the access road. A redan-like form is shown extending from the road to the west. A panoramic photograph taken at approximately the same time depicts the landscape soon after it became part of the park (Fig. 261).

The photograph indicates that by this time the landscape of the fort remained predominantly open, although a few deciduous trees had grown up around its perimeter. The photograph also shows that the existing circular access road, at least one of the existing granite monuments, and an emplaced artillery piece had been established. The surface of the circular access road during this early part of the twentieth century road was hard-packed earth, edged by curbing on the uphill side. The landscape to the center of the access road was maintained in mown grass. The landscape of the early twentieth century can be compared with the contemporary landscape through repeat photography (Fig. 262). Differences include the establishment of the guard rail, stairs, signage, and site furnishings. It is likely that the remaining four existing granite monuments and the cast-iron tablet were added relatively soon thereafter by the War Department. A 1925 bird's eye view shows "South Fort" encircled by a ring road arising from adjacent Warrenton Road (Fig. 258). It is likely that this map is mislabeled and the earthwork shown is actually Louisiana Circle. A postcard



**FIGURE 261.** Panorama of Louisiana Circle, early 1900s.



**FIGURE 262.** Contemporary panorama of Louisiana Circle, 2007.

that probably dates from the 1920s or 1930s shows the cannon and an associated cast-iron tablet (Fig. 263). Two of the five existing granite monuments are visible below the brow of the parapet. This postcard also depicts trees partially blocking the view toward the river. Comparison of the landscape through contemporary repeat photography (Fig. 264) indicates the similarity of the view today, with the exception of the addition of contemporary development along the river that has altered the view from the fortification.

The hard-packed earth road corridor encircling the knoll is known to have been paved with concrete in the 1930s. Some sections have required repair or replacement over the years. On a 1935 survey of the park (Fig. 259), the Louisiana Circle parcel is labeled, with topographic conditions and



**FIGURE 263.** Postcard view from Louisiana Circle. Although the postcard text says “South Fort,” this view is actually the Louisiana Circle parcel.



**FIGURE 264.** Contemporary view from Louisiana Circle, 2007.

the perimeter circular access road shown in a configuration consistent with that present today. The survey also indicates the presence of a building with a massive footprint adjacent to the parcel to its west that likely impacted views from the parcel toward the river. This building does not survive today.

The artillery piece visible in the early twentieth century photographs of the Louisiana Circle unit was replaced in 1959 with the present artillery piece. Known as the “Widow Blakely,” this 10-inch Columbiad navy rifle was employed by the Confederates at Vicksburg during the siege, but was emplaced further north along the line. The cannon was later removed from Vicksburg and taken to West Point after the war. In 1959, it was returned to Vicksburg and placed in its current location within the Louisiana Circle.

Other features that post-date the park’s periods of significance include the existing guard rail, the access stairs and walk, and the various small-scale features such as signs and site furnishings that support visitor use. One of the tablets associated with the landing at the Widow Blakely was added by the NPS rather than the War Department, and likely post-dates the park’s periods of significance.

Features that survive from the periods of significance include:

#### Natural Features and Systems

- Knoll landform

#### Cultural Vegetation

- Turf grass (predominantly Bermuda grass)

#### Topographic Modifications

- Civil War earthwork remnant atop the knoll

#### Patterns of Spatial Organization

- Elevated knoll landform encircled by an access road

- Expansive sense of open space from prominent knoll with views to the river to the west

#### Circulation

- Concrete access road with curbing, drains, and parking pull-off

#### Views and Vistas

- Expansive views to the Mississippi River

#### Small-scale Features

- Granite and bronze monuments (5)
- Cast iron tablet

**South Fort.** With Battery Barnes, South Fort provided the anchor to the Confederate defensive line's southern end. Surviving historic evidence of the landscape of the fortification during the siege and the early part of the twentieth century includes various maps (Fig. 256 through Fig. 260) and photographs. Two historic photographs of the parcel just prior to and after its acquisition by the Federal government indicate landscape conditions during the early park establishment period. Both views indicate that the site and its environs remained relatively free of woody growth around the turn of the twentieth century, allowing for expansive views of the surrounding landscape and river from the fortification. The form of the earthen parapet walls and ditch were, and continue to be, relatively intact. A circa 1899 photograph indicates that erosion was a problem in the vicinity of the earthwork (Fig. 265). This image can be compared with contemporary repeat photography to understand the extent of development that has occurred in the vicinity of the fortification, altering its setting (Fig. 266). A later panoramic photograph suggests that a good cover of Bermuda grass had been established on the earthwork, helping to stabilize the erosion problem (Fig. 267). The 1899 photograph also shows the character of the landscape surrounding the earthwork parcel. Warrenton Road appears as a winding corridor surfaced with hard-packed earth edged by fencing used to contain grazing



**FIGURE 265.** View of erosion at South Fort, circa 1899.



**FIGURE 266.** Contemporary view of South Fort, 2007.

livestock. A few trees dot the hilly terrain. The later photograph indicates the presence of at least one War Department tablet and two emplaced artillery pieces. The other tablets and the Iowa marker were likely placed on the site during the periods of significance, although the Iowa marker base appears to have been replaced more recently. The 1902–1903 survey (Fig. 257) provides relatively detailed information about the parcel soon after acquisition by the Federal government. The survey indicates the boundary of the parcel, the U-shaped form of the earthwork, and the Civil War-era positions of the artillery pieces known to have been emplaced within the fortification. No access route into the parcel is indicated, although the fortification remnants were located in close proximity to the former alignment of Warrenton Road.



**FIGURE 267.** Panorama of South Fort, early 1900s.

An early twentieth-century postcard view of the site also provides information about the landscape during the periods of significance (Fig. 268). The postcard shows two artillery pieces pointing across the parapet toward the road corridor and the river, and indicate the presence of at least one cast iron tablet. Trees are beginning to grow up in front of the cannon and block the view. Contemporary repeat photography shows the extent to which tree cover has grown up to obscure the key visual relationship between the fort and the approaches that it defended (Fig. 269).

A 1935 survey provides some detailed information about topography associated with South Fort (Fig. 259). The survey does not indicate the presence of a ring road around the fortification but shows South Fort as a large square along Warrenton Road and the associated topography.

The parcel began to undergo changes in the 1930s when Warrenton Road was straightened, altering the right-of-way and its relationship to the fortification. Once the road corridor shifted, a small parcel of land was left over between the road and the Federally-owned land. The former right-of-way was acquired by the landowner of the associated property, and the parcel was developed. A carwash operated on the parcel until 2005, limiting access to the fort site. The Ameristar Casino purchased the parcel and demolished the carwash in 2005. Today, invasive exotics and other woody vegetation are growing around the perimeter of the fortification to its south, west, and north. Other landscape features that post-date the



**FIGURE 268.** Postcard view of South Fort.



**FIGURE 269.** Similar contemporary view of South Fort, 2007.

periods of significance include USGS survey markers, a small concrete slab, and stormwater collection drop inlets.

Features that survive from the periods of significance include:

#### Natural Features and Systems

- Knoll landform

### Cultural Vegetation

- Turf grass (predominantly Bermuda grass)

### Topographic Modifications

- Civil War earthwork remnant, including parapet walls and a ditch, atop a prominent knoll

### Patterns of Spatial Organization

- Elevated knoll landform

### Small-scale Features

- Bronze Iowa brigade marker
- Cast iron tablets (five)
- Artillery pieces (two)

**Navy Circle.** Navy Circle contains the remains of Union Battery Benton, the southernmost position along the Union offensive siege line around Vicksburg.

Like Louisiana Circle, it was developed as part of park through construction of a ring road leading into the property from Washington Street. The road was paved with concrete in the 1930s. In 1959, a 1.32-acre parcel was transferred to the Mississippi State Highway Commission to establish a weigh station, and in the late 1970s, an additional acre or so was used by the Mississippi Department of Transportation to construct a parking lot for the State Welcome Center. The existing bridge that is founded in the knoll was built as part of Welcome Center development.

In addition to the bridge, most of the site features that support visitor access such as the walks, guard rails, site furnishings, and signs were established after the periods of significance.

Surviving historic evidence of the landscape of the fortification during the siege and the early part of the twentieth century includes various maps (Fig. 256 through Fig. 260). No ground photographs have been identified of the site during the periods of significance to use in comparing current and historic site conditions.

The circa 1902–1903 survey illustrates the site, showing the perimeter road, locations of the two guns emplaced within the fortification during the Civil War, an associated redan, topography, and parcel boundary (Fig. 257). The 1925 bird's eye view of the City of Vicksburg indicates the location of Navy Circle, and illustrates the existing roadway surrounding the former fortification (Fig. 258). The 1935 survey indicates the location of Navy Circle as a road encircling a knoll. The site is shown as adjacent to a Mississippi River bridge crossing (Fig. 259).

Features that survive from the periods of significance include:

### Natural Features and Systems

- Knoll landform

### Cultural Vegetation

- Turf grass (predominantly Bermuda grass)

### Topographic Modifications

- Civil War earthwork remnant atop knoll

### Patterns of Spatial Organization

- Elevated knoll landform encircled by access road
- Expansive sense of open space from western side of the parcel

### Circulation

- Concrete access road with curbing and parking pull-off

### Views and Vistas

- Expansive views to the Mississippi River

### Small-scale Features

- Cast iron tablet
- Artillery piece

## Resource Assessment

### Resources Contributing the Park's Primary Period of Significance (1863)

See Fig. 271.

#### Natural Resources.

- Loess bluffs characterized by highly erodible soils
- Mint Spring Bayou and associated ravine and bottomlands
- Glass Bayou and associated ravine
- Stouts Bayou and associated ravine
- Durden Creek (Big Bayou) and associated ravine
- Springs, seeps, wet meadows, vernal pools
- Mint Spring Bayou waterfalls
- Limestone geology and travertine formations
- Two major ridge networks encircling the city with east/west trending ridges
- Woody vegetation associated with bottomlands

#### Responses to Natural Resources.

- Siting of roads (Graveyard and Jackson within the park, and Baldwin Ferry Road outside the park) along the east/west trending ridges
- Siting of Shirley House on a ridgeline with access to a good spring
- Siting of Confederate earthworks and rifle pits on elevated terrain for military advantage, and fortified earthen defensive structures to defend likely avenues of approach (road, river, and railroad corridors)

- Union establishment of zigzag trenches and other avenues of approach through mining and use of sap rollers for concealment
- Use of high points by both armies for observation and lookout positions

#### Topography and Topographic Modifications.

- Loess Bluffs landform and topography formed after retreat of the last glaciation period
- Dissected landforms and ravines formed from overland flow of stormwater and groundwater-sourced springs and seeps
- Grading conducted during the Civil War by Confederate soldiers to establish fortifications, batteries, rifle pits, trenches, and glacis
- Grading conducted during the Civil War by Union soldiers to protect artillery positions and approach Confederate defensive positions

#### Patterns of Spatial Organization.

- System of batteries established by the Confederate army on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River to protect the city from attack by and maintain control over the river
- Beginning in September 1862, Confederate construction of the defensive system of earthworks, batteries, and rifle pits on the ridgelines to the north, east, and south of the city of Vicksburg
- Positioning of Union troops in a semicircle around the Confederate defensive system on elevated positions; avenues of approach created leading toward heavily defended fortifications stationed to protect against the best routes for entering the city by land. These avenues included zigzag trenches and other mining methods
- Federal attack focused on the fortifications protecting Jackson Road

- Park acquisition of Pemberton’s Headquarters in downtown Vicksburg contributes to historic siege patterns

#### **Land Uses.**

- Military land uses remain a part of the park landscape due to on-going military training in the form of staff rides
- The battlefield became a burial ground for casualties of the siege. Re-interment of Union soldiers occurred after the establishment of Vicksburg National Cemetery (adjacent to park) in 1866

#### **Circulation Features**

- Vicksburg & Meridian Railroad line (now Kansas City Southern Railroad; outside current park boundaries)
- Old Jackson Road
- Old Graveyard Road
- Halls Ferry Road (outside current park boundaries)
- Warrenton Road (now Washington Avenue or U.S. Business 61; outside current park boundaries; with changes to its original alignment)
- Yazoo City Road (now part of Fort Hill Drive; outside of park boundaries; with changes to its original alignment)

#### **Cultural Vegetation.**

- None identified

#### **Views and Vistas.**

- Views between opposing lines afforded along Old Graveyard Road, Thayer’s Approach, Third Louisiana Redan and Great Redoubt, Battery De Golyer, Railroad Redoubt, Fort Garrott and Hovey’s Approach. Long views toward the river: Fort Hill and Louisiana Circle

#### **Buildings.**

- Shirley House
- Willis House (Pemberton’s Headquarters; located in downtown Vicksburg)

#### **Structures.**

- Evidence of earthwork associated with eight of the nine major fortifications of the system: Fort Hill, Stockade Redan, Third Louisiana Redan, Great Redoubt, Second Texas Lunette, Railroad Redoubt, and Fort Garrott. In addition, evidence of Battery Barnes (Louisiana Circle), South Fort, and the Water Battery. Additional evidence along the former Confederate line of earthen forms of batteries and rifle pits
- Evidence of Union artillery positions and approach trenches including Battery Selfridge; Battery De Golyer; and Battery Benton (Navy Circle), and fortifications at Fort Hill manned during Union occupation of Vicksburg after the siege

#### **Small-scale Features.**

- None identified

### **Secondary Period of Significance (circa 1864–1959)**

See Fig. 272.

#### **Natural Resources.**

- Woodland derived from CCC-era revegetation efforts

#### **Responses to Natural Resources.**

- Construction of bridges and culverts to cross ravines and wet areas in support of park development and construction of the tour road
- Establishment of culverts, drain structures, curbs, and paved channels to convey stormwater away from erodible soil

- Extensive soil erosion control efforts conducted by the CCC, including importation of soil, regrading, and sodding

### **Topography and Topographic Modifications.**

- Erosion control measures conducted by the CCC involving regrading and filling. Sites of erosion control activities include, among others, the margins and intersection of Pemberton Avenue; the intersection of Confederate Avenue, Jackson Road, Louisiana Avenue, and Pemberton Avenue; the intersection of Confederate Avenue and Jackson Road; slopes north of the Wisconsin State Memorial; the road margins leading to former Tower No. 1; the slopes behind the Illinois State Memorial; the margins of Graveyard Road; east of the 37th and 38th Mississippi trench line; and Fort Hill, Railroad Redoubt, Great Redoubt, and Fort Garrott

### **Patterns of Spatial Organization.**

- Vicksburg National Cemetery established over a portion of the Union line in 1866 (adjacent to park)
- Vicksburg National Military Park established over a large portion of the siege landscape in 1899

### **Land Uses.**

- Military land uses continued to be associated with the area, including Union occupation of Fort Hill after the siege, and use of the park for staff rides involved in military training
- Cemetery land uses included establishment of Vicksburg National Cemetery in 1866, which included re-interment of Union soldiers from the battlefield, the graves of the Shirleys behind the Shirley House, and the establishment of the Anshe Chesed Cemetery (adjacent to the park) in 1864 near the Second Texas Lunette
- Commemoration of the siege began with the placing of a monument to mark the surrender

interview site in 1864, continued with veterans reunions, and was formalized through establishment of the park in 1899

- Along with commemorating the siege, park establishment involved administrative, maintenance, visitor services, and interpretive/museum/educational land uses
- The park continues to be used by the public for passive recreation associated with use of the tour roads for walking and driving, and picnic grounds for picnicking

### **Circulation Features.**

- Union Avenue
- Confederate Avenue
- Old Jackson Road and Jackson Road trace
- Old Graveyard Road
- Sherman Circle
- Pemberton Avenue
- Grant Avenue
- Grant Circle
- Connecting Avenue
- Pemberton Circle
- Tennessee Circle
- Highway 80 (outside park boundaries; road underwent changes in the 1960s–1980s)
- City- and county-managed road corridors (integrity diminished by adjacent contemporary development; outside current park boundaries): South Confederate Avenue, Indiana Avenue; Wisconsin Avenue; Halls Ferry Road; Iowa Avenue; North Frontage Road; and Sherman Avenue

- Vicksburg National Cemetery entrance drive marked by a Memorial Arch (adjacent to park; not currently open to vehicular traffic)

### **Cultural Vegetation.**

- Bermuda grass along road margins and associated with earthworks and other areas of high visitor use
- CCC-generated forest

### **Views and Vistas.**

- View to the former Mississippi River channel, now the Yazoo River Diversion Canal

### **Buildings.**

- Shirley House
- Willis House (Pemberton's Headquarters; located in downtown Vicksburg)
- Maintenance buildings constructed in 1936
- Old Administration Building
- National Cemetery Superintendent's Lodge (adjacent to park)

### **Structures.**

- Grant-Pemberton Surrender Interview Site Monument
- State Monuments including: Massachusetts; New Hampshire; Pennsylvania; Iowa; Illinois; Minnesota; Virginia; Rhode Island; Mississippi; Wisconsin; Maryland; Michigan; Missouri; New York; Louisiana; West Virginia; North Carolina; Indiana; South Carolina; Alabama; Arkansas; and Florida
- U.S. Naval Memorial
- Memorial Arch (integrity diminished due to relocation)
- Other monuments predating 1959
- Melan arch bridges: Nos. 1 through 4, and 7 through 10, and Maloney Circle Bridge

- Tunnel beneath Union Avenue at Thayer's Approach
- Culverts and drainage structures pre-dating 1959
- Halls Ferry Road Bridge (outside current park boundaries)
- Memorial Arch located at the former entrance into Vicksburg National Cemetery from Washington Street and perimeter walls associated with the cemetery (adjacent to the park)

### **Small-scale Features.**

- Shirley grave marker
- Tablets and Position Markers
- Statues pre-dating 1959
- Busts and Reliefs pre-dating 1959
- Equestrian Statues pre-dating 1959
- War Department boundary markers
- USGS survey markers pre-dating 1959
- Retaining walls pre-dating 1959, including stone retaining wall around Surrender Interview Site Monument
- Culverts and drainage structures pre-dating 1959
- Emplaced cannon pre-dating 1959

## **Non-contributing Resources**

### **Natural Resources.**

- Successional forest derived from reduced maintenance beginning in the 1960s

### **Responses to Natural Resources.**

- Stabilization of park soils; establishment of additional curbing, drain structures, and paved channels after 1959

- Clearing of non-contributing woodland to open views of the earthworks
- Invasive plant control programs resulting in plant removal and management

### **Topography and Topographic Modifications.**

- Post 1959 slope stabilization projects around the park
- Regrading of landform near the former Indiana Circle to establish the current visitor center
- Construction of an earthwork exhibit near the visitor center as an interpretive aid
- Regrading, primarily using fill, to establish Clay Street through the park

### **Patterns of Spatial Organization.**

- Donation of two parcels of park land for construction of a new city school and highway weighing station
- Quitclaim transfer of park land along the southern portion of the Confederate line and to the north of Sherman Circle to the city of Vicksburg and Warren County, and addition of land along the park's northern boundary
- Acquisition of land associated with the Union attempt to construct a by-pass canal along the Mississippi River
- Acquisition of Pemberton's Headquarters within the city of Vicksburg

### **Land Uses.**

- None identified

### **Circulation Features.**

- Modern Jackson Road
- Mission 66 Road
- Current park entrance and parking lot and walks associated with the visitor center

- USS *Cairo* exhibit and museum parking and walks
- Access road and parking at the curatorial management facility, garage, and storage shed
- Mission 66-era walks at Fort Hill, Third Louisiana Redan, and Louisiana State Monument

### **Cultural Vegetation.**

- Ornamental vegetation associated with the Old Administration Building and the park entrance, parking lot, and visitor center

### **Views and Vistas.**

- Woodland that blocks views between artillery positions and opposing lines

### **Buildings.**

- Visitor center
- USS *Cairo* exhibit and museum
- Curatorial Management Facility
- Garage north of the USS *Cairo* exhibit
- Storage shed north of the USS *Cairo* exhibit
- Entrance booths (two)

### **Structures.**

- Replacement of Melan Arch Bridge No. 5 along Union Avenue with a box culvert
- Replacement of Confederate Avenue bridge across Mint Spring Bayou
- Replacement of bridge crossings of the ravine associated with Modern Jackson Road
- State monuments post-dating 1959: Texas; Kansas; Georgia; Tennessee; Kentucky; Connecticut
- Mississippi African-American Monument

### **Small-scale Features.**

- Culverts and drainage structures post-dating 1959
- Statues, busts, reliefs, and small markers and monuments post-dating 1959
- Emplaced cannon post-dating 1959
- Retaining walls post-dating 1959
- Park operations features and site furnishings, including at the visitor center, USS *Cairo* exhibit and museum, and at tour stops

### **Missing Features**

#### **Natural Resources.**

- Some springs and seeps
- Landform associated with the siege that has suffered from erosion

#### **Responses to Natural Resources.**

- Farmsteads sited along ridgelines with cultivated fields along relatively level slopes both prior to and after the siege
- Siting of roads along east/west trending ridgelines with bridges and culverts to cross ravines and wet areas both prior to and after the siege (portions missing)
- Siting of Confederate earthworks on elevated terrain for military advantage (portions missing)
- Confederate fortification system and defensive structures (portions missing)
- Confederate introduction of obstacles (abatis, cabled brush, and cheveaux-de-frise) to interfere with enemy movement along avenues of approach
- Union siting of earthworks and protected artillery positions on elevated terrain for military advantage (portions missing)

- Union establishment of zigzag trenches and other approach routes and the use of sap rollers for concealment (portions missing)
- Use of high points for observation, lookout, and sharpshooting positions, such as the tower documented on Fort Hill and Coonskin Tower (portions obscured by tree cover)
- Use of high points for signal towers, and later observation towers (portions missing and obscured by trees)
- Clearing of tree cover to facilitate fields of fire for artillery (portions obscured by tree cover)
- Establishment of drain structures, curbs, and paved channels to convey stormwater away from erodible soil (portions missing)

#### **Topography and Topographic Modifications.**

- Union establishment of zigzag trenches and other approach routes and mines
- Shebangs and caves for shelter and protection

#### **Patterns of Spatial Organization.**

- Indian village sites prior to Contact
- French and Spanish military fortification sites and settlements
- Antebellum farmsteads, with cultivation of relatively level terrain and pasturing of livestock
- System of batteries established by the Confederate army on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River to protect the city from attack (portions missing)
- Confederate defensive system of earthworks, batteries, and rifle pits on the ridgelines to the north, east, and south of the city. Including signal towers, soldiers' quarters, stockade fencing, headlogs, gun emplacements, abatis, cheveaux-de-frise (portions missing)

- Positioning of Union troops in a semicircle around the Confederate defensive system on elevated ground (portions missing)
- Federal attack concentrating on the approaches leading to the city: Graveyard and Jackson Roads and the rail line
- Vicksburg National Military Park as established in 1899 (boundaries have changed; land has been transferred to other owners)

#### **Land Uses.**

- Residential villages of the Natchez and Choctaw Indians
- Military posts of the French and Spanish
- Local land owners and farmers representing a residential land use
- CCC labor camps
- Military occupation of the site
- Residential use by NPS personnel
- Veterans reunions
- Horseback riding and camping recreational uses

#### **Circulation Features.**

- Yazoo City Road (portions incorporated into Fort Hill Drive)
- Old Baldwin Ferry Road
- Mint Spring Bayou ford
- Residential circulation, such as the Shirley House walk and drive
- Internal road network servicing the Confederate defensive line
- Union attack routes developed through trenching and mining

- Circle drives at various monuments including: Indiana; Alabama; Iowa; Maloney; Mississippi; Tilghman; Logan; Missouri; Arkansas; Ohio; Kansas; New York; Observation Tower No. 1; Illinois; Pennsylvania
- Sections of Confederate Avenue were referred to as Louisiana and Mississippi Avenues until the road was straightened in 1935. These segments extended, respectively, between the intersection of Pemberton and Confederate Avenues/Jackson Road and Tilghman Circle, and between Pemberton Circle and Clay Street.
- Sherman Avenue connection to Sherman Circle
- Circle termini associated with roads leading from South Confederate Avenue (such as Iowa Avenue, Illinois Avenue, Wisconsin Avenue) (located beyond current park boundaries)

- Kentucky Avenue

- Portions of South Confederate Avenue

#### **Cultural Vegetation.**

- Agricultural cultivation and pasturing of livestock
- Ornamental plantings associated with the Shirley House
- Surrender Interview Site Oak

#### **Views and Vistas.**

- Open landscape of fields of fire

#### **Buildings.**

- Residences pre-dating Civil War
- Residences present between 1864 and 1933
- Riddle House
- Edward House
- Lynd House

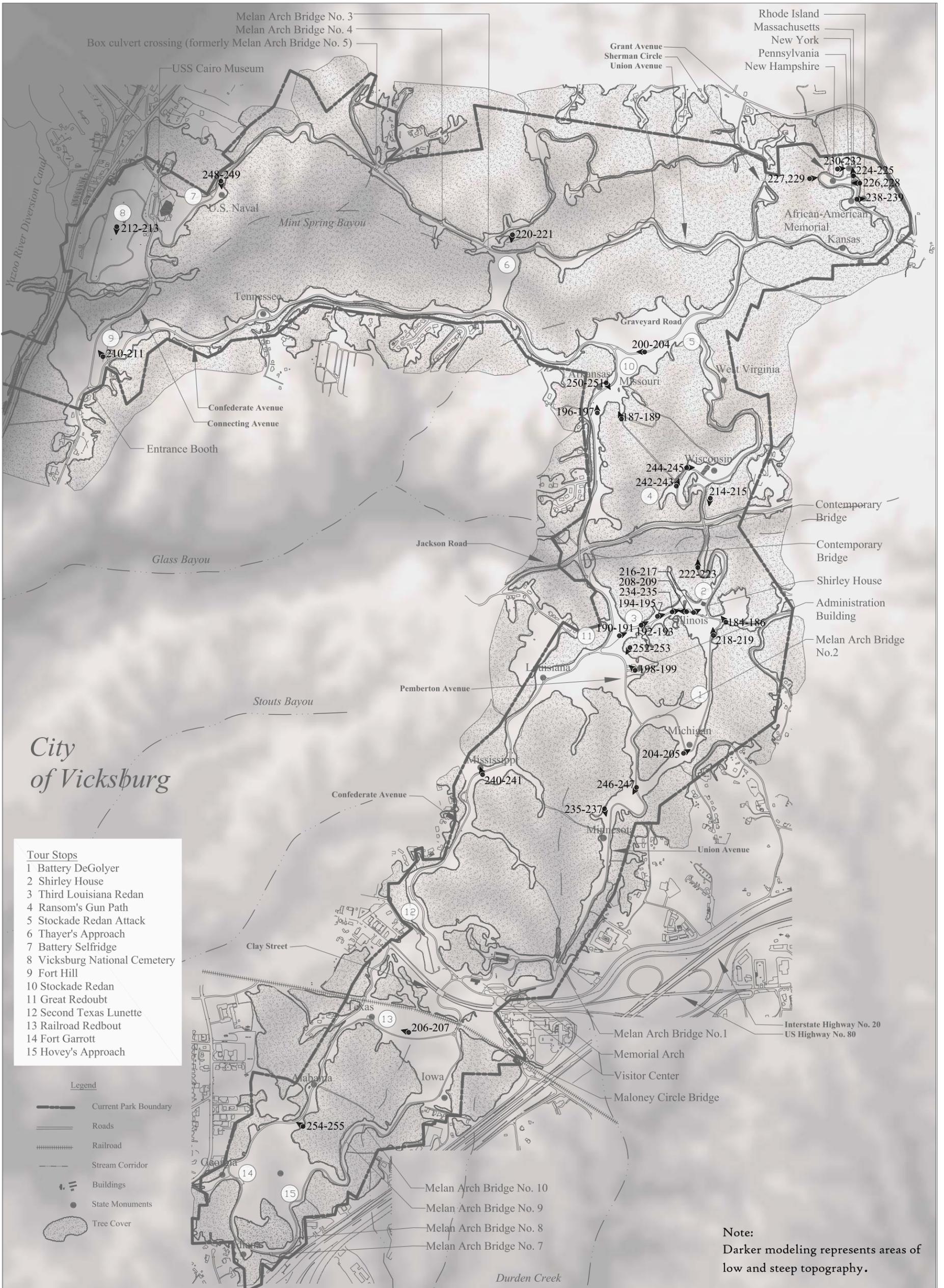
- Original visitor center in Mississippi River Commission headquarters building
- CCC camp buildings and structures
- Residences for park employees
- Guard rails along road corridors edged by steep slopes.

### **Structures.**

- Fort Mount Vigio on Fort Hill
- Fort McHenry which replaced Fort Mount Vigio on Fort Hill
- Fort Nogales battery
- Shirley House outbuildings (cistern, hen house, stable)
- Observation towers Nos. 1, 2, 3 (Tower No. 3 located outside of current park boundaries)
- Bridge No. 5
- Four steel bridges
- Union Avenue bridge across Mint Spring Bayou
- Confederate Avenue bridge across Jackson Road
- Stout's Bayou steel bridge (outside of current park boundaries)

### **Small-scale Features.**

- Position tablets and markers collected for metal drive during World War II
- Replaced cannon carriages
- War Department boundary markers (some missing)
- Culverts and drainage structures placed by the CCC that have been removed or replaced
- Picnic grounds features such as grills or camp stoves, rustic benches, and Colonial Revival-style signage



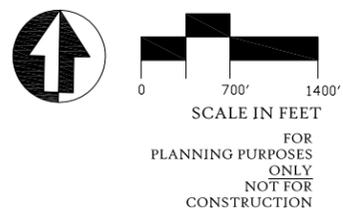
- Tour Stops**
- 1 Battery DeGolyer
  - 2 Shirley House
  - 3 Third Louisiana Redan
  - 4 Ransom's Gun Path
  - 5 Stockade Redan Attack
  - 6 Thayer's Approach
  - 7 Battery Selfridge
  - 8 Vicksburg National Cemetery
  - 9 Fort Hill
  - 10 Stockade Redan
  - 11 Great Redoubt
  - 12 Second Texas Lunette
  - 13 Railroad Redoubt
  - 14 Fort Garrott
  - 15 Hovey's Approach

- Legend**
- Current Park Boundary
  - Roads
  - Railroad
  - Stream Corridor
  - Buildings
  - State Monuments
  - Tree Cover

**Note:**  
Darker modeling represents areas of low and steep topography.

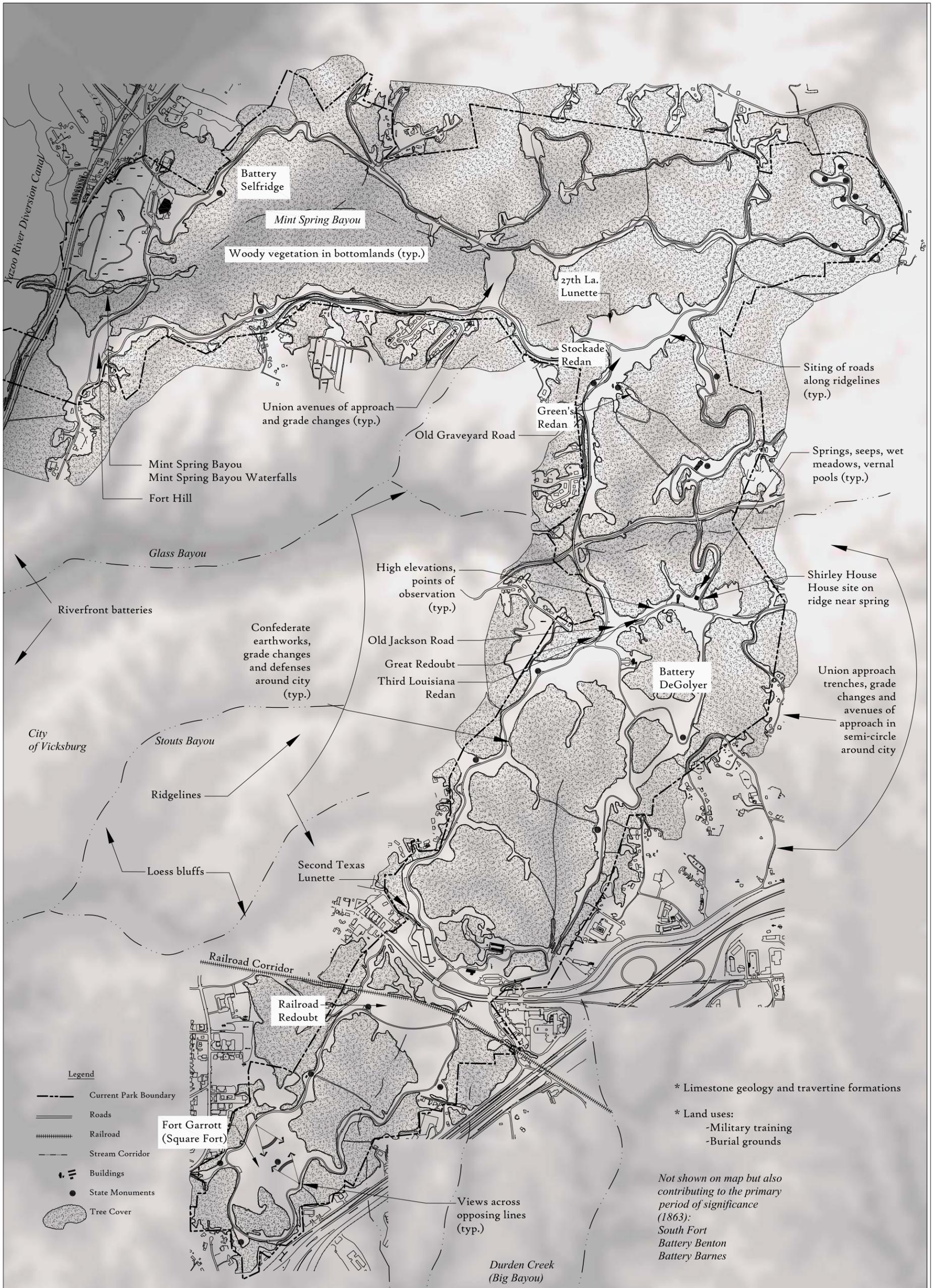
Sources: Autocad Base Map  
USGS Topographic Survey  
National Park Service Map

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**Notes:**  
Ohio State Monuments are in thirty-nine different locations and are not identified here.  
  
Darker modeling represents areas of low and steep topography.

Cultural Landscape Report  
**Vicksburg National Military Park**  
Photo Station Points  
Historic Comparisons  
Figure 270

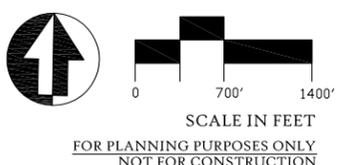


Sources: Autocad Base Map  
 USGS Topographic Survey  
 National Park Service Map

Notes:  
 Darker modeling represents areas  
 of low and steep topography.

Cultural Landscape Report  
 Vicksburg National Military Park

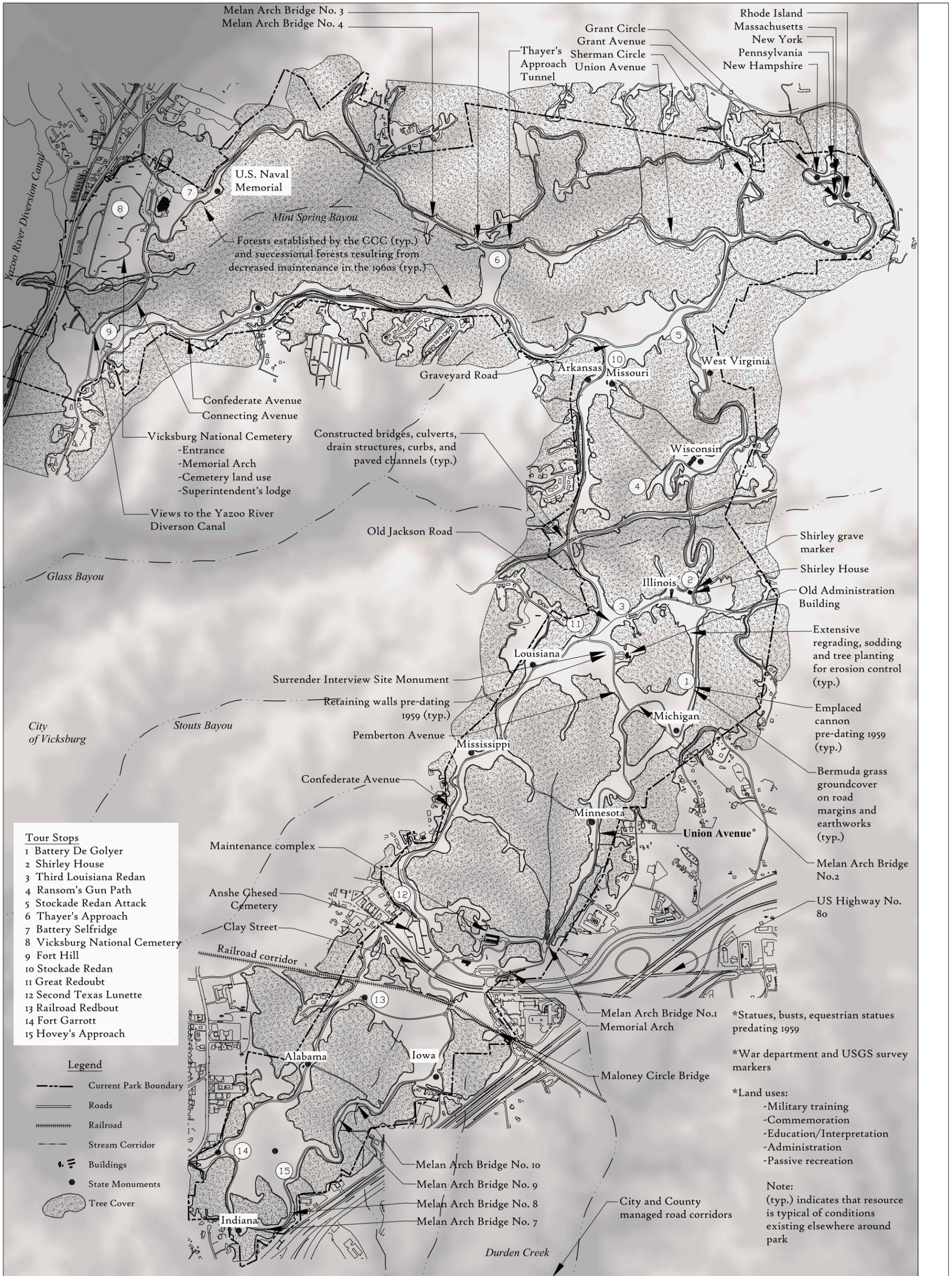
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Park Resources Contributing to the  
 Primary Period of Significance (1863)

Figure 271



Sources: Autocad Base Map  
USGS Topographic Survey  
National Park Service Map

Notes:  
Ohio State Monuments are in thirty-nine different locations and are not identified here.

Cultural Landscape Report  
Vicksburg National Military Park

Darker modeling represents areas of low and steep topography.

Not shown on map but also contributing to the secondary period of significance:

South Fort  
Louisiana Circle  
Navy Circle

Park Resources Contributing to the Secondary Period of Significance (1864-1959)

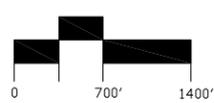
Figure 272

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## Integrity Assessment

The primary objective of an integrity assessment is to determine to what degree a historic site retains its ability to convey conditions during an identified period of significance and continues to convey its historical associations with a significant event in American history. National Register Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* states that

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. . . . Historic properties either retain integrity (that is convey their significance) or they do not. Within the concept of integrity, the National Register criteria recognize seven aspects or qualities that, in various combinations, define integrity.

To retain historic integrity a property will always possess several, and usually most, of the aspects. The retention of specific aspects of integrity is paramount for a property to convey significance. Determining *which* of these aspects are most important to a particular property requires knowing why, where, and when the property is significant.<sup>210</sup>

Assessment of integrity is based on an evaluation of the existence and condition of physical features dating from a property's period of significance, taking into consideration the degree to which the individual qualities of integrity are present. The seven aspects of integrity included in the National Register criteria are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. As noted in Bulletin 15:

**Location** is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred; **design** is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property; **setting** is the physical environment of a historic property; **materials** are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular

pattern or configuration to form a historic property; **workmanship** is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory; **feeling** is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time; and **association** is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.<sup>211</sup>

While integrity assessments are generally conducted by considering the seven aspects of integrity described above, National Register Bulletin 40: *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields* suggests that "the most important aspects of integrity for battlefields are location, setting, feeling, and association."<sup>212</sup> The bulletin discusses an approach to assessing overall integrity for battlefields that is relevant to this study, and has been taken into consideration as part of the development of the integrity assessment that follows:

Battlefields cannot be frozen in time. . . . Even where efforts to preserve the battlefield were initiated almost immediately, as at Gettysburg, it proved impossible to perpetuate the scene in the exact form and condition it presented during the battle. Instead, Gettysburg presents several layers of history, including its post-battle memorialization. The best-preserved battlefields appear much as they would have at the time of the battle, making it easy to understand how strategy and results were shaped by the terrain. All properties, however, change over time and nearly all battlefields will contain non-contributing properties. The impact of non-contributing properties on a battlefield as a whole depends not only on their number, but also on their nature and location and the size and topography of the battlefield. While this is a subjective judgment, there are some general principles for assessing integrity. If the type of non-contributing property reflects a continuing layer of development of

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210. National Register Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1995), 44.

211. *Ibid.*, 44–45.

212. Patrick W. Andrus, National Register Bulletin 40: *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1992), 11.

traditional land use, then the impact of these properties may not be as great as that of modern properties that do not reflect the historic use of the land. For example, in battlefields located in rural or agricultural areas, the presence of farm related buildings dating from outside the period of significance generally will not destroy the battlefield's integrity. It is important that the land retain its rural or agricultural identity in order for it to convey its period of significance. The impact of modern properties on the historic battlefield is also lessened if these properties are located in a dispersed pattern. If a battlefield is characterized by rolling topography, the impact of later non-contributing properties may also be lessened. The covering of former open fields with trees is a natural and reversible alteration to the landscape. If it can be demonstrated that, despite the forestation of an area, the battle took place in that particular spot, then the battlefield retains integrity of location.<sup>213</sup>

The integrity assessment that follows considers the landscape at two junctures: during the siege and during park development. Assessment of the siege landscape focuses on the four primary aspects of integrity most important to battlefield assessment: location, association, setting, and feeling. The integrity of park development is assessed for all seven aspects.

Based upon the comparative analysis of historic and existing conditions presented above, the Vicksburg National Military Park cultural landscape possesses sufficient integrity for both the primary and secondary periods of significance to convey its important historic associations to the visitor.

The park landscape retains the ability to convey the significant stories of both the Civil War siege as well as development of the park by veterans and others to commemorate the siege and through its existing physical features. Many cultural landscape features survive from each of the periods of significance. These include physical evidence of the 1863 siege of Vicksburg 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. Resources also survive from the commemorative period of significance. These include park roads, monuments, tablets, busts, reliefs, signage, rehabilitated earthworks, the 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 evident.

While the park retains a high degree of integrity, some actions have served to diminish this integrity, including alterations to the original tour road system, construction of the visitor center complex, land exchanges with the City of Vicksburg, and extensive growth of woody vegetation over formerly open areas.

The Vicksburg National Military Park landscape possesses integrity of **location** as the site of the siege, as well as the location where commemoration of the siege has been a focus since early park development. Integrity of location is diminished by the transfer of land to the south of the park's South Loop to the city of Vicksburg, and land to the north of the park to Warren County.

The park retains integrity of **association** due to the continued interpretation of the link between the existing landscape and the historical events of the Civil War siege. While it remains possible to experience and understand the placement of fortifications on high ground that allowed for a continuous defensive line against overland attacks on the city, the challenge posed by the steeply sloped ravines that faced by the Union soldiers when attempting to attack the well-fortified Confederate positions, this integrity is diminished by the degree of non-contributing woodland cover that blocks visual accessibility of much of Vicksburg's terrain. Nonetheless, visitors continue to be afforded the opportunity to understand the events of the siege as well as gain a sense of military tactics utilized during the period.

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213. Ibid., 11–12.

The park retains a higher degree of integrity of association for the commemorative period. The tablet and marker system, the placement of commemorative monuments, as well as Union and Confederate Avenues continue to convey the influence of the veterans, and the guidance they offered in establishing physical connections to the ground where events had occurred. The careful work of the CCC in stabilizing threatened park features, and correcting soil erosion problems also remains evident in the configuration of road corridors, and associated shoulders, margins, and stormwater conveyance features, as well as gentler and more controlled slopes in many locations within the park. The integrity of association is diminished within the city-maintained parcels due to the visual clutter caused by adjacent development and the currently incongruent character of the monuments and their settings.

The Vicksburg National Military Park landscape retains partial integrity of feeling to both the siege period as well as the commemorative period due to the screening of views of adjacent areas outside of the park, and the care with which the land has been maintained. The integrity of feeling is diminished by the loss of dwellings and farmsteads that existed within the park landscape during the siege and at the time of park development. It is also diminished by the loss of agricultural land uses that characterized the park prior to both the siege and park development, and by the increase in woodland cover which stands in contrast to the very open landscape that existed by the end of the siege, and during the commemorative period.

The park landscape retains integrity of **setting** due to the large land area encompassed by the park and extensive screening that occurs along its boundaries. Later development is visible from some locations around the park, particularly at the entrance along U.S. Highway 80, from high points overlooking the former alignment of the Mississippi River near Fort Hill, and from the three noncontiguous parcels along the riverfront. For the most part, however, the park's integrity of setting remains particularly strong.

For the early park development and CCC commemorative periods, the park also retains

integrity of **design, materials, and workmanship** due to the numerous surviving monuments, markers, and tablets, and the tour road system along which many of these features are sited. Integrity of materials has been diminished in part by the resurfacing of some segments of the road system. Integrity of design has been diminished by conversion of Union and Confederate Avenues into a one-way loop road, the loss of circle roads around monuments, and removal of the observation towers. Transfer of the southern portion of the park to the City of Vicksburg in 1963 has also diminished the integrity of commemorative period park design. Site improvements conducted at the park after 1968 based on Mission 66 period plans, including the visitor center and associated parking area, revised park entrance and tour route, the USS *Cairo* exhibit and museum, and other parking and pedestrian path and plaza additions have also served to diminish the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship associated with the commemorative period through alteration of the original park design.

