



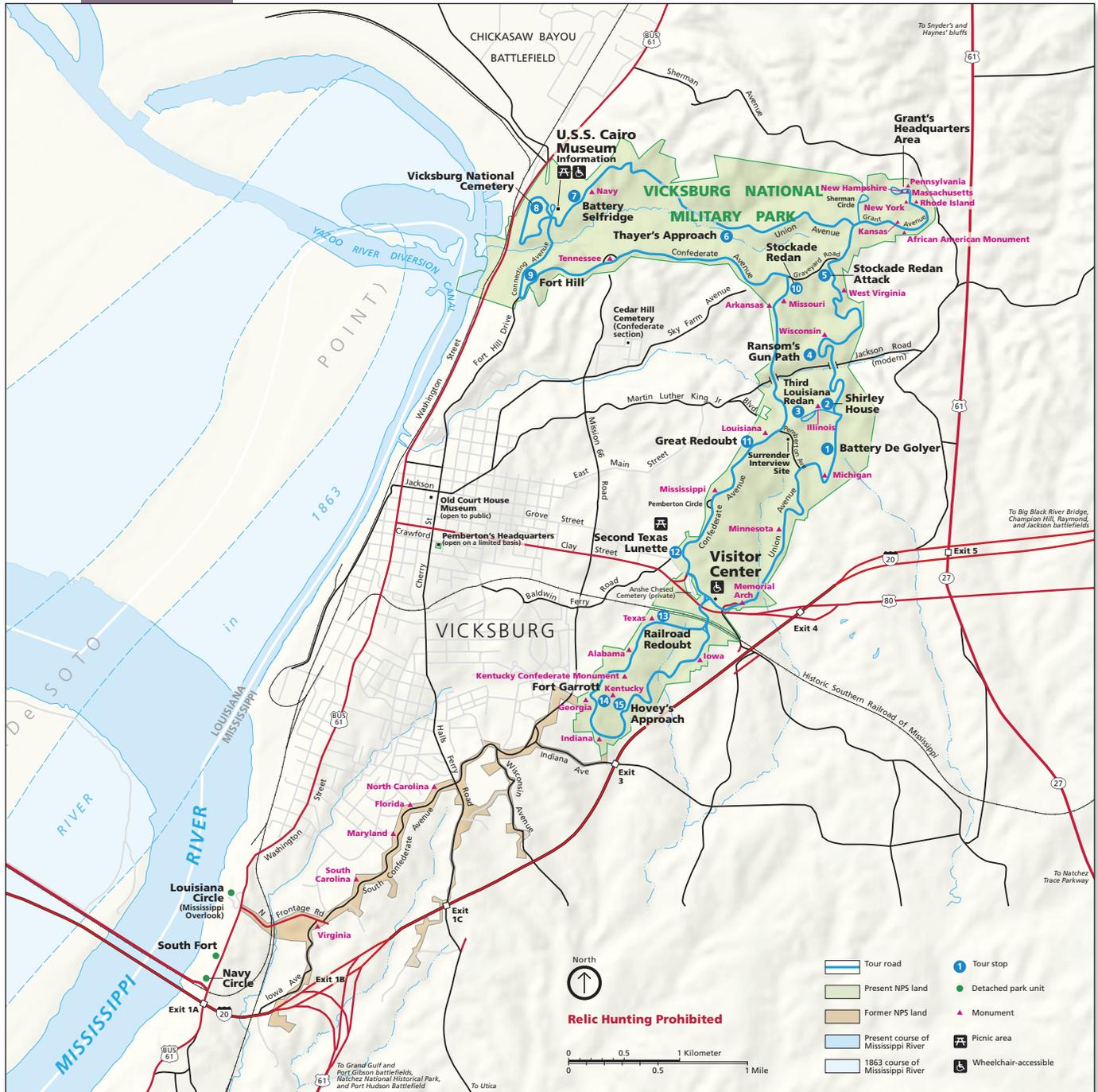
Foundation Document

Vicksburg National Military Park

Mississippi

October 2014





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Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a frame work in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises 401 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.



The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park’s purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity. Preparing this foundation document was a collaborative effort among NPS staff from Vicksburg National Military Park, the NPS Southeast Regional Office, the NPS Denver Service Center, and other NPS programs, as well as using public feedback. A complete list of preparers and contributors is included in part 3 of this document.

This foundation document was developed using public input. In December 2013 and January 2014, the National Park Service asked the public to provide feedback on the importance of Vicksburg National Military Park, and to provide input concerning the threats to and/or opportunities for visitor experiences, recreation, and resource protection. Comments were collected using the NPS park planning website and by holding a public open house at the park visitor center on January 27, 2014, where NPS staff recorded public feedback in person. The National Park Service announced the foundation process and invited public input using local and regional news media in a series of press releases as well as through social media. Public feedback received was summarized in a public comment report used in the foundation workshop held on January 28–30, 2014, and referenced during the development of this document. Appendix B of this document contains the public commenting report.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for Vicksburg National Military Park can be accessed online at: <http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/>.



Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

Brief Description of the Park

Vicksburg National Military Park was established on February 21, 1899, to protect areas associated with the siege and defense of Vicksburg, Mississippi, which pitted Union forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant against the defending Confederate forces commanded by Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton. With the capture of New Orleans by Union Admiral David Farragut and Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler on May 1, 1862, the heavily fortified Confederate position at Vicksburg posed the most significant remaining obstacle to complete Union control of the Mississippi River. The Union effort to take Vicksburg and neutralize its gun batteries began in May 1862 with a series of unsuccessful naval attacks led by Farragut and ended with Grant's climactic siege of the city, which surrendered to Union forces on July 4, 1863.

Grant's Vicksburg campaign began in November 1862, with his forces moving overland from western Tennessee and those of his subordinate, Gen. William T. Sherman, moving south from Memphis, Tennessee, in a river-borne movement along the Mississippi River toward Vicksburg. This campaign ended in failure, as did several subsequent attempts to bypass the Vicksburg gun batteries through navigating existing bayous or excavating canals. In April 1863, Grant abandoned this water-borne strategy and moved Union forces down the west bank of the Mississippi south of Vicksburg, successfully crossed the river, and began moving overland. He first defeated the Confederate forces at Port Gibson and Raymond, and then took the state capital of Jackson, Mississippi, to secure his flank. Grant then turned west toward Vicksburg. After two attempts on May 19 and 22 made it clear that a direct assault on the city's fortifications would be too costly in terms of casualties, Union forces began siege operations. Pressure from supply shortages and lack of relief from other Confederate forces in the theater led Pemberton to surrender the city after 47 days.





The Union victory at Vicksburg secured control of the Mississippi River for both Union logistics and commerce. The Confederacy was effectively split in two, and the area of active conflict was largely focused on the eastern theater for the duration of the war. Combined with Gen. Robert E. Lee's near simultaneous defeat at Gettysburg, the victory at Vicksburg represented a key turning point in the Civil War in favor of the Union. Grant's Vicksburg campaign is regarded by many historians as a masterpiece of maneuver warfare, "the most brilliant campaign ever fought on American soil . . . a well-conceived, violently executed offensive plan" (U.S. Army, Field Manual No. 100-5, May 1986). Grant's success led President Abraham Lincoln to name him General in Chief of the Armies of the United States and ultimately to a Union victory in the Civil War and preservation of the Union.

Vicksburg National Military Park currently consists of 1,806 acres, which protect most of the historic siege and defense lines from the final stage of the campaign. The entire battlefield area is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, as is the ironclad gunboat USS *Cairo*, the Shirley House, the only surviving antebellum structure within the park, and a number of major memorials and statues. There are 22 state memorials within park boundaries, 5 state memorials on former park property, and one state memorial on Grant's Canal. There are 12 free-standing bronze statues in the park, as well as 4 bronze statues associated with the Navy Monument, and 6 bronze statues associated with 5 of the state monuments. The park includes the Vicksburg National Cemetery, which is the final resting place of 17,000 Union soldiers and sailors killed in operations associated with the Vicksburg campaigns, as well as veterans of later wars. The park also manages a remnant of Grant's Canal, part of a failed military strategy to build a navigable waterway to bypass the defenses at Vicksburg, and Pemberton's Headquarters, the command center for Confederate forces during the siege of Vicksburg.

Vicksburg National Military Park maintains a 16-mile tour road that allows visitors to experience the Union siege and Confederate defensive lines via 15 designated tour stops. Nearly 1,400 monuments and markers, including 284 regimental monuments, 239 regimental markers, 95 relief portraits, and 62 busts honoring key commanders from both sides lie along this route, while 645 iron tablets and guide posts mark trench lines, battery, and infantry positions, and describe battle events. The park also maintains other interpretive exhibits to help visitors understand the significance and historical context of the campaign.

Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for Vicksburg National Military Park was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The park was established when the enabling legislation adopted by Congress was signed into law in 1899 (see appendix A). The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK commemorates and interprets the campaigns, siege, and defense of Vicksburg, Mississippi, during the Civil War; interprets the history of Vicksburg from 1862 through Reconstruction; and preserves and protects the battlefield, Vicksburg National Cemetery, and related significant resources.



Park Significance

Significance statements describe why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of Vicksburg National Military Park and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for Vicksburg National Military Park (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. The battlefield protected by Vicksburg National Military Park is hallowed ground on which more than 100,000 soldiers from both the Confederate and Union armies fought and suffered, many of whom were wounded or died in the struggle for the city of Vicksburg and for control of the Mississippi River.
2. A combination of the Mississippi River, rail, and roads, along with imposing terrain and natural defenses, made Vicksburg both a stronghold and strategic military target, thus providing control and protection of transportation and commerce routes that were vital avenues of connection within the Confederacy.
3. The USS *Cairo* and associated artifacts provide visitors direct access to the most intact Civil War ironclad gunboat and a window into the life of Union sailors serving in the Brown Water Navy.
4. One of the most complex and protracted military operations in U.S. history, the Vicksburg campaign marked a decisive turning point of the Civil War, giving the Union control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy in half, and elevating Ulysses S. Grant as a military and future political leader.
5. The courageous actions of United States Colored Troops at the battle of Milliken's Bend fought during the Vicksburg Campaign secured the first battlefield victory for these forces, demonstrating the resolve of African Americans to fight for their freedom, leading to a shift in the perception of African Americans in the U.S. military.
6. The Union occupation and subsequent Reconstruction era of Vicksburg served as a national model demonstrating the successes and failures of post-Civil War recovery efforts in the South, including the genesis of the Freedmen's Bureau, which set the tone for self-sufficiency in the African American community.
7. Established in 1866, Vicksburg National Cemetery is the final resting place for more than 17,000 Union soldiers, sailors, and United States Colored Troops, the most of any national cemetery in the country.
8. Vicksburg National Military Park showcases one of the most extensive collections of commemorative monuments, sculptures, and outdoor art in the world, created by some of the leading artists of their times.
9. Vicksburg National Military Park serves as a high-quality natural area, providing one of the few remaining public land tracts of loess bluff hardwood forest and diverse transitional habitat in the lower Mississippi Delta region and river corridor, thereby supporting numerous species of migratory birds, the rare prairie nymph, and a host of species that have lost habitat through urban development and agrarian monoculture.

Fundamental Resources and Values

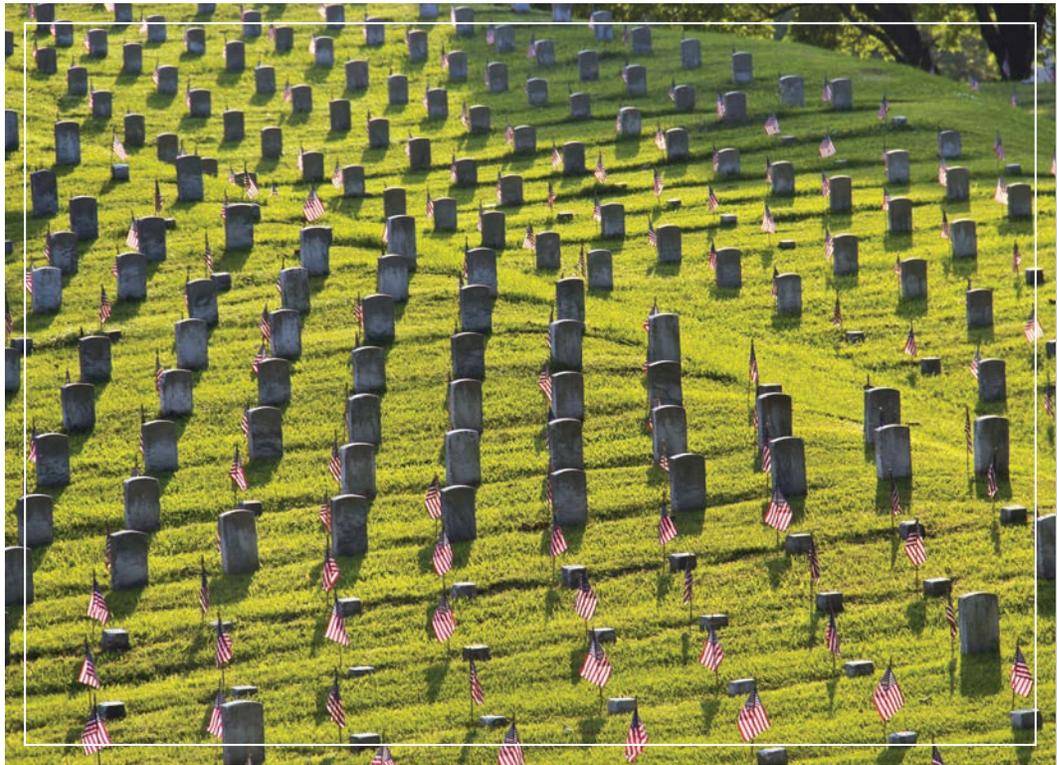
Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for Vicksburg National Military Park:

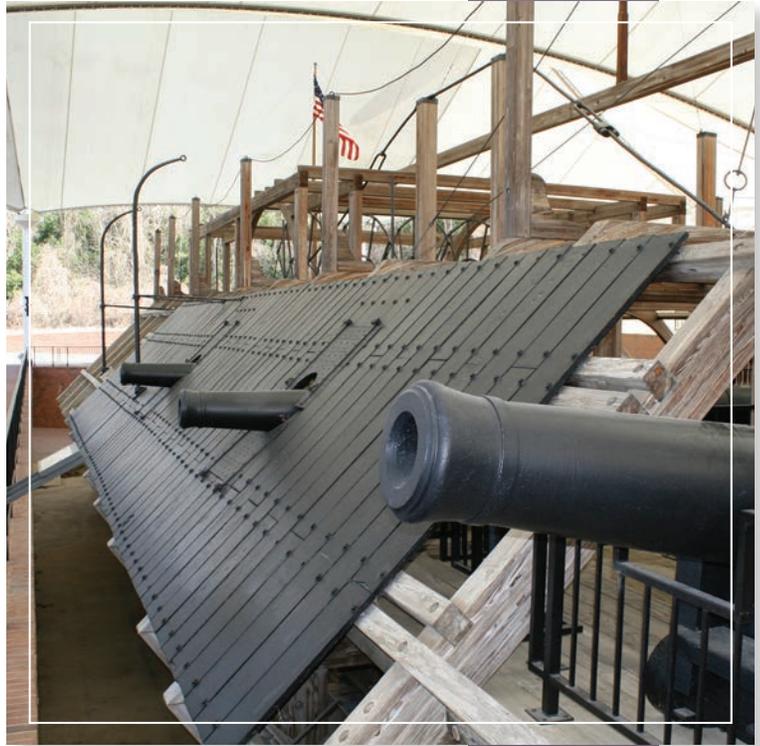
- Battlefield Landscape** – During the spring of 1863, Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant launched a complex plan to capture Vicksburg and wrestle total control of the Mississippi River from the Confederacy. This campaign culminated in the siege of Vicksburg, lasting from May 18 to July 4, 1863. Because of the tactics and terrain used during the defense and siege of Vicksburg, the battlefield landscape protected by Vicksburg National Military Park is uniquely different from other Civil War parks. A number of individual features make up the complex mosaic of the battlefield landscape. A chain of Confederate defensive positions, running north to south, protected Vicksburg to the east: these included earthen fortifications (such as Stockade Redan, Third Louisiana Redan, Great Redoubt, Second Texas Lunette, Railroad Redoubt, Fort Garrott, and Salient Work), gun batteries, and trenches. To the west, Confederate gun batteries (such as Fort Hill and South Fort) controlled the Mississippi River. Union siege lines are marked by a series of trenches, earthworks, and gun batteries that crept ever closer to the Confederate defenses. Artillery pieces on the landscape also mark the key lines of battle. Other important features on this battlefield landscape include the Shirley House (the only surviving structure from the time of the battle) and the historic Southern Railroad of the Mississippi Line, which still operates in the present day as the Kansas City Southern Line. Large portions of the battlefield are overgrown with vegetation but key areas have been restored to their 1863 appearance, providing historic sight lines that give visitors a better understanding of how the battle was perceived by the soldiers involved in this struggle. The natural landscape and park biodiversity benefit from these efforts through the increase of transitional habitat between forests and open grasslands, providing a quality resource for a variety of flora and fauna, and the removal of exotics allowing for regeneration of preferred native species.





- Vicksburg National Cemetery** – Recognizing the need to address the proper burial of Civil War dead, Congress passed legislation to establish Vicksburg National Cemetery in 1866. The following year interments began at the cemetery, making it one of the oldest national cemeteries in America. More than 17,000 troops are buried in Vicksburg National Cemetery, the largest Union cemetery in the nation. Of these burials, the identity of almost 13,000 soldiers and sailors is unknown. The cemetery also protects the final resting place of a significant number of United States Colored Troops who served during the Civil War. Features of Vicksburg National Cemetery, including its perimeter wall, tree-lined roads, entrance gates, and the terraced landscape reflect formal Victorian design principles intended to honor the dead. This national cemetery also contains the remains of veterans of the Mexican–American War, Spanish–American War, World Wars I and II, and the Korean War. Vicksburg National Cemetery was closed to burials in 1961.
- Commemorative Landscape** – Soon after Vicksburg National Military Park was established in 1899, the nation’s leading architects and sculptors were commissioned to honor the soldiers and sailors who had fought in the campaign. The park’s earliest state memorial was dedicated in 1903, and more than 95% of the monuments that followed were erected prior to 1917. An aging Civil War veteran who hastened to Vicksburg to see the resulting works was so impressed that he aptly described Vicksburg National Military Park as “the art park of the world.” The work of commemoration has continued since 1917, and today, more than 1,400 monuments, tablets, and markers dot the landscape offering mute testimony to the courage and sacrifice of blue and gray alike. The commemorative landscape is a fundamental part of the park’s purpose, which reflects the efforts of veterans groups and states from both sides to write their legacy on the landscape of Vicksburg National Military Park, while healing and reuniting the nation.

- USS *Cairo* and Associated Artifacts –** Constructed in the fall of 1861, the USS *Cairo* was one of seven ironclad gunboats designed by James B. Eads to serve Union forces during the western campaigns of the Civil War. The USS *Cairo* was commissioned in January 1862, served in the battle of Memphis, and participated in action on the Yazoo River during the Vicksburg campaign. It was during the Vicksburg campaign that the USS *Cairo* hit an electrically detonated mine on December 12, 1862, and sank in the muddy waters of the Yazoo River. The USS *Cairo*, its cannon, and many of the personal items of sailors on board became frozen in time until its rediscovery on November 12, 1956. Raised from her watery grave, the USS *Cairo* was partially restored and eventually brought to Vicksburg National Military Park in 1977. The USS *Cairo* and its contents are a priceless time capsule reflecting life onboard a Union vessel during the Civil War. The story of this ironclad and the Brown Water Navy, as well as many of the ship's artifacts, are on display at the USS *Cairo* Museum.



- Pemberton's Headquarters –** Built in 1835–36, the property served as the second command headquarters for Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton as his first was within firing range of Union batteries. Pemberton used the house from May 23 until the Confederate surrender on July 4, 1863. During the siege and defense of Vicksburg, the house became known as General Pemberton's Headquarters. It became known as the Willis-Cowan House after being deeded to Mary Frances Cowan in 1890. The Greek revival style architecture of the house has not been altered significantly since the historic events that took place there and the house retains a high level of integrity. General Pemberton's Headquarters was designated a national historic landmark in 1977, and in 2002 Congress passed legislation authorizing acquisition of the property for inclusion in Vicksburg National Military Park. The two-story masonry structure is an important resource related to the siege and defense of Vicksburg and provides a tangible link between the battlefield landscape and the community of Vicksburg.
- Grant's Canal –** Located across the Mississippi River in Louisiana, the site of Grant's Canal was part of a larger military strategy to build a navigable waterway to bypass the city of Vicksburg and its defenses. Construction began in the summer of 1862, but soon stopped due to disease and heat exhaustion. The project was resumed in 1863, but was short lived as Maj. Gen. Grant focused his attention on the larger spring campaign to capture Vicksburg. In 1990, Congress added a surviving section of Grant's Canal to Vicksburg National Military Park. This site not only connects visitors to this unique chapter in the Vicksburg campaigns but also interprets the distinguished actions of United States Colored Troops during the battle of Milliken's Bend, which took place north of Vicksburg. On October 4, 2008, the Connecticut State Memorial, honoring the 9th Connecticut Volunteer Regiment, was dedicated at the Grant's Canal site.

- **Solemnity of Site** – Because of the death and destruction waged on these grounds protected by Vicksburg National Military Park, the park lands have been described as hallowed ground. This provides a sense of solemnity that is a fundamental value of the park. This is perhaps best reflected in President Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, “. . . *we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.*” Maintaining this sense of solemnity is an important goal to maintain in any future management decisions for the park. Vicksburg National Military Park provides an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices of the fallen and the implications of the Civil War on the nation in a somber and reverential place.
- **Connections with the Community of Vicksburg** – The community of Vicksburg and Vicksburg National Military Park are fundamentally connected not only by the historic events that took place there, but through a need for collaboration in the stewardship of the park and its legacy. Since the park was established in 1899, the Vicksburg community has expanded significantly, creating both challenges and opportunities for park management. Consisting of 1,806 acres, the largest publicly accessible park in the community, Vicksburg National Military Park also manages key sites scattered throughout Vicksburg including Pemberton’s Headquarters, Louisiana Circle, South Fort, and Navy Circle. By working in partnership with citizens, nongovernmental organizations, municipal and state governments, and other federal agencies, the park strives to protect viewsheds, maintain appropriate buffering, and engage diverse audiences in the stewardship of park resources. Efforts to cultivate connections with the community of Vicksburg are being achieved through more inclusive interpretive programming, the development of the Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park & Campaign nonprofit organization, and other initiatives, which allow Vicksburg National Military Park to strengthen community connections while building a collaborative future for the park.



Other Important Resources and Values

Vicksburg National Military Park contains other resources and values that are not fundamental to the purpose of the park and may be unrelated to its significance, but are important to consider in planning processes. These are referred to as “other important resources and values” (OIRV). These resources and values have been selected because they are important in the operation and management of the park and warrant special consideration in park planning.

The following other important resources and values have been identified for Vicksburg National Military Park:

- Appropriate Recreational Opportunities** – Vicksburg National Military Park is within the city of Vicksburg and more than 1,800 acres of rolling terrain is the premier green space for the local community. The paved tour roads and hiking trails in the park also provide outstanding opportunities for recreational activities, which allow for alternate ways of experiencing the park landscape. The daily use of the park for fitness activities such as walking, running, and biking creates a unique opportunity to engage community members and foster park relevancy with local stakeholders. Because the park is home to a variety of flora and fauna, visitors can also use the park for bird watching and viewing of wildlife and wildflowers. Appropriate recreation at the park provides an opportunity for users of current and future generations to continue to experience and appreciate the park in different ways, but recreation must be done in a way in which commemoration and solemnity of the battlefield are respected.
- Prairie Nymph** – The prairie nymph (*Herbertia lahue*) is a small purple iris flower that grows in abundance along the mowed landscape of the tour road that winds through Vicksburg National Military Park. Designated a species of special concern in the state of Mississippi, this wildflower is common in the open grasslands in the park, exemplifying the benefits of a diverse landscape that includes edge habitats and open grasslands as well as hardwood forest, thereby enhancing the biodiversity of the park. During its short blooming season (March–May), the beauty of the prairie nymph may be seen throughout the park and provides a unique interpretive opportunity to educate park visitors about species and habitat diversity.
- Mint Spring Falls/Bayou** – Mint Spring Bayou and Waterfall is in the northwest portion of the park near the Yazoo Diversion Canal and has both historic and natural significance. During the defense and siege at Vicksburg, both Union and Confederate soldiers relied on the bayou for fresh water and this natural feature served as a boundary between battle lines. The Mint Spring Bayou waterfall has been designated as a “Mississippi State Natural Feature.” The Vicksburg National Cemetery sits on the bluffs overlooking Mint Spring Bayou. Significant bluff stabilization efforts have been conducted to control erosion problems that continue to be a challenge in this area of the park.
- Archeological Resources** – Archeological resources at Vicksburg National Military Park may be found throughout the battlefield landscape and could provide insights into the struggles that took place during the Vicksburg Campaign as well as information on civilian life during the Civil War. Earthen fortifications, earthworks, trenches, and the remnants of other military defenses are visible resources on the surface. Subsurface archeological resources may also be found throughout the park. A comprehensive archeological survey of the entire park has not been conducted, so the level of integrity of these archeological resources has not been fully determined.



Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key concepts or stories that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental and other important resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for Vicksburg National Military Park:

The Military Experience: Strategy, Tactics, Technology and Humanity

- The Vicksburg campaign encompassed a complex and coordinated regional effort to control the Mississippi River. Success at Vicksburg achieved the Union’s major objective of splitting the Confederacy in two and surrounding it. In addition, the Union’s simultaneous victories at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, signaled the turning point of the American Civil War.
- The Vicksburg campaign is the culminating point in a series of campaigns that linked political, strategic, operational, and the tactical art of war. It is used as a model for present-day military operations and studies.
- The Vicksburg campaign occurred during a period of significant evolutionary advances in technology, resulting in major changes in the conduct of war.



Siege and Fall of Vicksburg

- Civilians in Vicksburg endured a 47-day siege, an ordeal bringing out the fortitude and resilience of individuals to survive no matter the cost.

The Occupation of Vicksburg

- The military occupation of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, and the emancipation of enslaved residents, unleashed a political battle over state sovereignty, civil rights, and the power of government to remake and police society; these struggles became iconic for the nation. The Union Army occupied Vicksburg 1863–1875.

Reconstruction Period

- From 1865–1875, the Union Army, other federal agencies, and the Vicksburg, Mississippi, civilian government struggled to find solutions to reestablish social and economic order after the war, providing insight into the challenges, changes, and consequences faced by residents and public officials during this period of U.S. history.

Commemoration

- Vicksburg National Cemetery and its monuments exhibit the commitment of a grateful nation and its effort to honor sacrifices of soldiers and sailors whose devotion to duty and shared war-time experiences transcend perceived boundaries of the North and South, reflecting a reunified nation.
- Vicksburg National Military Park presents a unique commemorative landscape design showcasing outdoor sculptures and architecture created by leading artists of the American Renaissance era (1876–17), the value and artistic expression of which is unmatched by any other collection of works created during this period.

Stewardship: 'Transforming the Environment'

- Today the park and Vicksburg National Cemetery are layered landscapes with historically significant features and commemorative elements from the 19th to the 21st century. Guided by NPS policies, ongoing research, and new preservation methods and techniques, this landscape brings together the complexities of interpreting ongoing preservation efforts and the experiences of soldiers and residents during the campaign, siege, and occupation of Vicksburg, Mississippi.



Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental and other important resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental and other important resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value.



Fundamental Resource or Value	Battlefield Landscape
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>The battlefield protected by Vicksburg National Military Park is hallowed ground on which more than 100,000 soldiers from both the Confederate and Union armies fought and suffered, many of whom were wounded or died in the struggle for the city of Vicksburg and for control of the Mississippi River.</p> <p>A combination of the Mississippi River, rail, and roads, along with imposing terrain and natural defenses, made Vicksburg both a stronghold and strategic military target, thus providing control and protection of transportation and commerce routes that were vital avenues of connection within the Confederacy.</p> <p>One of the most complex and protracted military operations in U.S. history, the Vicksburg campaign marked a decisive turning point of the Civil War, giving the Union control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy in half, and elevating Ulysses S. Grant as a military and future political leader.</p> <p>Vicksburg National Military Park serves as a high-quality natural area, providing one of the few remaining public land tracts of loess bluff hardwood forest and diverse transitional habitat in the lower Mississippi Delta region and river corridor, thereby supporting numerous species of migratory birds, the rare prairie nymph, and a host of species that have lost habitat through urban development and agrarian monoculture.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The battlefield landscape is in the best condition of recent times because of a recent, privately funded 90-acre restoration project and as a result of implementing other treatment options from the park's cultural landscape report. • Shirley House has gone through restoration and is currently in good condition. • Although forested areas provide important breeding and migratory bird habitat, the areas are in fair condition because of inferior growing condition (soils), invasive species, and limited diversity—1,160 of the 1,800 acres of battlefield are forested. It should be noted that the landscape during the period of historical significance was largely devoid of forest. • Earthworks are in fair to good condition within the battlefield. • South Fort is heavily wooded with trees growing along the walls of the fort, thereby making interpretation of the area challenging. • The battlefield landscape sits atop loess soil with deep gullies resulting from various agents of erosion. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battlefield landscape restoration in essential areas has improved through clearing of trees planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). • Average annual precipitation has increased 29% from 1950 to 2010. There was no significant observed trend in average annual temperature for the region (Gonzalez 2014).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Battlefield Landscape
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep loess soil bluffs are highly prone to erosion. Erosion issues are exacerbated by heavy precipitation events, removal of forested areas, and fire ants. • Soil erosion near the Railroad Redoubt is a serious threat to the fortification and also threatens the Texas State Memorial. • Forest areas obscure historic battle lines and viewsheds. • Tree fall, typically brought on by heavy precipitation events, breaches soil and results in considerable landscape issues. Tree fall also threatens recreational opportunities on trails. • The integrity of earthworks is threatened by mowing, digging by wildlife (i.e., feral hogs and armadillos), and improper visitor use. • Relic hunters and visitors may take archeological resources. • Development is encroaching on the park and its resources along much of the area’s boundary. • Invasive nonnative plant species pose a threat throughout the park and are particularly problematic in certain areas. • Drains are deteriorating and need to be replaced; additional drainage infrastructure is needed in other areas to help prevent erosion. • Lack of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems at Shirley House results in extreme internal temperature swings that could affect plaster, woodwork, and other features. • Heat and humidity during the peak visitation season discourages visitors from leaving air-conditioned cars and experiencing the battlefield landscape. • A 3°F to 8°F increase in average annual temperature for the region is projected by 2100 (Gonzalez 2014). • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The battlefield could be further restored and trees could be removed. • Shirley House could be better interpreted, further restored, and furnished. • Bluff erosion near the Railroad Redoubt could be stabilized. • Erosion condition information currently being analyzed by Ameristar could be used for park planning for Louisiana Circle, Navy Circle, and South Fort. • Tree clearing at South Fort could improve viewsheds. • Nonstructural as well as structural solutions should be explored to address the challenges of erosion to find the best sustainable solutions for the long-term stewardship of park resources.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use study. • Baseline elevation data (parkwide). • Area-specific hydrology and stormwater studies (parkwide). • Invasive species monitoring. • Deer population monitoring. • Boundary survey. • Research on vegetation types for erosion prevention. • Archeological overview and assessment. • Administrative history of the park.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Battlefield Landscape
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railroad Redoubt bluff stabilization plan. • Buffer vegetation management plan. • Exhibits plan for Shirley House, including a historic furnishing report (PMIS 188257). • Cultural landscape report for Shirley House (PMIS 149123). • Cultural landscape report for discontinuous park properties (Grant's Canal, Louisiana Circle, South Fort, Navy Circle). • Visitor use and potential use management plan. • Mowing and grounds plan (with slope analysis) for both park and cemetery.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Executive Order 13186, "Protection of Migratory Birds" • Executive Order 11990, "Protection of Wetlands" • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.5.1.6) "Earthworks" • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i> • Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Management</i>



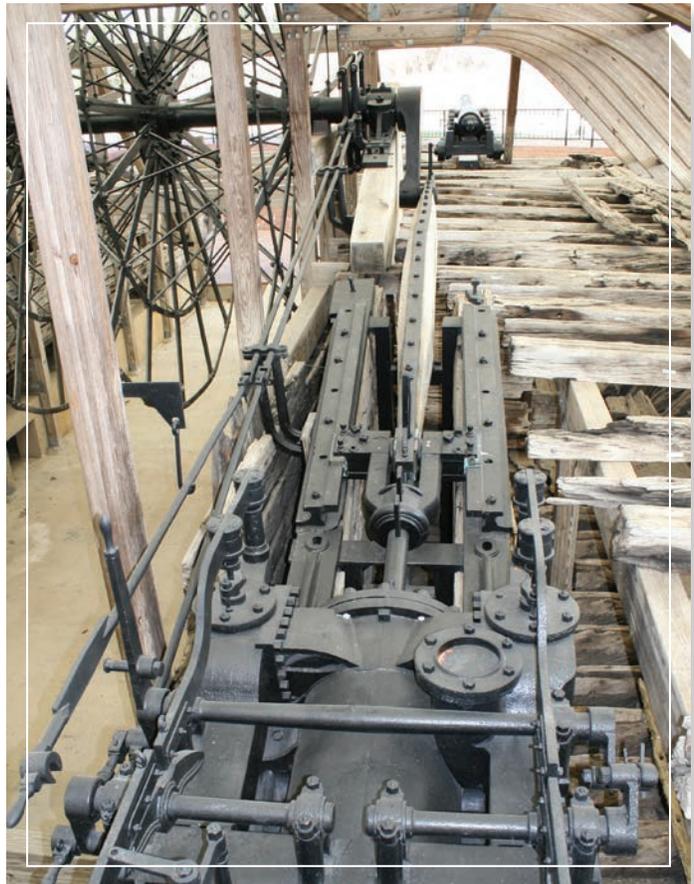
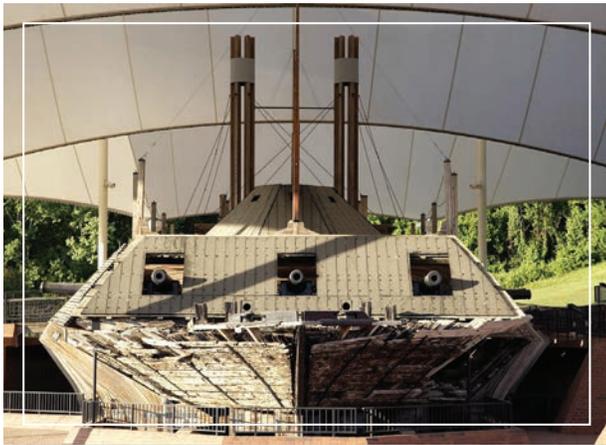
Fundamental Resource or Value	Vicksburg National Cemetery
Related Significance Statements	Established in 1866, Vicksburg National Cemetery is the final resting place for more than 17,000 Union soldiers, sailors, and United States Colored Troops, the most of any national cemetery in the country.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, the cemetery grounds are in fair condition with significant erosion issues. • The base on the recently constructed soil nail wall at Mint Springs Bayou was completed as designed, but erosion issues continue to threaten the resource. • Many headstones in the cemetery are damaged or deteriorating. • Air quality is a concern for preservation of cemetery headstones, but no baseline data are available. • The historic south and north walls of the cemetery are missing. • The gazebo in the cemetery was recently renovated. • The cemetery monuments and headstones are cleaned on a cyclic basis. • The cemetery gates were recently repainted. • The cemetery gardener’s cottage (quarters #2) has a ladybug infestation. • Maintenance of the cemetery landscape is particularly labor intensive. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headstones must be continuously cleaned, raised, and straightened. • Aging trees are dying and must be removed from the cemetery landscape.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion at the base of the soil nail wall due to improper finishing threatens landscape stability. • Headstones are deteriorating. • Dead and dying trees pose a safety risk due to falling. • Tree roots cause damage to the headstones. • Drainage throughout the cemetery is poor. • Air quality may be leading to headstone deterioration. • The park staff shortage limits opportunities for interpretation and proactive resource preservation activities. • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazebo steps could be rehabilitated or reconstructed for improved visitor safety. • Reinforcement of the retaining wall would ensure long-term landscape stability. • Replacement of the fountain at Officer’s Circle. • Reconstruction of the rostrum would provide additional opportunities for interpretation and understanding of the cemetery. • Explore new turf maintenance technologies to improve appearance and decrease operational demands. • Nonstructural as well as structural solutions should be explored to address the challenges of erosion to find the best sustainable solutions for the long-term stewardship of park resources.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Vicksburg National Cemetery
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area-specific hydrology and stormwater studies (parkwide). • Hazardous tree inventory (parkwide). • Baseline elevation data (parkwide). • National register nomination for the cemetery (PMIS 192858). • Updated administrative history of the cemetery. • Air quality monitoring (baseline data). • Ethnographic overview and assessment.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural landscape report (scheduled for 2014–15). • Cemetery management plan. • Stormwater management plan. • Historic structures report for cemetery buildings. • Plan to address deficiencies on bank stabilization at Mint Spring Bayou (management action).
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • The Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • “Audio Disturbances” (36 CFR 2.12) • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 • National Cemeteries Act of 1973 • “National Cemetery Regulations” (36 CFR Part 12) • Executive Order 11593, “Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment” • Secretarial Order 3289, “Addressing the impacts of Climate Change on America’s Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources” <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director’s Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director’s Order 61: <i>National Cemetery Operations</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.7) “Air Resource Management” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) “Cultural Resource Management,” including (§5.3.1.5) “Pest Management” and (§5.3.1.7) “Cultural Soundscape Management” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§8.6.10.1) “National Cemeteries” • <i>The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Commemorative Landscape
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>The battlefield protected by Vicksburg National Military Park is hallowed ground on which more than 100,000 soldiers from both the Confederate and Union armies fought and suffered, many of whom were wounded or died in the struggle for the city of Vicksburg and for control of the Mississippi River.</p> <p>Vicksburg National Military Park showcases one of the most extensive collections of commemorative monuments, sculptures, and outdoor art in the world, created by some of the leading artists of their times.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The condition of monuments and sculptures throughout the park and in the community varies. Some examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wisconsin monument needs pointing, suffers from water intrusion at the base, washing out between the steps, and is in need of bronze work (there is a Project Management Information System [PMIS] statement for this project). • The Texas monument steps need to be reset and some of the masonry needs to be repointed. • The Missouri monument base is unstable and the monument needs tuck pointing and lightning protection. • The African American monument’s plaza is deteriorating at the base. • The Illinois monument is subject to damage from bat and bird guano. • Many tablets have been lost. • One hundred forty-nine historic cannons are on the site, which are catalogued and included in the museum collection. • The Melan arch bridges are in good condition. • A restoration project for the Iowa monument was completed in 2013. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 2014, 54 tablets have been replaced. • Routine maintenance of the park landscape is challenging due to staffing and funding shortfalls. Several staff who were able to perform restoration activities have left the park. • An integrated waysides system was installed along the park roadway in 2012. • Deteriorating cannon carriages are being replaced as funds become available.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birds and bats at the Illinois monument. • Fire ants. • Armadillos and feral hogs. • Erosion. • Informal parking and turnouts. • Degradation of monuments from environmental effects such as airborne pollutants. • Potential safety risk from visitors climbing on monuments and cannons. • Vandals taking elements off monuments. • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Commemorative Landscape
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An exclusion project at the Illinois monument to address bird and bat impacts (planned for 2014). • Replace the missing tablets. • Consider adding turnouts or widening selected sections of the tour road. • Replace monument aprons to address impacts from erosion, mowing, and other maintenance activities. • Nonstructural as well as structural solutions should be explored to address the challenges of erosion to find the best sustainable solutions for the long-term stewardship of park resources.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality monitoring. • Updated survey of tablets, monuments, cannons, and other important features of the commemorative landscape. • Area-specific hydrology and stormwater studies (parkwide). • Boundary survey. • Invasive species monitoring. • Traffic flow study. • Administrative history of the park.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railroad Redoubt bluff stabilization plan. • Buffer vegetation management plan. • Historic structures reports for the state memorials and other major monuments. • Monument maintenance and preservation plan. • Mowing and grounds plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 • Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended • The Clean Air Act • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.1.5) "Pest Management" and (§5.3.5.2) "Cultural Landscapes" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 9) "Park Facilities," including (§9.2.1) "Road Systems" and (§9.6) "Commemorative Works and Plaques" • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	USS <i>Cairo</i> and Associated Artifacts
Related Significance Statements	<p>The USS <i>Cairo</i> and associated artifacts provide visitors direct access to the most intact Civil War ironclad gunboat and a window into the life of Union sailors serving in the Brown Water Navy.</p>
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The USS <i>Cairo</i> and museum receives strong visitation. • The current museum exhibit was installed in 1980. • The museum’s lighting was upgraded in 2014. • The exhibit cases and security system at the museum are dated. • The museum lacks a fire detection and protection system. • The plaza on top of the museum is poorly designed, resulting in water leaks into the museum. • An underground spring flowing beneath the museum creates moisture issues and can attract vermin. • Carpeting at the museum was replaced in 2013. • An addendum was completed for the USS <i>Cairo</i>’s historic structures report in 2013. • A housekeeping plan has been completed for the museum exhibits. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The USS <i>Cairo</i> continues to deteriorate due to the lack of full enclosure and climate control. • The tent structure covering the USS <i>Cairo</i> is aging (erected in 2003 with an expected life span of 25 years).

Fundamental Resource or Value	USS <i>Cairo</i> and Associated Artifacts
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The USS <i>Cairo</i> will continue to deteriorate without an enclosure to protect it from fluctuating temperatures and humidity. • Damage caused by wildlife including, carpenter bees, birds, and other species will further degrade the exhibits. • Heavy visitation may further degrade exhibits. • There is a risk of fire due to the lack of a fire detection or suppression system. • There are multiple leaks in the museum roof. • The museum and associated office area lack appropriate climate control. • The treatment schedule for artifacts is not maintained. • Staffing is below the desired level due to budget constraints. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct an enclosure around the USS <i>Cairo</i> to protect it from the elements. • Install a modern fire suppression system. • Create a larger exhibit area. • The interpretive film shown at the museum is outdated, and could be replaced by a new high-definition audiovisual program. • Train maintenance staff on appropriate conservation treatment techniques for the artifacts on-site.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area-specific hydrology and stormwater studies. • Groundwater/soil monitoring around the USS <i>Cairo</i>.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USS <i>Cairo</i> development concept plan / site plan. • Update collections storage and management plan. • Revisit value analysis that was completed for the enclosure of the USS <i>Cairo</i>. • Update exhibit plan. • Investigate opportunities and threats associated with converting the USS <i>Cairo</i> from a staffed experience to a self-guided experience.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Museum Act (16 USC 18f through 18f-3) • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections" (36 CFR 79) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 24: <i>NPS Museum Collections Management</i> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> (1998) • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.1) "Protection and Preservation of Cultural Resources," (§5.3.5.5) "Museum Collections," and (§5.3.1.4) "Environmental Monitoring and Control" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 9) "Park Facilities," including (§9.4.2) "Museum Collections Management Facilities" • NPS <i>Museum Handbook</i>, parts I, II, and III • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Pemberton's Headquarters
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>A combination of the Mississippi River, rail, and roads, along with imposing terrain and natural defenses, made Vicksburg both a stronghold and strategic military target, thus providing control and protection of transportation and commerce routes that were vital avenues of connection within the Confederacy.</p> <p>One of the most complex and protracted military operations in U.S. history, the Vicksburg campaign marked a decisive turning point of the Civil War, giving the Union control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy in half, and elevating Ulysses S. Grant as a military and future political leader.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure is in fair condition, with roof leakage that has caused localized exterior and interior damage. • Wood rot is present in areas around the house, the porch is sagging, and steps leading up from the street are in need of repair. • Trees around the property are encroaching and damaging the structure. • There is a wheelchair lift, but access to the lift is challenging from the parking areas and there is no means to signal park staff for assistance. • The house interior is not restored to the period of significance. • The upper floor is being used as office space by the friends group. • The National Park Service has failed to meet its commitment to the city to have Pemberton's Headquarters become a staffed attraction that would entice people into the community. • There are periodic requests for weddings and wedding pictures at the house. • There is a lack of parking (general, employee, and handicapped) in the immediate area. • The driveway is shared with a private individual. • A vision for Pemberton's Headquarters is stated in the legislation, "Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act of 2002," Public Law 107-238, October 11, 2002. • A historic structures report for Pemberton's Headquarters was completed in 2005. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently, the building is used as a library and office space, with the goal of opening the site to the public.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Pemberton's Headquarters
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining commitments made to the community is impossible with the current staffing level at the park. • Retaining wall and associated fence at the front of the house are deteriorating. • Roof leaking will continue to cause localized damage on the interior and exterior. • Rot areas in the front will expand without remediation. • Costs for rehabilitation of the house will increase substantially as the condition deteriorates. • The cultural landscape is impacted by the surrounding neighborhood. • The cultural center across the street increasing programming which is improving the immediate area around the house. • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the possibilities for historic leasing of the facility. • Evaluate the potential of converting the facility for administrative purposes. • Develop a partnership with the Southern Cultural Heritage Center on collaborative programming. • Provide evening and weekend events at the house. • Remove structurally damaged porch that is not original to house as opposed to rehabilitating it. • Accessibility at the house could be improved.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archeological overview and assessment. • Historic leasing feasibility study.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic furnishing report (PMIS 124013). • Cultural landscape report. • Update historic structures report for Pemberton's Headquarters.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> (1998) • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.5.5.5) "Historic Furnishings" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 9) "Park Facilities," including (§9.1.1.4) "Adaptive Reuse," (§9.1.2) "Access for Persons with Disabilities," (9.1.8) "Structural Fire Protection," and (9.4) "Management Facilities" • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>

Fundamental Resource or Value	Grant's Canal
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>A combination of the Mississippi River, rail, and roads, along with imposing terrain and natural defenses, made Vicksburg both a stronghold and strategic military target, thus providing control and protection of transportation and commerce routes that were vital avenues of connection within the Confederacy.</p> <p>One of the most complex and protracted military operations in U.S. history, the Vicksburg campaign marked a decisive turning point of the Civil War, giving the Union control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy in half, and elevating Ulysses S. Grant as a military and future political leader.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current park site along the Mississippi Delta in Louisiana includes wayside exhibits and the Connecticut Monument. • The area is isolated and largely unprotected. • The site is mowed by a contractor during the summer season. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area is currently in stable condition. • Waysides are in fair condition and need to be updated.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a perceived safety concern due to isolated conditions. • The area is difficult to find, which reduces the likelihood of visitation. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved signage to the site could help visitors locate and access the site. • Grant's Canal is the closest NPS-owned site to Milliken's Bend and could provide interpretive opportunities about the history of the Milliken Bend site. • Other interpretive stories appropriate to this site include construction of William's Canal and, the dynamics of the river and its impact on the campaign. • Visitors can experience the Louisiana side of the campaign and the Delta region and better understand the environment and context of the campaign.
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use study. • Archeological overview and assessment. • Cultural landscape inventory for Grant's Canal. • Explore additional mapping of Grant's Canal using mapping efforts completed in 1996 (management action).
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use management plan. • Cultural landscape report for Grant's Canal.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Grant's Canal
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.1) "Protection and Preservation of Cultural Resources" • <i>The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Solemnity of the Site
Related Significance Statements	<p>The battlefield protected by Vicksburg National Military Park is hallowed ground on which more than 100,000 soldiers from both the Confederate and Union armies fought and suffered, many of whom were wounded or died in the struggle for the city of Vicksburg and for control of the Mississippi River.</p> <p>The courageous actions of United States Colored Troops at the battle of Milliken’s Bend fought during the Vicksburg Campaign secured the first battlefield victory for these forces, demonstrating the resolve of African Americans to fight for their freedom, leading to a shift in the perception of African Americans in the U.S. military.</p> <p>Established in 1866, Vicksburg National Cemetery is the final resting place for more than 17,000 Union soldiers, sailors, and United States Colored troops, the most of any national cemetery in the country.</p> <p>Vicksburg National Military Park showcases one of the most extensive collections of commemorative monuments, sculptures, and outdoor art in the world, created by some of the leading artists of their times.</p>
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park preserves the site of the battlefield, which allows visitors to form a personal connection to the resource. • Battlefield rehabilitation projects have served to provide additional opportunities to understand the nature of the battle and solemnity of the site. • Installation of an interpretive wayside system and other media has enhanced visitors’ ability to comprehend and connect to the stories and the people of the battlefield. • Many visitors enjoy resources while using the park for appropriate recreational activities such as walking, running, and bicycling. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing recreational use may impact the commemorative atmosphere. • Noise from adjacent highways, commercial developments, and industry impacts the commemorative atmosphere. • Diversity of recreational users is increasing.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate visitor behavior and incompatible activities disturb the commemorative atmosphere. • Noise can intrude on the solemnity of the park atmosphere, and increases in noise can threaten the resource. • Funding is not sufficient to address staffing needs and provide desired interpretive materials and opportunities. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of interpretive programs and products to educate visitors on proper decorum for the atmosphere of the park. • Continue to promote visitation and participation on Memorial Day and other patriotic holidays and observances to the park and cemetery. • Consider additional buffer improvements to address noise issues. • Connect with schools and the community to promote the park and experience military history. • Expand partnerships with veteran’s organizations and auxiliaries and patriotic organizations. • Opportunities exist to reduce noise from park facilities and operations through alterations to park operations, retrofitting of facility machinery, the use of quiet pavement on roadways, and other means.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Solemnity of the Site
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use study. • Update survey of tablets, monuments, cannons, and other important features on the commemorative landscape.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffer vegetation management plan. • Monument maintenance and preservation plan. • Cemetery management plan. • Mowing and grounds plan.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Superintendent's Compendium • "Resource Protection, Public Use and Recreation" (36 CFR Part 2) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.1.7) "Cultural Soundscape Management" • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Connections to Community
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>A combination of the Mississippi River, rail, and roads, along with imposing terrain and natural defenses, made Vicksburg both a stronghold and strategic military target, thus providing control and protection of transportation and commerce routes that were vital avenues of connection within the Confederacy.</p> <p>The Union occupation and subsequent Reconstruction era of Vicksburg served as a national model demonstrating the successes and failures of post-Civil War recovery efforts in the South, including the genesis of the Freedmen’s Bureau, which set the tone for self-sufficiency in the African American community.</p> <p>Vicksburg National Military Park serves as a high-quality natural area, providing one of the few remaining public land tracts of loess bluff hardwood forest and diverse transitional habitat in the lower Mississippi Delta region and river corridor, thereby supporting numerous species of migratory birds, the rare prairie nymph, and a host of species that have lost habitat through urban development and agrarian monoculture.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park is the predominant green space in the Warren County region. • Many local visitors use the park for fitness activities (i.e., walking, running, bicycling, dog walking). • While the park is surrounded by urban development, in some places there is a sense of insulation from the neighboring community. • The park’s friends group is growing; 2014 membership includes a plurality of local residents. • Monuments and markers throughout the community are on former park land and help solidify the link between the park and the community. • In 2010, the city of Vicksburg was composed approximately 62% of family households (of which 28% had children under 18) and 38% of nonfamily households (American FactFinder / Census Bureau). • Diversity of visitors does not match diversity of community. In 2010, the racial makeup of the city of Vicksburg was approximately 66% African American and 31% white (American FactFinder / Census Bureau). • The 2008–12, median household income in the city of Vicksburg was \$27,674 and more than 31% of people had an income below the poverty level (American FactFinder / Census Bureau). <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The events surrounding the park’s sesquicentennial anniversary were well received by local residents, which enhanced community relations, boosted public involvement, and increased outreach to new communities in the Mississippi Delta region. • Interpretive themes have broadened from strictly soldiers and military strategy to more diverse stories about the community to engage a wider audience.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Connections to Community
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a perceived lack of relevance to the African American community, youth, and women. • There is a need to reach the next generation of park visitors through youth programs and youth field trips. • Diverse groups of users (i.e., local recreational users and nonlocal military enthusiasts) have widely different expectations for park uses, interpretation, and management. • Urban land uses surround the park; in some areas tree screening boundary is thin and development can be seen. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park could build on momentum from the sesquicentennial to improve relationships with volunteers and community members from diverse backgrounds. • The park needs to enhance and expand youth outreach. • By opening Pemberton Headquarters, the park could serve as a pillar of the historic preservation community in downtown Vicksburg. • The park could continue its heritage garden, which has brought in master gardeners and new partners from the community. • The park could insert interpretation into fitness-based programs to help build awareness and understanding of park resources. • The park could address pedestrian conflicts near the entrance gate by working with the city to install a crosswalk and sidewalk for nonmotorists. • The park could expand volunteerism. • The park could build its relationship with the large AmeriCorps campus near the monuments outside the park boundary. • The park could expand its visibility by increasing the frequency of monument conservation throughout Vicksburg. • The park could suggest a county ordinance that allows a 25 foot buffer around the park to prevent future development and encroachment issues (similar to that afforded by the city).
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use study. • Ethnographic overview and assessment.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easement and buffer management plan. • Visitor use and potential use management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; 42 USC 4321 <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 16B: <i>Diversity in the National Park Service</i> • Director's Order 32: <i>Cooperating Associations</i> • Director's Order 75: <i>Civic Engagement and Public Involvement</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries," (§1.7) "Civic Engagement," (§2.1.3) "Public Participation"

Analysis of Other Important Resources and Values

Other Important Resource or Value	Appropriate Recreational Opportunities
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>Vicksburg National Military Park serves as a high-quality natural area, providing one of the few remaining public land tracts of loess bluff hardwood forest and diverse transitional habitat in the lower Mississippi Delta region and river corridor, thereby supporting numerous species of migratory birds, the rare prairie nymph, and a host of species that have lost habitat through urban development and agrarian monoculture.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vicksburg National Military Park is the largest green space available to the Vicksburg community. • Fitness activities including running, walking, biking, and dog walking are common recreational uses of the park. • The parking lot near the visitor center often fills to capacity. • While the gates close from 5:00 pm to 8:00 am, pedestrians and bicyclists can continue to use the tour road for remaining daylight hours. • The annual Run Through History 10K run / 5K walk held the first Saturday in March attracts as many as 1,000 people. • The park hosts several active events including: Shape Up Junior Ranger events, interpretive walks, Healthy People Healthy Park walks, and Let’s Move walks. • The superintendent’s compendium prohibits recreational activities such as sledding, kite flying, roller-skating, and rollerblading. • The Al Scheller primitive hiking trail is in fair condition. • Water fountains are available for recreational users at the visitor center, fitness pavilion, and the USS <i>Cairo</i> Museum. • Geocaching is popular; the park has several virtual cache sites. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park has experienced an increase in runners, walkers, bicyclists, and other fitness users each year. • There has been an improvement in the demographic diversity of recreational users. • There have been requests to use horses, Segways, and golf carts to tour the park. • The diverse mix of users has led to more conflicts between groups, especially during peak visitation times.

Other Important Resource or Value	Appropriate Recreational Opportunities
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because the main park road is narrow and winding, there are conflicts between fitness users and motor vehicles. • Bicyclists riding in an unsafe manner pose a safety hazard to themselves and other visitors. • Pedestrians walking or running in the traffic lane pose a safety hazard to themselves and other visitors. • Motorists and nonmotorized recreational users can pose a safety risk to each other. • Recreational users cause congestion at the front parking lot, reducing available parking for other visitors. • Social trails and unauthorized park access sites increase management challenges. • Recreationists using the park during hours of darkness create safety and management concerns. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park could continue partnering with AmeriCorps and other volunteer groups to improve the condition of the Al Scheller Trail. • The park could mow additional paths to tablets, allowing improved access. • The park could encourage additional bird-watching by providing more natural resource-oriented literature and facilitating more night walks for nocturnal birds and wildlife viewing. • The park could encourage more integration of interpretation and recreation (i.e., walking and bicycling interpretive tours).
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use study. • Transportation study.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor use and potential use management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 • Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 • Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (2006) • “Resource Protection, Public Use and Recreation” (36 CFR 2) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director’s Order 6: <i>Interpretation and Education</i> • Director’s Order 42: <i>Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in National Park Service Programs and Services</i> • Director’s Order 48B: <i>Commercial Use Authorizations</i> • Director’s Order 53: <i>Special Park Uses</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 8) “Use of the Parks” • Director’s Order 77-1: <i>Natural Resource Management</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 9) “Park Facilities” including (§9.3) “Visitor Facilities” • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 10) “Commercial Visitor Services”

Other Important Resource or Value	Prairie Nymph
Related Significance Statements	Vicksburg National Military Park serves as a high-quality natural area, providing one of the few remaining public land tracts of loess bluff hardwood forest and diverse transitional habitat in the lower Mississippi Delta region and river corridor, thereby supporting numerous species of migratory birds, the rare prairie nymph, and a host of species that have lost habitat through urban development and agrarian monoculture.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prairie nymph is abundant in the park, especially along the tour road and within the south loop. • Prairie nymph is a rare plant and a state-listed species of special concern. • Vicksburg National Military Park is one of two major areas of prairie nymph abundance in Mississippi. • Little is known about the species. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prairie nymph presence is increasing because of the increase in sunny, nonforested areas of the park.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing during the blooming cycle may stymie reproduction of prairie nymph populations. • A 3°F to 8°F increase in average annual temperature for the region is projected by 2100 (Gonzalez 2014). • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park resource staff can continue to work with operations and maintenance to time mowing in order to protect the prairie nymph. • Park resource staff can continue to rope off plots to protect prairie nymph from mowing. • Park staff can educate and interpret to visitors the importance and sensitivity of species such as the prairie nymph. • Park staff can keep back fields mowed for additional habitat. • Park staff can study height of grasses and systematic mowing. • Park staff can pursue research opportunities to better understand the propagation and growing cycle of the species. • Park staff can develop a habitat management plan.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect GPS points for prairie nymph populations for potential map (management action). • Share data with Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas for regional inventory and monitoring (management action). • Invasive species monitoring.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing and grounds plan.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • Secretarial Order 3289, “Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America’s Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources” • Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director’s Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director’s Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Management</i> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 4), including (§4.4.2.3) “Management of Threatened or Endangered Plants and Animals” • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) “Cultural Resource Management,” including (§5.3.5.2.5) “Biotic Cultural Resources”

Other Important Resource or Value	Mint Spring Falls/Bayou
Related Significance Statements	Vicksburg National Military Park serves as a high-quality natural area, providing one of the few remaining public land tracts of loess bluff hardwood forest and diverse transitional habitat in the lower Mississippi Delta region and river corridor, thereby supporting numerous species of migratory birds, the rare prairie nymph, and a host of species that have lost habitat through urban development and agrarian monoculture.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historically, the Mint Spring Bayou served as a water source and boundary for Union and Confederate soldiers during the Civil War and is also considered an important battlefield landscape feature. • Mint Spring Falls is one of the tallest waterfalls in the state and is designated as a “Mississippi State Natural Feature.” • The Vicksburg National Cemetery lies above Mint Spring Bayou. • The bluffs above Mint Spring Bayou continue to need repair and stabilization. • The area is no longer open to the public due to safety issues (i.e., unstable bluff grade, cracks in ground, slough, and tall grass). • Mint Spring Bayou naturally protects fossils for scientific study. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area is no longer open to the public because of safety issues associated with the bluff and bank instability. • Water from Mint Spring Bayou was historically used in a decorative cemetery fountain, but is no longer used for this purpose. • Mint Spring bayou allows for long-term and stable growth of certain types of vegetation.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluff and bank erosion can result in soil, tree, and cemetery wall debris falling into the watercourse. • Yazoo Diversion Canal floodwaters back up into Mint Spring, saturating the ground to an extent that parts of the road and ground can slough off into the watercourse. • Foot traffic and fossil collectors in the watercourse could impact cultural and natural resources. • Nonnative species, including fathead minnow, are present in the watercourse. • A 3°F to 8°F increase in average annual temperature for the region is projected by 2100 (Gonzalez 2014). • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area can be used to manage Yazoo Diversion Canal floodwater overflow and prevent bluff slough issues. • The park could allocate resources to reinforce the north side bluff. • The park could stabilize the bluff so that the area can be safely reopened for public access.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater / soil monitoring around Mint Spring Bayou. • Area-specific hydrology and stormwater studies. • Visitor use and potential use study. • Invasive species monitoring. • Updated fish study. • Continued water quality monitoring.

Other Important Resource or Value	Mint Spring Falls/Bayou
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater management plan.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Water Act Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.) Executive Order 11514, "Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality" Executive Order 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards" Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" Executive Order 13186, "Protection of Migratory Birds" Executive Order 11990, "Protection of Wetlands" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Management</i> NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 4) "<i>Natural Resource Management</i>," including (§4.6) "<i>Water Resource Management</i>"

Other Important Resource or Value	Archeological Resources
Related Significance Statements	<p>The battlefield protected by Vicksburg National Military Park is hallowed ground on which more than 100,000 soldiers from both the Confederate and Union armies fought and suffered, many of whom were wounded or died in the struggle for the city of Vicksburg and for control of the Mississippi River.</p> <p>One of the most complex and protracted military operations in U.S. history, the Vicksburg campaign marked a decisive turning point of the Civil War, giving the Union control of the Mississippi River, splitting the Confederacy in half, and elevating Ulysses S. Grant as a military and future political leader.</p>
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The grounds protected by the park have been heavily disturbed during its development, including CCC-era erosion control and tree replanting efforts in the 1930s. Earthworks are in fair to good condition within the battlefield. South Fort is heavily wooded with trees growing along the walls of the fort. The park sits atop loess soil with deep gullies resulting from various agents of erosion. The full condition of subsurface archeological resources is not fully understood at this time. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battlefield landscape restoration in essential areas has improved through clearing of trees planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Following the 150th commemoration of the Vicksburg Campaign, there has been increased interest in the park and its resources. The park has grown to include the Pemberton's Headquarters site and the Grant's Canal site that may contain important archeological resources. Average annual precipitation has increased 29% from 1950 to 2010. There was no significant observed trend in average annual temperature for the region (Gonzalez 2014).

Other Important Resource or Value	Archeological Resources
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep loess soil bluffs are highly prone to erosion, which may impact subsurface archeological resources. Erosion issues are exacerbated by heavy precipitation events, removal of forested areas, and fire ants. • Soil erosion near the Railroad Redoubt is a serious threat to the fortification and subsurface archeological resources associated with this fortification. • Tree fall, typically brought on by heavy precipitation events, breaches soil and results in considerable damage to archeological resources. Tree fall also threatens earthworks such as South Fort. • The integrity of earthworks is threatened by mowing, digging by wildlife (i.e., feral hogs and armadillos), and improper visitor use such as social trails. • Relic hunters and visitors may take archeological resources. • Increases in frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events are projected (Melillo et al. 2014). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluff erosion near the Railroad Redoubt could be stabilized. • Erosion condition information currently being analyzed by Ameristar could be used for park planning for Louisiana Circle, Navy Circle, and South Fort. • A better understanding of the park's archeological resources would support interpretive and educational programming. Archeological projects could also be used as opportunities to engage the local community in stewardship efforts at the park.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archeological overview and assessment. • Baseline elevation data (parkwide). • Hydrology and stormwater study (parkwide). • Cultural landscape inventory of Grant's Canal.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railroad Redoubt bluff stabilization plan. • Cultural landscape report for Shirley House (PMIS 149123). • Cultural landscape report for discontinuous park properties (Grant's Canal, Louisiana Circle, South Fort, Navy Circle). • Mowing and grounds plan (with slope analysis) for both park and cemetery.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the OIRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act of 1935 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470) • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management," including (§5.3.5.1.6) "Earthworks" • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i>



Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental and other important resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental or other important resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions not directly related to purpose and significance, but still indirectly affects them. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for Vicksburg National Military Park and the associated planning and data needs to address them:

- Erosion** – The highly erosive loess soils at Vicksburg National Military Park are a significant parkwide challenge that impact park resources. Erosion is a pervasive issue affecting monument and road stability, water quality, and public safety. During the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corps engaged in a significant tree planting program in an effort to address erosion, but obscured many of the historic views and vistas, making interpretation of the interplay between landscape and military strategy of the Vicksburg campaign challenging. Recently, efforts to restore the sight lines of the original battlefield landscape have been successful, but erosion continues to be an issue. Ongoing erosion control and mitigation is needed to keep critical park resources and values in good condition. Nonstructural as well as structural solutions should be explored to address the challenges of erosion to find the best sustainable solutions for the long-term stewardship of park resources. Increases in the intensity and frequency of extreme precipitation events are projected for all U.S. regions, potentially accelerating erosion issues at Vicksburg National Military Park. The Railroad Redoubt and Texas Monument were identified as a critical area of the park in need of immediate planning to address the threat of erosion.

- **Community Engagement and Relevancy** – Maintaining relevancy within and around the diverse community of Vicksburg continues to challenge the park. The 150th anniversary of the campaigns, siege, and battle of Vicksburg provided significant momentum for engaging the local community. Another element of relevancy is being able to connect past events to the present by engaging audiences and telling stories that share the history of the Vicksburg campaign while relating it to modern social and political events. Connecting past events to broader audiences, especially youth, will help keep the history of Vicksburg relevant for 21st century visitors. The park has identified numerous opportunities to connect with wider audiences including youth and adults from the Vicksburg area. The park can also work with partners to become more integrated into regional cultural/heritage tourism efforts such as the Natchez Trace Parkway, Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area, the Blues Trail, and other historic sites. Identified as a high priority data need, a visitor potential and use study would generate information on current visitation and potential new visitors. A visitor potential and use management plan was also identified as an important planning need.
- **Regional Growth and Appropriate Land Use** – Since establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park in 1899, the city of Vicksburg has grown significantly and modern development now surrounds the entire park. Because surrounding land uses could potentially impact the overall park experience as well as fundamental resources, the park works closely with local governments and adjacent landowners to address these challenges. The park maintains a vegetation buffer along the park boundary in order to protect park resources and maintain visitor experiences. A park boundary survey was identified as a high priority data need, while the need for an easement and buffer management plan was identified as a future planning need for the park.
- **Potential Land Acquisitions** – Because Vicksburg National Military Park commemorates and interprets not only the siege and defense of Vicksburg, but also the campaigns associated with these significant events of the Civil War, efforts to expand the park's land holdings could occur in the foreseeable future. Key areas under consideration are sites at Port Gibson (3,810 acres), Raymond Battlefield (1,520 acres), and Champion Hill (6,350 acres). Combined, all three sites would add an additional 11,680 acres to Vicksburg National Military Park. If congressional legislation for acquisition of this land is passed and these additional sites are added to Vicksburg National Military Park, than a general management plan would be needed to address the management and future development of these new sites as part of the overall park experience.

Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Railroad Redoubt bluff stabilization plan	H	The bluff adjacent to the Railroad Redoubt has significant erosion issues and could potentially slough off onto the active railroad line below. Vibrations from trains on this active rail line may also be impacting bluff stabilization issues. The Texas Monument is within 12 feet of this unstable bluff. Stabilization of this area is critically needed in order to address both resource stewardship and safety concerns. An engineering report has been completed, but additional funding is required to move forward with planning and preliminary engineering for bluff stabilization and the possible need to move or reposition the Texas Monument.
FRV	USS <i>Cairo</i> – development concept plan	H	Revisiting the 1992 value analysis that was conducted to address the complete enclosure of the USS <i>Cairo</i> would be a primary focus of a development concept plan for this site. The development concept plan would address an overall site design, develop alternatives, and make recommendations for resource protection and visitor experience while providing related compliance for the USS <i>Cairo</i> and museum artifacts. The current canopy structure does not provide climate-controlled protection and has deteriorated over time. Site hydrology and erosion issues have also impacted this site and the museum facilities built to house USS <i>Cairo</i> artifacts. Consideration also needs to be given to long-term operations and maintenance needs of this site.
FRV	Monument maintenance and preservation plan to establish preservation and cleaning methods and maintenance schedules for monuments and plaques	H	A monument maintenance and preservation plan would serve as a multiyear plan, which would develop a schedule and formalize the processes for preservation cleaning and maintenance of park monuments and plaques. A history of past preservation activities should be assembled to document what has been done to date and the time since the last preservation treatments were performed. This plan would also identify and recommend appropriate treatment standards and best practices. The need for cyclic maintenance funding should be identified and justification developed.
FRV	Mowing and grounds plan	H	A mowing and grounds plan would inventory and prioritize the mowed portions of park grounds. A large amount of time, money, and resources currently are dedicated to mowing park grounds and sustaining a maintained landscape. This plan would develop a mowing schedule that would prioritize “developed area” and “backfields,” address mowing steep slopes with their associated safety risks, reduce costs, and reduce impacts on the prairie nymph.
FRV	Cemetery management plan	H	Vicksburg National Cemetery needs a plan to provide guidance and management objectives for the site. Such a plan would address cemetery administration, general operations, special events permitting, cleaning and replacement of headstones, hazardous tree removal within the cemetery, and other site maintenance issues. The plan should include provisions for implementing treatments to be developed in conjunction with the cultural landscape report (currently in process) for the national cemetery.

Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Visitor use and potential use management plan	H	Based on data and insight gained from the visitor use and potential use study, develop a plan to provide guidance to manage visitor impacts to park resources, address visitor use conflict, and strategies to encourage visitation by groups currently underrepresented in current park visitation.
FRV	Update historic structures report for Pemberton's Headquarters	H	This historic structures report was originally conducted in 2005 and needs to be updated. The headquarters has structural issues and general deterioration that need to be addressed.
FRV	Stormwater management plan	M	Based on data gathered during the identified hydrology / stormwater study, a stormwater management plan would address the erosion issues that are prevalent throughout the park. This plan would identify a range of alternatives to effectively address stormwater and its role in erosion in the park. The plan would also address park infrastructure needs and identify mitigation strategies to address erosion and stormwater run-off.
FRV	Exhibit plan update for the USS <i>Cairo</i>	M	The exhibit plan for the USS <i>Cairo</i> and associated artifacts is in need of updating. The current museum facility is more than 35 years old and this plan would address dated security system concerns at the site. An updated exhibit plan would also reflect current understanding of the Civil War and the park's recently completed long-range interpretative plan.
FRV	Easement and buffer management plan	M	An easement and buffer management plan would develop a comprehensive approach to vegetation buffering along the park boundary that would protect the battlefield landscape and visitor experience. The goal of such a plan would be to limit visual intrusions from modern development along the park boundary. Current conditions range throughout the park and working collaboratively with park neighbors would be a vital part of this planning effort.
FRV	Historic furnishing report (Pemberton Headquarters)	M	This plan would include interpretive exhibits, media, and historic furnishings for Pemberton's Headquarters. The park would become fully compliant with its amended enabling legislation and long-range interpretive plan, and could open the site on a full-time basis as an interpretive and visitor service venue. A statement for a historic furnishings plan has been entered into the Project Management Information System (PMIS 124013).
FRV	Historic structure report for the state memorials and other major monuments	L	The historic structures report for major monuments such as the Illinois Monument would provide management guidance based on monument construction, history, past treatments, current condition, and recommended future treatments. Similar assessments for all state monuments could be covered in similar planning efforts.
FRV	Exhibits plan for Shirley House	L	An exhibit plan for the Shirley House would provide guidance on new exhibits based on the current long-range interpretive plan for the park. This exhibit plan would also include a detailed historic furnishing report. This plan is already entered into the Project Management Information System and may need the support of the Harpers Ferry Center.

Planning Needs – Where A Decision-making Process Is Needed			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	Planning Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Cultural landscape report for discontinuous park properties (Louisiana Circle, South Fort, Navy Circle, Grant’s Canal)	L	A cultural landscape report would provide significant guidance for the management and stewardship of these historic sites. Along with site documentation, this report would also develop a treatment plan for long-term preservation of these resources. Due to the strategic importance and commanding views of their locations, the Louisiana Circle, South Fort, and Navy Circle sites would also require a viewshed analysis as part of the cultural landscape report.
FRV	Historic structures report for Vicksburg National Cemetery	L	A historic structures report for buildings and the stables within Vicksburg National Cemetery would provide management guidance based on building construction, history, past treatments, current condition, and recommended future treatments.
FRV	Cultural landscape report (Shirley House)	L	A statement for a cultural landscape report has been entered into the Project Management Information System and is formulated for 2016.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Visitor use and potential use study	H	A visitor use and potential use study would provide insights into the level and nature of visitor use in the park, identify possible areas of visitor use conflict in need of management attention, and also identify groups currently under represented in current park visitation. These baseline data would inform park management decisions to better protect and preserve the battlefield while meeting diverse visitor needs and demands.
FRV	Hydrology/stormwater study (parkwide)	H	This study would collect data on stormwater flow, water levels under bridges during storm events, and how stormwater impacted erosion throughout the park. By understanding how water moves within the park, water carrying capacity of current infrastructure and future changes in precipitation patterns, park management can effectively target improvements along bridges, roads, and parking areas to address these challenges.
FRV	Air quality monitoring	H	Monitoring the levels of air quality and airborne particles within the park would inform the stewardship, maintenance, and cleaning of monuments within the park. By understanding and documenting the level and potential impacts of air quality on park resources, mitigation measures can be identified to address this challenge.
FRV	Deer population monitoring	H	Monitoring the deer population in and around the park would create baseline data that could inform the development of future deer management strategies if it becomes necessary.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
FRV	Assessment of museum collections storage alternatives for the USS <i>Cairo</i>	H	The current museum facility used to store the collection of artifacts associated the USS <i>Cairo</i> is more than 35 years old and faces numerous issues. This assessment would explore alternatives that could include a retrofit of the existing storage area, moving the collections to a different storage site at the park, or possibly moving them to a regional curatorial facility.
FRV	Boundary survey	H	Currently, the park boundary is not clearly marked with NPS signage, resulting in confusion over jurisdiction, and this could result in disputes with adjacent landowners. Clear demarcation with signage would provide better protection of park resources and visible boundaries for landowners and visitors.
FRV	Updated survey of tablets, monuments, cannon, and other important features of the commemorative landscape (compatible with GIS)	H	Because of the scope and scale of the campaigns, siege, and battle of Vicksburg, many monuments and tablets are outside the park's legislated boundary and jurisdiction. Still, this survey should include monuments and tablets within the park boundary as well as those found throughout the community. Development of geospatial data for key features of the park commemorative landscape would enhance park stewardship of these resources and provide baseline data for monitoring and management decisions.
FRV	Groundwater/soil monitoring around the USS <i>Cairo</i> / cemetery / Mint Spring Bayou	M	Hydrology and groundwater baseline data are needed to document erosion issues caused by underground springs and drainage around the USS <i>Cairo</i> , Vicksburg National Cemetery, and the Mint Spring Bayou area. Restored buildings are settling, and water is seeping into USS <i>Cairo</i> museum facility, potentially impacting park resources.
FRV	Archeological overview and assessment	M	This survey would identify the significant archeological resources and sites existing within the park so they can be protected and researched. This survey would provide important baseline data that would inform future compliance projects within the park.
FRV	Research on vegetation types for erosion prevention efforts	M	Soil erosion is a critical issue throughout the park, threatening historically significant structures, monuments, and the battlefield landscape. The identification of appropriate vegetation types is an important step toward erosion prevention, which would protect key park resources and inform future efforts in battlefield restoration.
FRV	Hazardous tree inventory (parkwide)	M	Identification and inventorying of hazardous trees would enable park staff to prioritize and plan for the removal of those trees with the highest likelihood of impairing park resources and posing a safety risk to visitors and staff.
FRV	Ethnographic Overview and Assessment	M	An ethnographic overview and assessment would identify and describe park neighbors, local residents, ethnic groups, and others with historic and cultural ties to the park and cemetery. The collection of oral histories would be an important part of this overview and assessment process. This study would help with community outreach and would provide a better understanding of uses at the park by visitors and locals. This information would be a valuable tool in building stronger community connections and better understanding of the role that Vicksburg National Military Park has played in the local community.

Data Needs – Where Information Is Needed Before Decisions Can Be Made			
Related to an FRV or OIRV?	Data and GIS Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
OIRV	Water quality monitoring	M	The park has been monitoring water quality on a quarterly basis at Mint Spring Bayou, Glass Bayou, and Durden Creek since 2008 in cooperation with the Gulf Coast Network I&M hydrologist. Longitudinal monitoring of water quality will continue to be an important need.
FRV	Cultural landscape inventory of Grant’s Canal	L	Although the park owns a portion of Grant’s Canal, the historic canal extends beyond current NPS property. A cultural landscape inventory would provide important baseline data of elevations, mapping, and documentation of this resource. This information would be a valuable tool in the management and stewardship of this resource.
FRV	Baseline elevation data (parkwide)	L	Because of the significant challenges the park faces with erosion and the maintenance of historic earthworks and fortifications, baseline elevation data is an important data need in resource monitoring. The Gulf Coast Network I&M program has this data available.
FRV	National register nomination for the Vicksburg National Cemetery	L	Developing a formal National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Vicksburg National Cemetery is an important long-term objective for the park. A statement for the nomination has been entered into the Project Management Information system but not formulated. This nomination would be influenced by ongoing efforts to develop a cultural landscape report for the national cemetery.
FRV	Invasive species monitoring	L	Invasive plants such as kudzu and bamboo can cause significant damage to the park landscape and structures and can be challenging to remove. Invasive animal species such as feral hogs, feral cats, and fire ants can also cause significant damage to park resources. Documenting invasive species populations through baseline data and monitoring is an important step in influencing management decisions for the park and is an ongoing process.
FRV	Transportation study	L	A transportation study would analyze traffic volumes, level of parking, traffic flow, and impacts related to the park’s many turnoff areas. The data would inform management decisions related to traffic management, visitor access, and parking capacity. Based on the outcomes of this study, the need for a vehicular management plan may be identified.
FRV	Update administrative history Vicksburg National Cemetery	L	Updating the administrative history of Vicksburg National Cemetery would provide information on past planning decisions and management at the site that may influence future stewardship goals and objectives.
FRV	Administrative history for Vicksburg National Military Park	L	An administrative history of Vicksburg National Military Park would fully document park history, development, and park management. This would be a valuable reference tool for current park management.
OIRV	Fish study	L	A long-term fish study was conducted in the park from 1995 to 2003. An updated study is needed.
FRV	Historic leasing feasibility study	L	This study would identify opportunities and constraints with leasing space in the Pemberton’s Headquarters building and provide guidance for management decisions related to cost recovery through a leasing program.

Part 3: Contributors

Vicksburg National Military Park

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Appendixes

Appendix A: Enabling Legislation and Legislative Acts for Vicksburg National Military Park

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS. SESS. II. CH. 59, 60, 61. 1867. 399

and shall superintend the execution of all the printing and binding for the respective departments of the government now required by law to be executed at the government printing office, and shall, in all respects, be governed by the laws in force in relation to the superintendent of public printing and the execution of the printing and binding.

and how designated.
His duties.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, from and after the passage of this act and the election of a congressional printer in pursuance thereof, the office of superintendent of public printing shall be abolished, and the salary of the said officer shall be at the rate of four thousand dollars a year.

Office of superintendent of public printing abolished.
Salary.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect from and after its passage, and all laws inconsistent with its provisions are hereby repealed.

When act takes effect.
Repealing clause.

APPROVED, February 22, 1867.

CHAP LX. — *An Act to alter the Places of holding the Circuit Courts of the United States for the Rhode Island District.*

Feb. 22, 1867.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the first day of July one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, the circuit courts of the United States for the district of Rhode Island shall commence and be held at the United States court-room in the city of Providence, on the fifteenth day of November, and on the fifteenth day of June, annually, instead of the places heretofore established by law: *Provided*, That when either of the days last named shall fall on Sunday, the session of said court then next to be held shall commence on the Monday next following.

Circuit court for the district of Rhode Island, where and when to be held

Proviso.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all indictments, informations, suits, or actions, and proceedings of every kind, whether of a civil or criminal nature, pending in the said circuit court on the first day of July, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, shall thereafter have day in court, and be proceeded in, heard, tried, and determined, on the days and at the place herein appointed for holding the said court, in the same manner, and with the same effect as if the said court had been holden on the days and at the places heretofore directed by law.

Provision for pending process.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all writs, suits, actions, or recognizances, or other proceedings, which are or shall be instituted, served, commenced, or taken to the said court to have been holden as heretofore, directed by law, shall be returnable to, entered in, heard, tried, and have day in court, in said court, to be holden at the times and place by this act directed, in the same manner as might and ought to have been done had the said court been holden at the times and places heretofore directed by law.

Same subject.

APPROVED, February 22, 1867.

CHAP. LXI — *An Act to establish and to protect National Cemeteries*

Feb 22, 1867.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the arrangement of the national cemeteries established for the burial of deceased soldiers and sailors, the Secretary of War is hereby directed to have the same enclosed with a good and substantial stone or iron fence; and to cause each grave to be marked with a small headstone, or block, with the number of the grave inscribed thereon, corresponding with the number opposite to the name of the party, in a register of burials to be kept at each cemetery and at the office of the quartermaster-general, which shall set forth the name, rank, company, regiment, and date of death of the officer or soldier; or, if unknown, it shall be so recorded.

National cemeteries to be enclosed

Graves to be marked.

Register to be kept.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of War is here-

Porter's lodge to be erected at the principal entrance of each cemetery.

Superintendent, how selected, pay, &c.

An officer to be detailed to inspect annually all the cemeteries, and make reports

Reports to be submitted to Congress, with estimates

Penalty for wilfully defacing, removing, &c. any structure, or injuring, &c. any shrub, &c. in any national cemetery.

When to be prosecuted for.

Superintendent may arrest persons committing such acts, and take them before certain magistrates, &c.

The Secretary of War may purchase or take any real estate necessary for national cemeteries.

Proceedings where real estate is entered upon and appropriated.

Fee simple of such estate, upon payment, &c. of appraised

by directed to cause to be erected at the principal entrance of each of the national cemeteries aforesaid, a suitable building to be occupied as a porter's lodge; and it shall be his duty to appoint a meritorious and trustworthy superintendent who shall be selected from enlisted men of the army, disabled in service, and who shall have the pay and allowances of an ordnance sergeant, to reside therein, for the purpose of guarding and protecting the cemetery and giving information to parties visiting the same. The Secretary of War shall detail some officer of the army, not under the rank of major, to visit annually all of said cemeteries, and to inspect and report to him the condition of the same, and the amount of money necessary to protect them, to sod the graves, gravel and grade the walks and avenues, and to keep the grounds in complete order; and the said Secretary shall transmit the said report to Congress at the commencement of each session, together with an estimate of the appropriation necessary for that purpose.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That any person who shall wilfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove any monument, gravestone, or other structure, or shall wilfully destroy, cut, break, injure, or remove any tree, shrub, or plant within the limits of any of said national cemeteries, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof before any district or circuit court of the United States within any State or district where any of said national cemeteries are situated, shall be liable to a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars, or to imprisonment of not less than fifteen nor more than sixty days, according to the nature and aggravation of the offence. And the superintendent in charge of any national cemetery is hereby authorized to arrest forthwith any person engaged in committing any misdemeanor herein prohibited, and to bring such person before any United States commissioner or judge of any district or circuit court of the United States within any State or district where any of said cemeteries are situated, for the purpose of holding said person to answer for said misdemeanor, and then and there shall make complaint in due form.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to purchase from the owner or owners thereof, at such price as may be mutually agreed upon between the Secretary and such owner or owners, such real estate as in his judgment is suitable and necessary for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, and to obtain from said owner or owners title in fee simple for the same. And in case the Secretary of War shall not be able to agree with said owner or owners upon the price to be paid for any real estate needed for the purpose of this act, or to obtain from said owner or owners title in fee simple for the same, the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to enter upon and appropriate any real estate, which, in his judgment, is suitable and necessary for the purposes of this act.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the Secretary of War or the owner or owners of any real estate thus entered upon and appropriated are hereby authorized to make application for an appraisement of said real estate thus entered upon and appropriated to any district or circuit court within any State or district where such real estate is situated; and any of said courts is hereby authorized and required upon such application, and in such mode and under such rules and regulations as it may adopt, to make a just and equitable appraisement of the cash value of the several interests of each and every owner of the real estate and improvements thereon entered upon and appropriated for the purposes of this act, and in accordance with its provisions.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the fee simple of all real estate thus entered upon and appropriated for the purposes of this act, and of which appraisement shall have been made under the order and direction of any of said courts, shall, upon payment to the owner or owners, respec-

tively, of the appraised value; or in case said owner or owners refuse or neglect for thirty days after the appraisement of the cash value of the said real estate or improvements by any of said courts to demand the same from the Secretary of War, upon depositing the said appraised value in the said court, making such appraisement to the credit of said owner or owners, respectively, be vested in the United States, and its jurisdiction over said real estate shall be exclusive and the same as its jurisdiction over real estate purchased, ceded, or appropriated for the purposes of navy yards, forts, and arsenals. And the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and required to pay to the several owner or owners, respectively, the appraised value of the several pieces or parcels of real estate, as specified in the appraisement of any of said courts, or to pay into any of said courts by deposit, as hereinbefore provided, the said appraised value; and the sum necessary for such purpose may be taken from any moneys appropriated for the purposes of this act.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to carry out the purposes of this act out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, February 22, 1867.

to be vested in the United States.
Jurisdiction exclusive, &c.
Owner to be paid the appraised value.
Appropriation.

CHAP. LXII. — *An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the National Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home," approved July twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.* Feb. 22, 1867. 1866, ch. 249. Ante, p. 247.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the board of trustees of the National Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home shall hereafter consist of seven persons, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business; and D. K. Carter, Henry D. Cooke, Amos B. Eaton, J. W. Alvord, Horatio Bridge, Byron Sunderland, and Franklin A. Dick are hereby declared to be the trustees of said corporation, and they and their successors shall have the entire control and management of all property, moneys, and other securities now held or used for the benefit of said corporation, or which shall hereafter belong to it; and the said board of trustees shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That immediately upon their organization the trustees shall elect a board of lady managers, consisting of thirteen persons, who shall have power to superintend and manage the internal affairs of the asylum, and to fill vacancies in their own board, to make their own by-laws, rules, and regulations, to hold their offices till the second Wednesday in January, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight; their successors to be elected annually by the board of managers in the manner which their by-laws shall prescribe.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the surviving parent or legal guardian of any child placed under charge of said corporation may withdraw such child therefrom, and any minor over sixteen years of age, upon his or her request in writing, shall be discharged therefrom, at the discretion of the managers.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the act to which this is amendatory as is inconsistent with this act be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

APPROVED, February 22, 1867.

Board of trustees of National Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home.
Number. Quorum. Names. Powers.
Vacancies.
Board of lady managers. Election. Powers, by-laws, &c. Vacancies. Term of office.
Parents, &c. may withdraw children. Minors over sixteen to be discharged on their written request. Repealing clause.

CHAP. LXIII. — *An Act to regulate Proceedings before Justices of the Peace in the District of Columbia, and for other Purposes.* Feb. 22, 1867.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That justices of the peace in the District of Columbia shall have jurisdiction in all cases where the

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Civil jurisdiction of justices

CHAP. 176.—An Act To establish a national military park to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg. February 21, 1899.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to commemorate the campaign and 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 were carried on, the battlefield of Vicksburg, in the State of Mississippi, is hereby declared to be a national military park whenever the title to the same shall have been acquired by the United States and the usual jurisdiction over the lands and roads of the same shall have been granted to the United States by the State of Mississippi; that is to say, the area inclosed by the following lines, or so much thereof as the commissioners of the park may deem necessary, to wit: Beginning near the point where the graveyard road, now known as the City Cemetery road, crosses the line of the Confederate earthworks, thence north about eighty rods, thence in an easterly direction about one hundred and twenty rods, thence in a southerly direction, and keeping as far from the line of the Confederate earthworks as the purposes of the park may require and as the park commission, to be hereinafter named, may determine, but not distant from the nearest point on said line of Confederate earthworks more than one hundred and sixty rods at any part, to a point about forty rods south and from eighty to one hundred and sixty rods east of Fort Garrott, also known as the "Square Fort;" thence in a westerly direction to a point in the rear of said Fort Garrott, thence in a northerly direction across the line of the Confederate earthworks and to a point about two hundred feet in the rear of the said line of Confederate earthworks, thence in a general northerly direction, and at an approximate distance of about two hundred feet in the rear of the line of Confederate earthworks as the conformation of the ground may require, to the place of beginning. This to constitute the main body of the park. In addition thereto a strip of land about two hundred and sixty-four feet in width along and including the remaining parts of the Confederate earthworks, namely, from the north part of said main body of the park to and including Fort Hill or Fort Nogales on the high hill overlooking the national cemetery, and from the south part of said main body of the park to the edge of the bluff at the river below the city of Vicksburg; and also in addition thereto a strip of land about two hundred and sixty-four feet in width, as near as may be, along and including the Federal lines opposed to the Confederate lines herein and above named and not included in the main body of the park; and in further addition thereto such points of interest as the commission may deem necessary for the purposes of the park and the Secretary of War may approve; the whole containing about one thousand two hundred acres, and costing not to exceed forty thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. That the establishment of the Vicksburg national military park shall be carried forward under the control and direction of the Secretary of War; and the Secretary of War shall, upon the passage of this Act, proceed to acquire title to the same by voluntary conveyance or under the Act approved August first, eighteen hundred and eighty-eight, entitled "An Act to authorize the condemnation of land for sites of public buildings, and for other purposes," or under Act approved February twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, entitled "An Act to establish and protect national cemeteries," as he may elect or deem practicable; and when title is procured to all of the lands and roads within the boundaries of the proposed park, as described in section one of this Act, he may proceed with the establishment of the park; and he shall detail an officer of the Engineer Corps of the Army to assist the commissioners in establishing the park.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to enter into agreements of leasing upon such terms as he may prescribe, with such occupants or tenants of the lands as may desire to remain upon it, to

National Military
Park, Vicksburg,
Miss., established.

Location.

Limit of cost.

Secretary of War to
establish park.

—to acquire title, etc.

Vol. 25, p. 357.
Vol. 14, p. 399.

—to make leases to
occupants of land.

—conditions. occupy and cultivate their present holdings upon condition that they will preserve the present buildings and roads and the present outlines of field and forest, and that they will only cut trees or underbrush under such regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe, and that they will assist in caring for and protecting all tablets, monuments, or such other artificial works as may from time to time be erected by proper authority: *Provided*, That the United States shall at all times have and retain full right, power, and authority to take possession of any and all parts or portions of said premises and to remove and expel therefrom any such occupant, tenant, or other person or persons found thereon whenever the Secretary of War or the commissioners shall deem it proper or necessary; and such right, power, and authority shall be reserved in express terms in all leases and agreements giving or granting such occupant or tenant the right to remain in possession as herein contemplated; and thereupon said occupant or tenant or other persons who may be required to vacate said premises shall each and all at once surrender and deliver up the possession thereof.

Proviso.
—retaking possession, etc. Commissioners. SEC. 4. That the affairs of the Vicksburg national military park shall, subject to the supervision and direction of the Secretary of War, be in charge of three commissioners, to be appointed by the Secretary of War, each of whom shall have served at the time of the siege and defense in one of the armies engaged therein, two of whom shall have served in the army commanded by General Grant and one in the army commanded by General Pemberton. The commissioners shall elect one of their number chairman; they shall also elect, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, a secretary, who shall also be historian, and who shall possess the requisite qualifications of a commissioner, and they and the secretary shall have an office in the city of Vicksburg, Mississippi, or on the grounds of the park, and be paid such compensation as the Secretary of War shall deem reasonable and just.

Secretary. SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of the commissioners named in the preceding section, under the direction of the Secretary of War, to restore the forts and the lines of fortification, the parallels and the approaches of the two armies, or so much thereof as may be necessary to the purposes of this park; to open and construct and to repair such roads as may be necessary to said purposes, and to ascertain and mark with historical tablets, or otherwise, as the Secretary of War may determine, the lines of battle of the troops engaged in the assaults, and the lines held by the troops during the siege and defense of Vicksburg, the headquarters of General Grant and of General Pemberton, and other historical points of interest pertaining to the siege and defense of Vicksburg within the park or its vicinity; and the said commissioners in establishing this military park shall also have authority under the direction of the Secretary of War to do all things necessary to the purposes of the park, and for its establishment under such regulations as he may consider best for the interest of the Government, and the Secretary of War shall make and enforce all needful regulations for the care of the park.

Duties of Commissioners. Regulations. SEC. 6. That it shall be lawful for any State that had troops engaged in the siege and defense of Vicksburg to enter upon the lands of the Vicksburg national military park for the purpose of ascertaining and marking the lines of battle of its troops engaged therein: *Provided*, That before any such lines are permanently designated the position of the lines and the proposed methods of marking them by monuments, tablets, or otherwise shall be submitted to and approved by the Secretary of War, and all such lines, designs, and inscriptions for the same shall first receive the written approval of the Secretary of War, which approval shall be based upon formal written reports which must be made to him in each case by the commissioners of the park; and no monument, tablet, or other designating indication shall be erected or placed within said park or vicinity without such written authority of the Secretary of War: *Provided*, That no discrimination shall be made against any State as to the manner of designating lines, but any

Marking lines of battle. State troops. *Provisos.*
—approval. —no discrimination against States.

grant made to any State by the Secretary of War may be used by any other State. The provisions of this section shall also apply to organizations and persons; and as the Vicksburg National Cemetery is on ground partly occupied by Federal lines during the siege of Vicksburg, the provisions of this section, as far as may be practicable, shall apply to monuments or tablets designating such lines within the limits of that cemetery.

Provisions applicable to persons and organizations.
Vicksburg National Cemetery.

SEC. 7. That if any person shall, except by permission of the Secretary of War, destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove any monument, column, statue, memorial structure, tablet, or work of art that shall be erected or placed upon the grounds of the park by lawful authority, or shall destroy or remove any fence, railing, inclosure, or other work intended for the protection or ornamentation of said park, or any portion thereof, or shall destroy, cut, hack, bark, break down, or otherwise injure any tree, bush, or shrub that may be growing upon said park, or shall cut down or fell or remove any timber, battle relic, tree, or trees growing or being upon said park, or hunt within the limits of the park, or shall remove or destroy any breastworks, earthworks, walls, or other defenses or shelter on any part thereof constructed by the armies formerly engaged in the battles, on the lands or approaches to the park, any person so offending and found guilty thereof, before any United States commissioner or court, justice of the peace of the county in which the offense may be committed, or any court of competent jurisdiction, shall for each and every such offense forfeit and pay a fine in the discretion of the said commissioner or court of the United States or justice of the peace, according to the aggravation of the offense, of not less than five nor more than five hundred dollars, one-half for the use of the park and the other half to the informant, to be enforced and recovered before such United States commissioner or court or justice of the peace or other court in like manner as debts of like nature are now by law recoverable in the several counties where the offense may be committed.

Penalty for injuring property.

SEC. 8. That to enable the Secretary of War to begin to carry out the purpose of this Act, including the condemnation or purchase of the necessary land, marking the boundaries of the park, opening or repairing necessary roads, restoring the field to its condition at the time of the battle, maps and surveys, material, labor, clerical, and all other necessary assistants, and the pay and expenses of the commissioners and their secretary and assistants, the sum of sixty-five thousand dollars, or such portion thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and disbursements under this Act shall require the approval of the Secretary of War, and he shall make annual report of the same to Congress.

Appropriation for expenses of establishing.

—approval, etc.

Approved, February 21, 1899.

CHAP. 177.—An Act To amend section thirty-two hundred and eighty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States concerning the drawing off, gauging, marking, and removal of spirits. February 21, 1899.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section thirty-two hundred and eighty-seven of the Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended by section six of the Act approved May twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty, entitled "An Act to amend the laws in relation to internal revenue," be amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"Provided, however, That upon the application of the distiller, and under such regulations as the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, may prescribe, distilled spirits may be drawn into wooden packages, each containing two or more metallic cans, which cans shall have each a capacity of not less than five gallons, wine measure, such packages to be filled and used only

Distilled spirits.
May be drawn into wooden packages containing metallic cans for export.
R. S., sec. 3287, p. 636, amended.
Vol. 21, p. 147.

Public Law 101-442
101st Congress

An Act

To authorize the acquisition of certain lands in the States of Louisiana and Mississippi for inclusion in the Vicksburg National Military Park, to improve the management of certain public lands in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes.

Oct. 18, 1990
[S. 2437]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**TITLE I—VICKSBURG NATIONAL
MILITARY PARK**

SEC. 101. ADDITION OF LANDS TO VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK. 16 USC 430h-6.

(a) **GRANT'S CANAL, LOUISIANA.**—The Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter in this title referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to acquire by donation, exchange, or purchase with donated or appropriated funds, approximately two and five-tenths acres of land in Madison Parish, Louisiana, known generally as the Grant's Canal property.

(b) **WARREN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.**—(1) The Secretary is authorized to acquire by donation approximately two and eighty-two one-hundredths acres of land adjacent to the entrance of Vicksburg National Military Park owned by Warren County, Mississippi.

(2) The Secretary may contribute, in cash or services, to the relocation and construction of a maintenance facility to replace the facility located on the land to be donated, all in accordance with an agreement between the Secretary and the Board of Supervisors.

(3) The Secretary is authorized to restore and landscape the property acquired pursuant to this subsection.

(c) **BOUNDARY REVISION.**—Upon acquisition of the properties referred to in subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary shall, after the publication of notice in the Federal Register, revise the boundary of Vicksburg National Military Park (hereinafter in this title referred to as the "park") to reflect the inclusion of such properties within the park.

Federal Register, publication.

SEC. 102. EXCLUSION OF LANDS FROM PARK. 16 USC 430h-7.

(a) **EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN LANDS.**—The park boundary is hereby revised to exclude those lands depicted as "Proposed Deletions" on the map entitled "Vicksburg National Military Park" numbered 306-80,007 and dated May 1990, which map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Exclusive jurisdiction over the lands excluded from the park is hereby retroceded to the State of Mississippi.

(b) **TRANSFER TO ADJACENT OWNERS.**—(1) For a period ending four years after the date of enactment of this title and subject to the provisions of paragraph (2), the Secretary is authorized to convey title to all or part of the lands referred to in subsection (a) to an owner of property adjacent to such lands, upon the application of such owner.

(2) No property shall be conveyed unless the application referred to in paragraph (1) is accompanied by a payment in an amount equal to—

- (A) the fair market value of the land to be conveyed; and
- (B) the administrative costs of such transfer incurred by the Secretary, including the costs of surveys, appraisals, and filing and recording fees.

(c) **EXCESS PROPERTY.**—Any lands not conveyed pursuant to subsection (b) shall be reported to the Administrator of General Services as excess to the needs of the Department of the Interior and shall be subject to transfer or disposition in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended.

SEC. 103. PARK INTERPRETATION.

In administering Vicksburg National Military Park, the Secretary shall interpret the campaign and siege of Vicksburg from April 1862 to July 4, 1863, and the history of Vicksburg under Union occupation during the Civil War and Reconstruction.

SEC. 104. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title.

Appendix B: Public Commenting Report

Summary

This report provides a record of the public comments received during the Foundation Document process for Vicksburg National Military Park. The objective of this Foundation Document is to affirm the purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, interpretive themes, and identify future planning and data needs of Vicksburg National Military Park. Although the Foundation Document is not a decision-making document and does not require a formal process for public involvement, Vicksburg National Military Park invited the public to provide feedback on key questions about the park's importance, challenges, and opportunities.

Public input was received through the National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website from December 20, 2013, through February 7, 2014. The public was asked to share their ideas on what is most important about the Vicksburg National Military Park through six topic questions posted on PEPC. A total of eight correspondences were received through the PEPC website and via e-mail. The public was informed about the foundation document process, encouraged to provide comments on PEPC, and invited to a public open house through local and regional news media outlets via two press releases submitted by the National Park Service. Vicksburg National Military Park also informed the public about the foundation document process and promoted the commenting period through their social media outlets.

Six topic questions were presented to the public and are listed below, followed by a table containing the responses received. During the public commenting period, five of the eight correspondences responded directly to the topic questions resulting in 30 overall comments. Three of the correspondences received during the commenting period were more general statements about the park. Of these three correspondences, two were delivered via e-mail. Copies of these general statements are documented in appendix A of this report.

Comments were also received during a 2-hour public open house held on Monday, January 27, 2014. Roughly 20 individuals for the public attended the open house which took place at the Vicksburg National Military Park visitor center. Attendees were invited to share their responses to the six topic questions at four flip chart stations during the open house. Station 1 included topic questions 1 and 2, Station 2 included topic question 3, Station 3 included topic questions 4 and 5, and Station 4 included topic question 6. Comments received during the open house are documented in this report.

Topic Question 1: What is most important about Vicksburg National Military Park?

PEPC Comments – Five responses to Topic Question 1 were received in PEPC.

PEPC Direct Response to Topic Question 1
The Civil War Navy history and artifacts, since they are brought before the public almost nowhere else in the NPS system. People can not only get their question "What Navy?" answered, but get an idea of the conditions faced and sacrifices made by sailors whom history has mostly ignored.
Preserving and interpreting the land that were the sites of one of the critical military campaigns of the Civil War.
Telling the story of this battle, the importance of the battle to the war, the personal stories told from the soldiers' and citizens' view point, but most importantly are the monuments/statues/tributes/artwork/preserved artifacts.
Preserving this hallowed ground for generations to come. As a descendant of three Civil War soldiers who fought at Vicksburg (two Confederate and one Union), this park is very special to me. I come to visit as often as I am able and find that there is so much for me to learn and appreciate. I want those living after me to be able to share this privilege.
The ability to interpret the campaign and siege, and the capability to educate the citizens of Vicksburg and visitors about the battle for Vicksburg and the War Between the States.

Public Open House Comments – Public comments received at flip chart station 1 (includes topic questions 1 and 2)

Flip Chart Station 1 Responses
Terrain and Vegetation are part of the historic fabric of the Park.
New and Improved Visitor Center – improved visitor education.
Chickasaw Bayou / Snyder’s Bluff – Needs more interpretation and Observations.
Memorial Cemetery at Champion Hill – Need one!
Recreational Opportunities in the Park – Improved Trails.
Better Lighting at Key Spots in the Park.
<i>Cairo</i> Museum and Boat.
Park Monuments.
Recover all of original Park assets, esp. those owned by the city, or at least make it more accessible.
Greater understanding of tactics and military strategy especially in some remote spots.
Monuments need to tell more of a story – interpreted to individual states.
Needs better way-finding description of the layout of the park – why its setup the way it is.
Need improved connections and understanding with Vicksburg – leverage recreation Family events – scheduling conflicts.
Funding – National Park Service is “taking a hit.”
GS ratings for the National Park Service are too low; hard to retain the great people that work at the park if pay is too low.
Staff very qualified but spread thin.
Vandalism and looting (but this is more under control now than in the past).
Erosion (multiple people commented) – disturbance from animals, water; loess soils.
Clearing of trees is resulting in erosion – new grass is not establishing well.
Terrain is an outstanding resource, need to preserve the terrain that supported the siege (so don’t cut trees).
Erosion was helped by CCC planting trees.
CCC trees are part of the “historic fabric.”
Cutting trees (cultural landscape) – don’t want so many cut.
Don’t need to be too concerned about cutting trees, they will grow back.
Need to keep interpretation modern in order to keep interest high in next generation, younger visitors.
Need new, engaging, interactive way to engage the next generations.
Changes in U.S. demographics, need to change interpretation to engage different cultures/ demographics.
Tell the story of the results of the war, not just troop movements, to tie into the experience and understanding of those other demographic groups (“why does the Civil War matter to <u>[group]</u> today?”).
Not everyone wants to learn just about the battle.
Visual intrusions along park boundaries.
Wild hogs.
Kudzu.

Topic Question 2: What are the greatest threats to Vicksburg National Military Park?

PEPC Comments – 5 responses to Topic Question 2 were received in PEPC.

PEPC Direct Response to Topic Question 2
Invasive exotics, which degrade the natural history and authentic experience of the area.
Suburban sprawl and other development intruding upon or destroying sites not yet fully protected. Southern part of Vicksburg battlefield that was conveyed to City of Vicksburg needs to be reacquired to protect it.
Urban sprawl, reduced funding to maintain, reduced public appreciation of the historical value, less recognition of the history.
Encroaching urban development eating away at historic properties. Insufficient funds to restore monuments and care for the grounds appropriately. Allowing the property to become overgrown and the landscape to change character. One of the best things done in the park in quite a long time has been the removal of bio-mass from the areas in front of the Illinois monument and other areas. The curvature of the landscape can be seen and appreciated with much more understanding thanks to this activity.
Urban encroachment. It is difficult to interpret what happened 150 years ago when it's no longer in some type of recognizable form. Most National Military Parks in the east have tried to take the landscape back to 1861–1865 conditions. Antietam, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Manassas and others are striving to make these changes. Vicksburg has recently started to do this by clearing timber throughout some sections of the park but we still have a long way to go.

Public Open House Comments – Public comments received at flip chart station 1 (see table under Topic Question 1)



Topic Question 3: What should citizens and visitors know about Vicksburg National Military Park?

PEPC Comments – Five responses to Topic Question 3 were received in PEPC.

PEPC Direct Response to Topic Question 3
Its great importance to the strategy of both sides, and the importance of the Navies of both sides in the struggle.
Its role in a larger campaign to win the Civil War, role of geography and the natural resources of area.
The stories told within the park. Not just the battle but the commemoration of people, events, sacrifices, struggles, and victories (beyond the final battle outcome).
More publicity about ongoing programs of education. Information should be provided several weeks in advance so plans can be made. Visitors should know that they can obtain the services of a trained and qualified guide to help with interpretation. If research opportunities are available to the public with a special interest, they should know what resources are available and how to access this.
They should know the history behind what happened in Vicksburg. The park has, and should have many uses, but the primary story should be the sacrifices of the men in blue and gray that served and endured much hardship for their country.

Public Open House Comments – Public comments received at flip chart station 2

Flip Chart Station 2 Responses
Shirley House and Pemberton’s Headquarters – Make it Open to the Public.
Interpretive themes related to U.S.C.T. and other Reconstruction Themes.
Better explanation of Story related to Army of Observation.
Interpretation of Big Black Bridge.
Need better interp. Of Confederate Army Post-Vicksburg.
Need better context of entire campaign – Tell story of all outlying contributing battles.

Topic Question 4: What do you believe are challenges and/or opportunities related to the protection of historic resources at Vicksburg National Military Park?

PEPC Comments – Five responses to Topic Question 4 were received in PEPC.

PEPC Direct Response to Topic Question 4
Protection of the <i>Cairo</i> is of utmost importance, since there is nothing like it anywhere else, and it is an direct physical connection to the conflict that people can actually surround themselves with.
Preserving context of battlefields in the face of sprawl and other indiscriminate development.
Threats/challenges: Funding/financial resources, people viewing this as a city park not national military park, reduced respect for Civil War memories (trying to be too PC), lack of history interest.
Strengths/Opportunities: Long-standing historical well preserved site, close to interstate, attractions within Vicksburg and surrounding communities (i.e., other civil war battlefields and historical sites), committed National Park service employees, visitor center, ground keepers, having changing programs and events to attract repeat and new visitors, increasing community volunteers to maintain / promote the park
Continuous study and research should be conducted to find new information and interpretation of aspects of the siege, battles, and personalities. Further development of Friends of the Vicksburg Park activities including publishing of monographs, etc.
I would think the most challenging problem would be the finances to accomplish the wants and needs of the park. An opportunity would be the interest that has been raised due to the sesquicentennial. This opportunity can bring in support, new visitors and revenue. I also think social media offers big opportunities for promoting the park.

Public Open House Comments – Public comments received at flip chart station 3 (includes topic questions 4 and 5)

Flip Chart Station 3 Responses
Pemberton Headquarters Acquisition.
Grant Canal – Interpretation.
Presentation on park history.
CCC Camps.
Local history – reading cannon.
Stop hiding behind the park’s legislation purpose – many more resources – Indian history, CCC work, distinct architecture, use of park by the national guard, 1927 Flood, Nature Resources, recreation.
Anshe Chesed Cemetery – Opportunity.
Monuments – need more information for visitors.
Strengthen local audiences and community connections – increase local interest in the park.
Eastern National is a valuable resource for the park and community.
Visual appearance – 1863 V 2013 – viewshed clearing.
Park Direction is good.
The terrain, explore 3-D mapping, improve understanding of the changes over time.

Topic Question 5: What do you believe are challenges and/or opportunities related to the protection of natural resources at Vicksburg National Military Park?

PEPC Comments – Five responses to Topic Question 5 were received in PEPC.

PEPC Direct Response to Topic Question 5
As with many NPS sites, overuse and incorrect usage can damage the resource. But invasives pose at least as great a threat to visitor experience. Would a veteran of the conflict recognize what is growing there now?
Preserving context of battlefields in the face of sprawl and other indiscriminate development.
Weather, erosion, ignorant / disrespectful people, people wanting to be too politically correct and minimize the battle and park.
Funding is always an issue. Encroachment of souvenir hunters damaging nature areas. The park is a sanctuary for wildlife and these should be protected.
What natural resources are we asking about? I think the primary focus should be on interpretation, protection and education, first and foremost. I'm sure there was concern by some when sections of the park was logged. Although timber may be considered a natural resource, it's protection should not take priority over bringing back the landscape to the spring and summer of 1863. If we take this stand we are doing the exact opposite of most of the other thriving National Parks.

Public Open House Comments – Public comments received at flip chart station 3 (see table under Topic Question 4)

Topic Question 6: What do you believe are the challenges and/or opportunities related to recreational use of Vicksburg National Military Park?

PEPC Comments – Five responses to Topic Question 6 were received in PEPC.

PEPC Direct Response to Topic Question 6
Jogging/cycling on the park road may inconvenience drivers, but is a good use of already-visitor-hardened resources while allowing visitor to experience the park at their own speed. Local support of the park is necessary to keep it viable and preserved.
Avoiding turning park into sports sites, in favor of passive uses. Walking, biking, kite-flying, bird-watching, canoeing and kayaking are compatible, soccer, football, motor boating, hunting, and rugby less so.
That is a fine-line question. People should enjoy the natural beauty of the park but also recognize the primary purpose being a historical site. Thus if trees need to be cut down to show the real battle field, then no complaints. Plus have logging companies come in and pay for the trees instead of the park paying people to remove the trees. I personally enjoy the park for both pleasure (jogging, picnic, and reading) and education. I enjoy learning more about the battle by reading more battlefield plaques and other materials. I will read articles about the park/battle, then visit the park and go to the sites mentioned in the article. I travel to Vicksburg to learn more about this park and do not want the park's primary focus to be on community recreation.
It is extremely exciting to see the Park used by hikers, runners, bicyclers, and youth groups. The quiet atmosphere is being preserved at the same time that individuals have opportunities to use the grounds for relaxation. This allows increased interest by individuals from Vicksburg and other locations. Continue with races through Park properties, instructive walks, concerts, and other activities to attract more people.
Recreational use can be of benefit to the park, but shouldn't take priority over why the park was established.

Public Open House Comments – Public comments received at flip chart station 4

Flip Chart Station 4 Responses
Walking, jogging and other exercise.
Citizens could feel ownership keep local folks involved.
History walks and events that engage local citizens.
Defend Vicksburg – bring in families let them know this is their park.
Symphony orchestras (candlelight ceremonies).
Hiking trails inaccessible a trails, not cleared, not access.
Kite flying.
Gardens.
Tower (challenge).
Special events at the Shirley House.
Boy Scout Troop Events.
Picnic and Walk, more picnic areas for families (BBQ).
Bike Rentals.
Shadows of the past.
Candle Light Walk in the Park.
Volunteers taking care of cemetery specifically Buella cemetery.
Heritage Garden teaches folks how to use resources.
Cannons lure people out of cars, weapons demonstrations very popular.

Appendix A: General Statements Received during the Commenting Period

PEPC Commenting – General Statements Received
<p>Vicksburg NMP staffing: Some staff are utilizing paid work hours for personal use such as personal social media, personal internet, etc. This behavior seems contradictory to the 2008 State of the Park document that emphasizes the need for additional staff in the park.</p>
<p>Could not get through to your website planning source!</p>
<p>My person plan to be in attendance on January 27, 2014 for your planning process event.</p>
<p>Right now, my amended comments are as follows for the Parks Foundation directions and programming.</p>
<p>Incorporate the enslaved African descendants history, heritage, culture, arts, music, foods, civil war and civil rights history relevant to Vicksburg region and not just in Vicksburg and at the park sites now owned by the park.</p>
<p>Do outreach programs and projects throughout the Vicksburg region and localities where union military units from Vicksburg fought and occupied territories before and after the surrender of Vicksburg.</p>
<p>Work with community groups in the region other than at Vicksburg to help them show and tell the history in those communities connected directly to Vicksburg.</p>
<p>Conduct more African descent events on the park's ground relevant to their presence under the union military authority before and after the surrender such as the activities of the 3rd U.S. Colored Cavalry.</p>
<p>What was the Vicksburg Civil War Campaign's impact on enslaved persons freedom?</p>
<p>Plan and hold living history events that bring alive Vicksburg Region's stories reflecting chattel slavery to Civil War Freedom: Example is the Annual Black and Blue Civil War Living History Events of the Natchez's region.</p>
<p>(Especially stories of Montgomery sons as Union military men, events of CW freedom at Davis Bend, Yazoo Valley happenings)</p>
<p>Bring alive stories of the "slave trade" that made the European and African presence in VBMP region on both sides of the Ribber and the early resistance to slavery by enslaved people in the region.</p>
<p>Interpret USCT buried in the national cemetery</p>
<p>Bring alive stories of the destruction of reconstruction while Union military still occupied Vicksburg</p>
<p>Will want to discuss this more at your meeting on 1-27-14</p>

Submitted as documentation of African Americans 'historical involvement in future planning of The Vicksburg National Military Park Service future planning input, January 27,2014, Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Sesquicentennial Celebration budget for the Vicksburg National Military Park events were the largest allotted for all the national parks. However, only a minimal amount was budgeted for African American involvements. The presentations included two portrayals of African Americans (Frederick Douglas and a teacher from the North). Later, the Mississippi Mass Choir, the Colored Soldiers presentation, the film, Glory, and the Colored Soldiers sculpture. This is how our tax dollars were spent on us. Now, they are saying we are not participating. Who would participate when they are not historically portrayed?

In the year of 1837, before the outbreak of the Civil War, Benjamin Montgomery was sold as a slave to Joseph Emory Davis. Davis' brother, Jefferson Davis, later became the President of the Confederate States of America. Prior to the war, Montgomery managed a general store on the Davis Bend plantation in Mississippi, where slaves could trade for dry goods and where whites could purchase the items traded in by the slaves. It was unusual for a slave to serve in this position.

Vicksburg was the home of the Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Joseph Davis' brother, and the Benjamin Montgomery family (slaves). Davis Bend, Mississippi was an all-black town near Vicksburg, sometimes referred to as Davis Bend colony. In 1865, this community was one of the first black towns to develop after the Civil War. Davis Bend, Mississippi was the forerunner to the current town in Mound Bayou, Mississippi. The way Joseph Davis ran his plantation (and his brother's, when he was often absent) was most unusual. His slaves were literate, and had their own school. They had their own justice system – a true jury of their peers – and other slaves sat in judgment. Overseers were prohibited from using the lash, and the neighbors derisively referred to the slaves as "Jo Davis's free negroes."

The story of Davis Bend is Mississippi's best kept secret, it is not what you would expect. Confederate President Jefferson Davis made his home at Brierfield Plantation. His older brother, Joseph, had his home nearby at Hurricane Plantation. Both of these estates were located on a thumb-like peninsula of land thrusting westward, about 20 miles south of Vicksburg on the Mississippi River.

Benjamin Montgomery was probably one of the well-respected and influential slaves on the plantation. He operated a general store at the landing, kept his own books and earnings, and dealt with businesses in New Orleans, Natchez, and Vicksburg. During the war, Union general U.S. Grant was so impressed by what he saw of the operations on Davis Bend, he forecast that the area would become a "Negro paradise." This is why the Ben Montgomery's family and Davis Bend merit recognition.

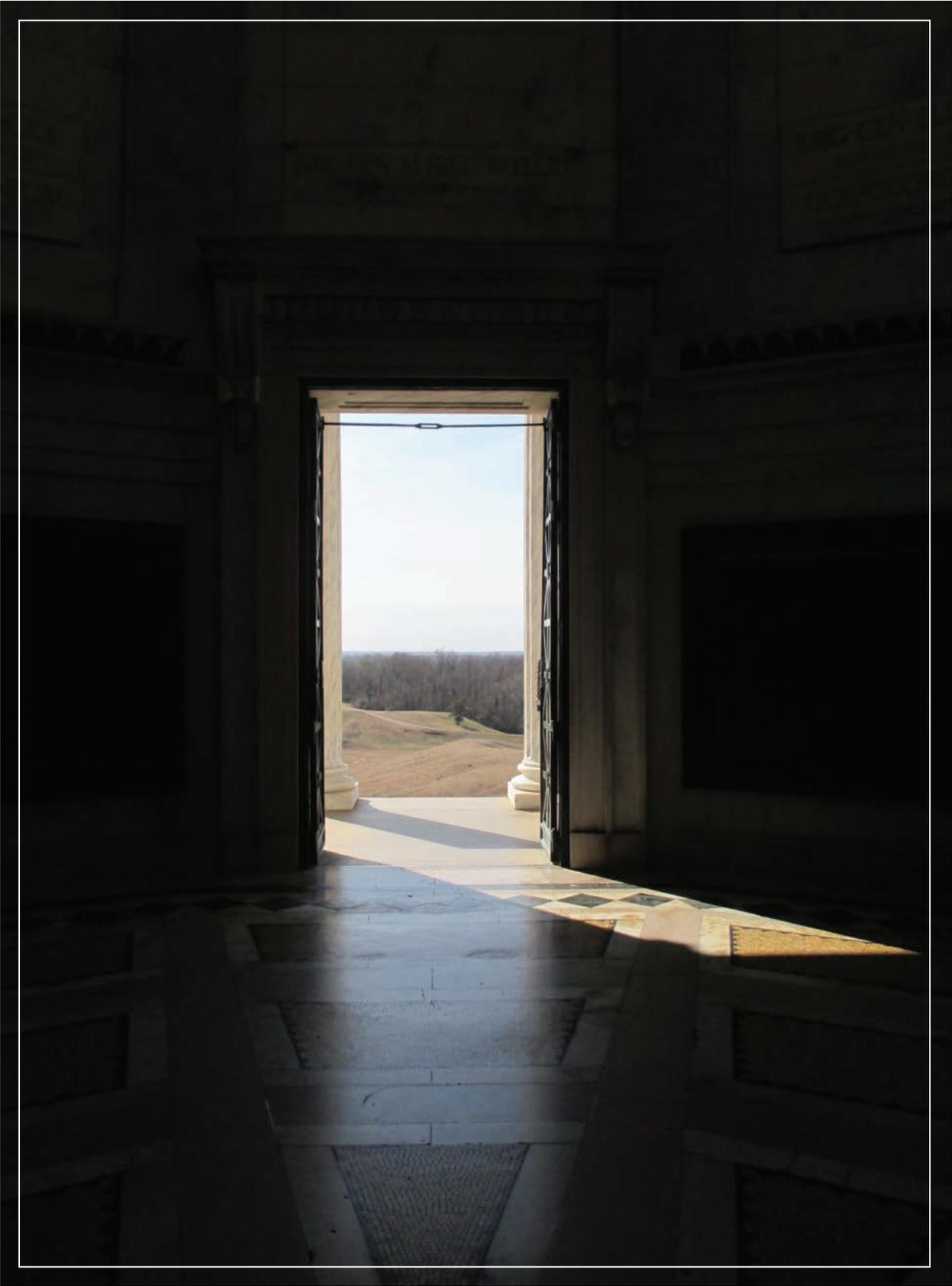
I had the above dialogue with the Park Superintendent, this summer. I may not have changed anything, but I did holler about our tax dollars.

The town and the Ben Montgomery family merit a "Marker" and recognition.

Picture of the Montgomery Store

Source:

1. The Pursuit of a Dream, Janet Sharp Hermann, 1981.
2. Jefferson Davis Unconquerable Heart, Felicity Allen, 1924.



**Southeast Region Foundation Document Recommendation
Vicksburg National Military Park**

September 2014

This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Southeast Regional Director.



9/26/14

RECOMMENDED

R. Michael Madell, Superintendent, Vicksburg National Military Park

Date



10/1/14

APPROVED

Stan Austin, Regional Director, Southeast Region

Date



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

VICK 306/123343

October 2014

Foundation Document • Vicksburg National Military Park



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR