

State Monuments

Vicksburg National Military Park's 1899 enabling legislation directed the Secretary of War to mark the lines of battle, and authorized the states involved in the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg to erect monuments and markers in memory of their soldiers stationed there. Twenty-nine states that maintained troops at Vicksburg have installed such a memorial at the park. The only state represented that has not yet erected a monument is Vermont.

Vicksburg National Military Park currently features twenty-eight state monuments. The first was placed at the park in 1903. States continue to add their contribution to this day, with the Connecticut State Monument placed most recently in 2006. Design of the monuments is determined by each state individually, but the location, design, and inscription of all memorials placed upon the battlefield must go through a rigorous approval process. The monuments within the park exhibit a wide range of scales, materials, and design styles.

Monument design styles have evolved dramatically since the first state monument was placed at the park in 1903. During the mid-nineteenth century, popular styles for monuments were typically derived from funerary traditions. The obelisk, derived from Egypt, was one of the most used forms. By the late nineteenth century, sculptural monuments had begun to take the form of realistically detailed renderings of soldiers and officers. At the park, the Massachusetts State Monument is an example of this style. Circa 1900, realism was slowly replaced by neo-classical forms, monumental compositions, and allegorical figures reflective of the Beaux Arts style, and the Parisian art education enjoyed by many American sculptors. Themes derived from funerary sentiments were supplanted by images of peace, reconciliation, and reunification. An example of this style at the park is the Illinois State Memorial, which features a projecting portico based on the Pantheon and is the most architectural of Vicksburg's monuments.

Allegorical features evident in monuments at Vicksburg National Military Park include the bronze Angel of Peace within the Minnesota State Memorial, and the central female figure of Clio seated before a Greek temple within the Mississippi Memorial.

Beginning in the 1930s and continuing through the 1950s, the classical Beaux Arts-style monument was followed by modernistic designs that incorporated influences of Art Deco and later artistic and sculptural trends. Examples include 1954 Arkansas memorial and the 1960 Kansas Memorial.

Shafts and other vertical monument types, such as obelisks, columns, and slender towers, are one of the most prevalent at Vicksburg National Military Park. Obelisks include the thirty-seven-foot Michigan State Memorial, the forty-three-foot New York State Memorial, the seventy-five-foot Mississippi State Memorial, the ninety-foot Minnesota State Memorial, and the 202-foot U.S. Navy Memorial. Monuments in the form of columns and towers include the eighteen-foot Georgia State Memorial, the twenty-foot New Hampshire State Memorial column, the eighty-one-foot Doric column of the Louisiana State Memorial, and the 122-foot column of the Wisconsin State Memorial.

Exedra and colonnades have long been popular forms in American civic monumentation, and occur at Vicksburg National Military Park. Exedras are semi-circular structures with a high solid back that functions as seating. Colonnades are columns arranged at intervals supporting an entablature, and typically, one side of a roof. The Iowa, Missouri, Texas, and Pennsylvania State Monuments all feature exedra and colonnades.

Three major changes to the design of the early park tour road have affected the way visitors interact with the state monuments. The first involves the loss of circle roads around the monuments. The early twentieth-century-design of the tour road included a series of small pull-offs that encircled some of the state monuments. Most were removed in the 1940s. Today, only Tennessee Circle survives in association with a state

monument, although Pemberton Circle that encompasses a statue of the Confederate General also survives. The second change that affected some of the monuments was the reorientation of the tour road as a one-way counterclockwise loop that begins with Union Avenue. From this direction, the Missouri State Monument cannot be viewed from the front unless visitors first pass the monument and then turn and look backward along the tour road (Fig. 107). Similarly, the Louisiana Memorial features an eighty-one-foot Doric column is best viewed while ascending the hill upon which it is sited from the south. Following the current orientation of the tour road, the monument can no longer be experienced in this way.¹⁹¹ The third major change that has affected visitor access to the state monuments was acquisition of the southern third of the park by the City of Vicksburg. Five state monuments are located within the quitclaimed parcels, and their settings have been impacted by the development that has occurred along the South Confederate Avenue road corridor. The affected monuments include the Florida, Maryland, South Carolina, Virginia, and North Carolina State Monuments.

The condition of park monuments and markers varies. Some show evidence of damage due to acid rain, including pitting of stone and corrosion of decorative materials. Many include bronze sculpture that is in need of periodic cleaning involving technical expertise. Others have recently received special care and repair. For example, the Louisiana Monument, which was twice struck by lightning, has been carefully repaired.¹⁹²

The twenty-eight existing state monuments are individually described below.

Monuments Erected by Confederate States

Alabama State Memorial. (1951; LCS007279). The Alabama State Memorial is a large bronze statue that rests on a base of Weiblin grey granite from the Elberton City Quarries in Elberton, Georgia. The monument is located along the South Loop at milepost 13.6 of the park tour road. According to sculptor Steffen Thomas, the Alabama State Memorial depicts a young woman as “Alabama herself.” The female figure stands with her right arm raised as if in protection of the seven heroic Alabama soldiers around her that are depicted in the process of defending Southern ideals, homes, and womanhood.

Arkansas State Memorial. (1954; LCS 007281). The Arkansas State Memorial was designed by William Henry Deacy. It depicts an upright bronze sword that divides two slabs of Mount Airy, North Carolina, granite (Fig. 108). This image is symbolic of a divided nation. The hilt bears the state seal of Arkansas. Relief panels to the left and right depict infantry in battle and the C.S.S. *Arkansas*. The memorial is located along Confederate Avenue, south of Graveyard Road. It bears the inscription “To the Arkansas Confederate Soldiers and Sailors, a part of a nation divided by the sword and reunited at the altar of faith.”



FIGURE 108. The monuments of Vicksburg National Military Park represent a range of sculptural styles. The Arkansas State Memorial, dedicated in 1954, has Art Deco stylistic detailing. It is situated along Confederate Avenue south of the Stockade Redan; this view is looking northwest.

191. National Park Service, “Vicksburg National Military Park Tour Roads,” No. MS-14 (Washington, D.C.: Historic American Engineering Record, 1997), 8.

192. Cooper et al., v.

Georgia State Monument. (1962; LCS 003364).

The Georgia State Monument is an eighteen-foot tower of gray granite bearing the state seal. The monument is located along the South Loop at milepost 14 of the park tour road, immediately south of Fort Garrott. It is identical to monuments erected at Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania, Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland, and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Georgia. The monument is inscribed as follows:

We sleep here in obedience to law;
When duty called, we came,
When country called, we died.

Kentucky State Monument. (2001). This monument is located along Kentucky Avenue, a spur road leading between the Union and Confederate lines in the South Loop north of tour stop 15. The monument features bronze statues of United States President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate President Jefferson Davis, who were both native Kentuckians. The memorial symbolizes the division within Kentucky during the Civil War, as well as the post-war reunification of the state and country. The monument was designed under the direction of the Kentucky Heritage Council and the Kentucky Vicksburg Monument Association.

Louisiana State Memorial. (1920; LCS 007273). In 1902, Louisiana became the first Southern state to select a site for a monument at Vicksburg National Military Park. Located along Confederate Avenue at milepost 11.9 of the park tour road, the Louisiana State Memorial features a square granite base with an eighty-one-foot high Doric column topped by a brazier of granite bearing an eternal flame. The word Louisiana is inscribed on the face of the monument, along with a list of the organizations involved in the siege. The monument was designed by Albert Wieblen. A granite sculpture depicting a nest of pelicans is placed at the base of the column. In 1999, the Louisiana Monument was twice struck by lightning; its repair involved wholly dismantling and reconstructing the monument.

Mississippi State Memorial. (1909; LCS 007274). The Mississippi State Memorial is comprised of a 75-foot obelisk constructed of Mount Airy, North Carolina, granite. Bronze bas relief and statuary, sculpted by Frederick Triebel and fabricated in Rome, were added in 1912. Located along Confederate Avenue at milepost 12.3 of the park tour road, the bronze works represent various involvements of Mississippi troops during the siege. The statue represents Clio, the muse of history. The memorial was damaged by lightning in 1951 and repaired in 1954. Additional repairs were made in 2001 (Fig. 109).



FIGURE 109. Many of the monuments in the park are impressive structures, such as the Mississippi State Memorial's 75-foot obelisk. This view is from Confederate Avenue, south of the Great Redoubt, looking west.

Missouri State Memorial. (1917; LCS 00727). The Missouri State Memorial honors men who served on both sides of the struggle; Missouri contributed twenty-seven units to the Union army and fifteen to the Confederate army. The forty-two-foot-tall monument commemorates these forty-two units and is positioned near the site where opposing Missouri regiments faced one another (Fig. 251). A bronze statue of an angel, sculpted by Victor S. Holm, representing the “Spirit of the Republic,” stands on the prow of a granite ship protruding from a granite shaft, which bears the state seal at its top. This centerpiece is flanked by bronze relief panels on granite pedestals. This is one of the monuments that have been affected by the change in orientation of the tour road. Located south of Stockade Redan on Confederate Avenue at milepost 10.9 of the park tour road, the monument is initially viewed from the rear.

Tennessee State Memorial. (1996). The Tennessee State Memorial is located on the north side of Confederate Avenue approximately four-tenths of a mile east of Fort Hill. Dedicated in 1996, the monument consists of a slab of unpolished granite cut in the shape of the State of Tennessee. The slab measures approximately 14 feet by 3 feet, and is nearly 3 inches thick. It rests on a 4 foot by 3 foot granite base. The side that faces the tour road is inscribed:

TENNESSEE, Dedicated To the Tennessee
Confederate Soldiers Who Served In the
Defense of Vicksburg.

While the other side of the monument, viewed from the Tennessee Circle Drive, reads:

Honor to those who never sought it; Fame to
those who never wished it; Glory to those who
never dreamed it; Immortality, for they earned
it—The Confederate Soldiers of Tennessee.
Mike Grissom.

Texas State Monument. (1961; LCS 007277). The Texas State Monument stands where Thomas Waul’s Texas Legion repulsed the Union troops that breached the parapet of the Railroad Redoubt during the May 22, 1863, battle. It is located at

milepost 13.5 of the tour road within the South Loop. Constructed of red Texas granite, the monument features eleven steps that represent the number of states seceding from the Union during the Civil War. The steps lead to an oversized Texas soldier sculpted by Herring Coe. The sculpture was completed in 1963. To the right of the statue is a list of all the Texas units that participated in the campaign; to its left is a description of the combat at Railroad Redoubt. This monument also features a planting of yucca, which is native to Texas. Erosion of the slope behind the monument is of concern.

Monuments Erected by Union States

Connecticut. (2006). The Connecticut State Memorial is located at the Grant’s Canal site, near Delta, Louisiana. It honors the contributions of the Ninth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers. The monument was designed by Mathieu Memorial and Granite Works of Southington, Connecticut, in conjunction with Royal Melrose Granite of Cold Spring, Minnesota. It is sculpted of polished gray and black granites, and is placed on a concrete plaza shaped like the outline of the state of Connecticut.

Illinois State Memorial. (1906; LCS 007276). One of the largest and most ornate monuments in the park, the Illinois State Memorial contains sixty bronze tablets that bear lists of the 36,325 Illinois men who participated in the campaign, the largest number of any state. The monument is sited on one of the high points in the park near the Shirley House. Visitors approach the monument from a walkway connecting a parking area along Jackson Road to a processional flight of forty-seven marble stairs, one for each day of the siege, that lead to a dramatic rotunda-like structure modeled on the Pantheon in Rome. The base and stairway of the monument is constructed of Stone Mountain, Georgia, granite, while the rotunda is composed of Georgia white marble. The monument stands sixty-two feet high and was designed by W. L. B. Jenney, with sculpture by Charles J. Mulligan. Frederick C. Hibbard sculpted a gilded bronze eagle associated with the monument (Fig. 110).



FIGURE 110. The Illinois State Memorial is one of the largest and most ornate in the park. It is also located on one of the highest elevations in the park. It has become a roosting habitat for a species of brown bat. This view is from the Union Avenue western spur leading to the monument, looking toward the northeast.

A species of brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*) uses the interior of the memorial as roosting habitat and guano must be regularly cleaned from its walls and floor.¹⁹³

Indiana State Memorial. (1926; LCS 007257). The Indiana State Memorial monument features a heroic scale bronze statue of the state’s wartime governor, Oliver Perry Morton, placed on a granite base. It was sculpted by George T. Brewster. The Indiana State Memorial is located along the South Loop at milepost 14.3 of the park tour road.

Iowa State Memorial. (1906; LCS 007269). Fashioned after a Roman triumphal arch, the Iowa State Memorial is a semi-elliptical, trabeated composition of Greek columns constructed of Vermont white granite. An equestrian statue of a standard bearer stands before the monument, appearing to lead Iowans into battle. The monument includes a series of bronze reliefs depicting Iowa’s participation in the successive engagements of the campaign—Grand Gulf, Port Gibson, Jackson, Champion Hill, Big Black River Bridge, and Grant’s Second Assault on May 22,

193. “Mammals,” <<http://www.nps.gov/vick/naturescience/mammals.htm>>, accessed September 11, 2007.

1863. It stands among the Union line along the South Loop at milepost 15.3 of the park tour road. Henry Hudson Kitson sculpted the relief panels and the equestrian statue, placed in 1912 after construction of the stone base was complete.

Kansas State Memorial. (1960; LCS 003694). The Kansas State Memorial is located along Grant Avenue in the northeast corner of the park. A contemporary, abstract design, this eight-foot-tall monument features three circles representing the United States at different times in history. The entire lower circle represents a pre-war nation, the center broken circle symbolizes the nation divided, and the entire upper circle represents reunification. An abstracted bald eagle is perched atop the three circles. The monument is mounted on a granite pedestal.

A plaque placed at the monument by the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War reads:

The bottom circle represents the unity of the pre Civil War Era.
The broken circle in the center represents the Union torn asunder by the war 1861–1865.
The perfect circle at the top depicts the regained unity of the post war era.
An eagle atop all typifies the glorious majesty of our country.

Massachusetts State Monument. (1903; LCS007275). The Massachusetts State Monument was the park’s first (Fig. 225). It is located along Grant Circle in the northeast corner of the park. The monument is a fifteen-ton granite boulder, with the figure of a soldier, sculpted in bronze, striding across its top. Affixed to the boulder is a bronze tablet engraved with the Massachusetts coat of arms, the IX Corp badge, and lists of the units that served. The statue was sculpted by Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson.

Michigan State Memorial. (1916; LCS 007279). The White Bethel granite Michigan State Memorial stands thirty-seven feet high and depicts the “Spirit of Michigan,” a female figure, standing at the base of a white obelisk (Fig. 313). The figure and the lower third of the memorial are carved

from a single piece of granite by sculptor Herbert Adams. The memorial is located on Union Avenue at Battery De Golyer, near milepost 1.2 of the park tour road.

Minnesota State Monument. (1907; LCS 007272). The Minnesota State Monument is a ninety-foot granite obelisk (Fig. 111). A bronze female figure representing “peace” holds a shield and sword and is seated on a granite bolder at the base of the obelisk. Bronze tablets list the Minnesota units serving in Grant’s campaign. The monument is located on Union Avenue at milepost 0.6 of the park tour road. It was sculpted by William Couper.



FIGURE 111. The Minnesota State Monument is a 90-foot granite obelisk featuring a seated bronze female figure representing “peace.” It is sited early in the tour route, north of the Visitor Center. This view is looking west from Union Avenue.

New Hampshire State Memorial. (1904; LCS 003778). The New Hampshire State Memorial is located along Grant Circle approximately seventy-five yards east of the General Grant Statue. A twenty-foot column of granite bears the IX Corp badge, the State seal, and a list of the New Hampshire units that served. The column is rock-faced granite, with a sphere on top (Fig. 229).

New York State Memorial. (1917; LCS 007271). The New York State Memorial is a forty-three-foot granite obelisk that stands guard along the road to Grant’s headquarters. It is located along Grant Avenue at milepost 4.8 of the park tour road. The memorial was designed by A. J. Zabriskie. The Mount Airy granite monument features two bronze inscription tablets measuring 5 feet 7 inches by 2 feet 4 inches.

Ohio State Monuments. (1905). The state of Ohio erected thirty-nine small monuments created by the Hughes Granite and Marble Company in the park at points where units served during the siege to commemorate Ohio’s twenty-six regiments of infantry, twelve batteries of artillery, and one battalion of cavalry. The monuments are nearly all distinct, with a total of thirty-seven different designs represented. The Ohio Vicksburg Battlefield Commission was authorized by the state of Ohio to select and place multiple monuments for Ohio’s Civil War soldiers at many sites, rather than investing in one large monument.

Pennsylvania State Memorial. (1906; LCS 003833). The Pennsylvania State Memorial is located along Grant Circle at milepost 4.6 of the park tour road. It consists of a granite shaft placed at the rear of an elliptical platform, and is approached via a flight of three steps (Fig. 232). Five bronze medallions on the main shaft feature relief portraits of each of the Pennsylvania unit commanders. The monument was designed by Albert Randolph Ross.

Rhode Island State Memorial. (1908; LCS 007278). The Rhode Island State Memorial was designed by Frances Edwin Elwell. It is a bronze statue of an infantryman wielding a musket and flag, standing on a granite pedestal, and is located along Grant Avenue near Grant Circle (Fig. 239).

West Virginia State Memorial. (1922; LCS 003316). One of the smallest state monuments, the West Virginia State Memorial is a bronze bust of Major Arza M. Goodspeed, who was killed in the May 19, 1863, assault on the Confederate earthworks. The bust of this prominent West

Virginian, sculpted by Aristide Berto Cianfarani, sits upon a granite pedestal. The monument is located on Union Avenue south of Graveyard Road.

Wisconsin State Memorial. (1911; LCS 007268). The Wisconsin State Memorial is a 122-foot granite column topped with a bronze bald eagle perched on a bronze ball (Fig. 245). The bald eagle represents the 8th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment's mascot, "Old Abe" the war eagle. Approached by a flight of marble stairs, the base of the column features bronze tablets which bear the names of the 9,075 soldiers from Wisconsin who fought in the Vicksburg campaign. Relief tablets at the base of the column depict Union and Confederate soldier clasping hands to symbolize the peace that now exists between the states. The monument was sculpted by Julius C. Loester. It is composed of granite from Winnsboro, South Carolina, and is located along Union Avenue at milepost 2.9 of the park tour road.

State Monuments Outside Park Boundaries

Florida State Memorial. (1954; LCS 003466). The Florida State Memorial is located near the intersection of South Confederate Avenue and Mulvihill Street. This 4-by-3 foot, 9 inch upright monolithic tablet, composed of polished Elberton, Georgia, granite was funded by the Florida Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (U.D.C.). It honors the soldiers who served in General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Relief. The monument includes the state seal of Florida at the top, and text that reads: "In God We Trust," and "Whether sleeping in distant places, or graveless, this monument has been erected to the memory of the men who served the Confederate States of America."

Maryland State Monument. (1914; LCS 003708). The Maryland State Monument is situated along South Confederate Avenue approximately 0.2 miles south of the Mulvihill Street intersection. The memorial consists of a bronze tablet mounted on a granite pedestal that commemorates the Third Maryland Battery under the command of Ferdinand O. Claiborne.

North Carolina State Monument. (1925; LCS 003779). The North Carolina State Monument is located along South Confederate Avenue, approximately 0.1 mile south of its junction with Halls Ferry Road. The memorial was cut from Stone Mountain, Georgia, granite and sculpted by Aristide B. Cianfarani. It features a bronze coat of arms and the names of the engaged units engraved in the granite.

South Carolina State Memorial. (1935; LCS 003834). The South Carolina State Memorial is located in front of Vicksburg High School, on former park property along South Confederate Avenue. The memorial was constructed of Winnsboro, South Carolina, granite. It was sponsored by the South Carolina Chapter of the U.D.C.

Virginia State Memorial. (1907; LCS 003842). The Virginia State Memorial is a granite and bronze tablet situated southeast of the North Frontage Road and Iowa Avenue intersection. It was the first Confederate memorial to be erected. The monument represents the Botetourt Artillery, the only Virginia unit to participate in the defense of Vicksburg.

Other Important Monuments within the Park

Union Navy Memorial. (1911; LCS 007282). At 202 feet, the Union Navy Memorial is the tallest monument in Vicksburg National Military Park (Fig. 249). The granite obelisk, sculpted by Frank Edwin Elwell, Henry Hudson Kitson, and William Couper, is a tribute to the officers and sailors of the U.S. Navy who served in the Vicksburg campaign. At the base of the monument are four statues of the fleet commanders: Admirals Farragut and Porter, and Flag Officers Davis and Foote.

Mississippi African American Memorial. (2004). The Mississippi African American Memorial is a nine-foot-tall polished granite block set on a slab of granite flagstones. The face of the granite block has a bronze plaque inscribed with a dedication to the First and Third Mississippi infantry of African descent that fought in the

Vicksburg campaign. The three bronze statues of African American men depict a soldier looking forward to the future, a wounded soldier representative of the sacrifice made by African Americans during the war, and a civilian laborer who looks to the past and the institution of slavery. The memorial was designed by Dr. J. Kim Sessums, and financed jointly by the city of Vicksburg and the state of Mississippi.

Grant-Pemberton Surrender Interview Site Monument. (circa late 1860s; LCS 091212).

A 42-pound iron cannon placed upright on the ground commemorates the site of the surrender interview between Grant and Pemberton in July 1863. It replaced a small stone shaft that marked the site between 1863 and 1867, but was vandalized. The original stone obelisk was moved three times to the Cherry Street Railroad Station, the Vicksburg National Cemetery, and finally the present-day visitor center.

Historic Bridges within the Park

Due to the numerous ravines and undulating topography of the park, bridges are a major feature of the tour road. Some are notable for their artistic ornamentation, others for unusual engineering technologies. Eleven bridges were initially constructed as part of the tour road between 1903 and 1908. Nine of these original bridges remain. Other bridges have since been added. The nine historic bridges include:

Maloney Circle Bridge. (1908). This bridge is located southeast of the visitor center and spans the Kansas City Southern Railroad line to provide access to Battery Maloney. It is no longer accessible to vehicular traffic but can be reached by pedestrians from Old Mississippi Highway 27. The bridge is constructed of reinforced concrete, spans seventy-five feet, and has two arched ribs and a decorative concrete arch railing atop the parapet. The guardrail is formed by a series of rounded concrete posts connected by shallow-arched concrete railings. The spandrel walls have decorative inlaid rectangles.

Melan Arch Bridges. (1903). Nine Melan Arch bridges were constructed as part of the original tour road. These bridges cross small streams and valleys throughout the park. Seven of the bridges are still in use today. In 1997, Bridge No. 5, which was located along Union Avenue in the northwestern portion of the main battlefield unit, was replaced with a box culvert after being declared unsafe for vehicular traffic due to buckling of the structural members.

The patented Melan bridge-building technique utilized concrete reinforced with curved steel I beams. These span the breadth of their crossings without any intermediate supports. The reinforced arches have reinforced spandrels, and are covered by a level concrete deck and a low parapet wall which runs along either side of the bridge. The wall is topped by square concrete pedestal-style posts originally connected by a decorative wrought-iron railing.



FIGURE 112. There are eight of the original nine Melan Arch bridges extant in the park. This historic, patented bridge-building style could span crossings without any intermediate supports. This bridge is just beyond the Memorial Arch on Union Avenue. This view is from the western side of Union Avenue, looking northeast.



FIGURE 113. Two contemporary bridges convey the park tour road over modern Jackson Road (which passes through but does not access the park). This photo of the one on Union Avenue was taken south of the crossing, standing on the eastern shoulder looking northwest.

The Melan Arch bridges within the park are similar in appearance, with triangular and rectangular inlays on their spandrel walls (Fig. 112). Among the park's examples, there are minor differences in their span length, arch radii, and number of railing posts. Over the years, the original decorative ironwork has been replaced, due to corrosion, with plain, round iron rails, and the decks of the bridges have been paved. The surviving examples include (not included on LCS):

- HAER Bridge No. 1/Historic Bridge 5. This bridge is located at mile marker 0.2 just beyond the Memorial Arch on Union Avenue. It has a total span of 60 feet, and an arch span of 34 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 2/Historic Bridge 4. This bridge spans a ravine at mile marker 1.2, just before Union Avenue makes a sharp turn to the southeast near the Michigan State Monument. It has a total span of 54 feet, and an arch span of 28 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 3/Historic Bridge 3. This bridge spans a tributary of Mint Spring Bayou along Union Avenue at mile marker 6.4. It has a total span of 67 feet, and an arch span of 40 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 4/Historic Bridge 2. This bridge spans a ravine in the northern section of the park's main battlefield unit, along Union Avenue between Thayer's Approach and Battery Selfridge. It has a total span of 48 feet, and an arch span of 67 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 7/Historic Bridge 10. This bridge is located along the South Loop at mile marker 14.4, south of Hovey's Approach. It has a total span of 40 feet, and an arch span of 16 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 8/Historic Bridge 9. This bridge is also located along the South Loop at mile marker 14.5, south of Hovey's Approach. It has a total span of 40 feet, and an arch span of 16 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 9/Historic Bridge 8. This bridge is located at mile marker 15 along the South Loop north of Hovey's Approach. It has a total span of 40 feet, and an arch span of 16 feet.
- HAER Bridge No. 10/Historic Bridge 7. This bridge is located at mile marker 15.1 along the South Loop north of Hovey's Approach. It has

a total span of 49 feet, and an arch span of 28 feet.¹⁹⁴

Contemporary Bridges within the Park

Box culvert. A box culvert was used to replace the largest Melan arch bridge, located along Union Avenue in the northwestern corner of the park, in 1997.

Jackson Road Bridges. Constructed in 1972, two bridges extend Union and Confederate Avenues across modern Jackson Road (Fig. 113). Historically, the Confederate Avenue bridge crossing of the ravine in this location was a steel arch bridge that was removed in 2003. The existing bridges are contemporary structures supported on tall concrete columns, with curved concrete shoulders and metal guard rails across the spans.

Mint Spring Bayou Bridge. The Mint Spring Bayou crossing of Connecting Avenue is a simple concrete structure. The date of origin of the structure is not currently known.

Bridge over the Kansas City Southern Railroad line. Confederate Avenue extends across the Kansas City Southern Railroad line west of the visitor center. A contemporary concrete and steel bridge affords passage over the rail line.

Bridge Outside of Current Park Boundaries

Halls Ferry Road Bridge. The Halls Ferry Road Bridge along South Confederate Avenue (Fig. 114) was constructed in 1936–1937 under the direction of the Public Works Administration to divert park traffic on Confederate Avenue from a busy intersection with Halls Ferry Road. To do so, the approach roads were re-graded so that the at-grade crossing of Halls Ferry Road could be replaced with an overpass. Composed of a single reinforced concrete arch span with brick facing, the bridge has brick spandrel and wing walls and is

ornamented with low-relief brick quoins. Its total span is 122 feet, and arch span is 41 feet. The Halls Ferry Road Bridge is the only known bridge of its kind in the state of Mississippi, and was nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

Stout's Bayou Bridge. In 1903, a steel bridge similar to three others built in association with the park, was constructed along South Confederate Avenue across Stout's Bayou and an adjacent rail line spur to the east of the Louisiana Circle. The steel bridge was demolished in 1938 in association with a realignment of the road corridor, and replaced with an adjacent new steel girder span with concrete and brick abutments by the CCC. The new bridge incorporated some of the materials from the earlier bridge.



FIGURE 114. The Halls Ferry Road Bridge, from South Confederate Avenue, looking southwest. Composed of a single reinforced concrete arch span with brick facing, it is the only bridge of its kind in Mississippi. It is now on city-owned property.

194. Bridge numbers refer to the 1997 Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) documentation of Vicksburg's Melan Arch Bridges.

Other Structures

Memorial Arches. (1920; LCS 007285 and LCS 007288). Two triumphal arches were built in the park in 1920. One marks the ceremonial entrance into Vicksburg National Cemetery, which has been closed to vehicular traffic (Fig. 115). The other was originally placed along Clay Street but was moved to its current location at the beginning of the park tour road in 1966.

The Memorial Arch located within the park's main battlefield unit was constructed with funds left over from a 1917 veterans reunion held at the park (Fig. 116). It is a trabeated entry portal with two engaged Doric columns, and an entablature with an attic story inscribed with the name of the park and two stylized laurel wreaths. The rear of the attic story includes a carved reference to the reunion that funded its construction. The structure is built of Stone Mountain, Georgia, granite, and was originally placed on Clay Street, but moved to its current location in 1966 as part of the Mission 66-era changes made to the park including the nearby visitor center. The arch was assessed in good condition by the LCS in 2006.

Tunnel. There is a tunnel under Union Avenue that accesses the site of Thayer's Approach (Fig. 117). This tunnel was initially excavated during the siege as part of Thayer's Approach. The existing concrete structure was established by the CCC during the 1930s. It has an arched opening and protruding cheek walls along the sides of the walk that leads through the tunnel. It is in fair condition due to spalling, cracking, and broken sections of the concrete.



FIGURE 115. The Memorial Arch at the entrance to Vicksburg National Cemetery from North Washington Street, now closed to vehicular traffic.



FIGURE 116. Originally on Clay Street, this triumphal Memorial Arch (pictured here, from the Visitor Center parking lot, looking east) was relocated and is now the portal through which visitors begin the park road tour.

Contemporary Park Structures. There are two fee collection booths located at the park entrances. One is placed near the visitor center, while the second is stationed at the Fort Hill Drive entrance (Fig. 118). These structures are both small, approximately 6-by-10-foot, one-story structures composed of steel, blue painted walls, and low-pitched hipped roofs clad with standing-seam metal. The booths have window openings in the narrow dimensions, and a door opening in the longer dimension that faces vehicles entering the park. Low concrete walls and steel bollards are placed around the building from damage potentially caused by errant vehicles.

The USS *Cairo* is protected from weather by a white tensile structure (Fig. 103).

Small-Scale Features

In addition to the larger monuments described above, Vicksburg National Military Park includes more than 1,300 smaller monuments, statues, busts, tablets, and position markers that constitute small-scale features. Notably, twelve free-standing bronze statues are present in the park. There are 95 bronze relief portraits, 62 bronze busts on granite pedestals, 76 regimental monuments with bronze plaques, and 208 stone regimental monuments. Of the original 178 granite regimental position markers, 77 bronze tablets, 352 large cast iron tablets, 504 small cast iron tablets, and 102 guide posts sited on the 1902 park commission maps, over 900 have recently been documented. At least 143 of the large cast iron tablets were removed for the metal scrapping drive during World War II, of which 22 have been replaced.¹⁹⁵

Other types of small-scale features represented at the park include site furnishings, boundary markers, emplaced cannon and other interpretive aids, and signage.

195. National Park Service, 95% draft CLR, review comments.

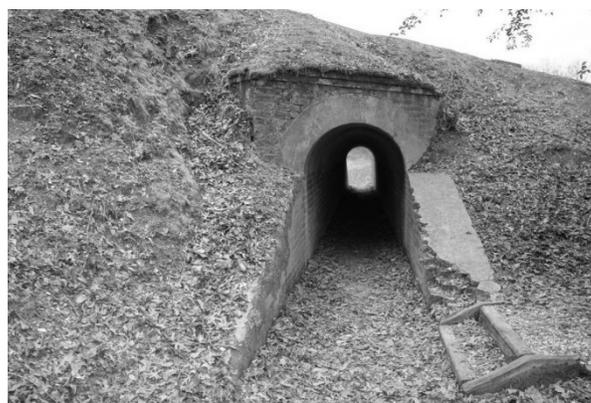


FIGURE 117. View south of the concrete tunnel leading beneath Union Avenue to the Thayer's Approach site. A tunnel has been present in this location since the siege.



FIGURE 118. Park entrance fees are collected at manned booths in two locations. One edges the road west of the Memorial Arch near the visitor center. The other is located at the park entrance along Fort Hill Drive.



FIGURE 119. The close juxtaposition of tablets and position markers, such as these at Railroad Redoubt, viewed here looking northwest, indicate how close the two armies came to one another during the siege.



FIGURE 120. The park includes hundreds of cast iron tablets and position markers placed at locations of battle events and troop positions. They are coded by size, shape, and color to facilitate self-guided tours; they are oriented so that the reader is facing the same direction as the troops they are reading about.



FIGURE 121. The larger tablets indicate battle lines, while the smaller position markers, such as this one at Fort Garrott, viewed here looking east, indicate troop positions.

Monuments and Other Battlefield Markers. Vicksburg National Military Park is recognized as one of the most densely monumented parks in the world. Although originally slated to receive more than 1,700 monuments, the park currently features approximately 1,340 statues, busts, tablets, and position markers. The monuments honor the contributions of individuals as well as those of the battalions, regiments, infantry, artillery, and cavalry units that participated in the siege.¹⁹⁶

Iron Tablets and Position Markers. The park has identified more than 540 iron tablets and position markers that currently exist within current and former park boundaries. Most of these were written and placed by veterans to mark the specific locations of events important to the siege. They are coded by size, shape, and color to facilitate interpretation of the battlefield. Tablets and position markers painted red represent the Confederate locations, while blue markers are associated with Union operations. The larger tablets indicate battle lines, while the smaller position markers indicate troop movements. Often, red and blue tablets are located in close proximity, indicating how close the opposing armies came to one another (Fig. 119).

The tablets are made of cast iron and have raised lettering, and are supported by cast iron or granite poles (Fig. 120). The tablets explain siege events. They are oriented to face the direction of the events interpreted. Many are canted to facilitate legibility. The position markers indicate the lines of battle. Typically, they are smaller than the tablets and are upright, rather than canted (Fig. 121).

These tablets are vulnerable to weathering, but are preserved through a park preventative maintenance program, which includes cleaning the tablets with high pressure water spray or, as needed, sandblasting and repainting. The system was altered when 143 of the tablets were removed and appropriated during a World War II metal drive.

Figurative Statues. As a way of diffusing sensitive partisan emotions following the Civil War, statues took on the emblematic role of the common soldier in the conflict (Fig. 122). Portraits of the generic soldier are one of the most prolific Civil War monuments within the park. While some depict infantrymen standing sentinel, most portray soldiers actively engaged in combat. Bronze is the primary material used in figurative statuary.

Statues also depict the portraits of individual officers. These were usually carefully researched using photographs and other portraits, and are

196. Miller, 7-2.

rendered in bronze with naturalistic details.

Examples of standing statues include:

- *Brig. Gen. Stephen D. Lee*. Sculpted by Henry Hudson Kitson in 1909, this statue depicts Lee in his military uniform holding his sword with both hands across his bent left knee. The statue is nine feet tall.
- *Maj. Gen. John A. Logan*. Sculpted by Leonard Crunelle in 1919, this seven foot statue depicts Logan standing in his military uniform, with his left hand on his hip and his right hand clutching a pair of gloves.
- *Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton*. Sculpted by Edmond Thomas Quinn in 1917, this statue is eight feet tall and depicts Pemberton in full military dress, including a buttoned, knee-length coat.

Busts and Reliefs. Vicksburg began to commission statuary busts and reliefs beginning circa 1910 as a means of memorializing the commanders of the troops who fought there. These portraits, based on photographs, were commissioned in groups, and were required to be a standard size (Fig. 123 and Fig. 124). Notably, many of the busts and reliefs were fabricated by Tiffany and Company foundry. Examples of reliefs include:

- *Brig. Gen. Louis Herbert*. This relief, fabricated by Tiffany and Company and sculpted by Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson in 1910, sits on a bronze plaque mounted to a white granite stele. The relief measures 40 by 28 by 1-1/8 inches, while the stele is 78 by 54 by 28 inches.
- *Maj. Gustavus Lightfoot*. Sculpted by Henry Hudson Kitson in 1914, this bronze relief bust is mounted to a granite stele. The plaque is approximately 39 by 26 by 1 inch, while the stele is approximately 76 by 54 by 22 inches.



FIGURE 122. Portraits of the “common soldier” are among the most prolific statuary within the park, such as this one of a soldier depicted in the Rhode Island State Memorial, seen from Grant Avenue looking west.



FIGURE 123. Sculpted by William Couper in 1911, this bust of Union Brig. Gen. Isaac F. Quinby conforms to dimensions standardized by the park when they began commissioning portraits in the early twentieth century. This view is from the eastern shoulder of Union Avenue, looking northwest. The Michigan State Memorial can be seen in the distance.



FIGURE 124. Relief panels, like this one of Brig. Gen. John D. Stevenson, viewed here from in front of the former Administration Building looking east, were another form of portrait commissioned by the park to commemorate commanders.



FIGURE 125. Civil War commemorative sculptures include the first widespread installation of bronze equestrian statues in the United States. This statue of a mounted Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant was sculpted by Frederick Cleveland Hibbard in 1918 and can be found at Grant's Headquarters Area, in the far northeastern corner of the park.

Examples of sculpted busts include:

- *Brig. Gen. Daniel W. Adams.* This bronze bust, sculpted by Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson, is placed atop a two-section granite base and is approximately 52 by 30 by 22 inches while the base is approximately 72 by 43 by 43 inches.
- *Brig. Gen. John Adams.* This bronze bust, sculpted by Anton Schaaf, is placed atop a two-section granite base and is approximately 51 by 36 by 20 inches, while the base is approximately 72 by 43 by 43 inches.
- *Brig. Gen. Isham Warren Garrott.* This bronze bust, sculpted by William Couper, was dedicated in 1909. It sits atop a granite two-tier base and is approximately 52 by 40 by 24 inches. The base is approximately 76 by 48 by 48 inches.

Equestrian Statues. With commemoration of the Civil War came the first widespread use of equestrian monuments in the United States (Fig. 125). Bronze was the material of choice for equestrian statuary, most likely due to the difficulties inherent in carving a freestanding quadruped in stone or marble. Park examples include:

- *Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant.* Sculpted by Frederick Cleveland Hibbard in 1918, the statue of Grant is mounted with his left hand holding the horse's reins and a sword hanging by his side. The statue is 12 by 5 by 15 feet while the upper base is 6 by 9 by 16 feet and the lower base is 1 by 15 by 12 feet.
- *Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand.* Sculpted by Edward Clark Potter in 1919, this statue depicts General McClernand mounted on his horse with his left hand on his hip. The statue is 9 by 9 feet and its base is approximately 8 by 4 by 12 feet.
- *Brig. Gen. Lloyd Tilghman.* Sculpted by Frederick William Sievers in 1926, this statue of Brigadier General Tilghman depicts him standing beside a rearing horse, the front hooves of which are braced on a broken

cannon carriage wheel. The sculpture is approximately 10 by 24 by 6 feet.

Emplaced Cannon. Since the early days of the national military park system, artillery has been used to mark positions of batteries and lines of battle (Fig. 126). At Vicksburg, 149 cannon have been placed at actual battery sites. While only one is known to have served at Vicksburg—placed at South Fort, this artillery piece is referred to as Widow Blakely—all are actual Civil War-era tubes that have been mounted on replica wood and iron carriages.¹⁹⁷ Many of the existing replica carriages were built circa 1905–1908. Due to severe deterioration, replacement of the carriages with new reproductions was begun in 2003. This process is anticipated to continue until all the early twentieth-century carriages have been replaced.

Due to the reforestation that has occurred at Vicksburg over the past 75 years, some of the emplaced cannon are now pointing into heavily wooded areas, which appears incongruous and can be confusing to the visitor (Fig. 127).

Culverts and Drainage Structures. Drainage features are a significant component of the infrastructure at Vicksburg National Military Park. The original construction of the park's roads necessitated grading and the establishment of an elaborate drainage system. An elaborate system of curbs, gutters, and culverts control overland flow of stormwater associated with roads and steeply-sloped landforms. The system redirected stormwater and accommodated the engineering needs of circulation corridors and protected against erosion. Since the loess soil is highly erodible, hillsides were protected and stabilized using terracing, culverts, and gutters. Culverts carry roads across perennial waterways. Drop inlets, paved channels, curbs, and gutters are used in association with roads and slopes to manage stormwater runoff. Various types of culverts are in evidence including single-hole brick with diversion gutters, double-hole brick with diversion inlets, roadside drop culverts with diversion inlets,



FIGURE 126. Cannon are used to mark battery sites, such as these, seen looking north at Battery De Golyer. There are 149 cannon emplaced at historic battery sites at the park.



FIGURE 127. Another example of emplaced artillery that, today, is aimed toward a wooded area, which can be confusing to visitors. This cannon is west of Union Avenue near Stockade Redan Attack and is viewed here looking northwest.



FIGURE 128. An elaborate system of curbs, gutters, and culverts control the overland flow of stormwater associated with roads and steep landforms within the park. Shown is a concrete swale along Union Avenue north of the Memorial Arch.

197. *Ibid.*, 7-3.



FIGURE 129. Another example of a drainage structure is a concrete culvert inlet, looking south on Union Avenue just past the first Melan Arch Bridge.



FIGURE 130. Other culverts within the park are made of brick, such as this outlet viewed looking east from the South Loop road near Fort Garrott.



FIGURE 131. A CCC-era concrete gutter. Used on slopes for erosion control, these gutters were typically three feet wide and five to eight inches deep. This one is on the northwestern facing slope of Fort Hill.

drop culverts with mountable curbs, and concrete or asphalt gutters (Figs. 128, 129, 130, and 131). Water is conveyed from the roads to stream corridors as possible.

Retaining Walls. There are a limited number of retaining walls within the park. They are found along a few road sections, edging parking areas, and some monuments.

Along the switchback section of the tour road between the Shirley House and the Wisconsin Monument, a section of poured-in-place concrete retaining wall edges the road (Fig. 132).

At Fort Hill, brick retaining walls define the edge of the parking area. The brick walls continue as the cheekwall for a flight of stairs leading up the earthwork (Fig. 133). A brick retaining wall is also associated with the parking lot margin associated with the Texas State Monument and the Railroad Redoubt. The brick wall flanks a central flight of steps leading up the steep slope to the siege and commemorative features. The stairs are edged by brick cheekwalls. Brick retaining walls edge the brick landing on which the USS *Cairo* exhibit is set.

The Surrender Interview Site monument is partially edged by a stone retaining wall that defines a semi-circular raised earth form, within which the monument is centered.

War Department Boundary Markers. Many of the park boundary lines are marked with a system of low concrete blocks. This type of marker is found at other sites formerly administered by the War Department prior to 1933.

USGS Benchmarks. Benchmarks associated with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) are located within the park that mark surveyed elevations. These benchmarks consist of a six-inch-square concrete post set in the ground inset on the top with a steel medallion engraved with survey data (Fig. 134).



FIGURE 132. A concrete retaining wall, on the first switchback curve made by Union Avenue north of Shirley House, looking south.



FIGURE 135. The grave site of James Shirley and his wife Adeline Quincy are marked by this joint headstone located north of the Shirley House.



FIGURE 133. A brick retaining wall, edging the slopes of Fort Hill and forming the cheekwalls of the stairs which access the fortification.



FIGURE 136. Small-scale features within the park include interpretative signage and waysides, such as this kiosk in the center of the parking lot east of the visitor center, viewed here looking northwest.



FIGURE 134. A USGS benchmark within the park marking a surveyed elevation. The benchmark is a six inch square concrete post set in the ground, inset on the top with a steel medallion engraved with the survey data.



FIGURE 137. Examples of park benches as small-scale amenities, also within the visitor center parking lot area.



FIGURE 138. Tour stop markers keyed to fifteen major focal points assist visitors in staying oriented to the sixteen-mile park road tour loop and its many interpretive waysides. This one is for Hovey’s Approach, in the south end of the park. This view is looking northwest from South Loop Road.

Shirley House Grave Marker. Behind the Shirley House, the graves of James Shirley and his wife Adeline Quincy are marked by a shared square, split faced granite headstone. The name “Shirley” is carved into the top and sides of the headstone (Fig. 135).

Chain-link fencing. Chain-link fencing edges the parking area associated with Fort Hill and portions of the Louisiana Circle site to prevent visitors from accessing dangerously steep slopes.

Park Operation Features. Park operation features include site furnishings and exhibits associated with the visitor center and parking area, fee collection areas, the picnic area, and various parking pull-offs. Small-scale features associated with park operations include lighting associated with parking areas, kiosks (Fig. 136), benches (Fig. 137), picnic tables, rope and bollard edging,

security bollards, signage, interpretive exhibits, waysides, and tour stop markers (Fig.138). The park’s identity sign is a large concrete structure set into the side of one of the earthwork exhibits located at the entrance to the park along Clay Street. The picnic area is located along Confederate Avenue near Pemberton Circle. A concrete apron edges the road. Several picnic tables are located along the apron.

Archeological Resources

Vicksburg National Military Park is listed in its entirety in the National Register of Historic Places. All archeological sites located within the park are protected under this listing, and the park is a battlefield and therefore likely a significant archeological resource. However, a formal, comprehensive survey, conducted to determine whether a site independently qualifies for the National Register, has not yet been undertaken at the park.¹⁹⁸ Due to the lack of systematic archeological investigation, the specific knowledge of resources is very limited. It is likely that portions of the park have been heavily disturbed and will therefore have little archeological integrity as far as *in situ* primary deposits are concerned.

The NPS Archeological Site Management System (ASMIS) database currently lists fifteen sites at Vicksburg. Of these, ten are prehistoric sites. Historic sites include the Shirley House, the museum complex, and the battlefield, with Railroad Redoubt, Great Redoubt, Fort Hill, and Fort Garrott identified as sub-sites of the battlefield. Absent from the list are two sites identified in 1997, one near the Memorial Arch and the other north of the Minnesota State Monument inside a sharp bend in Union Avenue.

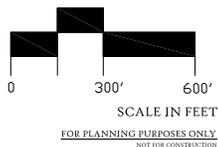
Past archeological studies within the park have generally been limited to areas of proposed construction activities, including road and trail improvements, and the addition of new visitor services such as water fountains. Four of the surveys were conducted in the 1960s and 1970s.

198. Mactec, EA, 3–5.



Source: City of Vicksburg Geoportal
 www. http://www.geoportalmaps.com/atlas/vicksburg/viewer.htm
 Aerial photograph, ca. post-1984

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Cultural Landscape Report
 Vicksburg National Military Park

Existing Conditions
 Riverfront Batteries
 Figure 139

These surveys recorded important sites, but were not conducted to current standards and the locational information is poor. Recorded during these surveys, for example, was the potential prehistoric “Temple Mound” north of Mint Spring Bayou (site 22Wr503) that has been the subject of several inconclusive investigations regarding its prehistoric significance.

The first recorded investigation was conducted in 1968 by Lee Hanson prior to road construction of four road segments. In 1975, archeological survey for trails and relocation of the USS *Cairo* were conducted by Crawford Blakeman and Michael Collins. Nine prehistoric sites and one historic Civil War-era site were identified within the park during the survey. During this investigation, test excavations were conducted at the mound.

In 1978, an archeological survey for Mission 66 road construction was conducted by Christopher Hamilton. In 1979, Carlos Martinez conducted investigations prior to installation of a water fountain in the picnic area, and in 1992, John Cornelison undertook Section 106 investigations prior to construction of a french drain system. In 1990, 1993, 1995, 2002, 2003, and 2007, investigations were conducted to assess damage caused by looting under the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA).

An archeological and historical inventory was completed in 1999 for a Mint Spring Bayou stabilization project. Two archeological sites with historic artifacts were identified, but neither site was recommended eligible for listing in the National Register. It was also during this project that two unusual areas of exposed fossiliferous bedrock were identified.

A metal detecting survey of ten acres in the Railroad Redoubt area was conducted in 2004 prior to clearing activity. Numerous Civil War-era artifacts, consisting mostly of three-ring minie balls, were recovered during this survey.

A geophysical survey and archeological testing were conducted by the Southeast Region Archeological Center (SEAC) during 2005 around Pemberton’s Headquarters. This is possibly the

only investigation focused on addressing military questions. SEAC has also been involved in the ARPA looting investigations associated with the park.

Finally, in 2007, archeological survey and limited testing were conducted within the Washington Street corridor by the Mississippi Department of Transportation.

Noncontiguous Park Parcels

Vicksburg National Military Park includes three small noncontiguous parcels on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River to the south of the city of Vicksburg. These are known as Louisiana Circle, South Fort, and Navy Circle (Fig. 139). Each parcel is between one and three acres in size and includes remnant earthen fortifications from the Civil War siege of Vicksburg, and marked by artillery, metal tablets, and other commemorative and interpretive features. The two northern fortifications—Louisiana Circle and South Fort—were associated with the Confederate defensive line established in 1862, while Navy Circle was established by Union forces as part of their offensive siege line in 1863. Louisiana Circle and Navy Circle also include visitor access elements such as roads, parking, walks, stairs, site furnishings, and signage. Each of these forts is individually described below.

Louisiana Circle. Louisiana Circle (Fig. 140) is located west of South Washington Street and north of South Fort and Navy Circle within the southern portion of the city of Vicksburg limits. This approximately 1.3-acre parcel is also referred to as a Mississippi River overlook in NPS literature and on directional signage. The entrance road into the parcel arises north of the intersection of South Washington Street (also known as U.S. 61 Business), and Old U.S. Highway 80-North Frontage Road. Cashman Drive leads west from Washington Street south of Louisiana Circle. Within view of the parcel are casinos, the old U.S. 80/railroad bridge, and Interstate 20 bridge (Fig. 141), and commercial development along Washington Street.

The Louisiana Circle parcel features a remnant Confederate earthen fortification sited on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River (Fig. 142). The fortification is generally circular in shape, with the landform falling away gently towards the river, and more steeply along Washington Street (Fig. 143). A concrete road leads in a circle around the base of the knoll occupied by the Civil War fortification. The road is edged by low, rounded, mountable curbing and an eighteen-inch-high guardrail composed of concrete posts and timber rails along its western margin (Fig. 144). Directional, identity, and regulatory signs as well as trash receptacles are placed along the outer edge of the road margin. Signs warning visitors not to cross the protective guard rail are mounted on its wood timbers. Roadside curbing directs stormwater to drains placed above the intersection of the park road with Washington Street.

Vehicular parking occurs along the margins of the approximately twenty-foot-wide road corridor. The road flares to accommodate up to three parallel-parked cars along its outer margin (Fig. 145). To the north of the parking pull-off is the site's lone shade tree, which is badly damaged. Pedestrians access the fortification via a concrete stair and walk. The stairs are edged by round metal handrails (Fig. 146). The walk leads to a small



FIGURE 141. Within view of Louisiana Circle are casinos and the old U.S. Highway 80 and railroad bridge and the Interstate 20 bridge crossing the Mississippi River.



FIGURE 142. The Louisiana Circle parcel features a remnant Confederate earthen fortification sited on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River.



FIGURE 143. The landform at Louisiana Circle falls away gently towards the river and more steeply along Washington Street.

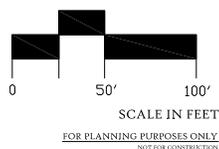
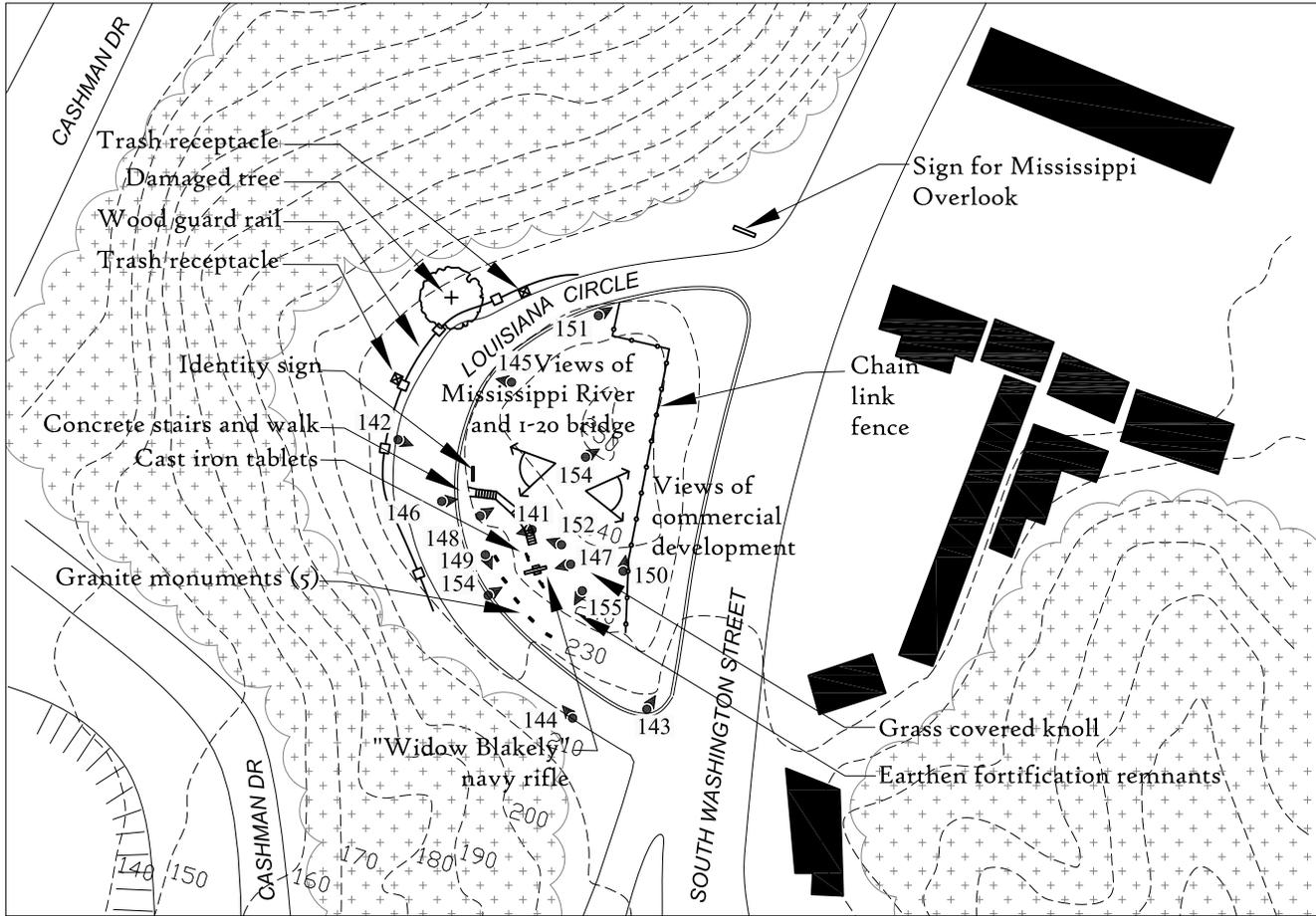




FIGURE 144. A concrete road circles around the base of the fortification at Louisiana Circle edged by rounded, mountable curbing and a guardrail composed of concrete posts and timber rails along its western margin.



FIGURE 145. Vehicular parking at Louisiana Circle occurs where the road flares to accommodate up to three parallel-parked cars along its outer margin. The large deciduous tree was damaged in a storm and needs to be removed.



FIGURE 146. Pedestrians access the fortification at Louisiana Circle via a concrete stair and walk.

landing along the fortification's southern margin that features an artillery piece looking out toward the Mississippi River to the south. Known as the "Widow Blakely," the piece is a 7.5-inch navy rifle fashioned by the Blakely foundry in England. It is the only gun of its type used in the Confederate defensive system. Originally emplaced approximately one mile to the north, the rifle was moved to this location for interpretive purposes. It was used during the siege to fire on Federal naval vessels as well as to guard the low bottom ground between the river and the bluffs. Adjacent to the rifle are two metal tablets, one of which dates to early-twentieth-century War Department administration of the site (Fig. 147). The landing, tablets, and cannon are sited approximately midslope along the knoll. The walkway does not continue on to the summit (Fig. 148). On the western side of the knoll's summit there is also a small depression that may have been associated with a constructed feature such as a bombproof.

Two metal tablets flank the artillery piece. They are comprised of metal posts supporting cast iron tablets, set approximately three-and-one-half feet high, and painted red. The raised text of the tablets conveys the history of this site within the context of the siege. The tablets are similar to those placed elsewhere within the park by the War Department during the early park establishment period. The tablet to the west of the artillery piece appears to be either a replacement of an original tablet, or a later addition to the site. The text credits the NPS, which did not exist at the time most of the tablets were placed, and the tablet itself is a cast aluminum material that is different than the cast iron of many of the other tablets. In addition, the pole supporting the tablet is round, rather than the figure-eight shape that is characteristic of the other tablets, and appears to be wrapped in plastic.

Below the cannon and tablets on the lower level of the southern side of the knoll are five granite monuments. These monuments identify the Confederate companies that defended this position during the siege (Fig. 149). The monuments are generally five feet in height, three feet wide, and one foot deep, and stand approximately six feet apart. Four of the

monuments are dressed granite, while one is rusticated on the sides and back. Three are set on dressed granite bases. Each is inset with a cast bronze panel. Two of these panels primarily feature text, while the other three include bas relief busts of Confederate officers present at this fortification during the siege.

A black, chain-link fence guards visitors from the steep western slope of the knoll that parallels South Washington Street (Fig. 150). This fence protects visitors from accessing the edge of the dangerously steep slope that edges the public road corridor. The stump of a large tree is located outside of the fence.

The majority of the parcel is maintained in turf, primarily Bermuda grass. There is no woody vegetation on the site with the exception of the single tree outside of the guard rail along the road. The open vegetative cover allows for expansive views of the river and surrounding development. From the fortification, it is possible to observe long stretches of the river in both directions, including the Interstate 20 and railroad bridges.

Condition-related problems observed in association with this parcel during field investigations conducted in April 2008 include the following:

- The concrete paving is cracked and broken in some locations, and there is some minor surface wear. It has been patched with a black asphaltic material that contrasts with the color of the paving. (Fig. 151).
- Portions of the concrete walk constitute a trip hazard where the steps have risers of uneven heights, and settling has occurred between two slabs. The handrail does not extend the entire length of the stairs. The handrail needs painting. The upper walkway includes a trip hazard near the approach to the cannon (Fig. 152).



FIGURE 147. Two metal tablets flank the “Widow Blakely” rifle at Louisiana Circle.



FIGURE 148. The walkway at Louisiana Circle does not continue on to the summit of the fortification.



FIGURE 149. On the southern side of the knoll at Louisiana Circle are five granite monuments that identify the Confederate companies that defended this position during the siege.



FIGURE 150. A black chain-link fence guards visitors to Louisiana Circle from the steep western slope of the knoll that parallels South Washington Street.



FIGURE 151. The concrete paving at Louisiana Circle that is cracked has been patched with a black asphaltic material that contrasts with the color of the paving.



FIGURE 152. The upper walkway at Louisiana Circle includes a trip hazard near the approach to the cannon. Social trails are worn in the turf grass where visitors walk beyond the available path to reach the top of the knoll.

- Portions of the timber guard rail are damaged. Some of the timbers are cracked, split, or displaced. Some of the concrete piers lean outward.
- The black chain link fence is leaning in some locations.
- There are bald spots in the turf grass on the earthen fortification that may lead to erosion. (Fig. 153).
- Social trails are worn in the turf grass where visitors are walking beyond the available path to reach the top of the knoll. (Fig. 152).
- The cannon needs painting.
- There is vegetative growth between the control joints of some sections of the concrete walk.
- The bronze plaques set within the granite markers are stained and need cleaning. They are exhibiting some patination, graffiti scratches, and the loss of bolt covers or bolts. (Fig. 154).
- The five granite monuments exhibit organic growth, rising damp, and minor edge spalls.
- The large deciduous tree along the circular drive that was damaged in a storm needs to be removed. (Fig. 145).
- Views from the fortification are affected by non-historic commercial developments including casinos, commercial buildings, and overhead electrical lines. (Fig. 155).

Inventory of Landscape Features

Natural Features and Systems

- Knoll landform
- Deciduous tree on the slope below the access road



FIGURE 153. There are bald spots in the turf grass on the earthen fortification at Louisiana Circle that may lead to erosion.



FIGURE 154. The bronze plaques at Louisiana Circle set within the granite markers are stained and need cleaning.



FIGURE 155. Views from the fortification at Louisiana Circle are affected by non-historic commercial developments.

Cultural Vegetation

- Turf grass (primarily Bermuda grass)

Topographic Modifications

- Civil War earthwork remnant atop knoll

Patterns of Spatial Organization

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

Land Uses

- Museum/Educational/Interpretive

Circulation

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

Buildings and Structures

- None

Views and Vistas

- Expansive views to the Mississippi River and I-20 bridge
- Views of surrounding commercial and highway development

Small-scale Features

- Concrete post and wood timber guard rail
- Trash receptacles
- Chain-link fencing
- Identity sign
- Regulatory signage
- Metal handrail
- Five granite and bronze monuments
- Two cast iron tablets
- Widow Blakely artillery piece

South Fort. South Fort (Fig. 156) is located south of Louisiana Circle, and west of South Washington Street. The parcel sits on high ground overlooking the Mississippi River, although views to the river are blocked by dense woody vegetation. There is currently no public access to the parcel, but the asphalt-paved road and parking pull-off associated with a former car wash edges the parcel to the east and allows for informal visitor use of the site (Fig. 157). Two artillery pieces have been placed on the edge of the fortification's southwestern parapet wall where Confederate guns commanded the river approach to the city as well as the former Warrenton Road (contemporary South Washington Street) leading to downtown Vicksburg (Fig. 158). Commercial development along South Washington Street is visible from the parcel (Fig. 159).

The South Fort parcel, approximately two acres in size, is edged to the east by an asphalt access road associated with a former business that is now owned by Ameristar Casino. An electrical line extends into the site from Washington Street, anchored by an electrical pole at the southern end of the parking area. Near the base of the pole is a bronze marker commemorating the role of Iowa brigades in the Civil War siege (Fig. 160). The marker is mounted on a concrete base that is likely a replacement of the original.

There are no pedestrian paths leading into or around the fortification. Visitors scramble up a low rise that edges the paved pull-off. A social trail runs along the top of the rise (Fig. 161). Visitors walk up the slope of the fortification parapet to reach the interior of the fortification. The parapet walls of this fortification remain in good condition and retain a strong profile (Fig. 162). An NPS identity sign for the unit is placed in the slope above a concrete block wall associated with the adjacent parking area (Fig. 161). Nearby is one of the metal position marker tablets placed by the War Department during the early park development period. It marks Company A of the 14th Mississippi Light Artillery. An additional metal position marker tablet locating Company G of the 1st Louisiana Heavy Artillery is



FIGURE 157. There is currently no public access to South Fort; however, the asphalt-paved road and parking pull-off associated with a former car wash edges the parcel to the east allowing access to the site for informal visitors.



FIGURE 158. Two artillery pieces have been placed on the edge of the fortification's southwestern parapet wall at South Fort.



FIGURE 159. Commercial development along South Washington Street is visible from South Fort.

located behind a clump of trees along the northern edge of the fortification's parapet wall. (Fig. 163). Metal tablets are also associated with each of the site's emplaced artillery pieces. These are similar in design to the older tablet described above under the Louisiana Circle site. They are painted red to reflect their association with a feature of the Confederate defensive system of fortifications.

The two cannon placed within the interior of the fort face south towards South Washington Street and the Mississippi River (Fig. 164). The artillery piece facing the river is larger than the one facing South Washington Street. It interprets the original 10-inch Columbiad stationed in this location to fire upon approaching vessels (Fig. 165). The other is a 12-pounder bronze field howitzer.

The site also includes three USGS survey markers (Fig. 166). One is located in a secondary parapet wall near the center of the fort. Another is found in the northern section of the parapet along Washington Street. The third edges the small parking node near the bronze tablet. Within the fort there is a small concrete slab and two area drains. The former use of the slab is not apparent today. One of the drains is located below the interior parapet; the second is located in the northern part of the fort interior near a small clump of trees growing on the parapet wall.

Woody vegetation occupies the margins of the parcel below the fortification's parapet walls. The majority of the existing woody vegetation is comprised of invasive exotics, such as Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*), paper mulberry (*Broussonetia papyrifera*), and two types of privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*, *L. lucidum*), as well as native hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*) and cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) trees, edge the parcel below the parapet wall. This vegetation obscures views of the river (Fig. 167). Bermuda grass covers most of the fortification associated with the ditch, parapet walls, and their interior. Near the artillery piece there is the stump of a large tree.



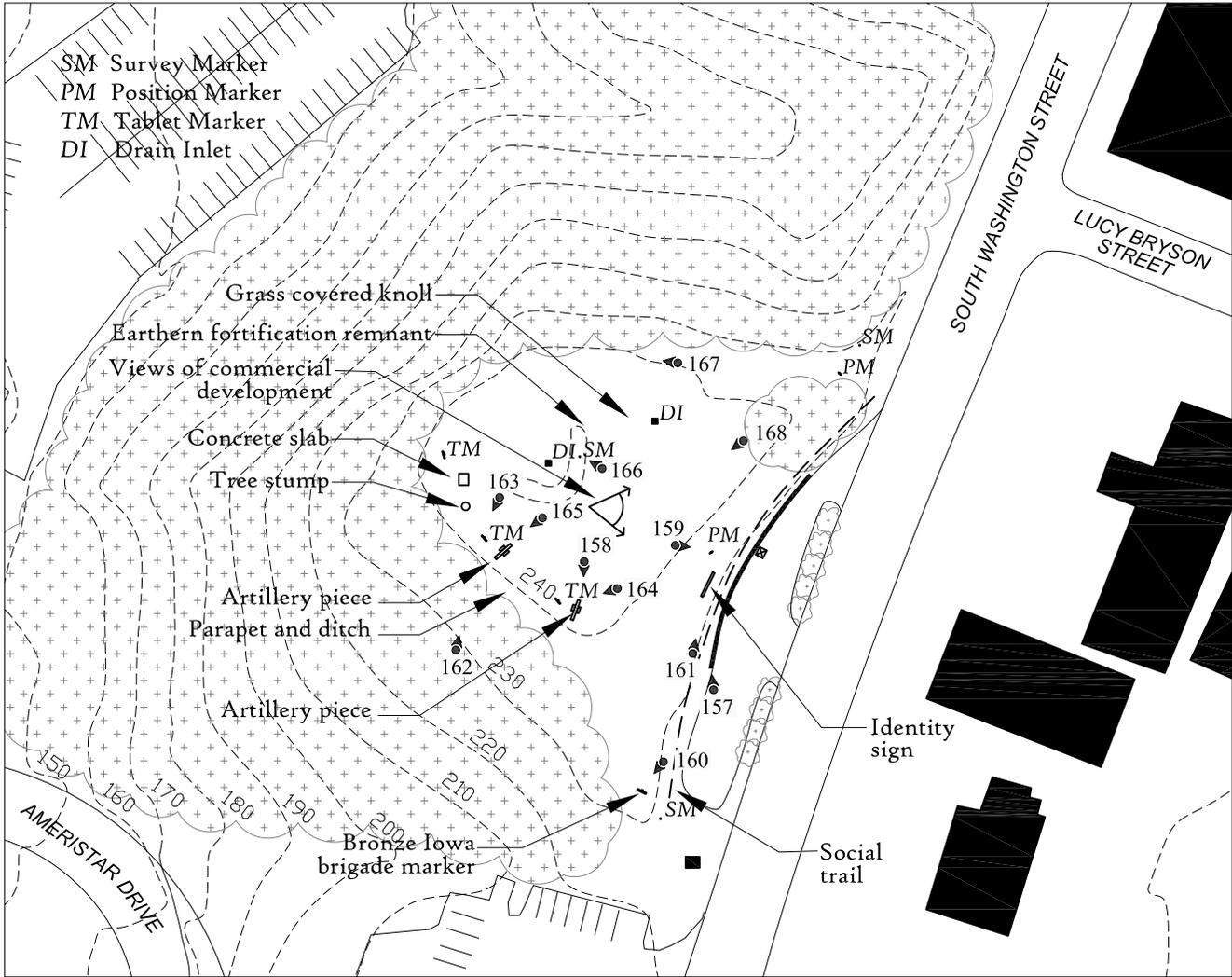
FIGURE 160. A bronze marker commemorating the role of Iowa brigades in the Civil War siege sites near the base of an electrical pole at South Fort.



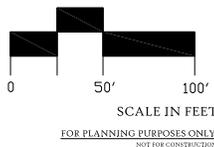
FIGURE 161. A social trail runs along the top of the rise at South Fort as there are no pedestrian paths leading into or around the fortification. An NPS identity sign is placed in the slope above the concrete block wall.



FIGURE 162. The parapet walls of the fortification at South Fort remain in good condition and retain a strong profile.



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Cultural Landscape Report
 Vicksburg National Military Park

Existing Conditions
 South Fort
 Figure 156



FIGURE 163. A metal position marker tablet locating Company G of the 1st Louisiana Heavy Artillery is located along the northern edge of the fortification's parapet wall.



FIGURE 166. Three USGS survey markers are located at South Fort.



FIGURE 164. The two cannons placed within the interior of South Fort face south toward South Washington Street and the Mississippi River.



FIGURE 167. Woody vegetation occupying the margins of the parcel below the fortification's parapet walls obscures views of the river from South Fort.



FIGURE 165. The artillery piece facing the river interprets the original 10-inch Columbiad stationed at South Fort.



FIGURE 168. There are bald spots in the turf grass on the earthen fortification at South Fort that may lead to erosion.

Condition-related problems observed in association with this parcel during field investigations conducted in April 2008 include the following:

- There is biological growth on the bronze tablet, which is also not very secure on its base and exhibits some corrosion and bowing of the tablet.
- There are bald spots in the turf grass on the earthen fortification that may lead to erosion. (Fig. 168)
- Social trails are worn in the turf grass where visitors are walking to reach the fortification.
- The concrete block retaining wall is leaning and bowing.
- The identity sign needs cleaning.
- Views of the river, important historically, are blocked.
- The cannon is set on concrete bases. One of these appears to be lifting up.
- One of the concrete USGS markers has the top edge broken off.
- There are many invasive exotic plants present within the parcel.

Inventory of Landscape Features

Natural Features and Systems

- Knoll landform

Cultural Vegetation

- Turf grass (primarily Bermuda grass)
- Hackberry and cherry laurel trees
- Crepe myrtle trees
- Various invasive exotic species forming a thicket edging the fortification to the south, west, and north

Topographic Modifications

- Civil War earthwork remnant atop knoll comprised of a perimeter ditch and parapet wall with a secondary parapet wall near the center of the interior

Patterns of Spatial Organization

- Elevated knoll landform encircled by woody vegetation

Land Uses

- Museum/Educational/Interpretive

Circulation

- Social trail

Buildings and Structures

- None

Views and Vistas

- Internal views within the fortification remnant; expansive views and views of the river are blocked by trees
- Views of surrounding commercial and highway development

Small-scale Features

- Identity sign
- Bronze Iowa monument
- Five cast iron tablets
- Two cannon
- Three survey markers
- Two drop inlets (area drains)

Navy Circle. Navy Circle (Fig. 169) is the southernmost of the park's three noncontiguous parcels along the Mississippi River. The approximately 2.75-acre parcel protects the surviving evidence of a Union fortification and gun emplacement sited to attack Confederate defensive positions during the spring and summer of 1863. This parcel also edges South Washington Street to its west. It overlooks the railroad bridge crossing of the Mississippi River, and is near the entrance ramp to the Interstate 20 Bridge (Fig. 170). The fort parcel abuts a visitor welcome center maintained by the City of Vicksburg. One of the visually prominent features of the parcel is a pedestrian bridge that extends from the welcome center to the fort's knoll across the access road leading to the railroad bridge. The bridge is founded within the fortification (Fig. 171). Large casino complexes are located along the Mississippi River within view of Navy Circle (Fig. 172). Additional commercial development along Washington Street is also visible from the site (Fig. 173).

Like Louisiana Circle, Navy Circle features a dramatic knoll overlooking the Mississippi River that contains the remains of an earthen fortification. A concrete roadway encircles the knoll, providing visitor access to the parcel (Fig. 174). The road corridor accommodates one-way traffic, with the entrance occurring in conjunction with the visitor welcoming center access road. The access road exits along South Washington Street north of the fortification. A small directional sign indicates the entrance into the parcel, and stop signs are located at the exit. The twenty-foot-wide road corridor flares to twenty-eight feet along its northern margin to provide parallel parking for approximately three cars (Fig. 174).



FIGURE 170. Navy Circle overlooks the railroad bridge crossing the Mississippi River and is near the entrance ramp to the Interstate 20 bridge.



FIGURE 171. A pedestrian bridge crosses the access road at Navy Circle, extending from a nearby welcome center to the fort's knoll.



FIGURE 172. Large casinos are located along the Mississippi River within view of Navy Circle.

The road is edged by a low, rounded, mountable concrete curb and a concrete-post-and-wood-timber guard rail similar in character to the features found at Louisiana Circle. Below the guard rail to the north is a concrete retaining wall that extends for a portion of the embankment below the roadway (Fig. 175). Two trash receptacles edge the guard rail, which has a sign mounted on it requesting that visitors not cross the barrier for their safety.

A flight of concrete steps leads up to the fort from the access road (Fig. 176). The steps are edged by tubular metal handrails. An asphalt walk leads from the stairs to a paved area encircling an artillery piece (Fig. 177). There is a metal War Department-era tablet located near the cannon (Fig. 178). It is constructed similarly to those described above, but is painted blue to reflect the fort's association with the Union siege line. Another asphalt path leads from the paved circle to the pedestrian bridge, which is surfaced in concrete. A trash receptacle sits at the end of the bridge on a concrete landing (Fig. 179). This trash receptacle is similar to the one at South Fort, and comprised of a metal frame and cover, with exposed aggregate panels inset along the sides.

Vegetation associated with the Navy Circle landscape includes turf grass over much of the earthwork, and the remains of a damaged deciduous tree along the edge of the guard rail. There are ornamental plantings near the entrance to the parcel and in the planting strip between the park unit access road and the bridge access road below; these plantings are likely not on NPS property. The trees along the road are crepe myrtles, while the ornamental plantings include trees such as crepe myrtle and autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*) and azaleas (*Rhododendron sp.*).



FIGURE 173. Commercial development along Washington Street is visible from Navy Circle.



FIGURE 174. A concrete roadway encircles the knoll, providing visitor access to Navy Circle. Parking for approximately three cars is provided along the northern margin of the road. The road is edged by a low, rounded, mountable concrete curb and a concrete-post-and-wood-timber guard rail.



FIGURE 175. Below the guard rail along the Navy Circle access road to the north is a concrete retaining wall that extends for a portion of the embankment.

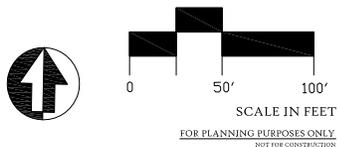
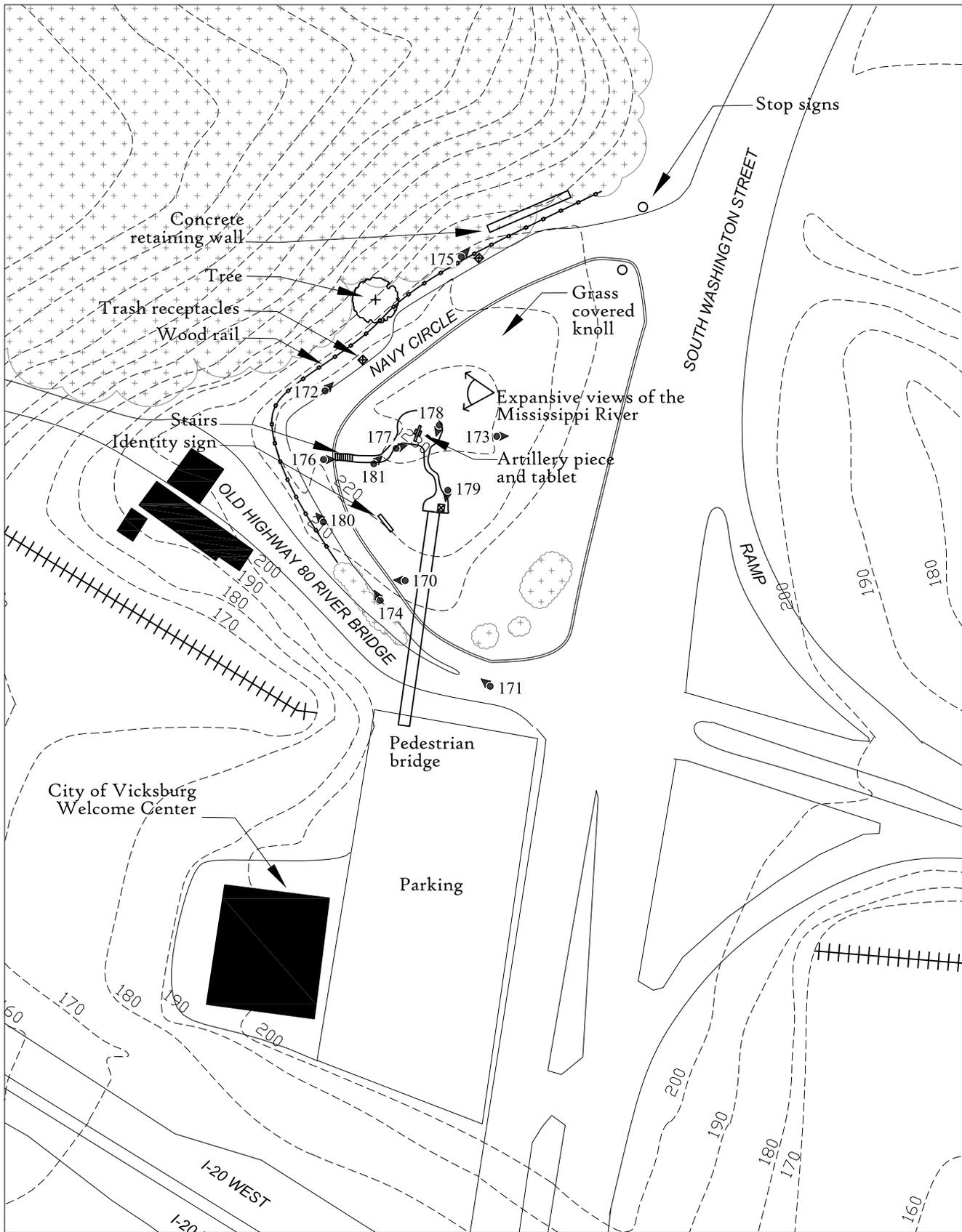




FIGURE 176. A flight of concrete steps leads up to the fort from the access road at Navy Circle. Erosion is undercutting the edge of the stairs.



FIGURE 179. A trash receptacle sits at the end of the bridge leading to the welcome center from Navy Circle.



FIGURE 177. An asphalt walk leads from the stairs at Navy Circle to a paved area encircling an artillery piece. There are bald spots in the turf grass in the vicinity of the walk; this condition may lead to erosion.



FIGURE 180. Portions of the timber guard rail along the Navy Circle access road have been damaged by cars.



FIGURE 178. There is a metal War Department-era tablet located near the cannon at Navy Circle.



FIGURE 181. The asphalt on the walk leading to the top of the fortification at Navy Circle is cracking.

Condition-related problems observed in association with this parcel during field investigations conducted in April 2008 include the following:

- The concrete paving and curbing are cracked and broken in some locations. The pavement is being patched with a black asphaltic material that contrasts with the color of the paving.
- Portions of the timber guard rail have been damaged by cars, and one of the concrete piers is broken (Fig. 180).
- Erosion is undercutting the concrete stair (Fig. 176).
- The asphalt on the walk is cracking (Fig. 181).
- There are bald spots in the turf grass on the earthen fortification that may lead to erosion, particularly in the vicinity of the artillery piece (Fig. 177).
- Social trails are worn in the turf grass where visitors are walking beyond the available path.
- The artillery piece needs painting.
- The handrail does not extend the entire length of the stairs.
- The deciduous tree along the circular drive that was damaged in a storm needs to be removed.
- Views from the fortification are affected by non-historic commercial developments including casinos and businesses and overhead electrical lines.

Inventory of Landscape Features

Natural Features and Systems

- Knoll landform
- Deciduous tree (damaged) along slope below circular road

Cultural Vegetation

- Turf grass (Bermuda grass)

Topographic Modifications

- Civil War earthwork remnant sited atop a knoll

Patterns of Spatial Organization

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

Land Uses

- Museum/Educational/Interpretive

Circulation

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

Buildings and Structures

- Pedestrian bridge/elevated walkway

Views and Vistas

- Expansive views to the Mississippi River, I-20 bridge, railroad bridge
- Views of surrounding commercial and highway development

Small-scale Features

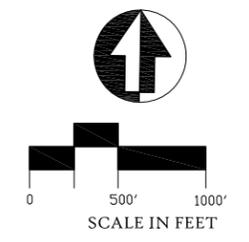
- Concrete post and wood timber guard rail
- Trash receptacles
- Identity sign
- Regulatory signage
- Metal handrail
- Cast iron tablet
- Artillery piece
- Concrete retaining wall



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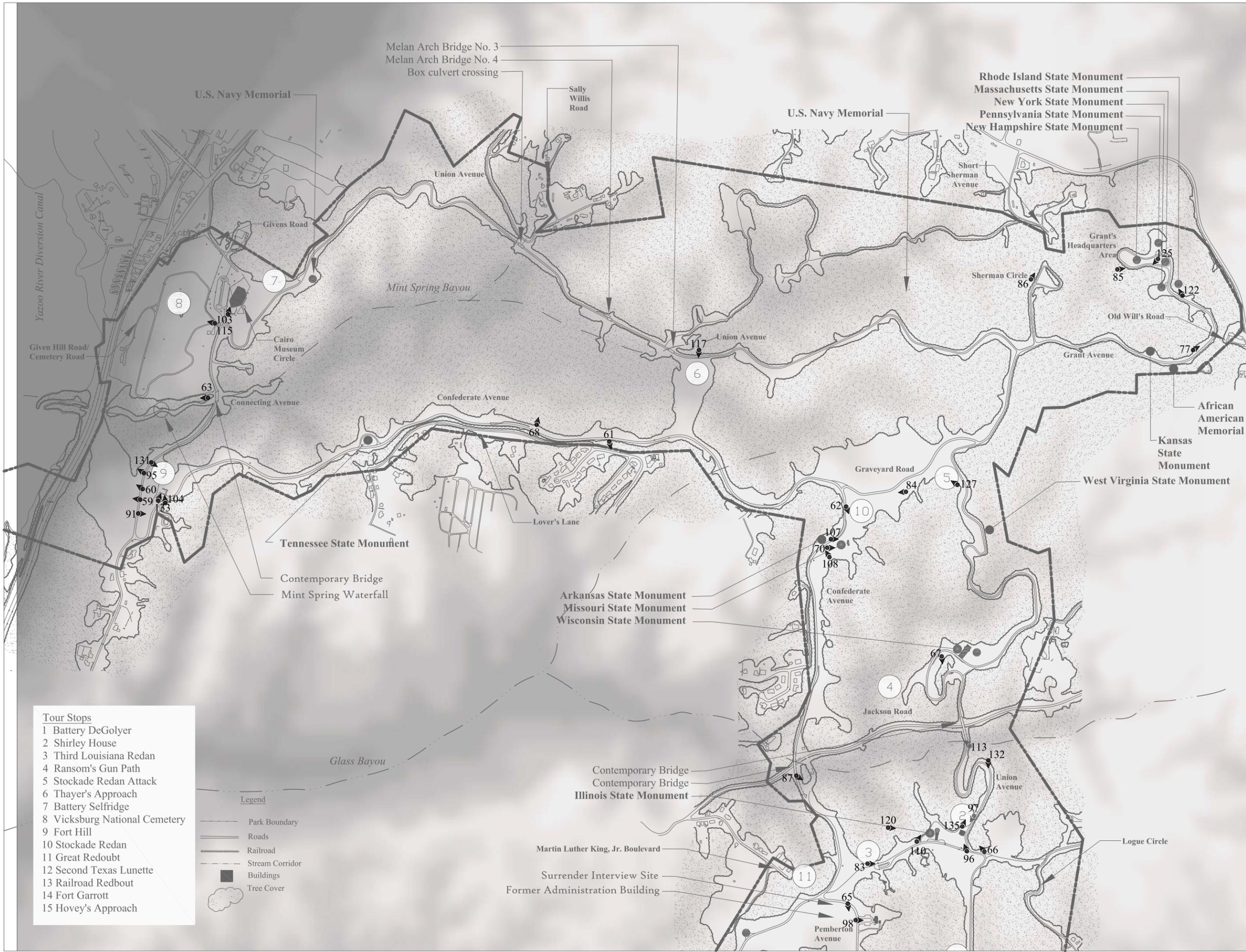
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Existing Conditions
 Photo Station Points
 North

Figure 182



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

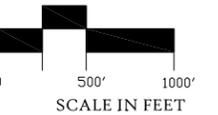
- Legend**
- Park Boundary
 - Roads
 - Railroad
 - Stream Corridor
 - Buildings
 - ☁ Tree Cover



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Tour Stops

- 1 Battery DeGolyer
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- 5 Stockade Redan Attack
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- 7 Battery Selfridge
- 8 Vicksburg National Cemetery
- 9 Fort Hill
- 10 Stockade Redan
- 11 Great Redoubt
- 12 Second Texas Lunette
- 13 Railroad Redboubt
- 14 Fort Garrott
- 15 Hovey's Approach

Legend

- Park Boundary
- Roads
- Railroad
- Stream Corridor
- Buildings
- Tree Cover

Existing Conditions
 Photo Station Points
 South

Figure 183