National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Vicksburg National Military Park

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Superintendent's Compendium
Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

Approved:

William T. Justice, Superintendent

Date: May 11, 2015

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following regulatory provisions are established for the proper management, protection, government and public use of those portions of Vicksburg National Military Park and Vicksburg National Cemetery under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

I. 36 CFR §1.5, *et seq.* – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES

(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:

Visiting Hours

- Visitor Center — 8:00 am - 5:00 pm daily, all year
- Tour Road — 8:00 am - 5:00 pm daily, all year
  Vehicle Access

  The Tour Road also is accessible from dawn to dusk, all year, for pedestrian & bicycle traffic only.
- U.S.S. Cairo Museum — 8:30 am – 5:00 pm daily, all year
- National Cemetery — 8:00 am – Till sunset, all year
- Navy Circle — 8:00 am - 5:00 pm daily, all year
- South Fort
  Mississippi Overlook
  Maloney Circle
  Grant's Canal
- Pemberton's Headquarters
  Shirley House — Open for special events or when staffing is available
- Park archives and library — Available to researchers by appointment only

Determination: Visiting hours are established based on the availability of staff, to ensure an enjoyable and safe visitor experience, and to assure adequate protection of park resources. After hours use, nighttime activity and overnight parking create a number of impacts that would be inconsistent with the protection of park resources.

Public Use Limits:

- Pedestrian use of the park tour road is restricted to the lane designated by a painted white line. Pedestrians using the tour road in sections not delineated by a white line should walk single file, and as near to the side of the road as possible.

  Determination: Pedestrian use of the tour road is appropriate for enjoying park resources. The above limitations are established to ensure the safety of recreationists, as well as that of the motoring public.

- Motor vehicles may only stop or park in designated parking areas or in pull-outs along the roadway. No off-road operation or parking of motor vehicles is permitted.

  Determination: Parking or driving off designated roadways or parking facilities can create opportunities for erosion and otherwise damage park resources.

Closures:

- The park will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

  Determination: This closure allows all park employees the opportunity to enjoy these holidays with their families and friends.

- The Superintendent may close any portion of the park and/or roadways to public access during prescribed fires, periods of ice, snow, or any other potentially hazardous conditions or emergencies. Roadways may be closed with gates, barricades, or other traffic control devices. Driving around or past these devices is prohibited.

  Determination: This closure allows for protection of resources or for assurance of public safety during periods of unusual or unpredictable circumstances.

- Employee residences located in the park are closed to public access.

  Determination: The residences are the private domiciles of the employees.

- The use of private vehicles on the extension of Old Jackson Road and Givens Road is prohibited.

  Determination: These two roads are maintained for service vehicles only; use of the roads is not necessary to reach any public facilities or park features.

- The park is closed to picnicking except in the areas designated for that purpose located on the grounds outside the USS Cairo Museum, at Tour Stop 12, Rest Area located at visitor center parking lot, or at any location designed by the Superintendent as part of a special use permit.

  Determination: Opportunities exist outside the park for this activity. The areas listed above provide a reasonable accommodation for those touring the park without interrupting their route. Outside of these approved areas, it would be inconsistent with the preservation and protection of resource values at hallowed battleground sites.

- The park is closed to camping except for living history encampments or for other groups whom may camp in conjunction with a park-sponsored activity.

  Determination: Opportunities exist outside the park for camping. There are no designated campgrounds in the park. Infrastructure does not support campgrounds. Living history groups camp in the park during interpretive events and events supporting the administration of the park to further the park mission.

- The park is closed to swimming and bathing.

  Determination: It is unsafe to swim or bath in waters within the park.

- Geo-caching is prohibited throughout the park and National Cemetery except that virtual and Earth caching is allowed.

  Determination: The entire park consists of hallowed battleground and historically significant resources. Methods of stashing items such as digging, burying, covering and otherwise concealing items are sometimes used while geocaching, and are inappropriate within these areas. Abandoning and leaving property unattended is unlawful. The activity in itself could appear suspicious to bystanders and staff alike who might misinterpret what the individual is doing. This type of recreational activity is inconsistent with the preservation and protection of resource values and inconsistent with the park's purposes and values.

- All park trails and grounds are closed to off-road bicycling, equestrian use, and motorized recreation.

  Determination: Soils throughout most of the park are highly erodible. The indicated uses could result in erosion that would damage natural or cultural resources.

- Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Vicksburg National Military Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the superintendent.

  Definition: The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communications links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g., model airplanes, quadcopters, and drones) that are used for any purpose including for recreation or commerce.

  Determination: Operation of unmanned aircraft has significant potential to create unreasonable noise and other intrusions that would adversely affect the experiences of visitors and the solemnity of the park. Careless operation of unmanned aircraft could result in collisions with park monuments, possibly causing damage to these historic resources. Careless operation also could affect visitor safety via collisions or by distracting motor vehicle operators or recreational users. Implementation of this closure at this time will allow the National Park Service to evaluate the appropriateness of the use on a long-term basis.

(a)(2) The following restrictions and/or conditions are in effect for the specific uses or activities noted:

- Recreational and Sporting Activities:

  Vicksburg National Military Park and Vicksburg National Cemetery are closed to recreational and sporting activities including, but not limited to the following: skating (including roller-skating and in-line skating), skateboarding, pocket motorcycles, field games, flying model airplanes or operation of other radio controlled models, rocket launching, kite flying, throwing objects through the air (Frisbees, balls, etc.), skiing, sledding and similar winter activities, and sunbathing. Prohibited activities do not include walking, hiking, jogging, running, or on-road bicycling.

  Determination: Ample opportunities exist outside the park for these activities. These types of activities are inconsistent with the preservation and protection of resource values and interfere with the peace and tranquility of the landscape and are inconsistent with the reason the park was created.

- Passenger Carrying Buses:
  Engines must be shut down when parked for a period of more than five minutes.

  Determination: The idling of bus engines adds unnecessary noise and exhaust fumes to the air, thereby diminishing the peace and tranquility of the park and its enjoyment by visitors.

II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT

The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required: Information and applications to request a permit can be obtained at Vicksburg National Military Park during regular business hours, 8:00 am-5:00 pm. Monday to Friday. Contact us at 601-636-0583 or via the internet at www.nps.gov/vick/permits, or mail addressed to Superintendent, Vicksburg National Military Park, 3201 Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183.

- § 2.4 (d) Carry or possess weapon, trap or net
  - Firearms may be carried or possessed in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.
  - Other weapons as defined under 36 CFR 1.4 will require a permit

- § 2.5 (a) Specimen Collection (the taking of any plant, fish, wildlife, rocks, or minerals)

- § 2.10 Camping and Food Storage

- § 2.12 Audio Disturbances:
  - (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51

- § 2.17 Aircraft & Air Delivery:
  - (a)(3) Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means
  - (c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft

- § 2.37 Noncommercial soliciting

- § 2.38 Explosives:
  - (a) Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents

- (b) Use or possess fireworks

- § 2.50(a) Conduct a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events

- § 2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views
  - Demonstrations involving 25 persons or fewer may be held without a permit within designated park area.
  - Demonstrations involving more than 25 persons require a permit.
  - Per 36 CFR § 12.4, no demonstrations may be held in Vicksburg National Cemetery.

- § 2.52(c) Sale or distribution of printer matter that is not solely commercial advertising

- § 2.60(b) Livestock use

- § 2.62 Memorialization:
  - (a) Erection of monuments (Requires approval from Director)
  - (b) Scattering ashes from human cremation

- § 4.11(a) Exceeding of established vehicle load, weight and size limits

- § 5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution.)

- § 5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (Requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).

- § 5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
  - (a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television

  - (b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising.

- § 5.6(c) Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads (The superintendent shall issue a permit to access private lands within or adjacent to the park when access is otherwise not available)

- § 5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, boat docks, path, structure, etc.

Part 12 National Cemeteries

- § 12.6(b) Disinterment of remains from National Cemetery.

Part 25 National Military Parks; Licensed Guide Service Regulation

- § 25.2(a) All persons offering services or acting as a guide representing Vicksburg National Military Park will be licensed by the superintendent. Requests for application to become a guide will be made in writing to the superintendent.

III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

(a)(4) Dead wood on the ground may be collected for use as fuel for campfires within the park in the following areas:

- Parkwide, but only for authorized living history demonstrations

Determination: Campfires are not permitted within the park except those events associated with living history demonstrations or otherwise authorized by the superintendent.

(a)(5) The following conditions are in effect for walking, climbing, entering, ascending or traversing the listed archeological or cultural resource, monuments or statues:

- Climbing is not permitted on monuments and cannons

Determination: Climbing on cannons and monuments, as well as traversing archeological or cultural resources can be unsafe and unduly affect the preservation of these features.

(c)(1), (c)(2) Fruits, nuts, or berries may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption, in accordance with the noted size, quantity, collection sites and/or use or consumption restrictions:

- The gathering in small quantities (one dry gallon per day, per person) of fruits, nuts, and berries is permitted. The gathering of these products is prohibited on or near historic features (earthworks). Climbing on trees to collect within Vicksburg National Military Park also is prohibited.

Determination: Limitations placed on the collection of fruits, nuts and berries are necessary to preserve resources for wildlife and encourages species growth.

36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

(e) The following areas are closed to the viewing of wildlife with the use of an artificial light:

- All of Vicksburg National Military Park

Determination: Visiting hours are established based on the availability of staff, to ensure an enjoyable and safe visitor experience, and to assure adequate protection of park resources. After hours use and nighttime activity create a number of impacts that would be inconsistent with the protection of park wildlife. The superintendent may authorize the use of artificial light for scientific and resource purposes.

36 CFR §2.4 – WEAPONS, TRAPS, OR NETS

(a)(1)(i) - (iii) Visitors may possess and carry firearms within Vicksburg National Military Park and Vicksburg National Cemetery in accordance with federal, state, and local laws.

Federal law prohibits firearms in certain park facilities and buildings. These places are marked with signs at public entrances. The federal facilities for Vicksburg National Military Park and Vicksburg National Cemetery are as follows:

Vicksburg National Military Park	Visitor center, U.S.S. Cairo Museum, Pemberton's Headquarters, Park Maintenance Facility, Old Superintendent's Quarters, Curatorial Storage, Restoration Shop
Vicksburg National Cemetery	Cemetery, Maintenance Facility

Conditions for Weapons

The possession and use historic weapons necessary to support interpretive and educational demonstrations is permitted, subject to limitations described in a permit issued by the superintendent. Use of the historic weapons will be in a manner consistent with all National Park Service policies related to historic black powder firing demonstrations.

36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE

- The park is closed to camping except under conditions as identified in1.5(a)(1) "closures"

36 CFR §2.11 – PICNICKING

- The park is closed to picnicking except in designated picnic areas as identified in1.5(a)(1) "closures"

36 CFR §2.13 – FIRES

Conditions for Fires

- Lighting or maintaining a fire within Vicksburg National Military Park is prohibited except:
  - Small campfires contained within well-defined fire circles as part of an overnight living history encampment (with permit from the Superintendent).
  - Barbeque fires contained within an appropriate grilling device in a park housing area.
  - Prescribed fires for management of resources as authorized by an approved burn plan.

Determination: Limitations on the use of fire are necessary to prevent adverse impacts to resources, as well as to prevent fire from escaping to adjoining lands and residential areas.

36 CFR §2.15 – PETS

Conditions for Pets:

(a)(1) Service animals only are permitted in park facilities.

(a)(5) All animal waste must be removed no matter the location (road, paths, trail, open field, or around buildings). Visitors bringing pets to the park must carry on their person a bag or other device for the containerization and removal of excrement. Visitors shall immediately containerize and remove pet excrement by depositing it in a trash receptacle or by otherwise taking the excrement from the park.

(e) Pets may be kept by park residents. Any exterior kennel, dog house, or similar structure must not create an inappropriate intrusion on the park's cultural landscape and must be approved by the Superintendent. Only two common domestic pets are permitted, unless a greater number has been authorized by the superintendent. Park residents may not keep livestock.

Electronic ("shock") collars do not meet the requirements for physical restraint of a pet as required by 36 CFR § 2.15(a)(2). Pets must be crated, caged, or restrained on a leash not exceeding six feet in length.

Determination: Limitations on pets within the park are necessary to ensure a positive visitor experience for all, as well as to prevent possible resource damage that could be created by uncontrolled pets.

36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING

(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking:

- All facilities and structures including park residences
- All government vehicles

Conditions of Smoking

Employees may smoke while on breaks or other personal time in any area generally outside of public view and no closer than within 25 feet of any building entrance that is most usually used by visitors.

Determination: Regulations do not permit smoking in government vehicles, structures and other public facilities.

36 CFR §2.23 – RECREATION FEES

(b) Recreation fees, and/or a permit, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation uses:

- Entrance Fee Areas:

  All park land. Visitors entering the park at locations other than the Clay Street or Fort Hill Drive gates should already have obtained an entrance permit from one of those locations.

- Entrance Fee Schedule, effective January 1, 2015

Passenger vehicle (valid for 7 days)	$ 8.00
Individuals (pedestrians, bicyclists, motor-cyclists, joggers, etc.	$ 4.00
Bus Passenger/Church Van	$ 4.00 per person
Commercial Tours	
1-6 person capacity	$ 25.00
7-25 person capacity	$ 40.00
More than 25 person capacity	$ 100.00
Vicksburg Annual Pass	$ 20.00
Interagency Annual Pass	$ 80.00
Interagency Senior Pass	$ 10.00
Interagency Access Pass	No Charge
Interagency Military Pass	No Charge

- Special Park Uses Permit Fee (Such as but not limited to, group activities, recreation events, etc.)

Application Fee	$ 25.00
Permit Fee	Varies, based on cost recovery

36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:

All areas of Vicksburg National Military Park and Vicksburg National Cemetery except:

- Park residences
- Other areas when included as a provision of a special use permit issued by the Superintendent

Determination: Because of the prevalence of bluffs, cliffs, steep slopes, and other natural hazards in the park, consumption of alcohol can create a concern for visitor safety. In addition, consumption of alcohol is inappropriate. As such, consumption could interfere with visitors' appreciation of the historic scene and resources.

36 CFR §2.38 – EXPLOSIVES

(a) Using, possessing, storing, or transporting explosives, blasting agents or explosive materials are prohibited.
(b) Using or possessing fireworks is prohibited

Conditions for Explosives

The possession and use of small quantities of black powder necessary to support historic weapons demonstrations is permitted, subject to limitations described in a permit issued by the superintendent. Use of the black powder will be in a manner consistent with all National Park Service policies related to historic black powder firing demonstrations.

Determination: Fireworks can intrude upon the park's contemplative visitor experience, create a safety concern, and possibly start unwanted wildfires. Black powder and other explosives are similarly dangerous, unless used under carefully controlled and supervised settings such as a historic weapons demonstration.

36 CFR § 2.51 – DEMONSTRATIONS

(b) Demonstrations are allowed within park areas designated as available under paragraph (c)(2) of this section, when the superintendent has issued a permit for the activity.

- Demonstrations involving 25 persons or fewer may be held without a permit within the designated park areas noted below.

- Demonstrations involving more than 25 persons always require a permit, as provided for under this section.

(c)(2) Locations designated as available for demonstrations and the sale or distribution of printed matter.

- The following areas are designated on Map 1 and Map 2, which are attached to this compendium as an appendix.

  - Area A: The lawn area immediately adjacent to the visitor center and north of the park tour road (demonstrators must stay off the earthworks in this area) (Map 1)
  - Area B: The lawn area south of the tour road, west of the entrance drive, and north of a line approximately 25 feet north of, and parallel to Clay Street (Map 1)
  - Area C: The lawn area in the triangle formed between the tour road, the USS Cairo parking lot, and the walkway from that parking lot to the USS Cairo Museum (Map 2)

- Per 36 CFR § 12.4, no demonstrations may be held in Vicksburg National Cemetery.

36 CFR §2.62 – MEMORIALIZATION

(b) A permit is required for the scattering of ashes from cremated human remains, or in the following designated areas without a permit, and/or according to the following terms and conditions:

The scattering of human ashes from cremation is allowed pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit as authorized by the Superintendent.

36 CFR §3.21 – SWIMMING AND BATHING

(a)(1) The following areas are closed to swimming, bathing, tubing, diving and wading within park boundary:

- The entire park is closed to swimming.

  Determination: It is unsafe to swim or bathe in waters within the park.

36 CFR §4.11 – VEHICLE LOAD, WEIGHT AND SIZE LIMITS

(a) The following load, weight and size limits, which are more restrictive than State law, apply to the roads indicated under the terms and conditions, and/or under permit as noted:

- No vehicle in excess of 14 feet in height, 50 feet in length, or 60,000 pounds gross vehicle weight is allowed on any park roads.

  Determination: The stated limits are necessary because of low clearances, sharp curves, and bridge capacity along the park tour road.

36 CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS

(b) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- Tour Road - 25 mph
- Parking lots and Service Roads - 15 mph
- National Cemetery Road - 15 mph

Determination: Speed limits are necessary to ensure a safe and enjoyable visitor experience.

36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES

(a) The use of a bicycle is prohibited except on park roads and parking lots.

- Bicyclists using the tour road must ride in the direction of traffic flow.

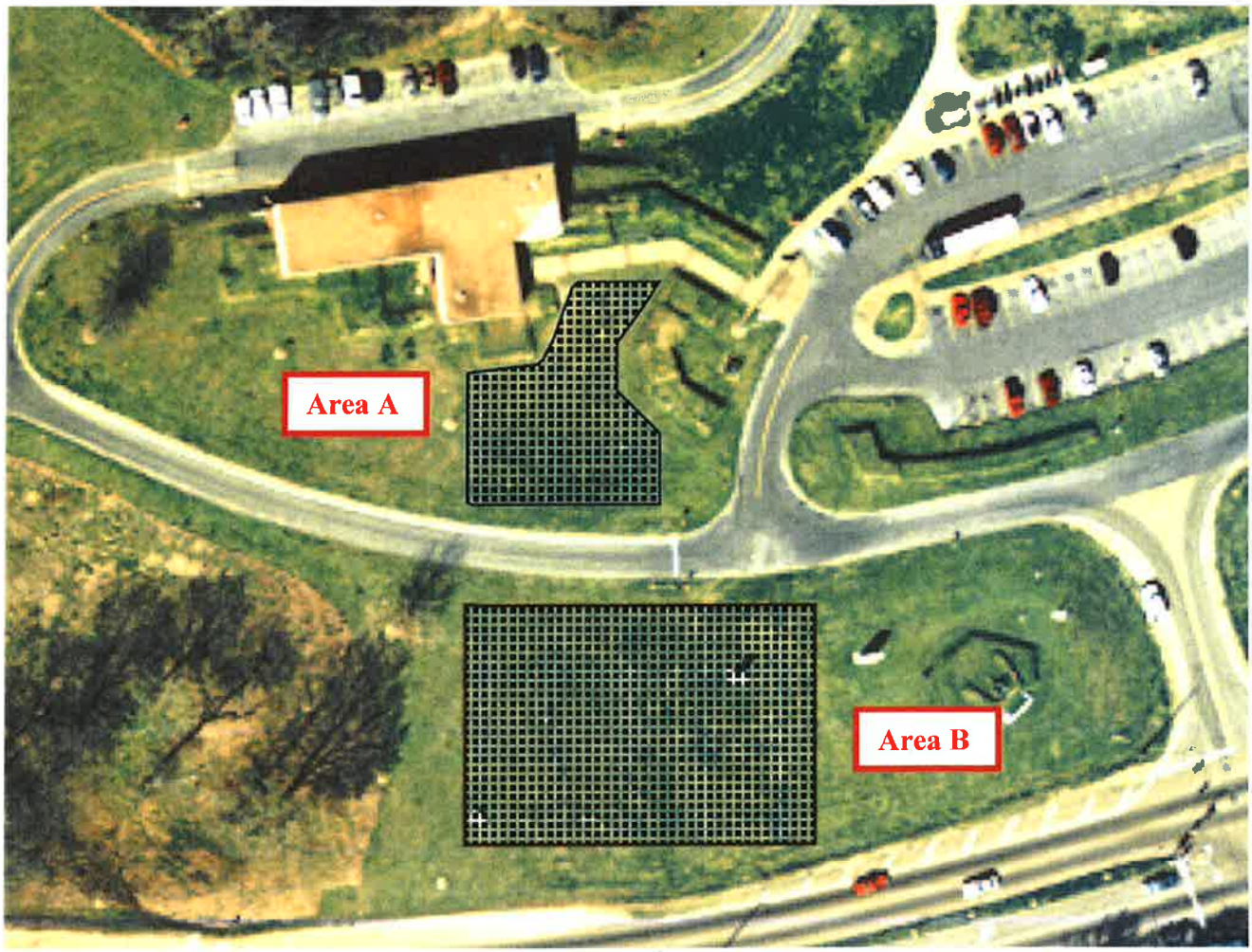
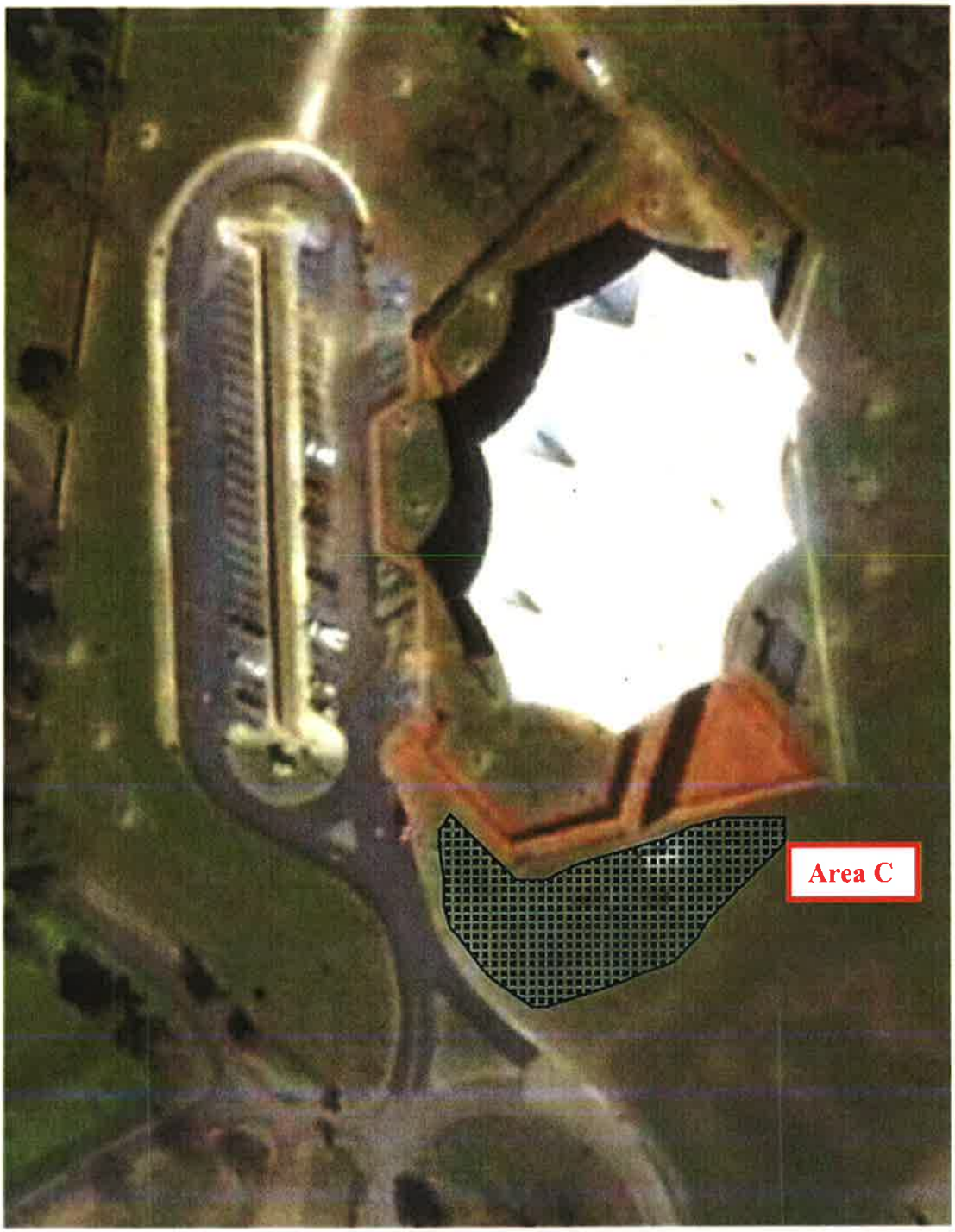
- No bicycle shall be operated off established roadways. Bicycles are not permitted on sidewalks, monuments, or the Thayer's Approach Tunnel. Bicycles must be walked on sidewalks, and must not be left unattended on a sidewalk.

  Determination: Bicycle use of the tour road is appropriate for enjoying park resources. The above limitations are established to ensure the safety of recreationists, as well as that of the motoring public.

36 CFR §$5.5 COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

(a) Commercial filming or videotaping is prohibited without authorization by the superintendent
(b) Commercial still photography is prohibited without authorization by the superintendent

MAP 1
DEMONSTRATION AREA: VISITOR CENTER VICINITY



MAP 2
DEMONSTRATION AREA: U.S.S. CAIRO MUSEUM VICINITY