National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2022



Shirley House

Vicksburg National Military Park

[Internal Review/Park Review/SHPO Review]

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Chapter 1: General

Region

Southeast

Park Alpha Code

VICK

Park Org Code

5600

Resource Type

Cultural Landscape

Resource Classification

Cultural Landscape

Inventory Status

Complete

Resource ID

550187

Resource Name

Shirley House

Parent Landscape

N/A

Parent Resource ID

N/A

State

MS

Park Name

Vicksburg National Military Park

Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System:

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archaeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL. CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI).

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)
The CLI is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant landscapes in which NPS has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest. Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following:

Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation; or, Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register; or, Landscape does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as cultural resources because law, policy or decisions reached through the park planning process.

Cultural landscapes vary from historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes to historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also fit within more than one type. Those eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity.

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are: *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish…a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places…of properties…*

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)…Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA…No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior…

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c) each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying…historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Councill and the Secretary…

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories…about cultural resources in units of the national park system…Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,…and historic sites…

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Landscape Description

The Shirley House is a historic site located within Vicksburg National Military Park (VICK), significant under Criteria A and C. It is one of only two surviving antebellum dwellings associated with the park and the only such located within the main battlefield unit. The Shirley House, first known as "Wexford Lodge," was built by Nicholas Gray circa 1837 along the road that connected the city of Vicksburg, Mississippi, with the capital at Jackson. The house was acquired by Judge James Shirley in 1851. Shirley and his family were residents of the property when the Union Army, under the command of Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, reached the line of Confederate defenses that stretched in a horseshoe-shaped arc around the city of Vicksburg, and were an essential part of the strategy to maintain control of the adjacent Mississippi River. The Shirley House sat within view of one of the massive Confederate fortifications that protected one of Grant's potential avenues of approach to the city—the Jackson Road. After Grant failed to overtake the Confederate line in two attempts in May 1863, he initiated a siege that would last forty-seven days. During the siege, divisions of Grant's army camped along ridges that paralleled the Confederate line and maintained pressure on the opposing forces with artillery fire while also initiating elaborate tunneling operations aimed at undermining the major fortifications at the approach routes into the city. During the siege, the Shirley House property was occupied by the 45th Illinois; members of the regiment camped on the property in tents, and in excavated spaces within a ravine near the house where they were protected from enemy artillery while trenches were excavated toward the Third Louisiana Redan located to the southwest along the Jackson Road. The house served as an important landmark throughout the siege and was referred to as the White House by Union troops.

Today, the Shirley House remains an important element of the battlefield and is one of the highlights of the visitor tour route associated with Vicksburg National Military Park. The park was established on February 21, 1899, "to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg, Mississippi, and to preserve the history of the battles and operations of the siege and defense on the ground where they were fought and carried on." Extending over more than 1,800 acres, Vicksburg National Military Park protects, commemorates, and interprets the Vicksburg

campaign, battles, and siege of 1863. The park is composed of the main battlefield unit, where the Shirley House is located, as well as several discontiguous sites, including the house used by Confederate Gen. John C. Pemberton as his headquarters, which is located in downtown Vicksburg, and several fortifications overlooking the Mississippi River. Located along the northwestern edge of the park is Vicksburg National Cemetery, established in 1866 to honor Union soldiers who died during the siege in Vicksburg and elsewhere throughout the Southeast during the campaign and siege of Vicksburg, including Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Following the establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park, park commissioners worked with veterans of the siege to mark the locations where divisions were positioned, where engagement occurred, and other key physical features of the military landscape, including trench lines. The system used to mark places of military importance included masonry monuments and metal tablets and markers. Each state maintaining a troop presence was invited to erect a monument on the battlefield. Today, Vicksburg National Military Park features 28 state monuments, 2 memorial arches, and more than 1,300 smaller monuments, statues, busts, tablets, relief portraits, and position markers. These can be experienced by visitors along a 16-mile tour road system that follows the opposing lines via Confederate and Union Avenues. The Shirley House property is interpreted at tour stop 2 along Union Avenue, and contains several examples of troop position monuments and markers and a relief portrait; the impressive state memorial erected by Illinois is located nearby the house to the west.

The Shirley House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource of the Vicksburg National Military Park Historic District. The house is significant for its antebellum architecture, its association with the siege of Vicksburg, and for its association with the development of Vicksburg National Military Park. The house has served as the residence for the park superintendent, offices, and a museum. It is currently open to the public on a limited basis. The National Park Service (NPS) interprets the antebellum history of the property inside the house, as well as within the surrounding landscape.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Shirley House is nationally significant under CRITERIA A and C in the areas of military and art and commemoration for its association with early Vicksburg settlement; the siege of Vicksburg, which essentially gave the Union control of the Mississippi River; and establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park. It is additionally significant at the local level under CRITERION C as a good example in Vicksburg of an antebellum, side-gabled, hall-and-parlor house, a common vernacular house type in this region of Mississippi, with elements of the federal style of architecture. The period during which this property conveys significance begins with construction of the house circa 1830s and extends to the end of the siege in 1863. A second period of significance relates to its role in park development, which begins circa 1899, and ends with National Park Service restoration of the house as part of Mission 66 in 1967. *– add larger park significance too*

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

Today, the Shirley House landscape most closely approximates the character present by the end of the identified period of significance—1966—as opposed to the antebellum, Civil War, or early park development periods. However, changes have continued to be made to the property since the Mission 66 restoration, notably based on the 2004 HSR that led to extensive repair work being completed in 2011–2012. In addition to repairs to the house, accessible parking, new walks and stairs, and plantings were installed on the property in 2011. The viewshed from the house was also opened up around the same time period based on clearing recommendations provided in the 2009 CLR.

Several elements associated with the Shirley House landscape during the antebellum period and at the time of the siege are missing today and little is currently known about their historic character. These elements include various outbuildings, the original driveway, and the fields and gardens that supported the farm property. Similarly, much of the physical evidence of the Civil War siege, some of which was in view of the Shirley House, has been lost over time. Gone is the evidence of the earthen siegeworks associated with both armies and related features—gabions,

fascines, headlogs, abatis, chevaux de frise, bombproofs, magazines, soldier privies and latrines, huts and tent sites, and military access roads. Also missing today are views of the ravine where the shebangs were located. Several early park development period elements have also been lost, including five large iron tablets that edged the embankment along Union Avenue east of the Shirley House, cannon that flanked the stairs leading to the Illinois State Memorial, and views of the former tower east along old Jackson Road. Modifications to the old Jackson Road to accommodate visitors, such as widening, and the addition of parking and a brick walk were completed during and after the period of significance.

Although several archeological sites are recorded for the property, including the Shirley House, Shirley graves, Illinois Memorial, White House battery, and 1st Minnesota Light Artillery Battery, no archeological investigations have been conducted within the study area to date to confirm information relating to the identified missing features.

Otherwise, many of the historic qualities and characteristics of the historic landscape remain present, including the Shirley House, front walk, landform and topography, Union Avenue and old Jackson Road, the access drive that is part of the Illinois Circle Road, stormwater management features—paved swales along the roads and culverts and drop inlets—and numerous monuments, markers, and tablets erected by the War Department based on the input of the veterans during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

INTEGRITY. Overall, the Shirley House landscape possesses sufficient integrity to convey its historic associations. The property retains integrity of location, as it remains on its original site. The property also retains integrity of association due to the antebellum character of the house and the monumentation that ties it to siege and battle events and early park development. The property possesses integrity of setting for the early park development period due to the ongoing presence of the Illinois State Memorial and open interpreted siege landscape. The circa 1936 Old Administration Building is a feature that detracts from the historic view associated with the early park development period, although it was present by the later commemorative period and visible before tree cover grew up between the two buildings. Diminishing the integrity of setting is the

loss of the tower nearby and the woodland growth on the ravine where the shebangs were located. Integrity of feeling is also retained due to the open character, views, and monumentation that survive from the period of significance. Diminishing integrity of feeling are the new plantings along the front walks and associated wayside exhibit.

The property also possesses integrity of design, workmanship, and materials for the features that survive with integrity from the period of significance, such as the Shirley House, turf lawn, monuments and tablets, Shirley grave marker, trace of the Illinois Circle Road, with continued use of the north segment to access the Shirley House, and the front walk. While the new plantings along the front walk were selected for their historic association with the property, their arrangement, the use of a reddish colored mulch, and bed delineation convey a contemporary character that detracts from integrity of design and workmanship.

Landscape Hierarchy Description

The Shirley House is classified as a component cultural landscape in the CRIS database.

Recent Condition

N/A

Subsite/Child components

N/A

Landscape Type

Historic Site

Cover Page Graphic

See Cover Page.

Site Plan(s)

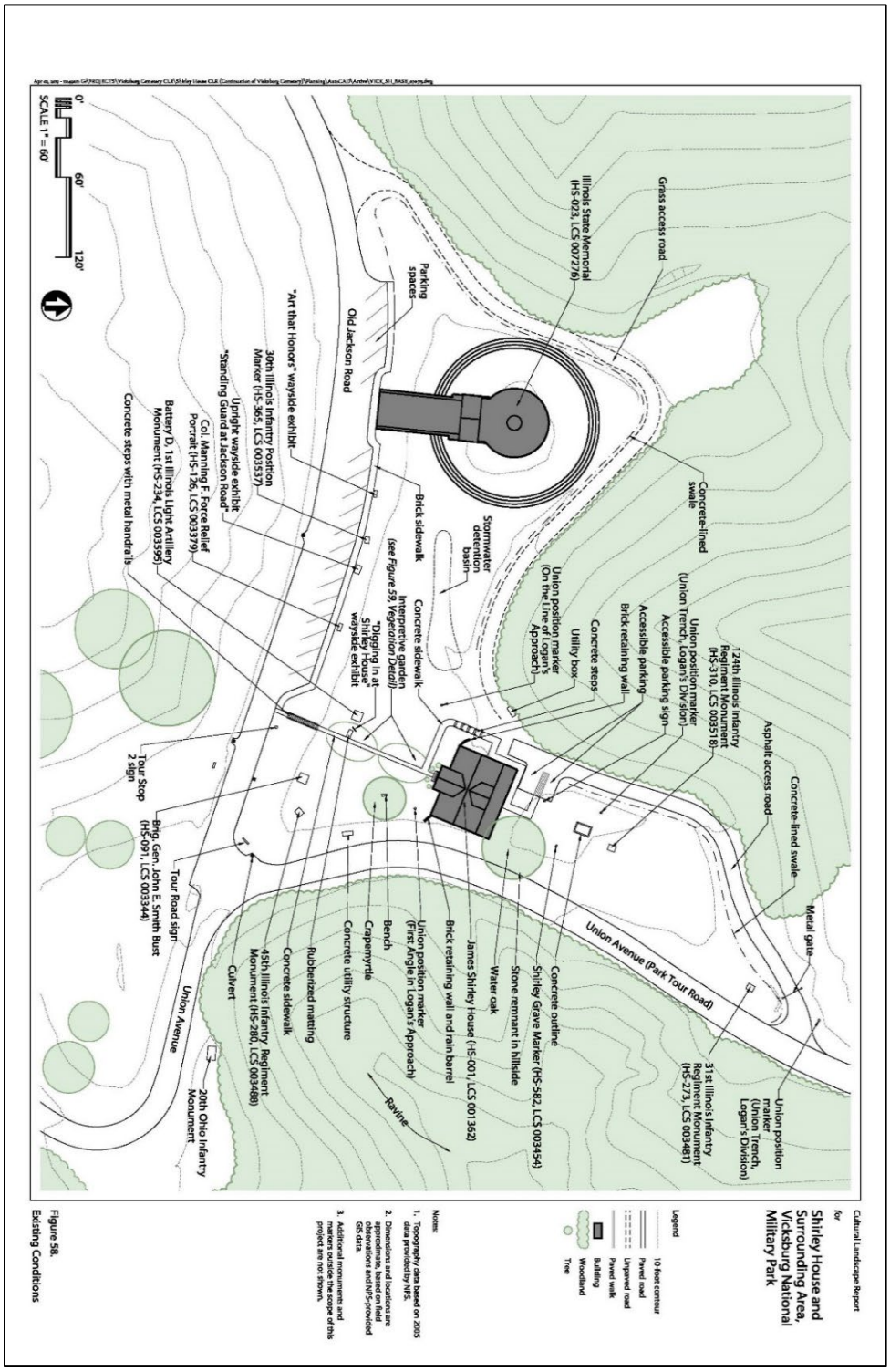


Fig 1. Existing Conditions Map 1

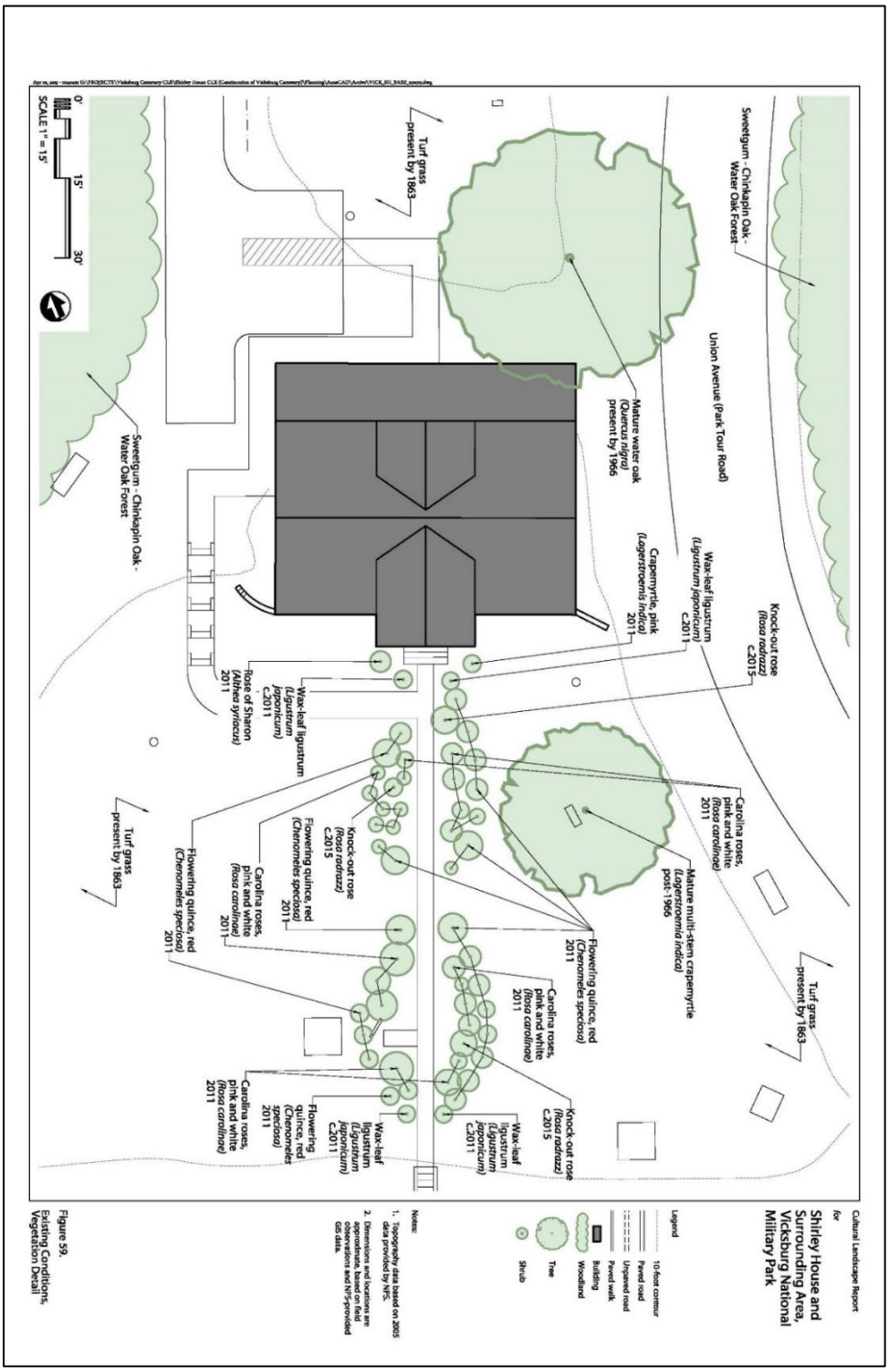


Fig 2. Existing Conditions Map 2

Hierarchy Description Graphic

N/A

Other Names

Seq. No.	Name	Type
01	Wexford Lodge	Historic
02	Shirley House	Both Current and Historic

Chapter 2: Concurrence Status

Park Superintendent Concurrence Date

06/29/2022

Park Superintendent Concurrence

No

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative

The Shirley House CLI was written by CESU Cultural Landscapes Research Associate, Olivia Head, using data from the Shirley House CLR (WJE) as a base.

Concurrence Graphics

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H22(SERO-CRD)

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Vicksburg National Military Park

From: Chief, Cultural Resources Division, Interior Region 2 KLH

Subject: Cultural Landscape Inventory for Shirley House

We are pleased to submit the Shirley House Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) record for your review and signature. A digital copy of the inventory is located at: https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2293465. The CLI database is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or that contribute to a previously-listed NR historic property. Once an independent online database, the CLI is now part of the multidisciplinary NPS Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS). Upon signature and certification, the completed CLI record for Shirley House will be available online via IRMA and CRIS at: https://irma.nps.gov and https://apps.cr.nps.gov/CRIS/. The Shirley House CLI was prepared by Cultural Landscapes Research Associate, Olivia Head, through a CESU Agreement with the University of Georgia. Ms. Head used data from the Shirley House Cultural Landscape Report (Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, 2019) to create the inventory.

In order for the CLI to be certified in CRIS, the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) needs to concur on the findings of the inventory, including the list of contributing and noncontributing landscape features. David Hasty, CLI Coordinator for the Region, will send a request to the Mississippi SHPO for concurrence on the CLI.

In addition to SHPO concurrence, park superintendent signature is also needed to certify a CLI record. We request that you approve the CLI using the attached form. Based on the findings of the CLI, the cultural landscape is in *Good* condition. If you have any questions, please contact David Hasty, IR2 CLI Coordinator. If the findings of the CLI are agreed upon, please sign the attached approval form and return it to our office via e-mail to David Hasty at david_hasty@nps.gov.

Attachment

Interior Region 2 • South Atlantic–Gulf
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi
North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, U.S. Virgin Islands

CLI Superintendent Memo

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONDITION ASSESMENT CONCURRENCE SHEET – May 2022

Park Information

Park: Vicksburg National Military Park
State: Mississippi **County:** Warren

Cultural Landscape Information

Inventory Name	CRIS CLI ID #	Condition
Shirley House	550187	Good

Management Category: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Vicksburg National Military Park concurs with the findings of the CLI for the Shirley House property, including the components of Condition and Management Category.

Concur XX **Not Concur** _____

CARRIE ANN MARDORF Digitally signed by CARRIE ANN MARDORF
Date: 2022.06.29 11:18:16 -05'00'

Superintendent **Date**

Good: Indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is re-quired to maintain its current condition.

Fair: Indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: Indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

Superintendent Signature

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H22(SERO-CRD)

18 May 2022

Barry White
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Historic Preservation Division
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0571

Subject: MS-SHPO review and concurrence with the findings of Shirley House Cultural Landscape Inventory at Vicksburg National Military Park

Dear Mr. White:

The Regional Office of Interior Region 2 (IR2) respectfully requests your review and concurrence on the findings of the Shirley House Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI), in accordance with the regulations set forth in Section 110(a)(2) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), as amended (NHPA). Vicksburg National Military Park is located in Vicksburg, Mississippi (Warren County). A digital copy of the inventory is available at https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2293465. The Shirley House CLI was prepared by Cultural Landscapes Research Associate, Olivia Head, through an Agreement with the University of Georgia. Ms. Head used data from the Shirley House Cultural Landscape Report (Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, 2019) to create the inventory.

The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or that contribute to an existing historic property. In order for CLI data to become certified, National Park Service guidance requires review and concurrence on CLI findings from the relevant State Historic Preservation Office. The sections most germane to SHPO review are the National Register and the Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity chapters. The National Register chapter provides information on the potential significance of this property. The Analysis and Evaluation chapter identifies relevant landscape characteristics with associated landscape features, describing their evolution over time, and assessing integrity of present-day conditions. Some landscape features, such as buildings and structures, small scale features, and circulation, could be considered as countable resources for a National Register nomination. Other features, such as views and vistas, would enhance the description of a district or site, particularly in terms of setting, feeling, and association.

Vicksburg National Military Park was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act on October 15, 1966. Documentation of the park in the form of a National Register nomination was prepared in 1976 and accepted by the Keeper of the National Register in 1977. At the time the current National Register nomination for Vicksburg National Military Park was prepared, the information collected differed in several ways from that which is

SHPO Letter

recorded today. For example, indicating how the property meets specific evaluation criteria and criteria considerations is not required. In addition, the period during which a property is determined significant is selected from a menu of century-long time frames, rather than indicated by a year, or years, that relate specifically to the history of the property. As such, Vicksburg National Military Park is indicated as significant during the period 1800–1899. Additionally, explicit identification of level of significance was not required during this time.

The nomination also focuses primarily on the significance of the park as a whole and emphasizes the Civil War period. The only areas of significance indicated in the nomination are Military and Sculpture.

As recorded above, the 1977 nomination states, "The house was again the scene of violence during a Reconstruction riot in Vicksburg in December 1864, when seven negroes taking refuge in the house were killed." The year stated in the nomination is incorrect. It should reflect the date of December, 1874. Additionally, the nomination states that the Shirley House is the "Only surviving ante-bellum structure in Vicksburg National Military Park." Since the preparation of the nomination, however, the NPS has acquired the Vicksburg residence that served as General Pemberton's headquarters during the siege. Although this house is located on a discontiguous parcel, it is now a second surviving antebellum house within the boundary of the Vicksburg National Military Park. The documentation should be updated to reflect that at the time of original nomination, the Shirley House was the only surviving antebellum building in Vicksburg National Military Park, but following the NPS acquisition of Pemberton's headquarters, it is one of only two surviving antebellum buildings in the park.

In its description of the Shirley House, the nomination focuses largely on the building itself and not on the immediate surrounding landscape. However, the cultural landscape and setting of the Shirley House, including the knoll landform that created views of the open siege landscape to the south and the adjacent steep slope of the ravine that allowed Union soldiers to build shebangs below the house during the Civil War period, is integral to the property's military significance. Although the ravine is currently wooded, the knoll landform, similar vegetation patterns in the surrounding siege landscape, and steep slope of the ravine retain enough integrity to convey this area of significance. Additionally, the knoll landform that the Shirley House was sited on and the open vegetation patterns continued to be significant during the park creation phase in enhancing views of commemorative monuments and markers, including the Illinois State Memorial. These landscape features also retain integrity and should therefore be documented in the National Register nomination for the park.

With concurrence from your office, the CLI findings become certified in the National Park Service Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) database. If you have any questions about these documents, please contact David Hasty, Regional CLI Coordinator, at (404) 507-5780 or by e-mail at david_hasty@nps.gov. The attached concurrence signature form can be returned by e-mail to David Hasty.

We greatly appreciate your office's assistance with the project.

Sincerely,

KIRSTIE HAERTEL Digitally signed by KIRSTIE HAERTEL Date: 2022.05.17 10:39:53 -07'00'

Acting Chief, Cultural Resources Division
Interior Region 2

SHPO Letter p. 2

MDAH
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY

P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6850
mdah.ms.gov

July 28, 2022

Mr. David C. Hasty
National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior Regions 1, 2, & 4
1924 Building, 100 Alabama St, SW (6S65)
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8701

RE: National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory 2021, Shirley House, Vicksburg National Military Park, (NPS) MDAH Project Log #06-191-22, Warren County

Dear Mr. Hasty:

We have reviewed your May 12, 2022, draft cultural landscape report, received on June 30, 2022, for the above referenced project in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR Part 800. After review, MDAH concurs with the proposed Landscape and updated nomination. MDAH looks forward to further consultation as the nomination moves forward.

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at (601) 576-6940.

Sincerely,

Hal Bell

Hal Bell
Review and Compliance Officer

FOR: Katie Blount
State Historic Preservation Officer

SHPO Signature

Revision

[enter text here]

Chapter 3: Geographic Information

Area (Acres)

2.5

Land Tract Number(s)

03-110

Boundary Description

The Shirley House falls within Vicksburg National Military Park, which is composed of the main battlefield unit and several other non-contiguous parcels located within and south of the city of Vicksburg, including Louisiana Circle, South Fort, Navy Circle, Grant's Canal, and Pemberton's Headquarters. Vicksburg National Cemetery is also administered as part of the park. It is located alongside the northwestern edge of the park.

The Shirley House study area falls within the center of the main battlefield unit at the juncture of Union Avenue and Old Jackson Road. The house is the focus of tour stop 2 on the park tour route. Located to the west of the house is the Illinois State Memorial. The Shirley House property is edged to the south by the Old Jackson Road, to the west by the Illinois State Memorial and former Illinois Circle Road, to the north by woodland, and to the east by a steeply sloped ravine that was used for makeshift housing of soldiers during the siege. The park tour road passes between the house and the ravine.

Latitude/Longitude

[enter text here (eg 'See spreadsheet in Appendix.')]

Seq. No.	Geo-metry	Latitude	Longitude	Geo-Datum	Eleva-tion (Meters)	Position Source	Position Arruracy	Date	Narra-tive
1	Area	32.3604078	-90.8399204	1984 WGS		GIS			
2	Area	32.3591467	-90.8402843	1984 WGS		GIS			

3	Area	32.3593891	-90.8413689	1984 WGS		GIS			
4	Area	32.3599490	-90.8410785	1984 WGS		GIS			
5	Area	32.3600586	-90.8406361	1984 WGS		GIS			
6	Area	32.3603010	-90.8403423	1984 WGS		GIS			

Regional Landscape Context

Physiographic

The Shirley House is located along the west central edge of the state of Mississippi on an escarpment of bluffs. The escarpment is part of a geological formation associated with the Lower Mississippi Valley known as the Loess Bluffs (Grabau 2000, 14). It also falls within the loess hill physiographic province, an area characterized by steep hills and bluffs rising abruptly from the river alluvial plain. These hills and bluffs are between 10 and 25 miles wide; the Vicksburg region contains the thickest deposits of loess soil in the Tennessee-Mississippi-Louisiana area (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1964.)

The loess originated as glacially pulverized rock dust that was carried by wind and storms and deposited in the Mississippi floodplain during the late Pleistocene epoch. Due to the high impermeability and erodibility of loess soils, streams and gullies are incised deeply and sharply between linear ridges. This dramatic landform and topography played a key role in the 1863 siege of Vicksburg.

Cultural

The Shirley House is within the boundaries of the Vicksburg National Military Park, which lies approximately 1 mile to the east and north of the historic center of the city of Vicksburg, Mississippi. Vicksburg, the seat of Warren County, is located 40 miles west of the capital of Jackson and 234 miles northwest of New Orleans, Louisiana. U.S. Highways 80 and 61 and Interstate 20 serve the region and pass within close proximity to the Shirley House. In 2020, the

federal census tallied the city's population at 21,573, a small decline from the 2010 population. The population of Warren County was 44,722. Approximately 30 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, according to census figures. Numerous industries are based in Vicksburg, including mills and cement plants; in 2006, manufacturing was identified as the city's largest economic sector.

The Shirley House lies to the northeast of the city's urban area. The landscape between the city and Vicksburg National Military Park is characterized by commercial, industrial, and institutional developments, as well as residential subdivisions, urban neighborhoods, and forested landscape.

Beyond that boundary of the park lies the Yazoo River Diversion Canal, which occupies a portion of the former Mississippi River channel. In 1876, the Mississippi River formed a new channel west of the city during a flood. A diversion canal was created from the Yazoo River to the Mississippi in 1902. Industrial land use is present to the west of the park and North Washington Street, and is visible from both high and low elevations of the site.

Political

The Shirley House is located within Vicksburg National Military Park, which is within the city limits of Vicksburg, Mississippi and within Warren County, Mississippi. The War Department supervised the park until 1933 when the administration of Vicksburg National Military Park was transferred to the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. From 1933 to the present, Vicksburg National Military Park has had administrative responsibility for the Shirley House.

Location Map Graphic Information

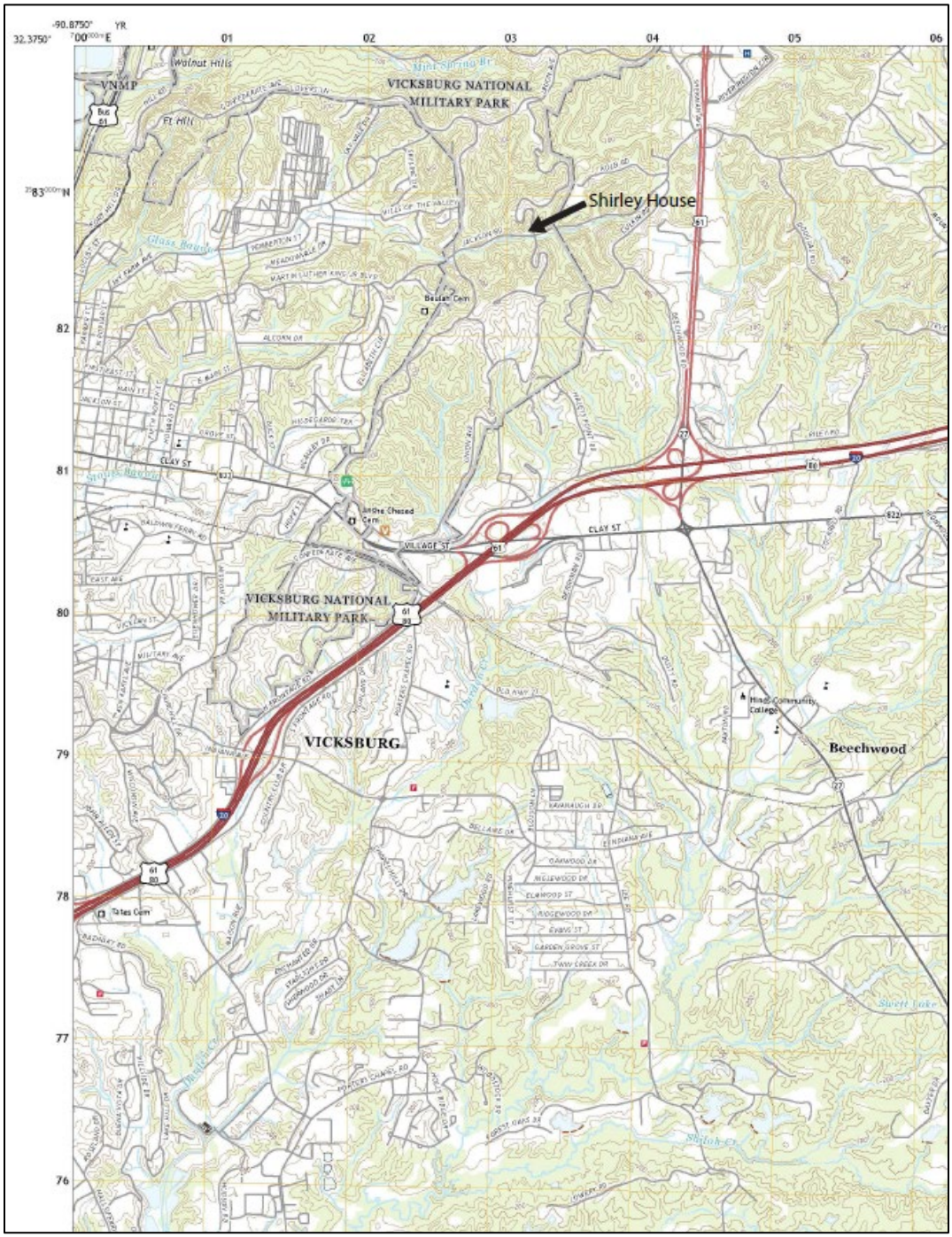


Fig 3. Location Map (Source: USGS Vicksburg East, MS Quadrangle Map 1:24,000, 2020).

Counties and States

Warren County, MS

Chapter 4 : Management Information

Management Category

Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date

12/09/1977

Management Category Explanatory Narrative

The Shirley House meets the criteria for Management Category A, "Must be Preserved and Maintained." Vicksburg National Military Park was listed administratively in the National Register of Historic Places in 1966, and a National Register nomination was prepared in 1976 and accepted by the Keeper of the National Register in 1977. At the time of Vicksburg National Military Park's National Register documentation, the nomination form did not require that a level of significance (i.e. local, state, national) be explicitly identified. However, in a Historic Structure Report prepared for the Shirley House in 2004 by Jon Buono, Historical Architect, the Shirley House is identified as nationally significant "under NR Criterion A as only building surviving from battle period" (Buono 2004, 6). As such, the Shirley House contributes to the national significance of the Vicksburg National Military Park, which is a criterion for Management Category A, "Must be Preserved and Maintained."

Management Agreements

Management Agreement	Other Management Agreement	Management Agreement Expiration Date	Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Legal Interests

Legal Interest Type	Fee Simple Reservation Expiration Date	Other Organization/Agency	Legal Interest Narrative
Fee Simple			All property within the boundary of the Shirley House is owned by the United States and is under the administration of the National Park Service.

Located in a managed wilderness?

No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?

No

Narrative

The Shirley House landscape lies wholly within the Vicksburg National Military Park boundary. Lands outside the park boundary do not contribute to the significance of the Shirley House cultural landscape.

Adjacent Lands Graphic

N/A

Chapter 5: National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status

Entered – Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description

Vicksburg National Military Park was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act on October 15, 1966. Documentation of the park in the form of a National Register nomination was prepared in 1976 and accepted by the Keeper of the National Register in 1977. The National Register documentation for Vicksburg National Military Park describes the contribution of the Shirley House as follows:

> *HS-1. Shirley, James House (Built in late 1830s) Only surviving ante-bellum structure in Vicksburg National Military Park. Built after the southern fashion, 40 x 60 feet, a story and a half in height, a wide hall in the center, large rooms on each side, ceiling high, upper and lower porch in front and veranda in rear. Caught between the cross-fire of the Union Army advancing from the east and the Confederates firmly entrenched in the third Louisiana Redan, the house suffered extensive damage during the siege, Loyal to the Union-and determined to remain, Mrs. Shirley and her 15 year old son occupied the house for three days after the fighting began. Later the house was used by Union Officers as an observation point, served as headquarters for the 45th Illinois, served at one time as General Logan's headquarters, and was a temporary field hospital. The Shirleys did not return to the house after the siege ended and the house soon fell into partial ruin.*
>
> *The house was again the scene of violence during a Reconstruction riot in Vicksburg in December, 1864, when seven negroes taking refuge in the house were killed. Following this episode the house sank into a period of further dilapidation and ruin. It was purchased by the Federal Government in 1900 and the Secretary of War authorized its restoration as a war memorial in 1902. In 1931, however, with numerous alterations it became the Superintendent's residence and briefly served as park headquarters.*
>
> *Much of the original character of the house has been lost as a result of these alterations. The outside of the house was restored to its original condition in 1966. The inside is presently in poor condition. Significance: 1st Order (Miller 1976).*

At the time the current National Register nomination for Vicksburg National Military Park was prepared, the information collected differed in several ways from that which is recorded today. For example, indicating how the property meets specific evaluation criteria and criteria considerations is not required. In addition, the period during which a property is determined significant is selected from a menu of century-long time frames, rather than indicated by a year, or years, that relate specifically to the history of the property. As such, Vicksburg National Military Park is indicated as significant during the period 1800–1899. Additionally, explicit identification of level of significance was not required during this time.

The nomination also focuses primarily on the significance of the park as a whole and emphasizes the Civil War period. The only areas of significance indicated in the nomination are Military and Sculpture.

As recorded above, the 1977 nomination states, "The house was again the scene of violence during a Reconstruction riot in Vicksburg in December, 1864, when seven negroes taking refuge in the house were killed." The year stated in the nomination is incorrect. It should reflect the date of December, 1874. Additionally, the nomination states that the Shirley House is the "Only surviving ante-bellum structure in Vicksburg National Military Park." Since the preparation of the nomination, however, the NPS has acquired the Vicksburg residence that served as General Pemberton's headquarters during the siege. Although this house is located on a discontiguous parcel, it is now a second surviving antebellum house within the boundary of the Vicksburg National Military Park. The documentation should be updated to reflect that at the time of original nomination, the Shirley House was the only surviving antebellum building in Vicksburg National Military Park, but following the NPS acquisition of Pemberton's headquarters, it is one of only two surviving antebellum buildings in the park.

In its description of the Shirley House, the nomination focuses largely on the building itself and not on the immediate surrounding landscape. However, the cultural landscape and setting of the Shirley House, including the knoll landform that created views of the open siege landscape to the south and the adjacent steep slope of the ravine that allowed Union soldiers to build shebangs

below the house during the Civil War period, is integral to the property's military significance. Although the ravine is currently wooded, the knoll landform, similar vegetation patterns in the surrounding siege landscape, and steep slope of the ravine retain enough integrity to convey this area of significance. Additionally, the knoll landform that the Shirley House was sited on and the open vegetation patterns continued to be significant during the park creation phase in enhancing views of commemorative monuments and markers, including the Illinois State Memorial. These landscape features also retain integrity and should therefore be documented in the National Register nomination for the park.

Eligibility

Eligible – SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date

07/28/2022

Concurrence Eligibility Narrative

[enter text here]

Significance Level

National

Contributing/Individual

Contributing

National Register Classification

District

Statement of Significance

The Shirley House is nationally significant under **CRITERIA A and C** in the areas of **architecture, military,** and **art and commemoration** for its association with early Vicksburg settlement, the siege of Vicksburg, and establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park. The period during which this property conveys significance begins with construction of the house circa 1830s and extends to the end of the siege in 1863. A second period of significance relates to its role in park development, which begins circa 1899, and ends with National Park Service restoration of the house as part of Mission 66 in 1967.

Architecture. The Shirley House is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a good example of an antebellum, side-gabled, hall-and-parlor house with elements of the federal style in Vicksburg. When the Shirley House was constructed in the 1830s, houses in Mississippi were typically adaptations of a simple, one or one-and one-half story cottage form reflecting the traditions of Anglo-American settlers. Among these traditions were a front entrance opening into a wide center hall flanked by one or two rooms. A staircase arising from the center hall led to the upper floor (Sanders 2009). The Shirley House represents this simple, side-gabled, hall-and-parlor house. Alice Shirley Eaton noted, "The house was built after the southern fashion, a story and a half in height, a wide hall in center, large rooms on each side, ceilings high, upper and lower porch in front, and veranda in the rear" (Eaton 1900, 11).

Expanded by the addition of a front porch and a rear extension, the house typifies the dominant vernacular residence type common in the southeastern United States prior to the advent of the railroads throughout the region. Variations included different chimney placements, porch sizes and roof shapes, and rear extension configurations (McAlester 1988). These basic vernacular forms dominated domestic architecture in Mississippi until Reconstruction.

Through alterations made by James Shirley in the 1850s, the Shirley House also represents the influence of the Federal style in Mississippi. This style, based on the neo-classical architecture of the British architects Robert and James Adam, was very popular along the east coast of North America in the early years of the new republic, hence its name. The Federal style is characterized by the use of classical columns and ornament, semi-circular fanlights over doors, oval windows in pediments, and delicately carved interior woodwork. Although used in a minimal way, several of these features augment the otherwise unadorned facade of the Shirley House, including simple Classical columns, a gabled pediment over the front entrance, a rectangular light over the front doors, and a semi-circular fanlight and sidelights at the second story doorway onto the porch roof.

Military. Vicksburg National Military Park is nationally significant under Criterion A in the area of military because it contains a large portion of the area where the siege of Vicksburg and

associated fighting occurred. Over the course of forty-seven days, from May 18 to July 4, 1863, Confederate defenders resisted Union efforts to capture the city. The Confederate surrender not only affected the lives of those involved in the campaign, defense, and siege, and the immediate activities of both armies and civilians in the region, it also had implications for the final outcome of the war.

The campaign for Vicksburg was one of the most complex and protracted engagements of the war, and involved operations of the Army and Navy of the North and South, land and water troop movements, and diversion, siege, and defense efforts ("Vicksburg: A Silent Tribute," www.nps.gov/ vick/forteachers/upload/Silent%20Tribute.pdf). Vicksburg National Military Park is significant as the site of the siege and battles of Vicksburg over control of the city and its commanding position overlooking the Mississippi River, which had decisive results for the outcome of the Civil War. As a result of the Union victory, the Confederacy lost an army and the states of the Trans-Mississippi were separated from the eastern Confederacy. Union forces were able to concentrate on the one remaining Confederate army in the west—the Army of Tennessee—and move forward toward ultimate victory. The surrender of Vicksburg, coming one day after the defeat of Confederate forces at Gettysburg, had a significant psychological impact on morale in both the North and South. The South's dream of independence was nearly shattered, while the North's hope for a reunited country was renewed with the success of its strategic objective: control of the Mississippi River, which again rolled, as President Lincoln described in a letter to James C. Conkling on August 26, 1863, "unvexed to the sea" (Lincoln 1990, 409).

The landscape of Vicksburg National Military Park is significant for its critical role in the activities and outcome of the siege and fighting that occurred at the site. Military strategists and commanders of Confederate and Union forces developed their strategy in response to the high bluffs, rugged terrain, and unique properties of the loess soil. The overlook from the bluffs to a hairpin curve in the Mississippi River influenced Confederate defense strategies and Union assaults, as well as the movement of troops and supplies for both armies. The swampy bayous that Union forces had to traverse in their attempts to approach the city gave advantage to

whichever forces held the high ground. Finally, the location of the city adjacent to the river made the capture of Vicksburg the key to control of the Mississippi, and hence to victory in the war.

The landscape surrounding the Shirley House is characterized by the natural rolling topography, altered during the siege and battle of Vicksburg through the activities of military forces at the site. The siting of the house on a ridgeline, overlooking Old Jackson Road and in close proximity to a spring that provided a ready source of potable water, was a likely factor in its appropriation during the siege as a Union regimental headquarters. Reflecting the Shirley House, Battery D, 1st Illinois Artillery, was known as the "White House Battery."

One of the ways in which Union forces changed the landscape during the siege was through tunneling and mining operations effected in an attempt to destroy the Third Louisiana Redan, which guarded Old Jackson Road near the Shirley House. Troops of the Illinois 1st Regiment, Battery D, encamped near the house, dug tunnels and placed explosives at the redan on two occasions during the siege. Union soldiers dug a tunnel under the Third Louisiana Redan but the sound was heard by the Confederates within, who quickly constructed a line of secondary trenches to the rear of the redan. On July 1, 1863, Union forces exploded a mine containing 2,200 pounds of powder in the tunnel, creating a crater 12 feet deep and 50 feet across, but the Confederates successfully repulsed the Illinois infantry charge through this opening.

Another topographic modification to the landscape of the Shirley House during the siege that is no longer extant is the hillside of shebangs. These earthen dugouts in the side slopes of the hill were established by Union soldiers as sleeping quarters to provide protection from Confederate artillery fire.

Art and Commemoration. Vicksburg National Military Park is one of the first five military parks created by Congress at the sites of Civil War battles. Establishment of a park at Vicksburg was the result of efforts by Union and Confederate veterans of the campaign and siege. Creation of the park was supported by the Vicksburg National Military Park Association, formed in 1895 with the goal of promoting congressional designation of a military park at Vicksburg.

The enabling legislation that created Vicksburg National Military Park was enacted on February 21, 1899. The legislation called for the restoration of the forts and lines of fortifications, and marking of the lines of battles and other points of interest with tablets; permitted any state that had troops engaged in the campaign, siege, or defense of the city to erect monuments and markers in memory of its soldiers; and established a commission to oversee the creation of the park. The 1,200-acre park as established in 1899 encompassed the entire area of the siege and defense lines around the city.

Commemoration continued through acquisition of property and placement of markers on the battlefield, as represented in part by the numerous sculptures added to the landscape of the battlefield beginning in 1903 by states whose troops had served in the Vicksburg campaign. Early monuments included those of the states of Massachusetts (1903); New Hampshire (1904); Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Illinois (1906); Minnesota and Virginia (1907); Rhode Island (1908); Mississippi (1909–1912); Wisconsin (1911); Michigan (1916); Missouri and New York (1917); and Louisiana (1920). A monument to the Federal Navy was constructed in 1911. Monuments continue to be designed and erected to the present day. The sculpture within the park includes a renowned collection of monuments, including work by Theo Alice Ruggles Kitson, represented by sixty-nine relief portraits or busts, and Henry Hudson Kitson, who created two statues and other busts and relief portraits. Other sculptors whose work is represented in the park include F. C. Hibbard and Adolph Weinman (fn: The present park boundaries do not include approximately the southern one-third of the Confederate defense line. This portion of the park was quitclaimed to the City of Vicksburg in 1966. Some monuments and markers are thus now located on city property, although they are owned and maintained by Vicksburg National Military Park.). The Tiffany and Company foundry is known to have cast many of the bronze sculptures located within the park.

The Illinois State Memorial is one of the park's most impressive structures. Sited on a high point in the park near the Shirley House, the 62-foot-tall monument was designed by William Le Baron Jenney, with sculpture by Charles J. Mulligan, and a gilded eagle by Frederick C. Hibbard. The

monument is reached by a flight of marble stairs leading to a dramatic rotunda-like structure modeled on the Pantheon on 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 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.

Another significant commemorative feature of the park is the Vicksburg National Cemetery, established in 1866 as part of the system of national cemeteries authorized by Congress on or near Civil War battlefields. The battlefield and cemetery were the sites of commemorative events and reunions over the next several decades.

Period of Significance. The 1976 National Register nomination lists the period of significance of Vicksburg National Military Park as 1800–1899. A specific date of 1863 is also indicated. This date is as associated with the events of the siege and defense of Vicksburg, as the nomination primarily focuses on the battlefield. As noted above, the nomination was prepared using an older form that does not provide for the identification of a specific period of significance as required by current National Register guidelines.

The Vicksburg National Military Park Cultural Landscape Report recommended a primary or establishing period of significance of the Vicksburg Campaign extending from March 29 through July 4, 1863, and within that the siege and associated engagements of Vicksburg extending from May 18 through July 4, 1863. The CLR also suggested a secondary period of significance encompassing commemoration of the battle, including the placing of monuments and memorials, veterans' reunions, and the establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park in 1899, as one of five national military parks established by the federal government in the 1890s within a national context of an unprecedented act of conservation and commemoration. This secondary period of significance extends from the placement of the first monument on the battlefield at the Surrender Interview Site in 1864 through 1957, the fifty year age consideration for listing in the NRHP at the time the CLR for Vicksburg National Military Park was initiated.

The Shirley House is noted as a contributing resource in the 1976 National Register nomination for Vicksburg National Military Park; however, a specific period of significance for the house is not defined. The Shirley House CLR suggests a two-part period of significance for the house, consisting of 1830s–1863 and 1899–1967. The first period begins with construction of the Shirley House in the 1830s and continues through the Siege of Vicksburg in 1863. The defense, battle, and siege comprise the period of primary significance for Vicksburg National Military Park and a primary aspect of the significance of the house is its association with the events of the battle. The second period begins with establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park in 1899 and continues through 1967, with completion of the Mission 66-era of park development. This latter period addresses the significance of the house in terms of interpretation and development of the military park and battlefield, in which the house is the only of two surviving antebellum structures. This period also incorporates the various efforts to restore the house, including the 1902 inaccurate "restoration," work continued by the park in the 1930s and 1940s, and further work in the 1960s.

The two-part period of significance does not include the period following the conclusion of the siege and battle in 1863, through establishment of the park in 1899. During those years the Shirley House fell into decline, and no significant events associated with the house and site occurred during that period.

Consideration could also be given to ending the period of significance for the Shirley House with the end of the War Department era in 1933 or the conclusion of CCC work in 1941. However, based on the ongoing restoration of the house through the Mission 66 era, the closing date of 1967 was selected, representing the date at which work on that restoration was completed.

National Register Significance Criteria

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

National Register Criteria Considerations

N/A

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes)

Seq. No.	Start Year/Era and End Year/Era	Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet
01	c.1830s -– 1863	Shaping the Political Landscape	The Civil War	Battles in the North and South
02	c.1830s-1863	Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Federal (1780-1820)/Vernacular Architecture
03	1899-1967	Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources/The 1930s: Era of Public Works/NPS Mission 66
04	1899-1967	Transforming the Environment	Historic Preservation	The Federal Government Enters the Movement, 1884-1949: Battlefield Preservation; Archaeological Preservation; The National Park Service and the New Deal; The National Trust; Growth in Professionalism and Technology

National Register Areas of Significance

Seq. No.	Category	Subcategory (only for Archeology and Ethnic Heritage)	Narrative
01	Architecture		
02	Military		
03	Art		

04	Other: Commemoration		

NRIS Information

Seq. No. (R)	NRIS Name (R)	NRIS ID (R)	NRIS URL (R)	Other Name	Primary Certification Date (R)
01	Vicksburg National Military Park	66000100	https://catalog.archives.gov/id/73892179		10/15/1966

State Register Documentation

Seq. No. (R)	Identification Number	Name	Listed Date	Narrative
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

National Historic Landmarks

Status	Theme	Contributing	NHL ID	NHL URL	Date
No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark

N/A

World Heritage Site

Status	Category	WHS ID	WHS ID URL	Date
No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape?

No

Chapter 6: Chronology & Physical History

Chronology

Seq. No.	Major Event	Major Event Narrative	Start Year of Event	Start Era	End Year of Event	End Era
01	Developed	US Treaty with Chocktaw and Chickasaw opens Natchez Trace for use by European-Americans	1801	CE	1801	CE
02	Developed	Louisiana Purchase opened the Mississippi River to commerce	1803	CE	1803	CE
03	Land Transfer	Treaty of Mount Dexter, Choctaw sold 4.5 million acres of land to US government	1805	CE	1805	CE
04	Settled	Reverend Newett Vick and his family became the first Americans to settle in the area that would become Vicksburg	1812	CE	1812	CE
05	Established	Vicksburg was incorporated as a city and became the seat of Warren County	1836	CE	1836	CE
06	Built	August 1: Nicholas Gray purchased a 30-acre tract of land on the loess hills 2 miles north of the city of Vicksburg; Gray built a house and named it Wexford Lodge after his home county in Ireland	1837	CE	1837	CE
07	Purchased/Sold	Gray listed his 30-acre property for sale; acquired by Ben Johnson	1849	CE	1849	CE
08	Land Transfer	Johnson deeds the property to Captain James Shirley, a lawyer	1851	CE	1851	CE
09	Altered	Shirley, his wife Adeline and their four kids move in and renovate	c.1851	CE	c.1851	CE
10	Farmed/Harvested	The Shirleys most likely maintained a small farm that included orchards, crop fields, a kitchen garden, and outbuildings such as an outkitchen and quarters for enslaved persons	1851	CE	c.1861	CE
11	Military Operation	Mississippi becomes the second state to secede from the Union	1861	CE	1861	CE

12	Military Operation	April: Confederate fortified positions at both the northern and southern ends of the Confederate States of America were attacked and taken by Union forces, including portions of the Mississippi River	1862	CE	1862	CE
13	Military Operation	May-July: Failed Union bombardment of Vicksburg	1862	CE	1862	CE
14	Military Operation	September: Confederates began to build a line of defense around the city of Vicksburg	1862	CE	1862	CE
15	Military Operation	March: Union army and naval forces under the command of Gen. Henry W. Halleck attacked confederate strongpoints from both ends of the line, which proved unsuccessful in gaining Vicksburg	1863	CE	1863	CE
16	Military Operation	May: General Grant makes it to Vicksburg	1863	CE	1863	CE
17	Military Operation	May 19 and 22: Grant unsuccessfully tried to twice overrun Confederate earthworks in assaults	1863	CE	1863	CE
18	Abandoned	Post May 19: The Shirley family, which survived the May 19 assault, moved out of the house, first taking shelter in a cave, and then moving to a house in town.	1863	CE	1863	CE
19	Military Operation	May-July: Grant determined to lay siege to the Confederate position. The siege lasted forty-seven days, during which time Grant ordered the excavation of several trenches in the direction of the larger Confederate works. The 45th Illinois occupied the Shirley House, and Union soldiers built "shebangs" in the ravine east of the house.	1863	CE	1863	CE
20	Military Operation	July 4: Confederate commander Pemberton officially surrendered his forces and control of Vicksburg, helping give the North undisputed control of the Mississippi River	1863	CE	1863	CE

21	Abandoned	August: James Shirley died unexpectedly, and Adeline left Vicksburg soon thereafter	1863	CE	1863	CE
22	Military Operation	The Shirley House was temporarily used by the Union as a smallpox hospital	1864	CE	1864	CE
23	Inhabited	House again occupied temporarily during a Reconstruction-era race riot that erupted outside of Vicksburg. A group of African Americans took refuge in the Shirley House, which was subsequently stormed by a group of white men. Seven of those taking refuge in the house were killed.	1874	CE	1874	CE
24	Established	February 21: Vicksburg National Military Park was authorized	1899	CE	1899	CE
25	Purchased/Sold	The federal government purchased the home and surrounding land from the Shirley's daughter, Alice Shirley Eaton, after agreeing to her stipulation the remains of James and Adeline Shirley be reinterred to the property from Cedar Hill Cemetery, and their grave marked with a headstone.	1900	CE	1900	CE
26	Restored	The War Department undertook an extensive restoration of the Shirley House, but much of the restoration was left undone. The house then served as a park residence.	1902	CE	1902	CE
27	Altered	The landscape around the house changed to reflect park development, including construction of Union Avenue, an observation tower, the Illinois State Memorial, and the placement of several monuments, markers, and tablets.	1902	CE	1910	CE
28	Altered	New park superintendent, Major J.B. Holt undertook several changes to the house that impacted its historic character against the orders of the War Department.	1931	CE	1931	CE

29	Land Transfer	Administration of Vicksburg National Military Park was transferred to the NPS along with other War Department historic properties based on Executive Order 6166, signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.	1933	CE	1933	CE
30	Inhabited	Shirley House served as park headquarters (and residence) until a new headquarters building was constructed.	1933	CE	1937	CE
31	Restored	Following completion of a historic study of the house, Mission 66 funding was used to restore the property in 1966 and 1967, although the funding was again insufficient.	1966	CE	1967	CE
32	Rehabilitated	Roofs of back and front porches repaired	1982	CE	1982	CE
33	Restored	HSR was prepared that was used to guide restoration and repair of the house that ended in the 2010s	2004	CE	2004	CE
34	Reconstructed	The park sought to enhance the integrity of the landscape by installing plantings along the central walk and around the foundation of the house that reflected the character of the Shirley House at the time of the siege.	2011	CE	2011	CE

Physical History

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

1 - Earliest Human Occupation and Early Settlement, 200 CE–circa 1540 CE

Physical History Narrative

The loess bluffs and eastern Mississippi River shoreline of the Vicksburg region offer several advantages for human occupation including prospect, natural springs, relatively fertile soils, especially in the bottomlands, and access to the river, available as a means for travel and transportation. Archeological evidence suggests that the site of present-day Vicksburg National Military Park was likely occupied by prehistoric peoples as early as 200 CE, which falls within the Middle Woodland period (Blakeman and Collins 1975, 21). Artifacts attributed to prehistoric activities have been found on the loess ridges overlooking the stream corridors that wind their

way through Vicksburg National Military Park. These suggest that the area was at least seasonally occupied for hunting and gathering. The bluffs and creek bottoms were also likely used for limited cultivation, although the terrain elsewhere is generally too steep and erodible to support extensive agriculture (Blakeman and Collins 1975, 22).

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

2 - European Contact, circa 1540–1719

Physical History Narrative

Beginning in the mid-1500s, Spanish, French, and British expeditions began to explore the area that was to become the state of Mississippi. In 1540–1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto became the first known European to visit the region. De Soto spent the winter with the Chickasaw, one of the tribes that claimed the region as its homeland. After continuing his travels, de Soto reached the Mississippi River in the spring.

On May 17, 1673, Father Jacques Marquette, a French missionary, and Louis Joliette, a fur trapper, set out on an expedition to explore the Mississippi River. They reached the area that now comprises the state of Mississippi in July and traveled as far south as the mouth of the Arkansas River. Two years later, Robert Cavalier de La Salle navigated the Mississippi River to its mouth and claimed all lands drained by the river for France. In 1699, an expedition of French and French-Canadian explorers established Fort Maurepas near present-day Ocean Springs, Mississippi, in order to discourage Spanish and English incursions into the area claimed by France, and to protect French commerce and fur trading operations.

During the early 1700s, other European trappers and traders began to settle in the area that is now western Mississippi. They found the region inhabited by members of the Natchez, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Houma tribes. Early trappers and traders took advantage of existing native trade routes, such as the Natchez Trace, to facilitate exploration and commerce. The initial interactions between French settlers and trappers and native inhabitants was generally friendly.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

3 - Early European-American Settlement, circa 1719–1797

Physical History Narrative

In 1716, French colonials built Fort Rosalie near the site of the future town of Natchez, Mississippi. This was followed in 1719 by construction of Fort St. Pierre near the mouth of Yazoo River, approximately 12 miles north of Vicksburg. A small French settlement soon developed along the river near Fort St. Pierre. By 1729, ". . . a few extensive and many large plantations existed . . ." within the region, which was the traditional homeland of the Natchez Indians (Mulvihill 1931, 64). Estimates suggest that as many as 750 French settlers, soldiers, and enslaved Africans were present within the area by the late 1720s. As the number of settlers grew, the commandant at Fort Rosalie demanded that the Natchez Indians vacate one of their villages, which included the site of a sacred mound, to make way for a French farm. On November 28, 1729, Natchez warriors responded by killing French settlers with guns they had borrowed from the Europeans for hunting purposes. In planning their attack, the Natchez promised freedom to any of the enslaved who joined them in the uprising. Following the massacre, surviving settlers abandoned their claims at Fort St. Pierre and on outlying plantations. French military forces, aided by the Choctaw, chose to strike back. Their efforts were so successful that, by 1732, the Natchez ceased to exist as a tribe, their members having been killed or dispersed, or finding refuge among the Chickasaw.

In 1736, the governor of Louisiana, Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, led a military force to attack the Chickasaw in their fortified villages located in present-day northeastern Mississippi. Bienville, however, was unsuccessful in conquering the Chickasaw. Both sides suffered numerous casualties in the engagement.

In addition to conflict and tension between colonial powers and Indian groups, the French, British, and Spanish continually jockeyed to gain control of North American territory through much of the 1700s. By 1754, tensions between the three colonial powers over territory and trade erupted into full-scale military conflict. Known as the French and Indian War in North America and the Seven Years' War in Europe, these hostilities lasted for nine years, until resolved through the 1763 Treaty of Paris.

Despite allying itself with Spain and several American Indian tribes, France was defeated by the British, and forced to cede Mississippi and all other French territory east of the Mississippi River to Great Britain. To compensate its ally Spain for the loss of Florida, France also ceded control of French Louisiana west of the Mississippi.

In 1779, present-day Mississippi briefly came under the control of Spain when Bernardo Galvez, the governor of Spanish Louisiana, captured Natchez. Following the end of the Revolutionary War in 1781, and under the provisions of the 1783 Treaty of Paris, West Florida—which included the southern half of Mississippi—came under Spanish control, while the United States gained possession of Mississippi north of latitude 32 degrees 28 minutes.

In the 1790s, the Spanish decided to fortify their holdings along the Mississippi River and built a series of artillery positions along the bluffs and at their base. Following the Natchez Treaty of 1790 in which the Choctaw ceded a site for a fortification, the Spanish built Fort Nogales along the Yazoo River north of Vicksburg. Fort Nogales was a complex of fortifications that included three batteries, barracks, two block houses, magazine, and officers' quarters. Of the three batteries, Fort Mount Vigio was the smallest. It occupied the site of present-day Fort Hill within Vicksburg National Military Park. The largest of the batteries was Fort Nogales, located across Mint Spring Bayou from present-day Vicksburg National Cemetery. Fort Sugar-loaf was located on the so-called "Indian Mound" that survives within the cemetery today (Figure 4).

In 1797, Francis Bailey described the Spanish artillery positions based on observations made during a trip down the Mississippi River:

> About five o'clock we came to the Walnut Hills. . . . Here there is a strong fort kept up by the Spaniards. It is an irregular fortification, occupying a great part of the hill on which it stands, which is very high and steep. . . .
>
> Walnut Hills is a beautiful situation for a town, and an advantageous one for a fort. There are two forts at this place, one of them commands the other, being situated upon an

eminence behind it. The few houses which are scattered around it, and the green bank on which they stand, surround[ed] with flowering, verdant, and lofty trees, presented at once a picturesque and romantic appearance to our eyes, fatigued with the uniformity of the prospect to which we had for so many miles been witness (Reps 1994, 138).

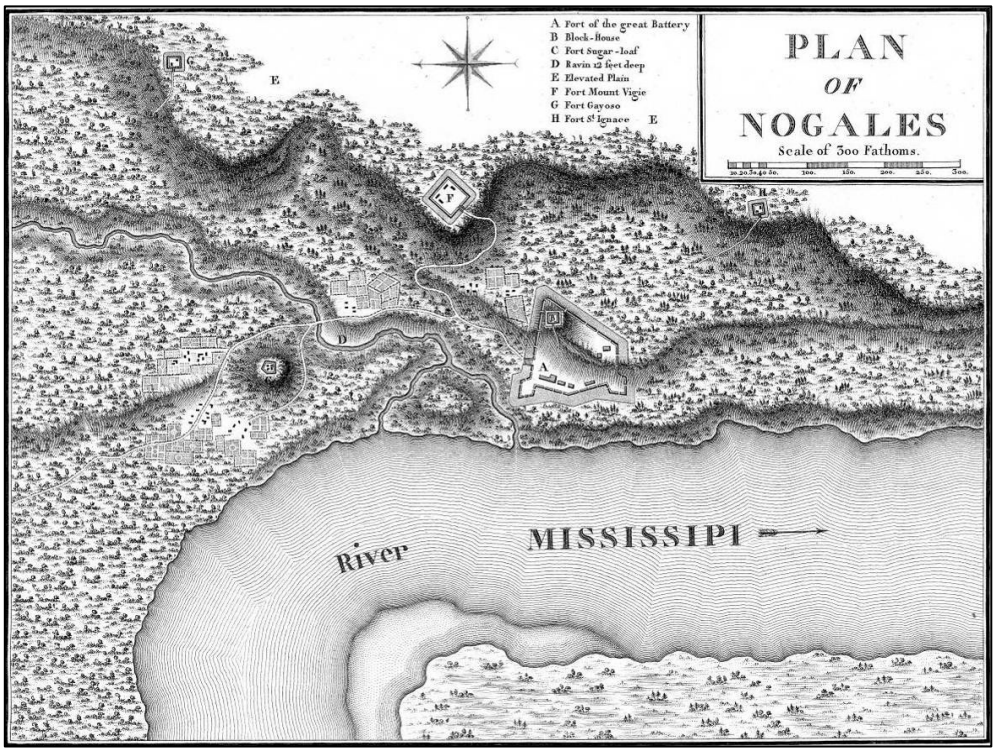


Fig 4. 1796 map of Nogales by French General George Henri Victor Collot. Source: David Rumsey Collection.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

4 - Early Development of Mississippi and Vicksburg, 1797–1861

Physical History Narrative

In 1797, following several years of dispute regarding the location of the southern boundary of US holdings within the region, Spain yielded all land in Mississippi north of the thirty-first parallel to the young nation. By the following year, Spain had decided to withdraw entirely from Mississippi, and the region was reorganized as an American territory. The first territorial governor, Winthrop Sargent, was appointed by President John Adams in 1798 (fn: Sargent was

dismissed from the position in 1801 by incoming President Thomas Jefferson, due to his opposing political party affiliations.). The Americans renamed Fort Mount Vigio as Fort McHenry, and established Fort Snyder on the site of the former Fort St. Pierre, 12 miles to the north (fn: Kevin Risk, in an undated Draft Cultural Landscape Report for Vicksburg National Military Park, notes that no evidence of the Spanish forts Nogales and Mount Vigio was located during a 1975 archeological survey. Nonetheless, these pre-Civil War fortifications are considered a significant part of the park's broader history.).

In 1801, the United States signed treaties with the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians that opened the Natchez Trace for use by European-Americans as a road and mail route. The capital of the Mississippi territory was relocated from Natchez to Washington, a small town near the road corridor. In 1803, the Louisiana Purchase opened the Mississippi River to commerce. The Louisiana Purchase Treaty was signed on April 30. It allowed the US government to purchase more than 800,000 square miles of land west of the Mississippi River from France, effectively doubling the size of the young nation. The Spanish, who had never ceded physical possession of Louisiana to the French, did so in a ceremony at New Orleans on November 30, 1803. On December 20, 1803, the French turned the Louisiana Territory over to the United States in a second ceremony.

In 1805, under the Treaty of Mount Dexter, the Choctaw sold 4.5 million acres of land to the US government, including the Piney Woods region of Mississippi. In 1810, following the West Florida rebellion, the United States gained control of Spanish West Florida, which encompassed the southern portions of present-day Mississippi and Alabama. Additional treaties signed between 1805 and 1834 with the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians further opened land for European-American settlement in Mississippi. In 1830, the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek resulted in all Choctaw territory east of the Mississippi River being ceded to the US government. As a result, most of the Choctaw left the state. The Treaty of Pontotoc Creek, also signed in 1830, led to transfer of north Mississippi American Indian territory to the US government, leading to removal of the Chickasaw from the state as well.

On June 12, 1812, the United States declared war on Great Britain as a result of disputes related to the impressment of American soldiers by the British, disagreements over the Northwest Territories, and disputes regarding the Canadian border. The war involved failed offensive actions by the United States to capture Canada, and by the British army to gain control of Baltimore and New Orleans. Gen. Andrew Jackson was a key figure in the war, engaged in fighting the British within Alabama and along the Gulf Coast between 1813 and 1814. Jackson also led a campaign against the Creek Indians within the region during the same period. Although the war, which lasted for two years, was noteworthy for the victories the American navy was able to achieve against the British, it ended in a stalemate. The Treaty of Ghent, which ended the war, was signed on December 24, 1814. Fighting continued, however, until the following February; on January 8, 1815, American forces under Jackson decisively defeated British forces as they attempted to capture New Orleans.

Following the war, the United States gained West Florida territory east of the Pearl River and south to the Gulf of Mexico, which became part of Mississippi. In 1816, the US government signed the Treaty of Fort Stephens with the Choctaw, which opened the area around the Tombigbee Prairie for settlement.

On December 10, 1817, Mississippi was admitted to the Union as the twentieth state. In 1822, the Mississippi state capital was moved to Jackson, a planned city named for the US general. The state constitution was ratified in 1832.

Vicksburg

In 1812, Reverend Newett Vick and his family became the first Americans to settle in the area that would become Vicksburg. The Vicks built a home on the bluffs just south of the Walnut Hills area described by Francis Bailey in 1797, and which falls within present-day Vicksburg National Military Park. At the time, the landscape was characterized by tall hardwood forests that covered the loess hills.

Vick was soon joined by other settlers. Together, these early residents cut down many of the trees on the level ridgelines and hilltops of the bluffs in order to plant crops. They also sited their houses, outbuildings, and roads on the ridgelines.

The settlement grew rapidly and was incorporated as the town of Vicksburg, in honor of its first settler, on January 29, 1825. Vicksburg later became the seat of Warren County and was incorporated as a city in 1836. Its location near the juncture of the Mississippi and Yazoo rivers helped the city develop into a port that served as a commercial and agricultural center for the region (Figure 5). Although Vicksburg was sited to take advantage of river access, much of the city was developed on the higher ground of the ascending loess hills to avoid the flooding that plagued lower-lying areas.

An 1835 account of the city by traveler Joseph Ingraham describes the prosperous town:
There is no town in the south-west more flourishing than Vicksburg. It is surrounded by rich plantations, and contains many public-spirited individuals; whose co-operation in public enterprises is opening new avenues of wealth for the citizens, and laying a broad and secure foundation for the future importance of the town. It is already a powerful rival of Natchez: but the two places are so distant from each other, that their interests will always revolve in different circles. The situation of this town, on the shelving declivity of a cluster of precipitous hills, which rise abruptly from the river, is highly romantic. The houses are scattered in picturesque groups on natural terraces along the river, the balcony or portico of one often overhanging the roof of another. . . . Cotton is often conveyed to Vicksburg . . . from a distance of one hundred miles in the interior (Reps 1994, 138).

Vicksburg's location along the Mississippi River approximately midway between the commercial ports of New Orleans and Memphis and connected to other urban areas by an expanding network of rail lines contributed to its importance as an export center for cotton. Commercial shipping and river transport was specifically enhanced with the introduction of the steamboat in 1816 and the clearing of channels by the US Army Corps of Engineers in 1824 (Risk 1992, 21). Travel between Vicksburg and the state capital at Jackson was facilitated with the completion of

the Vicksburg and Clinton rail line during the 1830s. North–south railroad lines soon connected Jackson to New Orleans and to Grand Junction, Tennessee, where the Mississippi Central line met the Memphis and Charleston line. In 1852, the Vicksburg, Shreveport, and Texas Railroad was completed that included a rail head at De Soto Landing, just opposite the port of Vicksburg, where the De Soto Ferry was located (Risk 1992, 21-23: Risk's Draft Cultural Landscape Report notes that the Vicksburg and Clinton Railroad was organized in 1831 to transport cotton and other goods to Vicksburg from inland Mississippi. By 1846, the line was completed across the entire state and renamed the Vicksburg and Meridian Railroad. The Vicksburg, Shreveport, and Texas line, which started at De Soto Point, had only been constructed as far west as Monroe, Louisiana by 1863). With access to river and rail transport, Vicksburg became a hub that was connected to larger markets by rail lines, barges, steamboats, and ferries.

In 1850, US Congress transferred title to more than 3 million acres of swamp and overflow land along the Mississippi River to the state of Mississippi. This allowed for additional infrastructure improvements that included construction of 310 miles of levees along the banks of the river, and the clearing and draining of the delta, which made large areas of land available for cultivation. Although many Vicksburg residents were farmers, the landscape immediately surrounding the city was generally not suitable for intensive agriculture due to the presence of steep slopes and highly erodible soils. In addition, the ridgelines that encircled the city were bisected by spring channels and meandering bayous that cut nearly impassable ravines through the loess hills, rendering overland travel difficult. The more level bottomlands allowed for increased agricultural productivity after the levees were built along the river to protect the land from flooding.

By 1861, the landscape around the city had evolved into "a mosaic of small farms, pastures, wooded ravines, and deeply cut springs" rather than expansive cotton plantations (Risk 1992, 21-23). Local residents cultivated cotton, grains, fruits, and vegetables on arable land. Roads were built along ridgelines that connected the city of Vicksburg with nearby towns and settlements as well as the capital at Jackson. Roads, however, remained relatively unreliable routes of travel as they frequently turned to mud during rains, and became rutted and bumpy during dry spells.

The Shirley House

(See Figure 6, Period Plan 1863.)

One of the early settlers of the area was Nicholas Gray, an Irish immigrant who moved to Mississippi from New York City following his appointment as Register of the Land Office of the Mississippi Territory. Gray moved from the settlement of Washington in Adams County to the Vicksburg area in the 1830s. On August 1, 1837, Gray purchased a 30-acre tract of land within the loess hills from T. H. Goodall. The property—which encompasses the present-day Shirley House—was located two miles northeast of Vicksburg and edged the road leading to Jackson. Gray built a house on the property that he named Wexford Lodge after his home county in Ireland. Due to its prominent position on a high ridge, the house soon became a landmark for travelers along the Jackson Road.

In 1849, Gray listed the property for sale in the Vicksburg Weekly Whig, describing it as:

> A most desirable residence in a healthy location, 2 ½ miles from town. The dwelling is 40 by 60 feet, containing nine rooms, seven large ones and a wide passage. There is on the premises a cistern, a spring of never failing water, stable, hen-house, etc. Attached 14 acres of good rich land, a variety of fruit trees, fine range for cattle, winter and summer. Also a 16 acre lot adjoining and well suited for building and gardening (Notice appearing in the Vicksburg Weekly Whig, December 5, 1849).

Gray is recorded as deeding the property to Ben Johnson soon after listing it for sale. No further records relating to the property have been uncovered between the 1849 deed and its transfer to Judge James Shirley on January 1, 1851. By this time, the area was described as an "agreeable neighborhood—very thickly settled" (Buono 2004, 19-20).

Shirley was born in Goffstown, New Hampshire, on May 15, 1794. He is known to have studied law at Dartmouth College, graduating in 1818. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Albany, New

York, where he established a law practice. He later moved to Augusta, Georgia, where he assumed charge of an educational academy. While in Augusta, he met Harriet Wadsworth of Norwich, Connecticut. The two were married in Wilkes County, Georgia, on June 26, 1820. Harriet, however, died in 1825, leaving her husband a widower with an infant son, James Jay Shirley (Styles 2004, 10).

After his wife's death, Shirley moved with his young son first to Florence, and then to Huntsville, Alabama, where he practiced law. During the course of his travels, he met Adeline Quincy of Boston, Massachusetts, who was a great-niece of John Hancock. In 1835, they were married, and a short time later moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi, where Shirley established a law practice in partnership with a Mr. Graybill (Styles 2004, 11). The Shirley's first home was located on the northeast edge of town, not far from Cedar Hill Cemetery, where they observed frequent burials. As noted by Shirley: "Every day and sometimes several times in the day, we were called to witness the solemn scene of some fellow mortal on his journey home . . . . Although death is certain to all, still it is unpleasant to have it always before our eyes" (Styles 2004, 10-11).

James and Adeline Shirley had four children. The first was Frederick, born in 1836. Their second child did not live to adolescence and died in either the late 1830s or early 1840s. A daughter, Alice Eugenia, was born on May 2, 1844, and four years later, they welcomed a son, Robert Quincy (Styles 2004, 10).

With a growing family and concerned about yellow fever, thought to thrive in low areas with stagnant air, the Shirleys began to look for a new home with a more healthful location. Their search led them to purchase Wexford Lodge in 1851. As James Shirley noted in a letter to his brother, "We have fine health and rather a pleasant situation . . . . We abound in fruit peaches pears apples & melons. There passes by our door every day peaches pears and watermelons of the finest kind enough to load a Steam Boat" (Styles 2004, 11). With a prosperous law practice and other business interests, Shirley soon began making improvements to the property. He is also recorded as being an enslaver (Styles 2004, 11).

By the end of 1851, he informed his brother, "We are finishing [renovating] our house. . . ." By February 1852, Shirley boasted, "Our house is nearly finished—makes quite a good appearance—& very comfortable" (Styles 2004, 11). The letter did not, however, provide any details regarding the work performed or the extent of the alterations to the existing structure (Styles 2004, 20). Investigations conducted in 1965 as part of a Historic Structure Report suggested that the back porch and rear room were likely added to the existing house by the Shirleys in the 1850s, potentially replacing an earlier porch that did not span the width of the house (Styles 2004, 20). At some time prior to the Civil War the Shirleys appear to have increased their landholdings from the 30-acre parcel conveyed by Nicholas Gray, to the 60.7 acres that Alice Shirley Eaton later sold to the federal government in 1900.

The earliest known photograph of the house dates to circa 1863, which post-dates the changes made to the house by the Shirleys in 1851 and 1852 (Figure 7). It shows the house, which faced south toward Jackson Road, fronted by a single-story columned porch, with a landing above. The central porch was reached via a walkway and a flight of steps. Trees and shrubs were planted along the base of the house in irregular groupings. These may have included crape myrtle, Rose-of-Sharon, roses, and lilacs based on the recollections of Alice Shirley Eaton. Also visible in the photograph are tall grasses and what appear to be irises in the front yard.

The Shirley's daughter, Alice Shirley Eaton, later wrote about the house as part of a memoir chronicling her family's experience before and during the siege. The narrative suggests the character and composition of the property in the early 1860s:

> In the early [18]60's my home was on a small plantation of one hundred acres, in Warren County, Mississippi, two and a half miles back of Vicksburg. The house was built after the southern fashion, a story and a half in height, a wide hall in center, large rooms on each side, ceilings high, upper and lower porch in front, and veranda in the rear. It stood on a high elevation somewhat back from the [Jackson] road. A driveway describing a semi-circle passed the door, and a wide walk ran from the front porch to the road, which was reached from that point by a flight of steps. This walk was bordered with red

flowering quince, fragrant white syringas and roses, while close to the edge bloomed violets, jonquils and hyacinths. On one side of the porch was a beautiful pink crape myrtle, and on the other grew an althea tree. The rustic summer house made of grape vines and roots with beds of flowers all around it, was a great delight to me, as was also a little vegetable garden where my brother Quincy and I planted our names in peas, lettuce and radishes.

I must not forget to mention the little garden in the rear, which was my father's special pride, and which kept us so bountifully supplied with vegetables and small fruits and also boasted of one row of peanut hills. To old Uncle Will, the oldest slave on the place, tall, bent, black and wrinkled, was given the care of this garden. When another servant was sent to the heavier work of it, the old man was greatly pleased to superintend and direct and assume a little authority. We all liked to talk to him and to listen to his tales of other days when he was young, and he had an unfailing supply. I can see him now stop and rest his chin on his hoe as he talked, then hoe a few rows, then talk again, and when there was no one by to listen he held conversations with himself. Father always enjoyed his little chats with Uncle Will as he passed through the garden, and they often had discussions on various subjects, crops, slavery, etc. . . . .

The kitchen and four other buildings where the servants slept were on either side of the gardens and they were all quite comfortable, had good fireplaces and plank floors. It would seem very odd in the north to have an outside kitchen. In a hard storm, or on a cold day, the hot biscuits and cakes, of which there were usually several relays during the meal, had to be carried very quickly across to our basement dining room to keep them from getting wet or cold, but nobody gave a thought to such small matters those days—comfort and convenience were of little importance then (Styles 2004, 20).



Fig 5. Lithographic view of Vicksburg, circa 1851. Source: Lithograph by Adolphus F. Forbriger, printed by Onken's Lith, Cincinnati, Ohio. From John W. Reps, Cities of the Mississippi, 140.

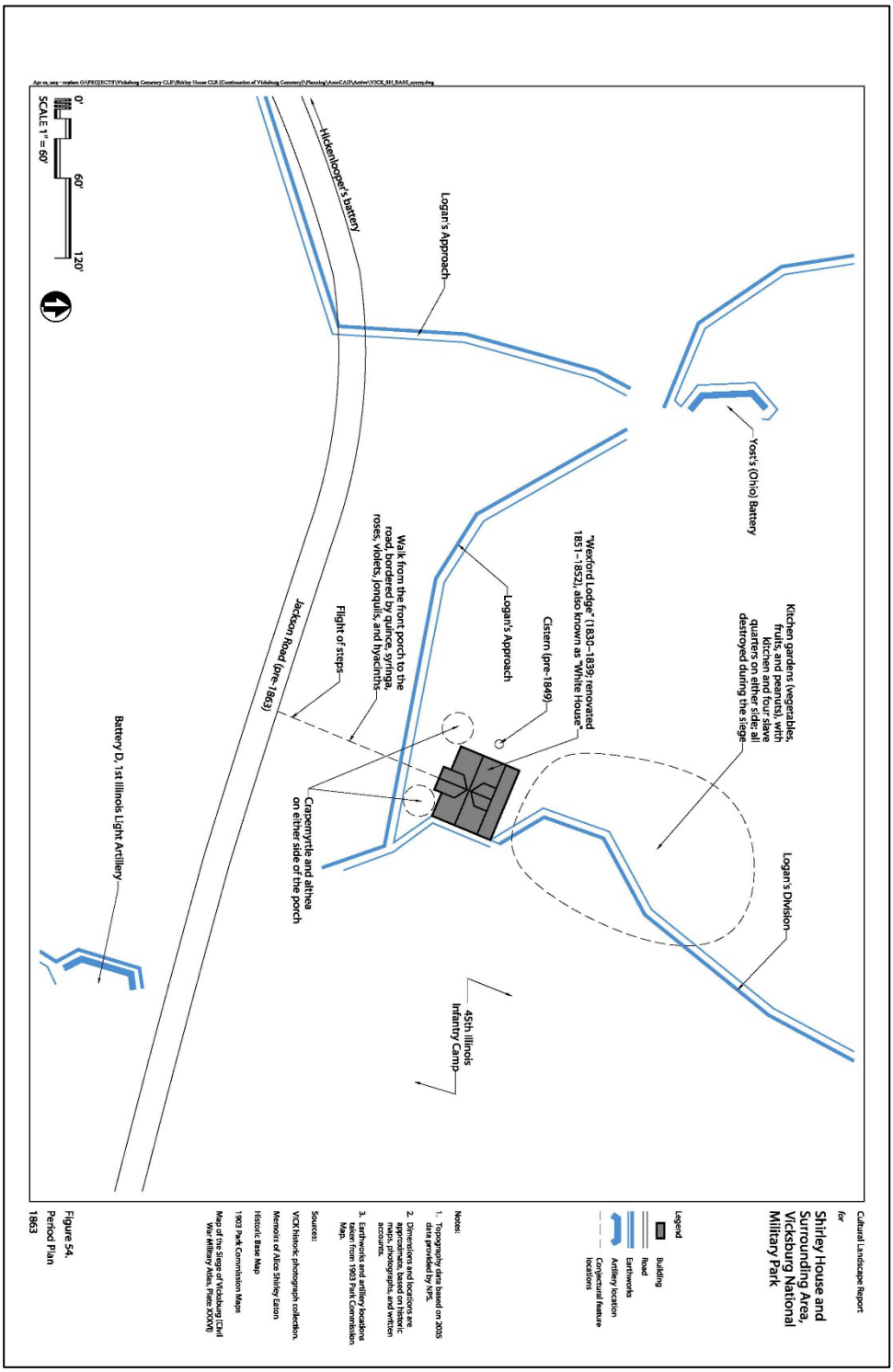


Fig 6. Period Plan for 1863.



Fig 7. One of the earliest known photos of the Shirley House, circa 1863. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, box 7.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

5 - Prelude to the Civil War, 1850–1861

Physical History Narrative

The practice of slavery became an increasingly polarizing issue in American politics over the course of the early to mid-1800s. Pro and anti-slavery factions battled over how slavery would be legislated as each new state entered the Union. In 1819, Missouri applied for statehood as a slave state. At the time, the Union consisted of twenty-two states, evenly balanced between slave and free. Congressional approval of Missouri's application would upset the balance, and set a precedent for continuing to sanction slavery, despite ongoing attempts by many elected officials to end the practice. In 1820, Congress passed the Missouri Compromise in an effort to defuse the sectional rivalries resulting from the transition of territories to states by striking a balance between slave and free states. The Missouri Compromise was reached by granting Missouri's desire to allow slavery, while admitting Maine as a free state at the same time. As part of the

compromise, slavery was prohibited north of the 36 degree 30 minute parallel, except for Missouri. The north–south delineation line continued to guide where slavery could be adopted during the transition of territories to states until the amendment was negated by the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854.

Prior to the Kansas-Nebraska Act, Congress enacted five statutes known as the Compromise of 1850. The legislation sought to maintain the Union by retaining the tenuous balance between slave and free states following the inclusion of new territory resulting from American victory in the Mexican-American War of 1846–1848. Following the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, California was admitted to the Union as a free state, while the territory of New Mexico (including present-day Arizona and Utah) was established without any specific prohibition of slavery. The legislation also called for the abolition of the trade of enslaved Africans, but not slavery itself, in Washington, D.C., and amended the existing Fugitive Slave Act to require all citizens to assist in the return of runaway enslaved regardless of the legality of slavery in their respective states. The strengthening of the Fugitive Slave Act increased the determination of abolitionists to end slavery in the United States.

On December 20, 1860, South Carolina, which had threatened to secede in 1850 over the admittance of California as a free state, voted to leave the Union in response to Abraham Lincoln's election as President. Lincoln was a Republican who had run on a platform that specifically pledged not to extend slavery. Based on concerns regarding Lincoln's policies, several more Southern states soon followed South Carolina's lead. On January 9, 1861, Mississippi became the second state to secede from the Union. Although the citizens of Vicksburg and Warren County sent pro-Union delegates to the secession convention held in Jackson, only one other county—Adams—voted in favor of maintaining the Union of states under the Constitution, and Mississippi moved toward secession (Styles 2004, 12). The states of Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas had all seceded by the end of February 1861. By June 8, 1861, eleven states in total had seceded and formed the Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis, a resident of Warren County, Mississippi, was elected provisional president of the new nation.

Throughout the 1850s, the Shirley family watched with mounting anxiety as divisiveness and sectionalism spread across Mississippi. The spirit of compromise, which had prevailed for several decades, was replaced by a deep and abiding suspicion between those who affiliated themselves with the Union and those who supported the Confederacy (Styles 2004, 12). As Union sympathizers, the Shirleys were deeply troubled by these events. Judge Shirley recognized the potential for Vicksburg to become a target of the war due to its key position along the Mississippi River. The Shirleys would remain outspoken in their support of the Union, and eventually were treated with suspicion and even ostracized by the community.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

6 - The Civil War, 1861–1865

Physical History Narrative

The Importance of the Mississippi River

On April 12, 1861, Confederate forces attacked a Federal military post known as Fort Sumter located in the harbor outside of Charleston, South Carolina. President Lincoln responded by calling for troops to suppress the rebellion and declared a blockade of shipping operations in the South. The blockade extended along the Atlantic seaboard as well as the Gulf Coast, and included the port of New Orleans at the mouth of the Mississippi River. As a natural artery of commerce through the center of the nation, the Mississippi has been described as "the spinal column of America," and "the trunk of the American tree, with limbs and branches reaching the Alleghenies, the Canadian border, the Rocky Mountains" (Winschel 2014, 74). For both the Confederate and Union armies, the river was targeted as an important military objective of control due to the opportunities it afforded in the transport of food, ammunition, clothing, medicine, and troops. Vicksburg was considered key terrain for controlling the river due to its defensible position and visual command of the waterway, both up and downstream, overlooking a tightly curved oxbow. Vicksburg also served as an important link between the eastern and western states of the Confederacy, as suggested by Jefferson Davis's description of the city as "the nailhead that held the South's two sides together." Abraham Lincoln similarly recognized the importance of the city, noting in one communique, "Vicksburg is the key. The war can never

be brought to a close until that key is in our pocket" (National Park Service, Vicksburg National Military Park website 2016).

In response to the Union blockade, and in an effort to maintain control of the Mississippi River, the Confederacy quickly began to fortify strategic points along the river where it bordered the Confederate states of Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi, and where the river extended through lower Louisiana. Fortifications were proposed to protect Vicksburg, as well as key positions along the Red River in Louisiana and the Arkansas and White rivers in Arkansas. With these fortifications, the Confederacy hoped to keep the shipping lanes open and continue to facilitate the transport of agricultural products from the productive farmland of the Mississippi delta region.

Union officers as well as President Abraham Lincoln also quickly identified control of the Mississippi River as a military imperative of the war. Strategically, gaining control of the Mississippi River would deny the Confederates access to a vital supply route, while physically dividing, and thus diminishing the power of, the Confederacy. The objective of dividing the Confederacy was referred to as the Anaconda Plan as articulated by Gen. Winfield Scott in 1861. Scott's plan was never formally adopted by the Union, however.

Efforts to control the Mississippi River as part of the Vicksburg Campaign began in spring 1862 with the Federals moving upriver and attacking Confederate fortifications and artillery positions with gunboats. This approach was thwarted at Vicksburg, however, due to the strong position of the Confederates. The Union was forced to change tack. With the river presenting a challenge, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant determined to approach the city by land in fall 1862. This phase of the campaign involved the invasion of north Mississippi, followed by an attempt to flank the Confederates by using Gen. William T. Sherman's forces to move toward the Mississippi River from Chickasaw Bayou to the north. The third phase of the campaign entailed Grant positioning his army, beginning in spring 1863, south of Vicksburg. After successfully positioning his forces, Grant initiated the final phase of the Campaign, which entailed attack on the Confederate fortifications surrounded Vicksburg, followed by siege operations.

The four phases of the Vicksburg Campaign are discussed in greater detail below. (fn: The synopsis of the Vicksburg Campaign that follows is based on several sources, including Ballard 2003 and Ballard 1996).

Phase One of the Vicksburg Campaign

To protect their interests along the Mississippi River, the Confederates fortified Island No. 10 and New Madrid, Missouri, near the Tennessee-Kentucky state line, to the north and established Forts Jackson and St. Philip, as well as several smaller forts, near New Orleans to the south.
These fortified positions, however, did not remain in Confederate control for long. The northern positions were overtaken by Union forces, led by Brig. Gen. John Pope, on April 7, 1862, while the southern defenses below New Orleans were overcome by Federal river forces, led by Flag Ofc. David G. Farragut and Cmdr. David Dixon Porter, between April 25 and 28, 1862. Federal attack on the positions near New Orleans resulted in evacuation of the city by Confederate troops soon thereafter. By April 28, 1862, the river was opened to Union shipping as far south as Fort Pillow near Memphis, Tennessee, and as far north as Vicksburg, Mississippi. On June 6, 1862, a Federal naval force, led by Cmdr. Charles Davis, captured Memphis, Tennessee, moving Union control of the river ever closer to Vicksburg from the north.

Determined to push upriver from the south, Farragut directed several cruisers and gunboats to move on Vicksburg. Farragut soon encountered Confederate forces under the command of Brig. Gen. Martin L. Smith, who refused to surrender the city. Farragut ordered a bombardment that lasted from mid-May through July of 1862. Farragut's bombardment proved ineffective, and a combination of illness among his troops and falling river levels led him to withdraw his fleet to New Orleans, effectively ending the first phase of the campaign.

Confederate Fortifications at Vicksburg, 1862

After the fall of New Orleans and Farragut's attempt to capture the city, the Confederates realized the need to fortify Vicksburg, as well as to protect the rail lines that connected the city with Jackson and served as a supply line for heavy ordnance.

Confederate engineers began to construct fortifications at Vicksburg in September 1862 using the specific topographic features around the city to position their defenses. The unique combination of rugged, dissected, and elevated terrain to the east of the city, and the tortuous turn of the Mississippi River that forced attacking boats to slow as they approached Vicksburg, suggested the most effective locations for artillery positions.

Overseeing construction of the fortification was Lt. Gen. John Clifford Pemberton, a Pennsylvania native who sided with the South as a result of the influence of his Virginia-born wife. Pemberton was initially sent to Jackson, Mississippi, in October 1862 to take command of the newly created Department of Mississippi and East Louisiana. He was soon moved to Vicksburg, where soldiers and the enslaved had already initiated work on a system of fortifications that would ring the city on the landward side in a horseshoe-shaped line. Large battery positions punctuated the line at potential avenues of attack—generally rail lines and road corridors. Batteries were also placed along the bluffs overlooking the river to protect against gunboat attacks. Rifle pits and obstacles, including downed trees with branches sharpened into spikes, known as abatis and chevaux de frise, and dense vegetative thickets with vines and wire tied between them, fronted the line, creating a nearly continuous line of defense against river- and land-based attacks (Figure 8). The steeply sloped terrain of the bluffs would serve as one of the obstacles to attacking forces. After these fortifications were completed, Vicksburg became known as the "Gibraltar of the Confederacy."

Confederate fire power was concentrated at key points along the ridgelines. These included the Great Redoubt and Third Louisiana Redan along the Jackson Road near the Shirley House; Railroad Redoubt along the Southern Railroad of Mississippi; Stockade Redan along the Graveyard Road; and the Square Fort (Fort Garrott) and Salient Work (Horn Work) along Halls

Ferry Road. Additional works included the Second Texas Lunette; Fort Hill at the north end of the line; and South Fort at the southern end.

The Confederate fortifications also provided cover for the soldiers who manned the artillery. The fortifications were composed of an earthen wall, or parapet, fronted by an excavated ditch. The earthen parapet walls were reinforced with logs, cylindrical baskets of native cane called gabions, and tightly bound bundles of brush called fascines. The majority of the trees that had stood in the vicinity of the 8-mile defensive line were cut to fabricate these structural reinforcements. Removal of trees and brush also provided a clear field of fire for the artillery.

Phase Two of the Vicksburg Campaign

Union efforts to reach Vicksburg targeted attack by river as well as by land. Union commanders Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Flag Ofc. Andrew Foote first focused on offensive efforts in Tennessee, capturing Fort Henry on the Tennessee River and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River by mid-February 1862. After these losses, Confederate Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston evacuated the state capital of Nashville, moving his forces to Corinth in the northeast corner of Mississippi, in order to protect the critical rail lines associated with the Memphis & Charleston and Mobile & Ohio railroads.

Recognizing the importance of the railroads to Confederate operations, Union forces led by Major Generals Grant, Henry W. Halleck, and Don Carlos Buell decided to attack and sever key Southern rail lines. To challenge Johnston's control of the lines in Corinth, Grant's army traveled along the Tennessee River by steamboat, disembarking at Pittsburg Landing, several miles to the northeast in spring 1862. There Grant established a base of operations on a plateau west of the river, with Union forward camps posted 2 miles inland around a log church called Shiloh Meeting House. Buell's Army of the Ohio, marching overland from Nashville, moved to join Grant's forces in their planned advance on Corinth.

Rather than wait in Corinth, Johnston determined to attack Grant's army at Pittsburg Landing before Buell arrived. On April 6, Confederate forces attacked the forward Federal camps around the Shiloh Meeting House. Using the element of surprise, the Confederate forces initially gained ground against the surprised Union troops. However, after his forces became disorganized, and Johnston was killed, the Confederates were forced to regroup under the command of Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard. At nightfall, fighting ceased with the two sides in an effectual stalemate. Fortunately for Grant, Buell's army reached Pittsburg Landing during the night. At dawn on April 7, the amplified Union army attacked the outnumbered Confederates, who withdrew to Corinth; the Battle of Shiloh would prove to be one of the Civil War's bloodiest, with 23,746 casualties recorded. With the Confederate withdrawal to Corinth, Grant's plan remained unrealized.

Still focused on gaining Confederate rail lines, Union forces—the Army of the Tennessee, the Army of the Ohio, and the Army of the Mississippi—under the command of Gen. Henry Halleck, reached the Confederate fortifications at Corinth by late May 1862. They then laid siege to the town.

Recognizing that he was outnumbered two to one, and with many of his troops sick with typhoid and dysentery, Beauregard chose to withdraw his army south to Tupelo, abandoning the contested east–west rail lines. The Union army took control of Corinth soon thereafter.
Union forces then continued their effort to move south toward Vicksburg. On September 19, 1862, Grant, supported by Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans, encountered Confederates led by Maj. Gen. Sterling Price at Iuka, Mississippi. Each had the objective of preventing their opponent from sending reinforcements to Tennessee. Price united his retreating troops with those of General Van Dorn, who attacked Rosecrans's Federal garrison at Corinth on October 3. In heavy fighting on October 3–4, the Confederates were repulsed. The fighting at Corinth, the last Confederate offensive in Mississippi, weakened the only mobile Southern army defending the Mississippi Valley, thus increasing Grant's chances of reaching Vicksburg.

By early October 1862, with Corinth and Memphis under Union control, Grant became further resolved to capture Vicksburg, either by land or by water. To support his offensive, Grant assembled forces under the command of Maj. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand, and Gen. James B. McPherson, each to lead a separate component of the offensive.

Not convinced of the viability of Grant's plan, McClernand presented a separate plan to President Lincoln and Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton on October 20, 1862, that suggested the Union launch amphibious operations against Vicksburg. General Halleck opposed the idea and to undermine it, and reassigned several of McClernand's companies and regiments to prevent their participation.

In the meantime, Grant began to move overland, assembling an invading force at Grand Junction, Tennessee, where the Mississippi Central Railroad intersected the Memphis and Charleston line that connected Memphis and Corinth. Grant's plan entailed having two forces simultaneously invade Mississippi, one led by himself from Grand Junction, and the other led by Sherman from Memphis.

After delays caused by supply problems and Confederate cavalry raids, Union forces, numbering 40,000, moved southward from Memphis by land in early November, occupying Holly Springs, Mississippi, before continuing toward the Tallahatchie River. The Federal approach caused the Confederates to move southward and dig in behind the Yalobusha River at Grenada, Mississippi. Grant reorganized his army for an advance on Grenada. Little went according to plan, however. In December, Confederate raids, including an attack by Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's forces against the Federal supply line and a raid conducted by Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn on the Federal supply base at Holly Springs, caused Grant to pull his army back to Memphis. Union gunboats moving up the Yazoo River withdrew after the USS Cairo hit a Confederate mine and sank.

In order to keep Pemberton pinned down in northern Mississippi, Grant sent Sherman and one division back to Memphis to organize an amphibious expedition against Vicksburg. Sherman's forces included 32,000 men and support from the Union navy. On December 20, 1862, Federal transports began ferrying troops downriver. When Pemberton learned that Sherman's forces were moving toward Vicksburg, he ordered reinforcements for Martin Smith's garrison at Chickasaw Bayou and traveled there himself.

Sherman's army landed and marched toward Walnut Hills to the north and northeast of Vicksburg. Sherman attacked Confederates stationed near the confluence of the Yazoo and Mississippi rivers on December 27–29. In the resulting Battle of Chickasaw Bayou, the Federal troops, which outnumbered the Confederates, struggled to maneuver through the swampy condition against Gen. Martin Smith's well-fortified high ground. On January 1, 1863, a discouraged Sherman returned to Milliken's Bend, Louisiana.

After the failure of Sherman's December offensive, Grant moved his troops to the west bank of the Mississippi River and proceeded down the Louisiana side of the river, intending to reach Vicksburg by crossing the river south of the city.

From January 4 to 12, 1863, McClernand, in command of Sherman's forces, attacked Fort Hindman 50 miles upstream along the Arkansas River from its confluence with the Mississippi River. With the threat of Confederate gunboats removed, Union capture of the fort allowed the Federals to move more freely on the river.

Grant continued to probe the defenses of his opponent as he moved southward. One of his ongoing strategies was to regularly send gunboats along the river to test the Confederates at Vicksburg and attempt to run their blockade (Figure 9).

After reaching a position across the river from Vicksburg, Grant sought to build a canal at De Soto Point, near the hairpin curve in the Mississippi River that would allow Federal troops to bypass the bend in the river and the associated Confederate batteries, facilitating an avenue of

approach to Vicksburg from the south (Figure 10). Grant's plan followed an earlier failed attempt made by Gen. Thomas Williams in 1862 to dig a canal at this location.

In a letter to General Halleck dated February 18, 1863, Grant described the canal work (Figure 11):

> The work upon the canal here is progressing as well as possible, with the excessively bad weather and high water we have had to contend against. Most of the time that troops could be out at all has been expended in keeping water out of our camps. Five good working days would enable the force here to complete the canal 60 feet wide, and of sufficient depth to admit any vessel here. Judging from the past, it is fair to calculate that it will take from ten to twelve days to get those five days (Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (O.R.), series I, vol. 14, part I, 18.).

Leaving no stone unturned, Grant's engineers also attempted to provide access from Lake Providence, located 75 miles north of Vicksburg on the Louisiana side of the river, by traveling along the stream corridors connected to the Red River, which flowed into the Mississippi River south of Vicksburg.

During the same time frame, between March 14 and 21, 1863, Rear Adm. David D. Porter led an amphibious expedition up Steele's Bayou in an attempt to gain the Sunflower River, which led to the Yazoo above Vicksburg. Porter's flotilla included ironclad gunboats, mortar boats, and tugboats. The expedition was hampered by the obstructions placed in the river by the Confederates as well as trees growing in the bayou, and the fleet eventually had to be rescued.

Phase Three of the Vicksburg Campaign

By late March, Grant had abandoned the canal project, due in part to fluctuations in water levels that undermined the excavation work. The effort to approach from Lake Providence was also abandoned.

Changing tack again, Grant decided to move his army down the west side of the Mississippi River on March 31, in order to reach a point below Vicksburg where he might succeed in having river transports ferry the men across. The greatest challenge to the plan entailed getting the Union boats past the Confederate defenses at Vicksburg.

On the night of April 16, 1863, Grant ordered his gunboat fleet to run the batteries at Vicksburg, while he organized several diversions. One of these entailed destroying Confederate supplies upriver at Greenville, Mississippi, in an attempt to draw the defenders from the Vicksburg fortifications (fn: Pemberton was hampered by a shortage of cavalry and Grierson's raid was extremely successful, capturing more than 3,000 stand of arms, destroying 50 to 60 miles of railroad track as well as Confederate property, and capturing 1,000 horses and mules. See Ballard, The Campaign for Vicksburg, 23). Grant also sent several Federal steamers north to Memphis to suggest to the Confederates that he was pulling back, while in fact boats were being moved away from the city to relieve river traffic congestion.

As Porter's boats rounded De Soto Point, Confederate lookouts sounded the alarm. Soldiers stationed along the river set bales of cotton soaked in turpentine and barrels of tar on fire to illuminate the river, allowing the artillery to aim at the vessels. Although each vessel was hit repeatedly, Porter's fleet was able to pass through the Confederate batteries with the loss of only one transport. Porter then continued downriver to rendezvous with Grant on the Louisiana shore, south of Vicksburg (National Park Service Vicksburg National Military Park website 2015). The threat to the Confederate position was compounded by the fact that Pemberton doubted rumors that McClernand's corps was moving down the west side of the river, and ignored warnings from Gen. John S. Bowen that the Grand Gulf defenses needed to be protected. When Pemberton learned on April 17 that several enemy vessels had successfully passed south through the Vicksburg batteries, he did not fully appreciate the danger, distracted by Grant's diversionary raids.

As Grant waited to implement the next part of his plan to the south, Sherman attacked Snyder's Bluff north of Vicksburg, further diverting Pemberton's attention from Grand Gulf, where Union

gunboats began an attack on April 29. On April 30, 1863, Union boats began ferrying the 17,000 troops of the XIII Corps ashore at Bruinsburg, Mississippi. The Union troops then marched toward Port Gibson, through difficult terrain marked by steep ravines and high ridges. Troops of John Logan's division, part of James McPherson's XVII Corps, were then ferried across the river, swelling Grant's force to 25,000 men.

General Bowen sent a detachment, led by Brig. Gen. Martin E. Green, to Port Gibson to set up roadblocks west of town, where the roads from Rodney and Bruinsburg converged. At the May 1, 1863, Battle of Port Gibson, the Confederates were outnumbered more than three to one. Although defeated, they bought Pemberton valuable time to regroup.

Shaken by the loss of Port Gibson and Grand Gulf, Pemberton decided to abandon Port Hudson and move his forces to Vicksburg. After receiving an order from President Jefferson Davis to hold both locations, Pemberton wired Maj. Gen. Franklin K. Gardner to remain at Port Hudson with 2,000 men, later sending Gardner 5,000 reinforcements. On May 21, Union Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks and his forces, which included African Americans from Louisiana fighting for the Union, began siege operations against Port Hudson. Banks unsuccessfully assaulted the position on May 27 and June 11. The Confederates were able to maintain control of their defenses at Port Hudson until July 9, five days after the fall of Vicksburg.

Grant's diversionary efforts continued through April, as he marched his forces north–northeast. While it appeared that he was moving toward the Big Black River, he was actually targeting the Southern Railroad that connected Jackson and Vicksburg. On May 8, he was joined by Sherman and his troops between Port Gibson and Raymond, Mississippi. In response to Grant's movements, Pemberton decided to consolidate his forces west of the Big Black River as a way to protect against Grant's advances. Despite the recommendation of many of his officers, Pemberton maintained a defensive position and was reluctant to take offensive action against Grant.

Anticipating a possible Federal attack on the capital at Jackson, Pemberton sent 3,000 men under Brig. Gen. John Gregg to Raymond. Gregg attacked the vanguard of McPherson's corps,

mistakenly thinking that it was a rear guard or a screening movement. Outnumbered, he was forced to retreat to Jackson. Resistance provided by Gregg's forces and reports that Joseph Johnston had come to Jackson to assemble an army to aid Pemberton convinced Grant not to turn his army west. Grant decided instead to attack Jackson first. Not realizing that reinforcements were on the way that would have enabled him to hold off Grant until Pemberton could attack the Federal rear, Johnston decided to evacuate Jackson. Grant began his assault on Jackson on May 14, 1863; with limited Confederate resistance, the city was soon under Federal control. Following his victory at Jackson, Grant ordered Sherman to destroy the city's rail and industrial facilities as he moved his troops westward to Bolton, Mississippi.

In response to Grant's movements, Pemberton attempted to move his forces on the morning of May 15, but supply problems and a flooded creek interfered, and his three divisions made little progress. At dawn on May 16, he received a message from Johnston informing him that Jackson had fallen and ordering him to move toward Clinton. Concerned about leaving Vicksburg without proper defenses, Pemberton decided to march southeast toward Grant's supply line. This movement kept the main Confederate army between Vicksburg and McClernand's forces, also allowing Pemberton's forces to move back to Edwards if necessary to block any advance from Jackson. Because Johnston's message was intercepted by a spy, Grant was afforded the opportunity to converge his three corps and proceed against Pemberton offensively. Pemberton encountered the advancing Union forces as he moved northward.

In the ensuing Battle of Champion Hill, which took place on May 16, and would prove to be the largest and bloodiest engagement of Grant's Vicksburg Campaign, a division of Brig. Gen. John Bowen's Missourians and Arkansans nearly overran Grant's men. Col. Francis M. Cockrell and his Second Missouri Infantry successfully broke through Gen. Alvin P. Hovey's 12th division of the 13th Corps, threatening the right wing of Grant's army. Having no reserves, however, Bowen was forced to retreat, while pressure from Gen. John McClernand's corps also caused Pemberton to retreat. Maj. Gen. William W. Loring's Confederate forces held long enough for Bowen's and Gen. Carter L. Stevenson's divisions to escape across Bakers Creek to their Big Black River

entrenchments. Loring, concerned that he might be cut off by advancing Union troops, moved his division south and then northeast toward Jackson, where he joined Johnston.

Champion Hill was the decisive battle of the Vicksburg campaign and one of the most significant of the war. Had Grant lost, he would have been cut off from his base at Grand Gulf and his army would have been threatened. Grant's victory at Champion Hill was critical to his eventual capture of Vicksburg.

On May 17, Grant sent Sherman north of the railroad to cut off Pemberton's retreat, while McClernand moved his troops forward to meet the Confederates where the railroad crossed the Big Black River. Although McClernand attacked the Confederates, Pemberton's army escaped with the help of infantry and artillery on the bluffs along the west bank of the river. After burning the railroad bridge and a boat that had been used as a bridge, Pemberton retreated to Vicksburg.

Phase Four of the Vicksburg Campaign: the Siege of Vicksburg
(See Figure 6, Period Plan 1863.)

After the losses suffered in May 1863, President Jefferson Davis ordered Pemberton to hold Vicksburg no matter what the cost. At the same time, Johnston ordered Pemberton to escape to the northeast to save his army. Pemberton elected to follow Davis's orders, moving into the defenses at Vicksburg and setting about reorganizing his troops to protect the city. Pemberton placed Smith's division on the left and Gen. John H. Forney's division in the center—the two areas most likely to be attacked—since these divisions had never left Vicksburg and were fresh. He placed Stevenson's division, exhausted from fighting, on the right flank where they were less likely to be assaulted. Bowen's division was held in reserve. As Union forces approached, Confederate troops burned most of the farmhouses and other structures around the defensive system in order to ensure clear lines of fire. Only the Shirley House was spared. Alice Shirley Eaton described how the house avoided being burned in her memoir:

The Confederates, knowing that they must soon retreat behind their fortifications at Vicksburg, began their preparations by destroying what they could outside, and burned all the houses in the vicinity, but my mother's persistent refusal to go out of hers, and her determination to prevent its destruction, delayed its being set on fire until the Federals made their appearance on the hills to the east of us. The poor fellow who was appointed to do the work, while holding the ball of blazing cotton to the corner of the house, was struck by a bullet of the pursuing vanguard, and crept away under the shelter of some planks, where he died alone. His body was found the next day and was buried under the corner of the house (Winschel 2003, 20).

In the meantime, the Union army pushed across the Big Black River and drove hard toward Vicksburg. Residents first heard the sounds of approaching troops on the afternoon of May 18. Almost immediately after reaching the fortifications at Vicksburg, Grant and his three corps attempted two assaults on the Confederate position. On May 19, Frank Blair, Jr.'s, division of Sherman's corps, positioned on the right (north) flank of the Federal army, charged against Stockade Redan, which commanded the Graveyard Road approach to the city. The assault was stopped by Confederate fire from Martin Smith's division and the Missourians of Cockrell's brigade (Figure 12). When Union soldiers appeared at the ditches at the base of the redan, defenders rolled cannon balls with shortened timing fuses into the attackers, who were forced to retreat (Ballard 1996, 47).

Simultaneous attacks were made by McPherson in the center along the Jackson Road and McClernand on the left along the Baldwin Ferry Road. Like the Graveyard Road attack, only limited progress was made on either of these fronts. In the attacks of May 19, Grant lost 1,000 men to the Confederates' 200 (Ballard 1996, 47).

On May 22, Grant again attempted to overrun the Confederate fortifications at Vicksburg. His efforts entailed a general assault in which Blair's and James Tuttle's divisions from Sherman's corps led attacks against Stockade Redan, the Third Louisiana Redan, and the Great Redoubt. The attacks followed a four-hour Federal artillery bombardment (Figure 13). While the attacks were generally not successful, McClernand's troops were able to enter the Railroad Redoubt and

advance against the Second Texas Lunette, Square Fort, and South Fort. Union command of these positions was short-lived; the Confederates, including Col. Thomas Waul's Texas Legion (attached to Carter Stevenson's division on the Confederate right) later retook the Railroad Redoubt, while Brig. Gen. Martin E. Green led a successful attack to remove Federal forces from in front of the Second Texas Lunette. The challenges faced by the Union army in overcoming the strength of the Confederate fortification system was described by Union Col. Holden Putman based on his experiences during the May 22 attacks:

> At 10 o'clock we pushed forward to the crest of the next hill, but were met by a terrible storm of grape, canister, and musketry, and the ground being almost impassable from gullies, covered by a heavy abatis of fallen trees, underbrush, vines, &c., the whole position enfiladed by the guns of the enemy, the brigade commander ordered a halt for a few moments (O.R., series I, vol. 14, part II, 67).

In the May 22 attacks, Grant lost 3,200 men and Pemberton less than 500 (Ballard 1996, 47). Unfortunately for the Shirleys, their property was situated between the Confederate line and the Union encampment established by Grant after May 18. Perched on a high point overlooking the Confederate line, the Shirley House occupied key terrain, and was caught in the crossfire of warring armies. At the time, only Adeline, the youngest Shirley child, Quincy, and the family's enslaved were in residence. Young Frederick Shirley had been sent to stay with friends in Indiana, while daughter Alice Shirley Eaton was attending the Central Female Institute in Clinton, Mississippi. Judge Shirley had left Vicksburg to retrieve his daughter from school, worried about her safety as war drew closer. Arriving on Monday, May 11, Shirley was in Clinton on the morning of Wednesday, May 13, when Grant's army arrived. Grant ordered the depot burned and the tracks removed, leaving Shirley with no option but to walk the 40 miles back to Vicksburg, preceded by the Union advance. He had Alice Shirley remain in Clinton to avoid what was ahead. She did not return home until July 21.

When the first Union attack on the Confederate line occurred on May 19, Adeline Shirley, her son, and two enslaved Africans were forced to take shelter in the house, where they huddled against the brick chimney. Alice Shirley's memoirs record her mother's experience:

> My mother and the old home were greeted with a shower of bullets and shell from the advancing army. One shot passed her as she stood in an open doorway. A piece of shell struck the top of the chimney and tore it away, and passing into an upper room, shattered a bedstead. She thought rapidly; the thing to be done was to hang out a flag of truce, and quickly she secured a sheet to a broom handle, and sending it by our carriage driver to the upper front porch where it might be seen from a distance, it was soon waving a truce to the bullets.
>
> The first officers rushed in half expecting to find Confederates hidden away ready to betray them, and were not easily persuaded to believe that we were Union people, and my mother had some talking to do.
>
> Now all was confusion and excitement. The great hosts advanced rapidly, and the house, the grounds, the road, and the woods behind were soon alive with Union soldiers, and that same afternoon the fighting began. Bullets came thick and fast, shells hissed and screamed through the air, cannon roared, the dead and dying were brought to the old home. War, terrible war, had come to our very hearthstone, and here my mother and brother remained for three days. The two house servants stayed by them. Household treasures were soon destroyed under the ruthless hand of the soldier.
>
> Daguerreotypes prized so highly by the family, letters, valuable papers, etc. quickly disappeared. A dinner set of beautiful china which had been packed away in a box for safe keeping, was taken out, piece by piece, and smashed. Mother saved out of the set a teapot and several plates. The teapot I have now. Choice books were carried off, furniture was destroyed, but through kindness of some officers our trunks and the best of our furniture were saved; among these were the piano and melodeon.

> Quincy was delighted to go into the trenches and do a little fighting for his country. Those three days must have been a time of great distress to my mother, and I think she never entirely recovered from the strain caused by the war. She has told me that she and the two house servants sat most of the time in the chimney corner, where the bullets might not strike them.
>
> After the attack was over, the family decided to find safer quarters. They first moved to an excavated space in one of the steeply sloped hillsides nearby, described by Alice Shirley from the stories conveyed to her by her parents later:
>
> Our carriage driver and others of our colored men were digging a cave in the side of a hill in the valley some distance back of the house, for her to move into, as [Major] General [James B.] McPherson had said she must not stay at the house, as it was no place for a woman. At daylight on the fourth day [May 21] she left, the soldiers making a narrow opening through their ranks for her to pass.
>
> Here, in the miserable cave, a blanket strung across the opening, with her trunk and a rocking chair, all her possessions available then, and half sick, my father found her a few days later, and stayed there himself until he was taken sick. With no beds to sleep on, no decent food, and weary with his long, hot journey, what wonder he was sick! (Winschel 2003, 22).

After the Shirleys left the house, Grant began efforts to lay siege to the Confederate line, reasoning that "they could not last always" (Ballard 1996, 49). While Grant planned the siege, his forces remained encamped on a ridgeline that paralleled the Confederate fortifications but was separated from them by steep ravines.

Grant's strategy entailed establishing his own powerful batteries to face the Confederate works guarding the road and rail approaches to the city, from which they could direct fire and maintain

pressure on the Confederates. Between the batteries, he would build a systems of parapets along the ridgeline that faced the Confederate line. As part of this system, parapets were constructed to the south and northeast of the Shirley House (see Figure 6). Logan's division manned the earthworks, and were also involved in constructing trenches leading toward the Confederate earthwork known as the Third Louisiana Redan. To maintain artillery pressure on the work, Capt. Andrew Hickenlooper's 5th Ohio Battery was positioned on a high point overlooking the Third Louisiana Redan southwest of the Shirley House. From the battery position, Hickenlooper directed the sapping and mining operations conducted by Logan's division toward the Third Louisiana Redan.

Also located near the Shirley House were Battery D of the 1st Illinois Light Artillery, commanded by Capt. William Cogswell, and attached to Maj. Charles J. Stolbrand's Artillery Command, and Yost's Independent Ohio Battery, attached to Col. Benjamin F. Potts' 32nd Ohio Infantry, of Brig. Gen. John D. Stevenson's 3rd Brigade. Both units were part of Maj. Gen. John A. Logan's 3rd Division and Maj. Gen. James B. McPherson's XVII Army Corps position. The 45th Illinois Infantry was also encamped near the Shirley House (Figure 14). To protect themselves from Confederate artillery while in camp, the Union forces created a network of "shebangs" or dugouts on the slope southeast of the Shirley House (fn: The term "shebang" can refer to any type of temporary shelter built by soldiers). These small pit-like excavations were shored up with wood plank walls and roofs.

In addition to the ongoing use of artillery fire by his batteries, Grant's siege tactics entailed approaching the key Confederate works in several locations at the same time using a process known as sapping. This effort entailed digging shallow trench lines in the direction of the enemy works, using a zigzag formation that offered protection for those involved in the excavation by avoiding a direct line of fire from Confederate rifle positions (Figure 15). The trench lines were also dug at night. Additional protection was afforded by the use of sap rollers—large cylinders or gabions made of woven cane and filled with dirt or cotton—that were pushed ahead of the digging operations. In total, the Union soldiers dug thirteen trenches in an effort to approach numerous Confederate positions at once along their 12-mile line. The approaches occurred within

diverse terrain that included steep ravines filled with abatis, side slopes, wetlands, and open fields.

Once they reached the base of a Confederate earthwork, the Union soldiers were able to plant mines beneath the parapet wall that could be exploded in an effort to breach the structure. Similar siege tactics had been used for centuries during military operations, including Gen. George Washington's successful capture of the fortifications at Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781 (Miles 1994, 429).

One of the key Confederate works targeted by Grant was the Third Louisiana Redan located along Jackson Road southwest of the Shirley House (Figure 16). The Union considered control of the Third Louisiana Redan essential since "once in our possession, [it] would have made this part of the enemy's line untenable" (Prime and Comstock 1863). Because the work jutted forward from adjacent segments of the line, the Union would be able to command ground to either side once in possession of the earthwork (US Army Corps of Engineers 2018).

In order to reach the Third Louisiana Redan, Union forces under the direction of Capt. Andrew Hickenlooper, chief engineer of the XVII Corps, began their sapping operations approximately 150 feet southeast of the Shirley House and 400 yards east of the redan, moving in a zigzag manner along and then across Jackson Road inching ever closer to the Third Louisiana Redan (US Army Corps of Engineers 2018). The trench was referred to as Logan's Sap for the commanding officer, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, in charge of the division undertaking the excavation. Logan detailed a force of 300 men to constructing the approach to the Third Louisiana Redan.

Work on the approach trench began in late May. It entailed around the clock shifts of 100 sappers working at a time in excavating a trench 7 feet deep and 8 feet wide. The depth of the trench was intended to allow those digging the trench and traveling through it to stand upright without being exposed to enemy sharpshooters. The trench was wide enough for a column of troops to move ahead four abreast, and to allow wagons and artillery to pass.

On June 25, Union soldiers reached the Third Louisiana Redan. Because their digging could be heard by the Confederates within, Maj. Samuel Lockett quickly ordered a line of secondary trenches constructed to the rear of the redan. After the Union forces exploded a mine containing 2,200 pounds of powder in the tunnel, creating a crater 12 feet deep and 50 feet across, the Confederates successfully repulsed the 45th Illinois Infantry as they charged through the opening that had been made by the explosion in the parapet, and plugged the breach in the line.

The Federals once again attempted to detonate a mine set beneath the earthwork on July 1. Although the blast severely damaged the redan, the Federals did not follow with an infantry attack and lost their initial advantage. Soon thereafter, Grant was advised that his forces were ready to complete similar mines where explosives could be simultaneously detonated at thirteen separate locations. It was at this point that Grant knew it was only a matter of days before he would break the Confederate stranglehold on Vicksburg.

While these events occurred, the citizens who were living in the city of Vicksburg coped with frequent shelling by the Union army and fire from gunboats located on the river. Confederate soldiers were stationed around the city, while General Pemberton set up his headquarters in one of the city's mansions, known at the time as "Mrs. Willis's House." The Greek Revival house has been built by William Bobb in 1835–1836. In 1863, the house was owned by her son John Willis, a descendant of Vicksburg's founder, Reverend Newt Vick. The house is administered as part of Vicksburg National Military Park today.

As for the Shirleys, Alice Shirley Eaton noted that:

> They moved to the house of a planter a few miles farther out, where they remained a few weeks, when the shells began to reach them there, and they were by Gen. Grant's personal direction, moved three miles farther back still, into an empty negro cabin. Here they stayed, living a forlorn existence until the surrender. It was here that [her husband, John Eaton's] mother's father [Chaplain John Eaton, Jr., of the 27th Ohio Volunteer Infantry] first found them. My father's brother Uncle Robert Shirley [of Goffstown, New

> Hampshire], had requested him to hunt up our family and give to them what assistance he could (Winschel 2003, 22).

In the meantime, the Shirley House served as the headquarters for the Illinois regiment stationed in the area during the siege (Figure 17).

The Surrender

Pemberton soon realized that he would not be able to hold out much longer, given his lack of supplies and the Union's progress in developing tunnels leading to several major works. Reinforcements he had expected never arrived. Recognizing that there was a good chance that he would receive no support from Jackson or from Confederate troops in the Trans-Mississippi states, Pemberton began to weigh his options. His decision to surrender may have been influenced by a letter signed by "Many Soldiers," that suggested he yield to Grant's forces so that they would not have to desert. Before finalizing his decision, Pemberton met with his four division commanders—Maj. Gens. Carter L. Stevenson, Martin Luther Smith, John H. Forney, and John S. Bowen. The commanders were unanimous in their conclusion that the exhausted troops could not be successfully evacuated and that surrender was the best course. Pemberton thought that better terms could be negotiated by offering to surrender on the Fourth of July. On July 3, 1863, he told his division commanders:

> . . . my own preference would be to put myself at the head of my troops and make a desperate effort to cut our way through the enemy . . . But my duty is to sacrifice myself to save the army which has so nobly done its duty to defend Vicksburg. I therefore concur with you and shall offer to surrender this army on the 4th of July (National Park Service 2007).

Later that day, Pemberton opened negotiations with Grant, offering an armistice for several hours to arrange for the surrender. As at Fort Donelson, Grant demanded unconditional surrender; Pemberton, however, refused and demanded terms. Gen. John Bowen, a neighbor of

Grant's in St. Louis before the war, was assigned the mission of carrying the message to Grant, despite being severely ill with dysentery. Bowen hoped that his friendship with Grant would mean more favorable terms in the negotiations.

Following the delivery of Bowen's message, Pemberton, accompanied by General Bowen and Col. Louis M. Montgomery, met with General Grant, his staff, and Generals E. O. C. Ord, James McPherson, John Logan, and A. J. Smith at 3:00 p.m. under a tree a mere 200 feet from the Confederate trenches (Figure 18). The terms of the surrender indicated that the Confederate soldiers were to give up their arms, after which they would be paroled. Officers were allowed to retain their side arms, clothing, and one horse. Grant likely agreed to these terms based on the practical difficulties of transporting 30,000 prisoners to the closest suitable Union prison at Cairo, Illinois. Early on the morning of July 4, 1863, Pemberton sent Grant a message accepting the terms of surrender. Later that day, Federal soldiers marched into Vicksburg along Jackson Road, waiting at the Warren County Courthouse while the Confederate soldiers stacked their arms in a gesture of surrender (National Park Service 2007).

The 45th Illinois was assigned the distinction of leading the Union forces that entered Vicksburg on the morning of July 4, 1863 (Illinois Center Railroad Company 1903, 2).

For Vicksburg residents such as the Shirleys, as noted by Alice Eaton:

> The Fourth of July, 1863, was a day of great joy to my father. Half sick and worn out with the long strain, his horses and carriages and servants gone, his home a wreck; yet he was a proud and happy man to be able to walk into town under the old flag, the bands playing the national airs, and the Stars and Stripes waving from the Court house (Winschel 2003, 22).

On July 9, 1863, the Confederate defenders at Port Hudson, Louisiana, recognizing their tenuous position, also surrendered, rendering Union control of the Mississippi River complete. In a letter

to James C. Conkling on August 26, 1863, President Lincoln wrote, "The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea" (Lincoln 1990, 409).

Despite the loss of the Mississippi, and Confederate defeat at Gettysburg in early July 1863, the Civil War continued for nearly two more years. Following a long and protracted siege of Petersburg, Virginia, between October 1864 and April 1865, General Grant succeeded in driving General Robert E. Lee from his trenches, and pursued him to Appomattox Court House. There Lee was forced to surrender on April 9, 1865, effectively ending the war.

Early Commemoration

Even before the Civil War had ended, patriotic groups and military personnel began to mark key battle locations and commemorate valorous acts and decisive events. On July 4, 1864, on the first anniversary of the surrender at Vicksburg, a small stone obelisk was placed to mark the site of the surrender interview between Pemberton and Grant. The oak tree that served as the site of the surrender interview, however, had apparently been lost to souvenir-seekers (Risk Undated).

The monument, a stone obelisk set within a decorative iron fence (Figure 19), was described in the local newspaper prior to its completion:

> At present there is simply a square base, surmounted by an ornamental ball of marble, surrounded by masonry protected by Roman cement and an iron fence of simple but appropriate design. Lying outside the fence is a square white marble obelisk about eight feet long on which is the following inscription:
> Place of Interview
> —Between—
> Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, U. S. A.
> —And—
> General Pemberton,
> July 3d, 1863

> When the obelisk is placed on its base, surmounted by the ornamental ball, it will present a very neat appearance, and will be about fourteen feet high (Vicksburg Daily Herald, June 15, 1864).

A national cemetery was also established on the battlefield in 1866 for the interment of the Union dead. Confederate dead were buried in a section of Vicksburg's Cedar Hill Cemetery that became known as Soldiers' Rest.

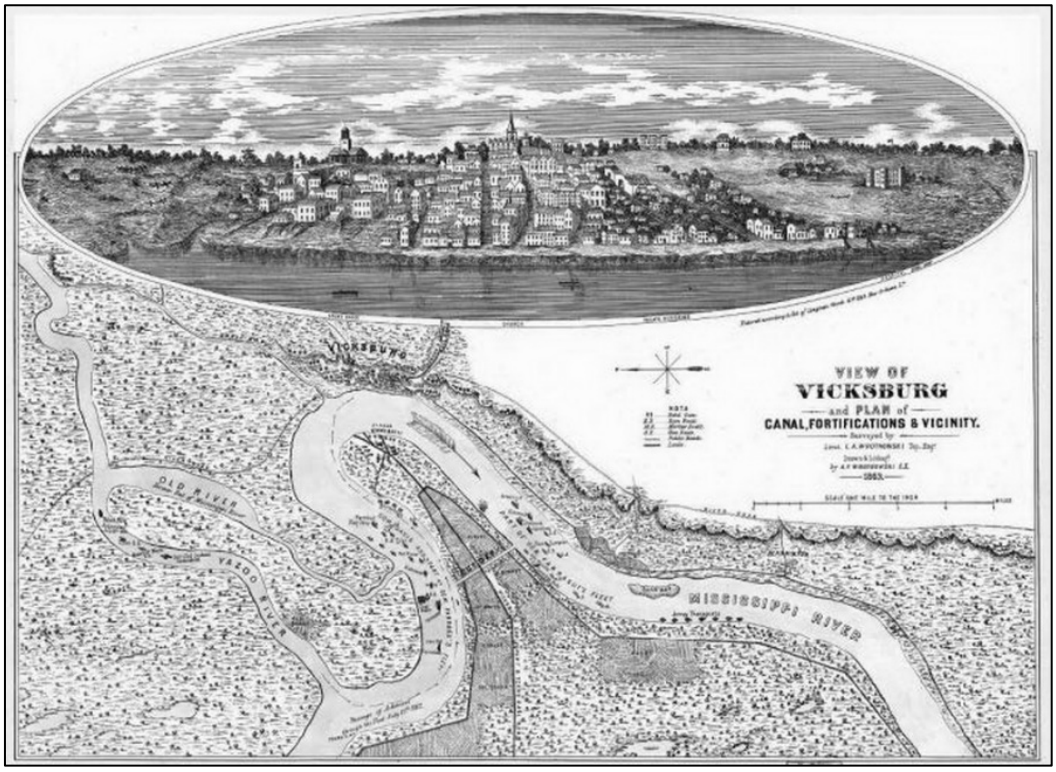


Fig 8. Bird's eye view and map of Vicksburg, 1863. Source: Surveyed by Lt. L.A. Wrotnowski, Top. Eng. Drawn and lithographed by A.F. Wrotnowski, C.E., 1863. Source: Library of Congress.

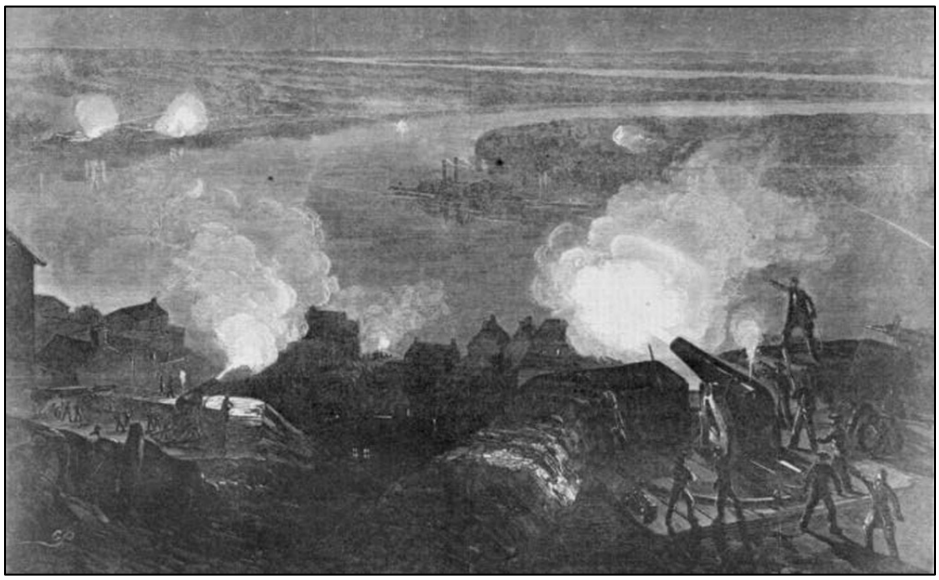


Fig 9. The US ironclad gunboat Indianola running the Confederate blockade at Vicksburg on February 13, 1863. Source: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 99614196. Illustration from Harper's Weekly (March 7, 1863), 149.

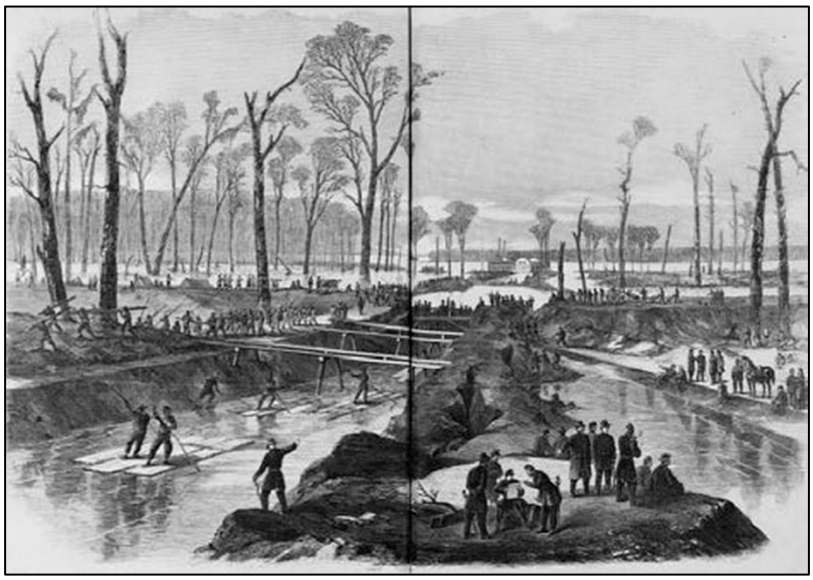


Fig 10. Construction of Grant's canal, 1863. Source: Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Washington, D.C., Card No. 2003668335. Illustration from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper 16, no. 391 (March 28, 1863), 8-9.

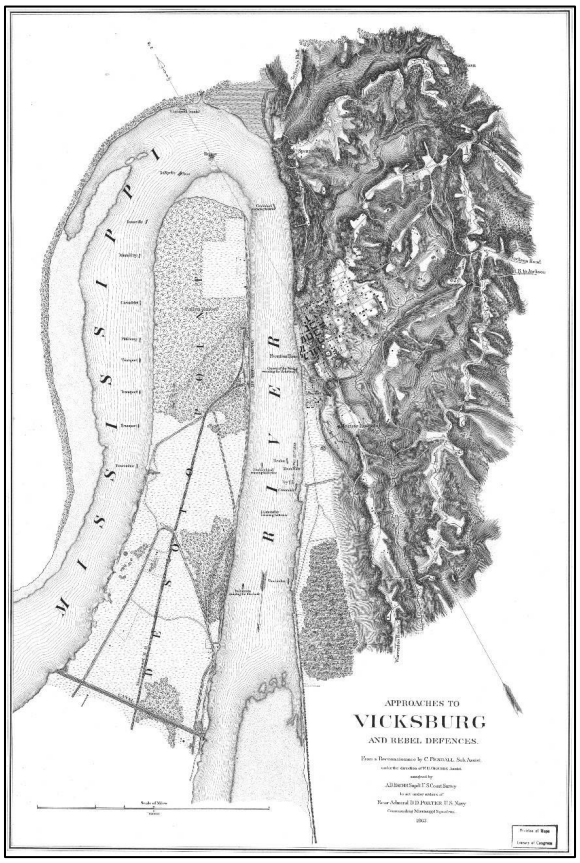


Fig 11. US Coast Survey map of Vicksburg and vicinity, 1863, showing gunboats and the canal across the De Soto Peninsula. Source: Library of Congress.

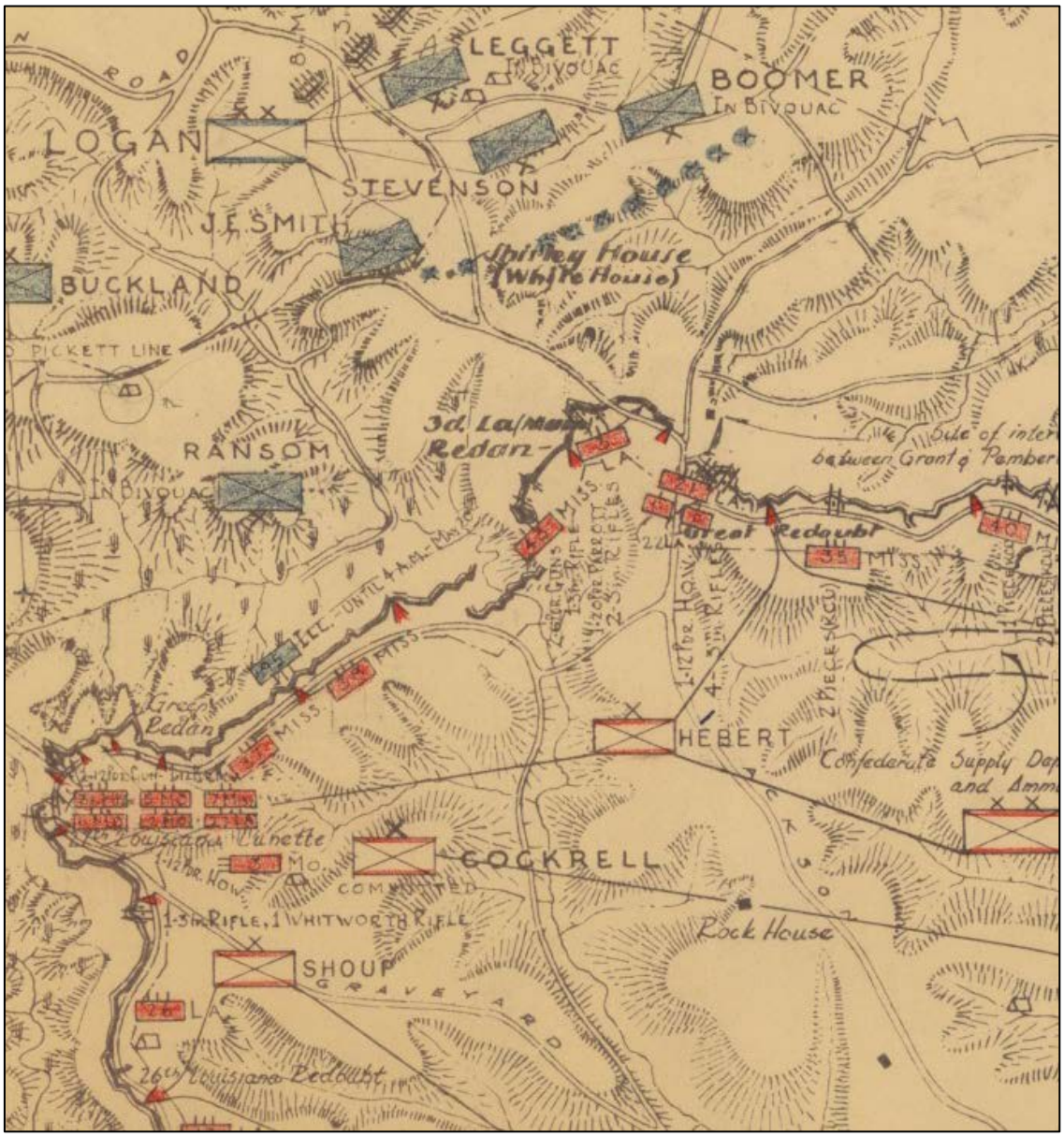


Fig 12. Detail of the Shirley House environs, and interpretation of the May 19 Union attack on the Confederate fortifications at Vicksburg, prepared by National Park Service historian Ed Bearss, 1958. Source: National Park Service drawing no. NMP-VIC 3009, sheet 2.

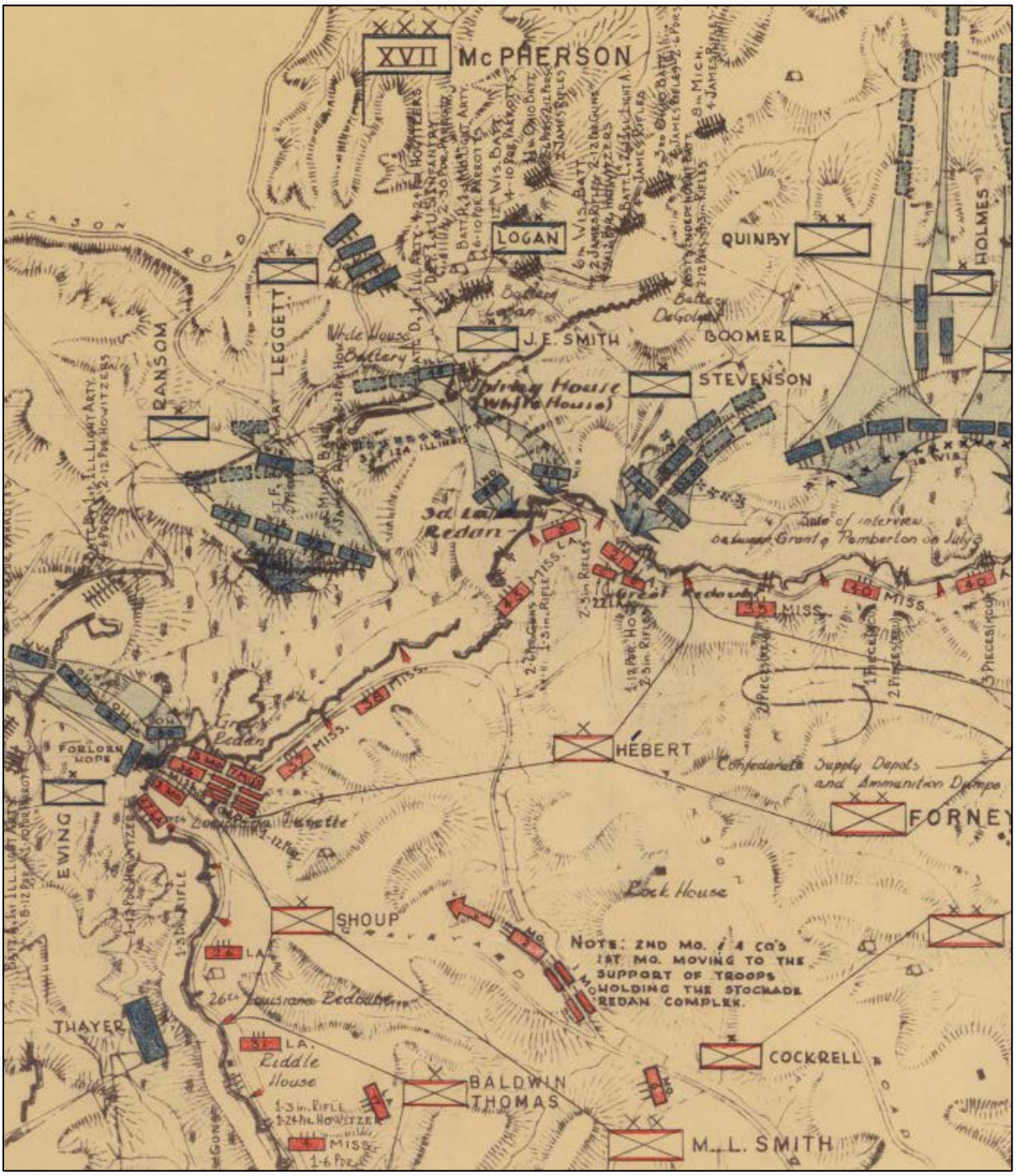


Fig 13. Detail of the Shirley House environs, interpretation of the May 22 Union attack on the Confederate fortifications at Vicksburg, prepared by National Park Service historian Ed Bearss, 1958. Source: National Park Service drawing no. NMP-VIC 3009, sheet 4.

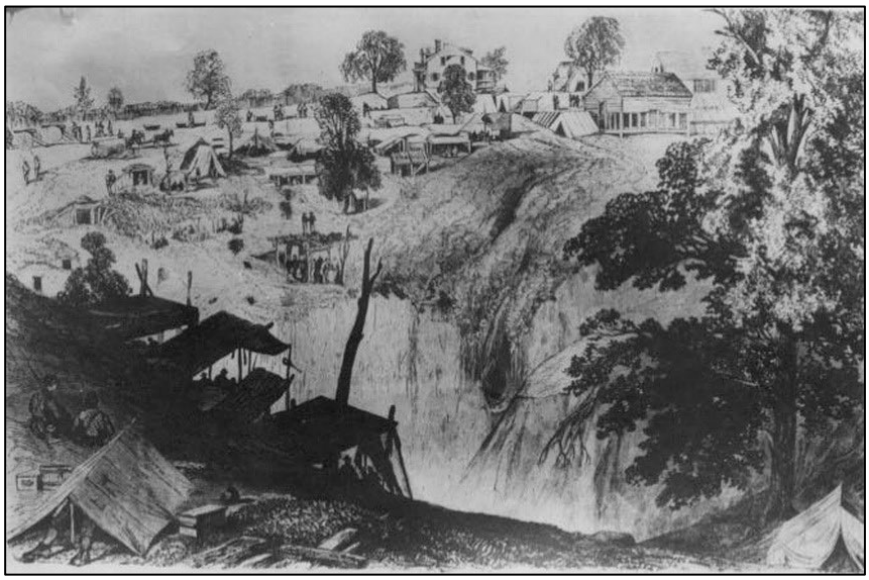


Fig 14. View west of the encampment of the 45th Illinois to the east of the Shirley House. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

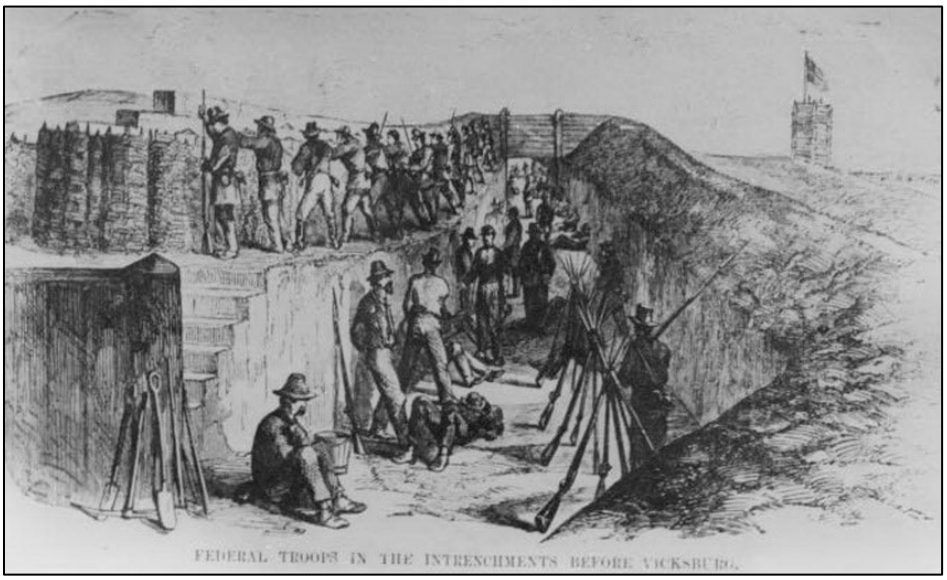


Fig 15. View west of a section of Logan's approach trench to the Third Louisiana Redan. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.



Fig 16. Earthworks sited adjacent to the Shirley House and the entrance to the saps constructed by McPherson's men to approach the Third Louisiana Redan. Source: Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, vol. III, 53.



Fig 17. View of Federal soldiers in front of the Shirley House, 1863. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

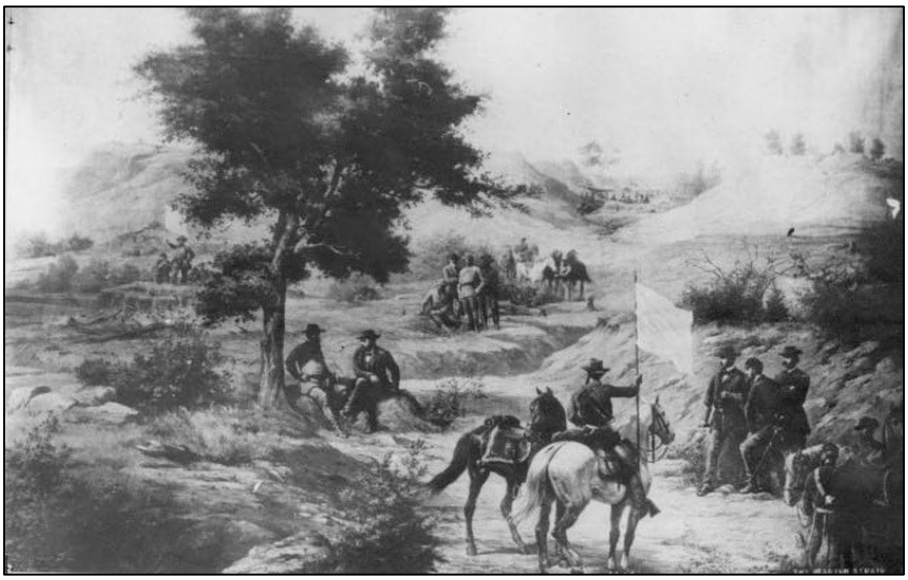


Fig 18. Artist rendering of Grant and Pemberton meeting on July 3rd in a ravine near the Shirley House to arrange the terms of the surrender, from a war-time sketch. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

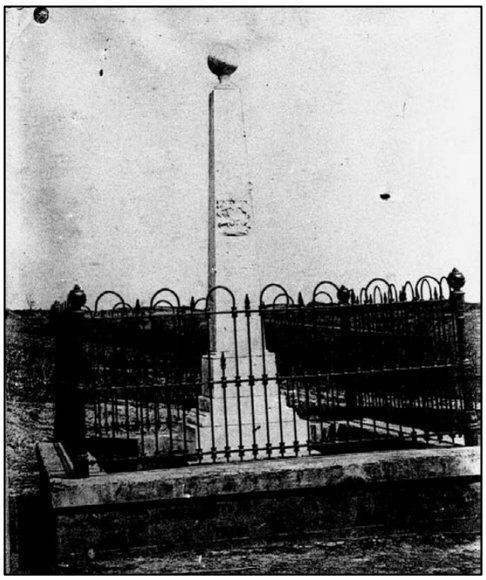


Fig 19. The Surrender Interview Site Monument, 1865. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

7 - Life after the War, 1865–1899

Physical History Narrative

Following the surrender, the Shirleys moved into a vacant house in Vicksburg while they considered their future. Although their house was badly damaged and many of their personal belongings had been destroyed, they likely intended to repair the house and return there to live. However, James Shirley died unexpectedly in August 1863 at the age of sixty-nine. Rather than repair their former home, Adeline Shirley left Vicksburg (Buono 2004, 15).

Quincy Shirley, who had fought for the Union, traveled to a preparatory school in anticipation of being admitted to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, based on the recommendation of General Grant. In 1866, however, Quincy Shirley failed to pass his first year

at the academy. Although he later improved his grades and passed the first year curriculum in 1867, he continued to struggle and was dismissed on July 2, 1868. Quincy later married Margaret Parks. He died in 1879.

During the war, Alice Shirley, then nineteen, met Chaplain John Eaton, colonel in the 63rd US Colored Infantry and general superintendent of freedmen for the Department of Tennessee, while he was visiting Vicksburg to establish camps for freedmen in service. On September 29, 1864, the couple eloped, and married in Toledo, Ohio. Although opposed to the marriage, Adeline Shirley eventually moved in with the Eatons and spent the rest of her life with them (Buono, 2004, 16; fn: Adeline Shirley died in March 1888 at the age of 77. Her daughter, Alice, made arrangements for her burial in Vicksburg next to her husband, James, in Cedar Hill Cemetery).

Union forces occupied the house in 1864 and used it as a smallpox hospital, after which it was abandoned. Three years later, in June of 1867, Adeline Shirley filed a claim with the War Department for damages to the property (Figure 20). Gen. Ulysses S. Grant sent a letter on Mrs. Shirley's behalf testifying to her "unflinching loyalty, demonstrated at great risk" during the siege of Vicksburg. Although he appealed to the War Department that favorable action be taken on her claim, it was denied after Congress passed a law forbidding expenditures for repair of a house damaged by the occupation of US troops in a state recently in rebellion (Buono 2004, 17). Once abandoned, the Shirley House fell into a state of disrepair (Figure 21). It was again involved in a conflict during the Reconstruction era, when attempts by white Democrats to wrest political control from the Republicans led to bloodshed. On December 7, 1874, a riot erupted along the Jackson Road outside Vicksburg. Several African Americans involved took refuge in Wexford Lodge. The building was stormed by a group of white men, who killed seven of those inside the house.



Fig 20. View of the Shirley House, circa 1868. Source: Illinois Center Railroad Company, General Passenger Department. Chicago, Illinois: January 19, 1903.



Fig 21. The Shirley House, circa 1875. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

8 - Vicksburg National Military Park, 1899–1933

Physical History Narrative

Even before the Civil War ended, veterans of many battles began to meet or to engage in reunions on or near the battlefields. As part of a growing interest in revisiting the battlefields, veterans also began to plan for ways to honor the dead and commemorate battle sites of importance. Veterans' organizations also formed after the war in both the North and South. The largest and most influential of these was the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), founded in Springfield, Illinois, by Union veterans in 1866. Over time, the organization continued to grow, from 25,000 members in 1877, to 409,000 by 1890. Benefits afforded those joining the GAR included admission to elderly soldiers' homes run by the organization and the provision of funeral services (Davies 1955, 31-35). The GAR was involved in the preservation of the

Gettysburg battlefield as a memorial to the men who fought in the battle, as well as the site of the siege and battle at Vicksburg (Davies 1955, 31-35).

Veterans' groups organized in the South included the Southern Historical Society, founded in 1869, that counted Gen. Braxton Bragg among its members; the Association of the Army of Northern Virginia (AANV), founded in 1870; and the Association of the Army of Tennessee, founded in 1871. Women also established groups to honor the contributions of individuals and regiments during the Civil War. These included the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC), formed in September 1894 from several existing local groups.

Over time, these groups increasingly began to focus on the protection of the hallowed ground of the battlefields. The Societies of the Army of the Cumberland and the Army of the Tennessee, for example, recommended to Congress that they consider the creation of parks to preserve such battlefields as Chickamauga and Chattanooga, and Shiloh, where troops from many states had been engaged, and which had involved famous generals as commanders on both sides. In response to these recommendations, a bill was submitted in early 1890 to create a national military park at Chickamauga and Chattanooga that would mark the lines of both sides and interpret the tactical aspects of the battles with strategically placed observation towers. Congress voted to establish Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park on August 18, 1890. Additional bills were quickly put forth to protect other major battlefields that created national military parks at Antietam in 1890, Shiloh in 1894, and Gettysburg in 1895 (Historic Resource Study, 62, citing John C. Paige and Jerome A. Greene, Administrative History of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1983), 9–10).

Interest in preserving the site of the siege and battlefield grew following a week-long reunion of Union and Confederate troops held at Vicksburg in May 1890. The event included a parade, fireworks, concerts, and visits to various battlefield sites and the national cemetery. The veterans also attended the decoration of Confederate graves in the Soldiers' Rest section of Cedar Hill Cemetery. In 1895, veterans of the Vicksburg Campaign formed the Vicksburg National Military

Park Association to promote congressional designation of a park at Vicksburg. Initial members included John F. Merry, Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee, Maj. L. C. Davidson, Capt. William T. Rigby, and Col. Charles C. Flowerree (Risk Undated). On February 21, 1899, President William McKinley signed into law an act to establish a national military park to commemorate the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg. The enabling legislation for the national military park states:

> . . . in order to commemorate the campaign and siege and defense of Vicksburg, and to preserve the history of the battles and operations of the siege and defense on the ground where they were fought and were carried on, the battlefield of Vicksburg, in the State of Mississippi, is hereby declared to be a national military park whenever the title to the same shall have been acquired by the United States and the usual jurisdiction over the lands and roads of the same shall have been granted to the United States by the State of Mississippi; . . . the whole containing about one thousand two hundred acres, and costing not to exceed forty thousand dollars (30 Stat. 841).

As noted, the enabling legislation called for the restoration and marking of the battlefield, while authorizing any state that had troops engaged in the campaign, siege, or defense of the city of Vicksburg from March 29 to July 4, 1863, to erect monuments and markers in memory of its soldiers. The legislation further specified that the Secretary of War was to approve the location, design, and inscription of all memorials placed upon the battlefield. The Secretary of War was authorized to acquire title to land through purchase or leasing, and to detail an officer of the Engineer Corps of the army to assist the commissioners in establishing the park.

The act also established a three-person commission to be appointed by the Secretary of War to oversee park development. Two of the commissioners were to have served in the Union army, while the third was to have served in the Confederate army. The commissioners were to elect a chairman as well as a secretary/historian, and to establish offices in Vicksburg or within the park. The duties of the commissioners were outlined as follows:

> . . . to restore the forts and the lines of fortification, the parallels and the approaches of the two armies, or so much thereof as may be necessary to the purposes of this park; to open and construct and to repair such roads as may be necessary to said purposes, and to ascertain and mark with historical tablets, or otherwise as the Secretary of War may determine, the lines of battle of the troops engaged in the assaults, and the lines held by the troops during the siege and defense of Vicksburg the headquarters of General Grant and of General Pemberton, and other historical points of interest pertaining to the siege and defense of Vicksburg within the park or its vicinity; . . . (30 Stat. 841).

The commission appointed by the Secretary of War included Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee of Columbus, Mississippi, Capt. William T. Rigby of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and James G. Everest of Chicago, Illinois. The group chose Lee as their chair. In the commission's first annual report, prepared in September 1899, the cost for continuing work at the park was estimated:

> . . . for the compensation of three civilian Commissioners, the Secretary, assistant Secretary and assistant to the Commissioner; for clerical and other services, labor, iron gun carriages, monuments, markers and historical tablets, maps and surveys, roads, bridges, restoration of earthworks, purchase and transportation of supplies and materials . . . , Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars. . . . (Risk Undated).

The 1,200-acre park established in 1899 encompassed the entire area of the siege and defense lines around the city and included the headquarters site of Union commander Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. Private property owners within the area to be incorporated into the park were offered life leases with the understanding that they would be required to:

> . . . cultivate their present holdings upon condition that they will preserve the present buildings and roads and the present outlines of field and forest, and they will only cut trees or underbrush under such regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe, and

> they will assist in caring for and protecting all tablets, monuments, or such other artificial works. . . ." (Risk Undated).

The commission immediately oversaw the work of an army engineer appointed to prepare a topographical survey of the new park property. The survey work began at South Fort in June 1899 and continued throughout the battlefield. One of the commission's next tasks was to determine a road network that would provide access to the features that would be highlighted within the park. They considered existing local roadways, such as Graveyard Road and Jackson Road, for inclusion in the system, while also recognizing that new roads would be required to provide access to both siege lines. Thus, they began to define two new roadways—Union Avenue and Confederate Avenue—that would link the elements of each line (Figure 22 and Figure 23).

Grading was required to create level roadbeds for these two new routes, while bridges were needed to cross some of the ravines, streams, and bayous within the park. Markers and tablets were placed to indicate the positions of the regiments during the siege and the events of the battle engagements with the help of veterans. Each state was afforded the opportunity to place a monument marking the general location of its troops.

By 1903, the majority of the tour road, including the bridges, had been completed (National Park Service 1990, 7). Three concrete observation towers were also built during the early 1900s that allowed visitors to better understand the battlefield landscape. One of these was located east of the Shirley House past the intersection of Union Avenue and Jackson Road.

States began to erect monuments within the park in 1903. The first was Massachusetts (1903), which was followed by New Hampshire (1904); Ohio (1905); Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Illinois (1906); Minnesota and Virginia (1907); Rhode Island (1908); Mississippi (1909–1912); Wisconsin (1911); Maryland (1914); Michigan (1916); Missouri and New York (1917); Louisiana (1920); West Virginia (1922); North Carolina (1925); Indiana (1926); and South Carolina (1935). A monument to the Union Navy was also constructed in 1911. Many of these early state monuments, as well as the Union Navy monument, were vertical in form to allow them to be seen from a distance.

In 1903, the Illinois Central Railroad Company prepared a publication about the siege, and the role that the Shirley House played in the military events of 1863, noting the following:
To Illinois Members Grand Army of the Republic and Kindred Organizations:

The State of Illinois had seventy-nine organizations at Vicksburg during the famous siege, in 1863, at that strategic point. Some of them were intimately associated with operations in connection with the Shirley House, the famous "White House" as it was called, that stood directly in, and on the highest point of, the Union investment line; while all had more or less of an interest in it, as it was such a notable landmark to both armies. Hence it is thought that the accompanying account of the historical Shirley House, now restored by the Government to be used as a Museum in the Vicksburg National Military Park, will be of interest to Illinois veterans and their families (Illinois Center Railroad Company 1903, 1).

One of the most prominent features of the new park was the Illinois State Memorial, dedicated on October 26, 1906 (Figure 24). The memorial is located just west of the Shirley House along Jackson Road. The large domed structure, designed by W. L. B. Jenney, was modeled after the Roman Pantheon and built of Stone Mountain granite and Georgia white marble. The artwork associated with the memorial was sculpted by Charles J. Mulligan. The memorial is reached via a stairway that contains forty-seven steps, one for each day of the siege. Sixty unique bronze tablets line the interior walls of the memorial. These are inscribed with the names of all 36,325 Illinois soldiers who participated in the Vicksburg Campaign.

Also built around the same time was the Illinois Circle Road, a route that led north from Jackson Road and allowed visitors to experience the monument from all sides. The Illinois Circle Road extended to Union Avenue north of the Shirley House (Figure 25).

Various monuments and markers were added to the park landscape during the early 1900s. Within the Shirley House environs, these included, in 1902, the Union position marker on the line of Logan's Approach, two Union position markers indicating the location of Logan's Division

along the Union Trench, and Union position marker at the first angle of Logan's Approach. In 1905, the 124th Illinois Infantry Monument, 31st Illinois Infantry Monument, Battery D, 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument, 45th Illinois Infantry Monument, and 30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker were added. In 1912, a relief portrait of Col. Manning F. Force was erected near the Shirley House. The final monument added to the Shirley House landscape was a relief sculpture, by American sculptor George E. Ganiere, of Brig. Gen. John E. Smith, installed in 1919.

Colorized postcards dating from the early twentieth century illustrate the character of the landscape after the tour road and many of the monuments and markers were installed. The postcards illustrate the open character of the area around the Shirley House, and the existence of shade trees scattered along the road margins (Figure 26), the unpaved character of the Union Avenue and Jackson Road corridors (Figure 27), and the low curb that edged the tour road (Figure 28).



Fig 23. Union Avenue, looking north toward the Shirley House, under construction in 1902. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.



Fig 24. View south along Union Avenue and the bridge built across Glass Bayou, circa 1903. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

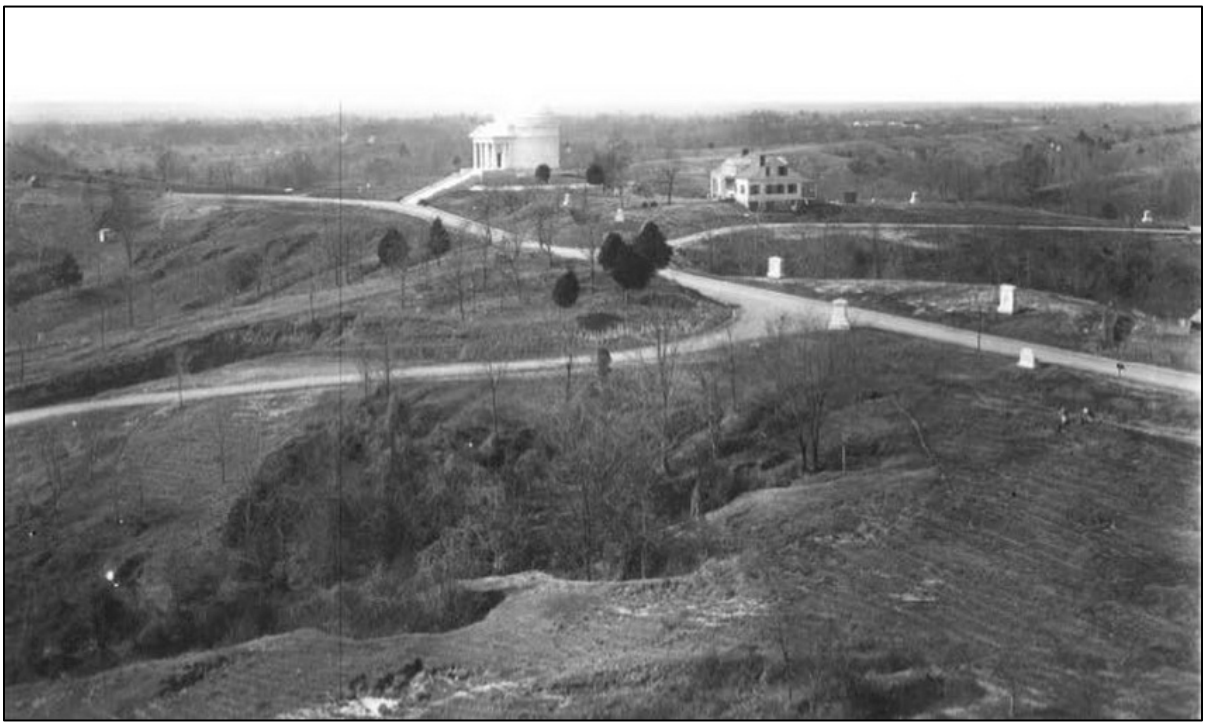


Fig 25. Bird's eye view looking northwest toward the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial, circa 1906. Source: Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

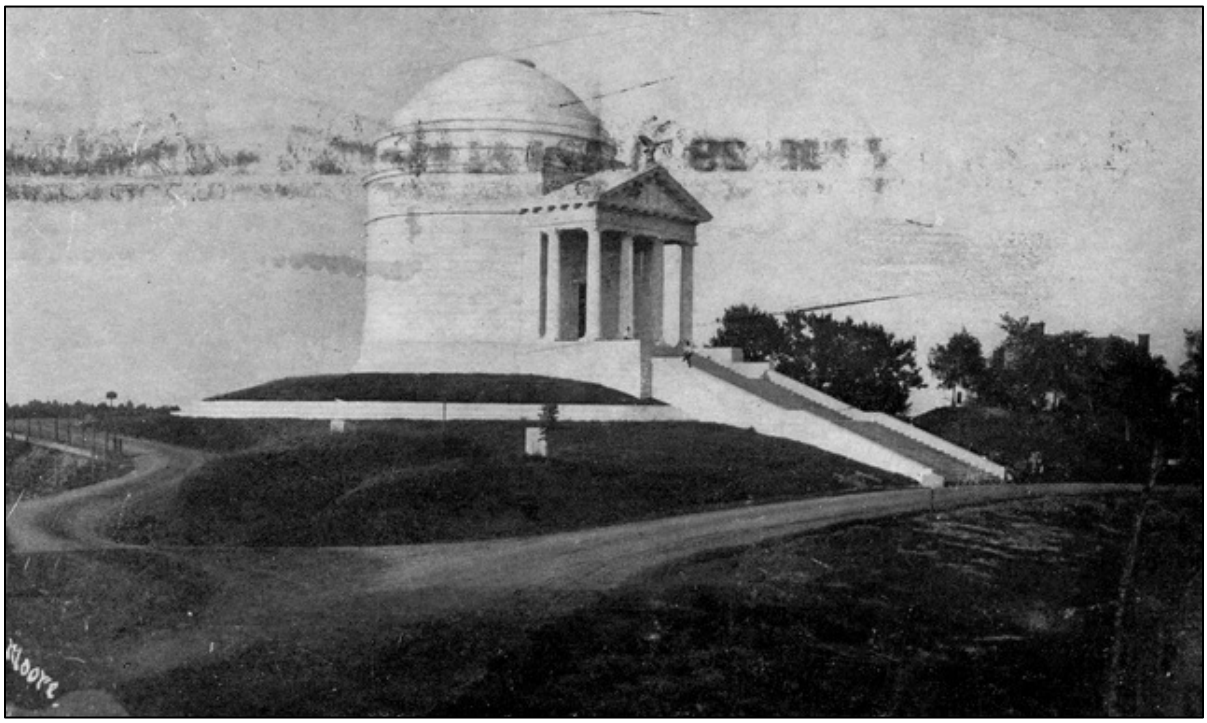


Fig 26. The Illinois State Memorial, shortly after completion circa 1906, with the Illinois Circle Road visible on the far left. Source: Postcard image, A. G. Cassell Co., Publishers.

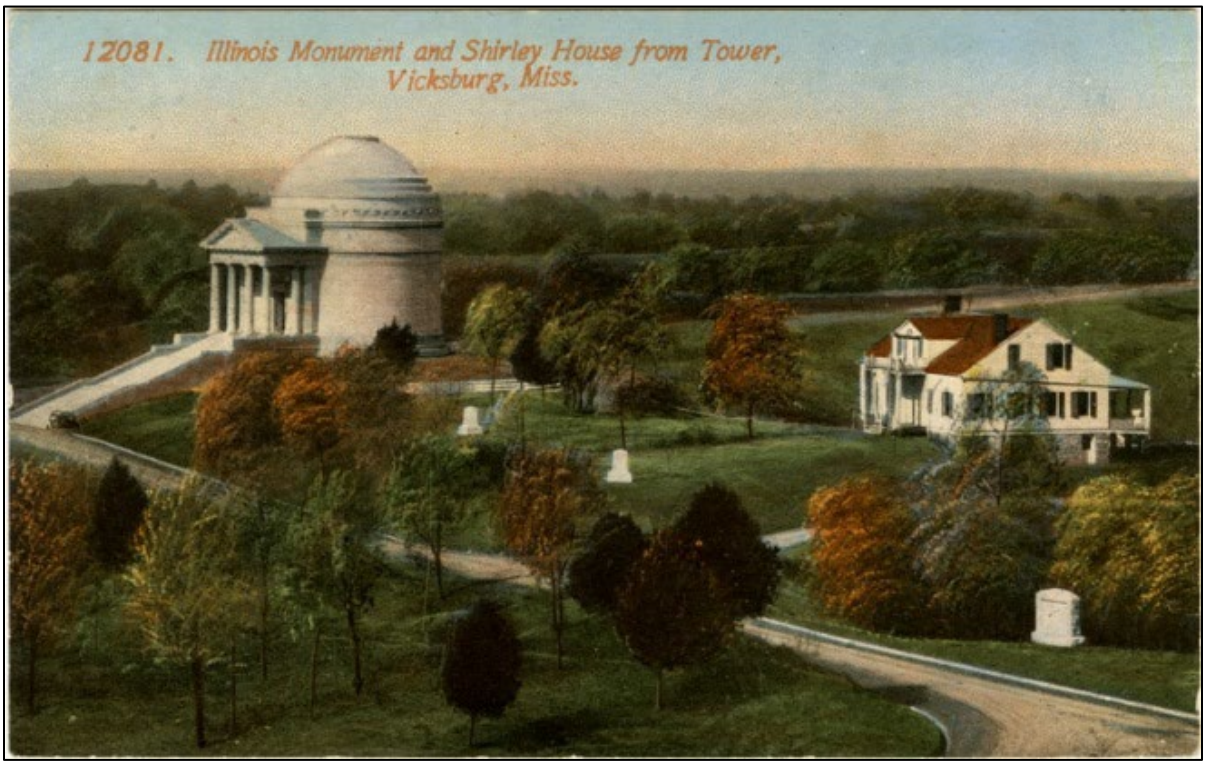


Fig 27. Bird's eye postcard view of the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial, date unknown, indicating the open character of the landscape around the buildings and the location of monuments along the tour road, which was edged by curbing. Source: Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

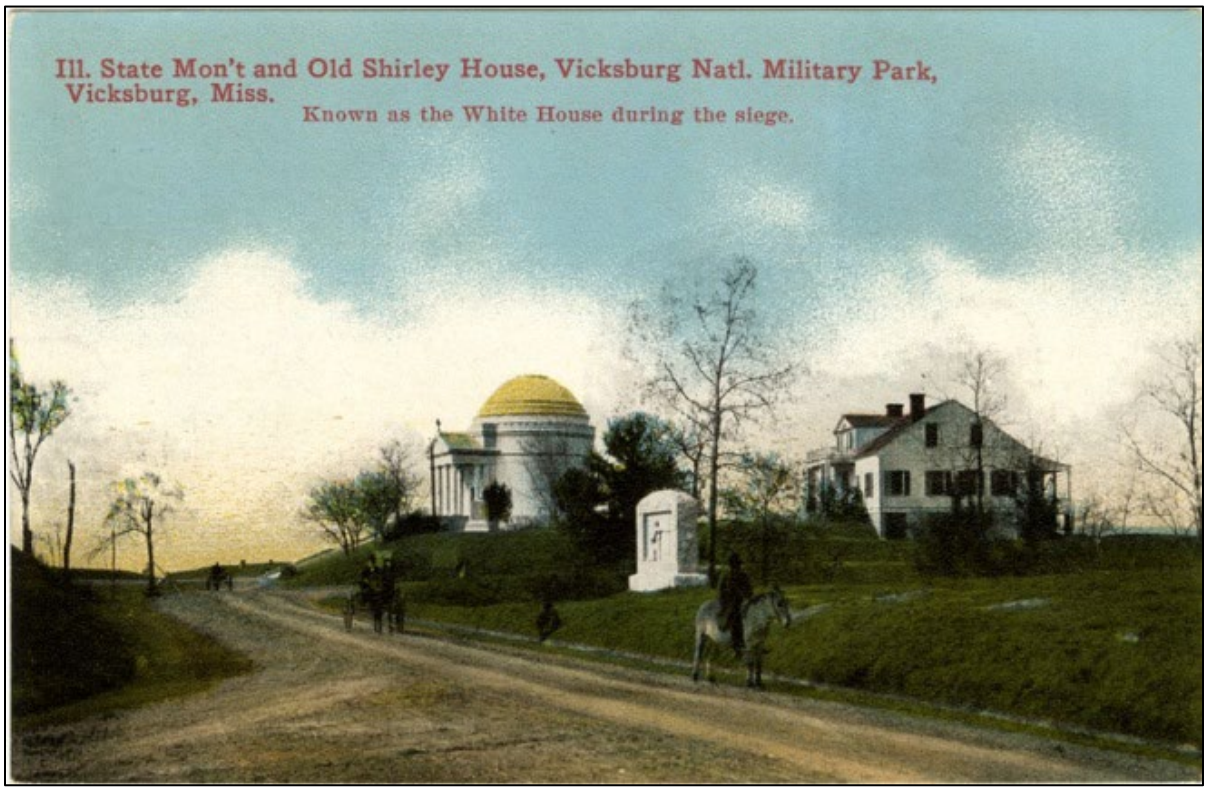


Fig 28. Postcard looking west along Jackson Road at the intersection of Union Avenue, showing the open character of the landscape associated with the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial. Source: Mississippi Department of Archives.

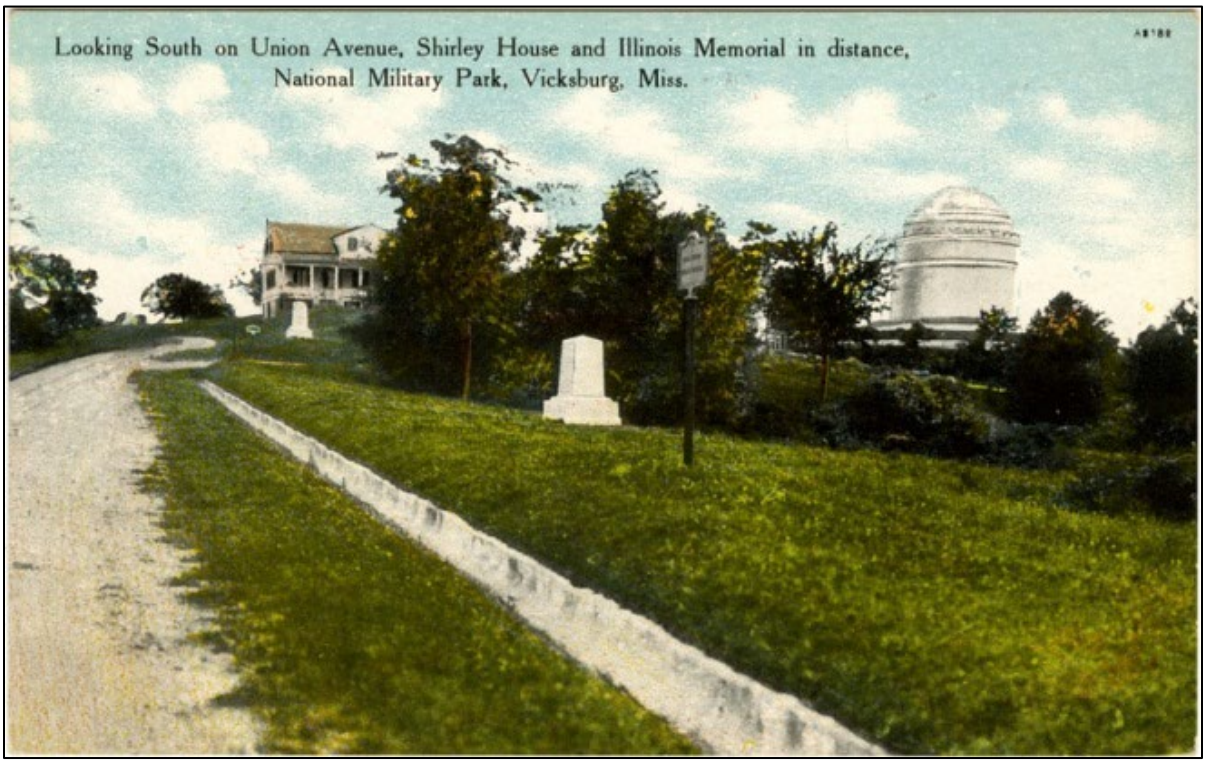


Fig 29. Postcard showing the curbing and turf lawn associated with the margins of Jackson Road near the Shirley House, date unknown. Source: Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

9 - The Shirley House, 1900–1902

Physical History Narrative

By the end of the 1800s, the Shirley House was in ruins (Figure 29 through Figure 31). Shortly after the establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park in 1899, the Federal government initiated efforts to purchase the building and grounds from Alice Shirley Eaton for the purpose of restoring the house and opening it as a war memorial (Figure 32). Commissioner Rigby contacted Mrs. Eaton to offer to buy the property at the price of $20 per acre for inclusion in the park (Buono 2004, 18). Still upset by the treatment her family had received during and after the war, Alice Eaton replied in a letter to Rigby on March 29, 1902:

> My father died soon after the siege, as much a sacrifice for his country as any soldier who fell in battle, and my mother, left to depend upon me in her last years, went down to her grave mourning the treatment she had received from the Government. No, Capt. while I am deeply interested in the Park, and would not ask an unreasonable price, as some are doing, I think we have made sacrifices enough (Eaton 1902).

It was that same year that Congress finally approved an appropriation to compensate the Shirleys for damages to their house during the siege. Alice, who considered the sum compensation enough for only a "small part of our loss," was somewhat assuaged and offered to outline the conditions under which she would be willing to sell the house for inclusion in the park.

Protection of the house was her first priority: "The house was the most conspicuous object in the American lines," she wrote, "and naturally should be so in the park." She also suggested that "preservation of my old home would make more real the whole situation to any visitor in the future," and "I think I ought to receive for my property not less than $2,500 and I would like to bury by the old house my father and mother, whom the war drove from it" (Eaton 1902).

In fulfillment of Mrs. Eaton's request, the remains of James and Adeline Shirley were removed from Cedar Hill Cemetery and interred behind the house on April 21, 1900 (Figure 33). A granite headstone marks the Shirley grave today, although a concrete plot outline of unknown origin nearby may also relate to the reinterment.

The following month, on May 14, Alice Shirley Eaton sold the property, consisting of the house and 60.7 acres, to the federal government for $25 per acre (Buono 2004, 18).

By this time, the condition of the Shirley House was very poor (Figure 34). In addition to loss from neglect and decay, scavengers had stripped the house of much of its siding, the windows, and its interior woodwork. The front porch and balcony were missing along with the brick piers of the rear porch and portions of the brick foundation. The wood-shingled roof had deteriorated as well, with the west gable and most of the roof on that side having collapsed entirely.

Vandalism and decay continued after the park was established. For example, in March 1902, a group of visitors set a small fire in the "front east room" of the house (Eaton 1902).

1902 Restoration. In 1902, the War Department initiated restoration of the Shirley House. To effect the restoration of the dilapidated house, Park Engineer E. E. Betts prepared the specifications. He complained, however, that the $3,000 authorized for repairs would allow the commission to "restore the foundation and enclose the house, but will hardly permit of replastering the rooms" (Bearss, "Vicksburg National Military Park, Administrative History," unpublished MSS in SERO-CRS archives, 36). Nevertheless, on June 2, 1902, the Commission sent out invitations for bids on the work. By the bid closing date, June 21, the commission had received seven bids, ranging from $2,375 to $7,419.50. Because the low bidder could not post bond and the other bids were substantially above $3,000, all of the bids were rejected (Buono 2004, 24).

Betts's subsequent efforts to increase the appropriation failed. Regardless, the Commission issued a "New circular letter" inviting proposals "for restoring the Shirley House . . . approximately to the condition in which it was at the beginning of the siege in 1863," which was posted on August 4. The project attracted three bidders. Because the low bidder's proposal was "vague and inexact," the War Department agreed to engage the next-lowest bidder, E. J. McGraw, whose plans and specifications were deemed "clear and explicit" (Vicksburg NMP, Accession no. 305, catalogue no. Vick-4281, Box 5, Folder 113). On September 18, 1902, the commission awarded the contract to McGraw (Buono 2004, 24). Unfortunately, McGraw's specifications for the work have not been located, although five sheets of plans that he submitted are in the park's collection. Much of what was done to the house in 1902 can only be inferred from photographs taken before and after the restoration. It is apparent from later investigations that compromises were made in the 1902 restoration, most likely due to the severely limited project budget (Buono 2004, 25). It is also apparent that little, if any, work was done in the basement beyond repairs to the brick foundation, or on the second floor. Nevertheless, Francis F. Wilshin, who developed a historic structure report on the house in 1939, believed that the 1902 work was "apparently a sincere effort . . . to restore the building as nearly as possible to the original" (Wilshin 1939, 73). Despite

any shortcomings, the Commission noted satisfaction with McGraw's work (Figure 35 and Figure 36), which was completed on November 15:

Please accept our thanks for the thorough manner in which you have done the work and for the generous spirit in which, during its progress, you constructed and carried out the specifications in regard to it (Rigby 1902).

For the next twenty-eight years, the Shirley House was used as park headquarters and occupied by a custodian or caretaker "whose services were procured especially for the purpose of preserving the structure" (Wilshin 1939, 76).



Fig 29. The deteriorated Shirley House, circa 1890. Source: HABS File No. MISS, 75-VICK, V, 3-4.



Fig 30. Another view of the deteriorated Shirley House, circa 1899. Source: HABS File No. MISS, 75-V, 3-12.



Fig 31. View of the entrance into the Shirley House, 1899. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.

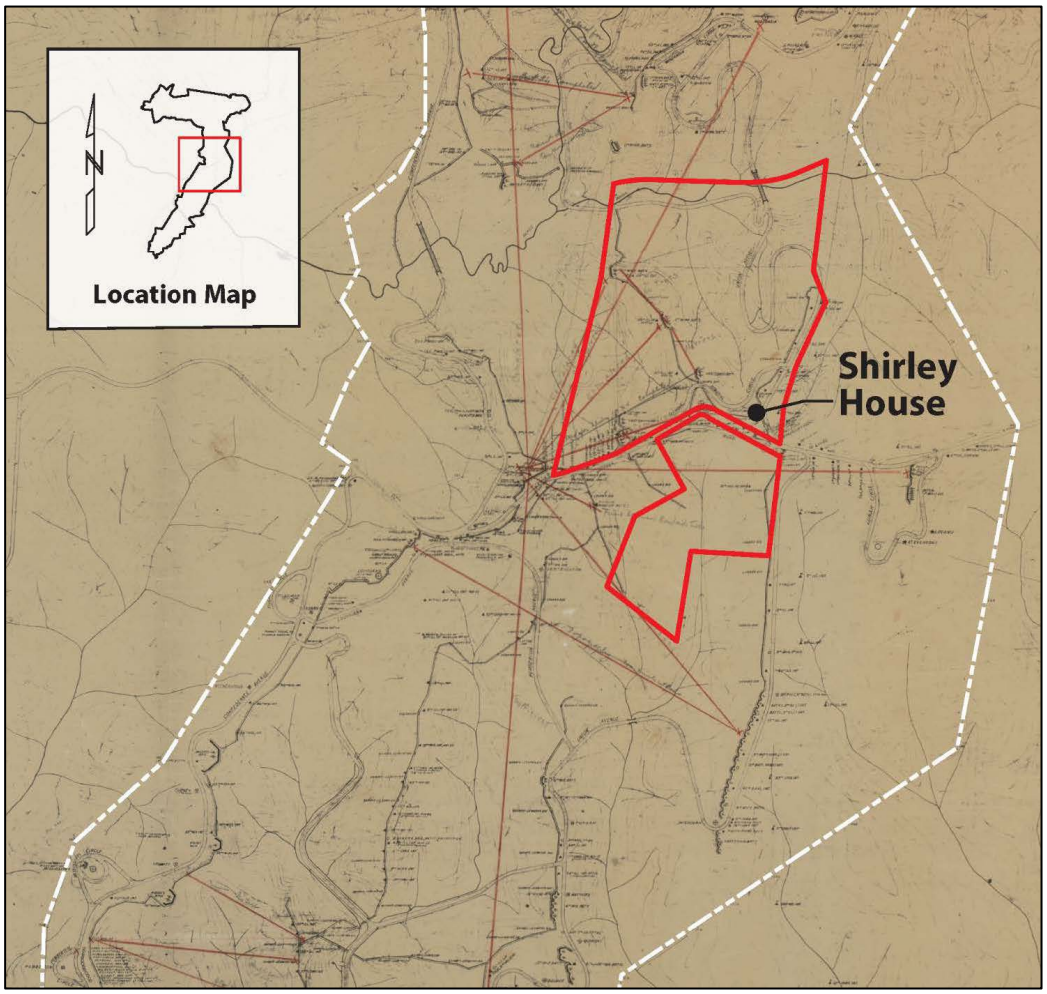


Fig 32. Map of Vicksburg National Military Park with the 60.7-acre Shirley House property outlined in red. Source: National Park Service, annotated by the authors.



Fig 33. The headstone marking the graves of James and Adeline Shirley.



Fig 34. View of the principal facade of the Shirley House, circa 1902. Source: HABS File No. MISS, 75-V, 3-5.

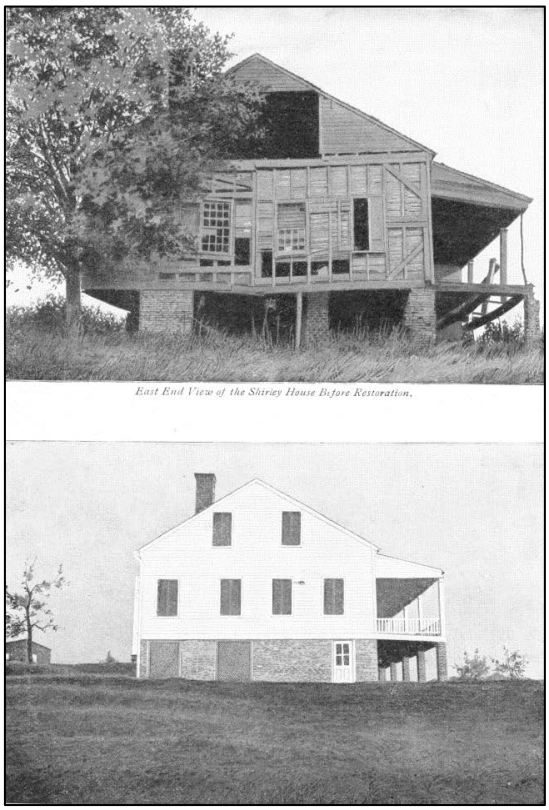


Fig 35. Before and after views of the Shirley House restoration, east end. Source: Illinois Center Railroad Company, General Passenger Department. Chicago, Illinois: January 19, 1903.



Fig 36. Before and after views of the Shirley House restoration. Source: Illinois Center Railroad Company, General Passenger Department. Chicago, Illinois: January 19, 1903.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

10 - The Shirley House, 1903–1929

Physical History Narrative

Following the 1902 restoration, few additional changes were made to the Shirley House until the 1930s. The only known alterations made during this period included replacement of the wooden front porch floor and steps with concrete around 1914, and installation of a composition roof around 1921 (Wilshin 1939, 76). Despite its continued use as a residence, the house remained without electricity, plumbing, or heating except from the coal-burning fireplaces.

In 1929, park commissioner, William T. Rigby died, and the Shirley House lost its greatest advocate (Buono 2004, 26).

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

11 - Renovation of the Shirley House, 1930–1933

Physical History Narrative

The year following Commissioner Rigby's death, Maj. J. B. Holt was appointed superintendent of Vicksburg National Military Park. Holt quickly decided to renovate the Shirley House to serve as a residence for himself and his family (Buono 2004, 26).

His first proposal to make alterations to the house was made in a May 13, 1930, letter to the Quartermaster General that outlined his interest in "reconditioning" the house so that he and his family could occupy the house, assuming "normal living conditions can be obtained." Holt estimated the work at $5,000 (Wilshin 1939, 75). Although the scope of the work as outlined by Holt is not currently known, Maj. John T. Harris, Assistant Quartermaster-General for the War Department, in replying to Holt's letter on May 22, 1930, suggested that "the work on the extensive scale outlined by you would change the character of the house completely" (Buono 2004, 27). Harris also noted that the War Department wished "the house to be maintained as it existed during the battle" and that "no modern installations are desired." Holt likely altered his proposal to the Department's satisfaction, as he received an appropriation of $4,000 in 1931 for improvements to the house (Buono 2004, 27).

Work commenced on the renovations in spring 1931. By May 1931, however, the Quartermaster-General's office was shocked to learn from an article that appeared in a New Orleans newspaper that the house was being "remodeled and modernized." The article wrote disparagingly about the manner in which the historic home was being treated. The War Department immediately cabled Holt, suggesting that the appropriation had been provided in order "to restore the house to its original condition and no other action is authorized." The cable requested that Holt "Report in detail just what is being done now." Holt's reply to the Commanding General, IV Corps Area, indicated that the reports of remodeling were "untrue" and that "all old original material" was being preserved "as much as possible." Holt's statements would prove untrue; by the time the work was completed, several significant alterations had been made to both the interior and exterior of the house. As noted in a historic structure report prepared by F. F. Wilshin in 1939,

"much of the original character of the house was lost" as a result (Buono 2004, 28; Wilshin 1939, 79-84).

Based on Wilshin's report, changes made to the house included wiring for electricity in 1931, installation of floor furnaces in several rooms, the addition of three bathrooms and related plumbing, and adaptation of the historic cistern on the west side of the house for use as a septic tank. One of the bathrooms replaced the historic rooms at the west end of the back porch, and was connected to the main hall by a new door opening. The east end of the back porch was enclosed for a kitchen, and connected to the northeast room by a new doorway that replaced a former window opening. Holt also installed 1/4-inch or 3/8- inch-wide oak flooring over the original floors in the house, and replaced the historic wooden mantels in the two front rooms with rusticated stone features. He also had a small closet under the main staircase removed, the walls extended, and a staircase created to the basement dining room. The remainder of the basement was excavated, partitioned, and finished to create three additional rooms, a bath, and a hallway. The attic was similarly reconfigured to accommodate closets and a bath. "Masonite insulating board" was used to finish the walls and ceiling (Buono 2004, 28-29; Wilshin 1939, 79-82).

Exterior changes included the construction of a wood-framed garage off the northwest side of the house (Figure 37), enclosure of the space beneath the back porch for a carport, and installation of concrete steps and walkways in front of the house. Alterations were also made to the fenestration at the basement level; the back porch was screened, louvers were added to the east, west, and north gables, and the trellis was removed from the front porch (Buono 2004, 29; Wilshin 1939, 78-85).



Fig 37. View of the rear of the Shirley House showing the garage. View of the rear of the Shirley House showing the garage. Source: HABS File No. MISS, 75- V, 3-19.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

12 - National Park Service Administration of Vicksburg National Military Park, 1933–1956

Physical History Narrative

The 1930s was a period of great change at Vicksburg National Military Park due to its transfer from the War Department to National Park Service (NPS) administration in 1933, and the availability of labor to work on park improvements afforded by the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps, also in 1933.

Following the stock market crash that began on October 24, 1929, America's economy began a long downward slide. By the time President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was inaugurated in March 1933, more than 25 percent of the American workforce was unemployed. Soon after taking

office, President Roosevelt sought to implement a suite of programs designed to offer work to the unemployed and potentially stabilize the economy. Together these would become known as his New Deal. Based in part on his experience as New York governor, where he had helped to put thousands of unemployed young men to work on public works projects, Roosevelt had campaigned for the 1932 Presidential election by pledging to hire unemployed young men from large urban areas to take on needed projects on public lands. As in New York, Roosevelt's New Deal sought to establish a temporary emergency relief administration where the unemployed were hired to work on reforestation projects, clearing underbrush, fighting fires, controlling insects, constructing roads and trails, and developing recreation facilities.

On March 31, 1933, President Roosevelt signed the Federal Unemployment Relief Act, which provided for emergency conservation work on public lands and created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to provide work for the unemployed. In mid-May 1933, the NPS prepared to open sixty-three camps that would accommodate a force of 12,600 men to work on national parks and monuments (McClelland 1998, 336). Projects in the national parks involved land reclamation and facility development; $40 million would be allocated by the Public Works Administration from 1933 to 1937 to fund road and trail construction, campground development, museum construction, and restoration of historic structures (Schlesinger 1959, 284-288).

On August 10, 1933, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 6166, transferring jurisdiction over all historic sites, battlefields, monuments, and parks administered by the War Department, the Department of Agriculture, the US Forest Service, and the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capitol to the NPS (Mackintosh 1991, 24). This followed an effort conducted by Horace M. Albright, director of the NPS between 1929 and 1933, to include national historical treasures within the national park system (Executive Order No. 6166). Vicksburg National Military Park was thus transferred to the Department of the Interior to be administered by the National Park Service.

Four CCC camps were established at Vicksburg during the 1930s. The sites of at least two of these camps remain visible on the park landscape today. By this time, the park was experiencing

significant problems from erosion of the fine loess soil. Sections of the tour road and several state monuments were in imminent danger of being undermined by the unstable soil (Risk Undated).

Between 1933 and 1941, the CCC re-graded and planted areas within the park to stabilize soil conditions, graded and paved roads, and built bridges. Typical work included the removal of "undesirable plant growth along park drives, etc., and around commemorative structures," and the "pruning of broken and diseased branches from trees along park driveways and also vista cutting to afford a better view of the historical remains in the park as well as the planting of trees and shrubs for screen and roadside beautification purposes. . . ." (Superintendent's Narrative Report, February 6, 1935, sheet 6 of 19). Bulldozers were used to reshape eroded hillsides, and concrete-lined diversion gutters were added to roads and landscape areas to improve drainage and protect structures from being undercut. The severity of the erosion and the degree to which CCC work altered the topography of the park are illustrated by photographs taken at the time (Figure 38 through Figure 42).

The NPS continued to use the Shirley House for park administration until a new headquarters building was completed in summer 1937 (this is the present-day Old Administration Building). The basement level of the house served as a park museum for several years during the 1930s (Figure 43) (Buono 2004, 30).

To support these uses, additional repairs were made to the Shirley House during the 1930s. In 1934, the NPS installed a wood floor over the historic brick floor in the old basement dining room, and replaced solid wood panels with glass in the front and back doors of the house. In 1935, the front and back porches were reroofed with metal to replace the asphalt installed as part of Holt's renovations; the doors and windows were weather stripped; and canvas awnings were installed above most of the windows. Louvered blinds were also installed at the front windows. While the blinds matched the character of the historic blinds, they were 6 inches too short for the openings. In 1938, the fireplaces and chimneys were completely rebuilt and Superintendent Holt's stone mantels replaced with wooden mantels. Concrete was poured to replace the remaining dirt floor in the basement. In addition, the sand-finished plaster that had been applied

to the house in 1902 was removed from at least the southeast parlor and replaced with smooth plaster. The walls were then covered with a Colonial Revival-style wallpaper. The other first floor rooms were repainted at the time. In 1939, the front porch was screened in, while screening on the balcony was removed (Buono 2004, 30; Wilshin 1939, 78-84).

A picket fence was built to establish a precinct in front of the house, while a flagpole was erected in the turf lawn between the picket fence and Jackson Road (Figure 44).

During the 1930s, Jackson Road linked the Illinois State Memorial and Shirley House, while Illinois Circle Road led around the monument, connecting to Union Avenue north of the Shirley House. Where these roads were edged by steeply sloped terrain, low guard rails and wood fences were built to protect visitors (Figure 45 and Figure 46). A garage was located behind the Shirley House. This was edged by a parking area accessed by Illinois Circle Road (Figure 47). Gutters, built by the CCC, edged the roads and were used to convey stormwater away from built features (Figure 48 and Figure 49).

Much of the Shirley House site was maintained in turf lawn. This included the ravine to the east of the house where Union soldiers had excavated shebangs, or protected spaces, during the siege. A narrow concrete walkway and flight of stairs connected the house with Jackson Road. Metal tablets and masonry monuments edged both Jackson Road and Union Avenue. Others were located within the lawn north of the Shirley House (Figure 50). Several trees, including oaks, cedars, and elms, were located west and east of the house and along Jackson Road. A few smaller trees and shrubs were present in front of the house.

Although the documentation is not dated, the Shirley House was documented for the Historic American Buildings Survey during the 1930s. The documentation, listed under the name Wexford Lodge (MS-133), is available online as part of the Library of Congress collection. The documentation includes twenty-two historic photographs and several historic documents (Library of Congress, Historic American Buildings Survey, "Wexford Lodge, HABS MS-133" available at https://www.loc.gov/item/ms0133/ (accessed August 10, 2016).

In 1939, F. F. Wilshin was engaged to prepare a historic structure report on the Shirley House. This type of investigation had first been used by Charles Peterson for a historic property at Yorktown in 1930, and adopted as an important tool by the NPS after assuming responsibility for historic properties in 1933.

With United States entry into World War II in December 1941, both labor and funding were increasingly in short supply. Little appears to have changed at the Shirley House property in the years during and soon after World War II due to these funding shortages.

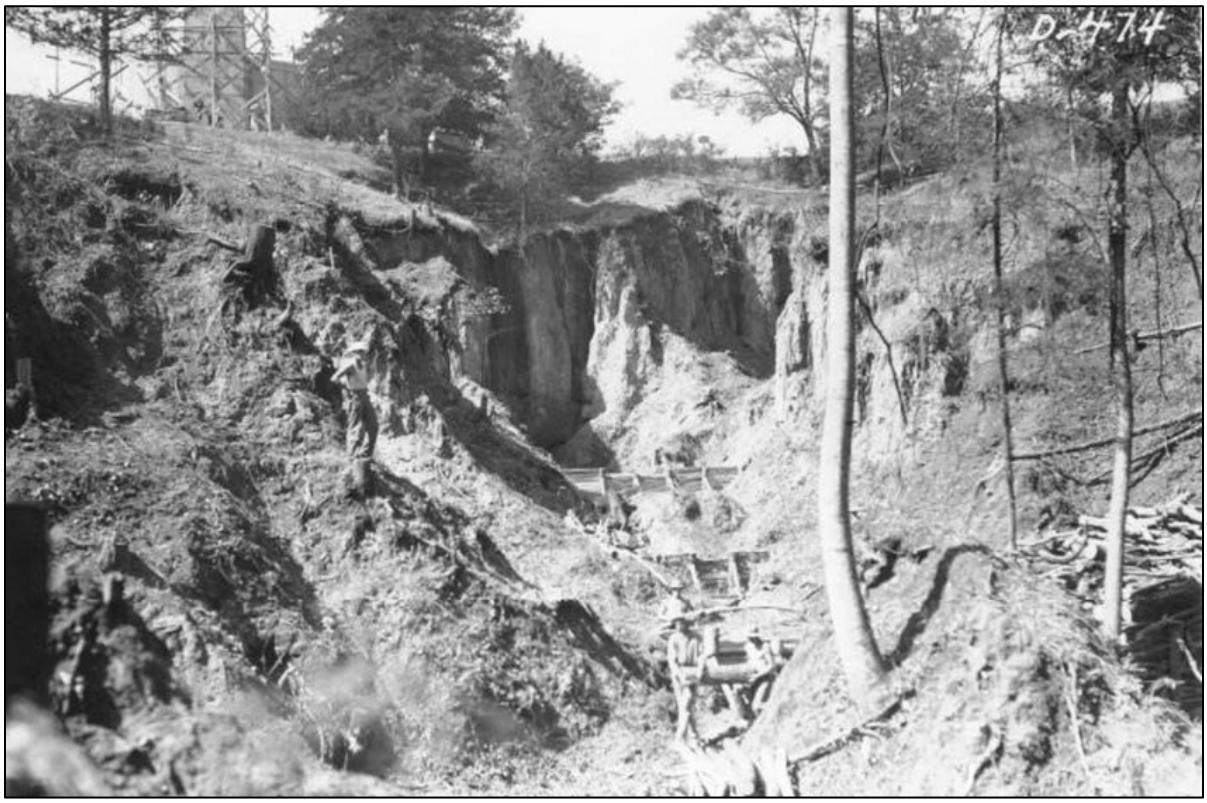


Fig 38. View looking west, showing the extent of erosion approximately 150 yards northeast of the Missouri State Memorial, October 11, 1934. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, box 22, image D-474.



Fig 39. The same view showing initial clearing and shoring activities, February 1935. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, box 22, image D-474-1.



Fig 40. The same view, showing filling operations, February 1935. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, box 22, image D-474-2.



Fig 41. Earth grading operations at the same location, July 18, 1935. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, box 22, image D-474-3.



Fig 42. The finished slope following the placement of fill and re-grading, November 7, 1935. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, box 22, image D-474-4.



Fig 43. Circa 1930s view of the lower entry to the Shirley House where the Vicksburg National Military Park Museum was housed. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, VICK 4312 1 022h.



Fig 44. Circa 1936 view of the Shirley House showing the new picket fence. Source: HABS File No. MISS, 75-V, 3-16.



Fig 45. Circa 1930s view of Jackson Road extending between the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, VICK 4312 1 006c.



Fig 46. Circa 1937 view of the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial, the curbing and railings along the road, and the tablets marking key military events at the intersection of Union Avenue and Jackson Road. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives.



Fig 47. View of the side of the Shirley House and garage, August 1937. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, VICK 4312 1 007i.



Fig 48. View of the rear of the Shirley House, circa 1936–1937. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, VICK 4312 1 007g and 4312 1 007h.



Fig 49. View of the rear of the Shirley House, August 1937. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, VICK 4312 1 007i.

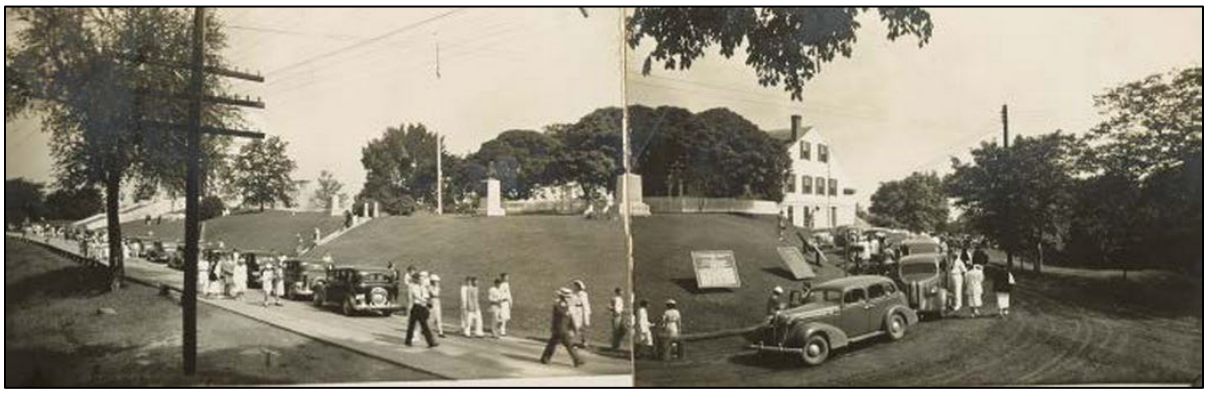


Fig 50. Circa 1930s view of Jackson Road and Union Avenue, including the lawn and monuments south of the Shirley House. Source: Vicksburg National Military Park archives, VICK 4312 1 006e.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

13 - Mission 66, 1956–1966

Physical History Narrative

Vicksburg, like many other parks administered by the National Park Service, received funding as part of a nationwide initiative known as Mission 66, which extended from 1956 to 1966. World War II had led to a decline in park funding, and with it deterioration of the condition of America's national parks during the late 1940s and early 1950s. At the same time, an improving economy and the increased availability of private automobile travel contributed to a rise in park visitation. With increasing numbers of visitors, the appearance of many parks began to suffer, which was noted by the press.

Following his appointment as director of the agency in 1951, Conrad L. Wirth, a landscape architect who had overseen NPS recreational planning and state park development during the 1930s, began to devise plans for improving the condition of the national park system. In 1956, he proposed the Mission 66 program as a way to revitalize the national parks over a ten year period that would end in 1966, the agency's fiftieth anniversary. Wirth presented the concept in a slide show to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his cabinet. Eisenhower responded immediately, proposing a bill be considered by Congress. With Eisenhower's support, Congress approved the bill and a multi-million dollar funding package that resulted in improvements to roads, expansion of park facilities, and repair of existing infrastructure throughout the national park system (Wirth 1980, 111).

Shirley House Restoration, 1962–1966
(See Figure 51, Period Plan 1966.)

One of the projects funded by Mission 66 was a study of the Shirley House designed to support restoration of the house to its 1800s character, which would also repair the damage done in the 1930s (Buono 2004, 31). In September 1962, funds were appropriated for "architectural research" on the house. This was followed in November by a written proposal for restoration of the exterior of the Shirley House, and rehabilitation of the interior for continued residential use.

Utilities relating to fire suppression were improved in 1964. A water reservoir was installed in the ground southwest of building and connected to a fire hydrant and hose house set into the hillside west of Union Avenue and southeast of the dwelling (National Park Service, "Underground Reservoir for Fire Protection," 2 sheets. Drawing 3019A. May 1963, as-constructed, September 1964).

Although funds had been appropriated in 1962, work did not begin on the architectural research project until April 1965, when NPS architect Orville Carroll began compiling a historic structure report on the house (fn: EODC documents provide information). Although the house had

continued to be occupied by the park's administrative officer and his family, they moved out in May 1965 so that the building could be more thoroughly investigated.

Carroll sought to review Wilshin's early work, while filling gaps in the documentation regarding changes made during the 1930s and, as possible, the character of the house at the time of the siege.

Carroll's investigation gradually revealed numerous structural defects in the house as contemporary finishes were removed to allow for inspection.

Through extensive investigations, Carroll also determined that the repairs conducted in 1902 had not included proper treatment of the building's structural issues. Repairs had been made that conformed to sagging sills, bulging walls, and other defects.

Based on review of the drawings associated with the restoration effort, exterior plans included removal of the garage behind the house, the addition of rain barrels connected to roof downspouts, removal of a cistern behind the house, and the addition of new utility lines and an air conditioning unit (Figure 52).

In addition to the study, it appears that Carroll directed some immediate changes to the property. By July, the first floor bathroom and Holt's added partitions had been removed, along with gas space heaters, floor furnaces, gas piping, and "excess wiring." The following month, the concrete porch floor and steps that had been installed around 1914 were removed (Buono 2004, 31; Wilshin 1939, 82).

Carroll first removed the basement ceiling boards and the siding over much of the west and north sides of the house. Deteriorated sills and problems resulting from rot and termite infestation had allowed the house to settle as much as 3 inches across the rear (south) and to a lesser degree across the front (north). Based on the uneven settling, the attic floor was severely deformed, while the roof structure of the back porch had separated from the house by 2 to 3

inches. The end-gable walls of the house were also deformed (Buono 2004, 32). The Mission 66 rehabilitation involved complete removal of interior walls and finishes in order to address structural deficiencies (Buono 2004, 32).

Carroll suggested that much of the exterior woodwork, composed of plain 1x6 boards, dated to 1902, and was not consistent with the historic cladding based on his discovery of six, 14-foot pieces of the original weatherboarding on the north wall of the house. Examination of historic photographs supported this claim, illustrating that the 1902 siding did not replicate the reveal of the original siding. Further supporting his theory, Carroll found some of the original beaded weatherboard above the ceiling in one of the first floor rooms (Buono 2004, 33-34; fn: the 1965 report notes that a section of the original siding was recently donated to the park by a neighbor who claimed to have removed the board prior to the 1902 restoration. While not beaded, the board may have come from the later rear addition, if it did in fact come from the house).

Carroll also concluded that the 1902 use of a drip cap and skirt board around the perimeter of the house was not correct, and the fanlight used in 1902 in the south gable was not consistent with the original. These differences are corroborated by review of available historic photographs. There appear to have been some differences in the placement and detailing of several window openings, as noted by Carroll, but these cannot be seen in the photographs (Buono 2004, 34). In addition, Carroll identified numerous inconsistencies between the foundation as restored in 1902 and as it likely appeared prior to War Department acquisition of the property based on review of historic photographs. He noted that the basement dining room and "pump room" were the only original rooms in the basement, and that the remainder of the house had sat on brick pier. Carroll proposed that the piers be restored, using flat headers rather than the shallow relieving arches constructed in 1902 (Buono 2004, 35).

In November 1965, Carroll sent molding and trim samples to the NPS Eastern Office of Design and Construction (EODC) in Richmond, Virginia, for paint analysis to determine the original color (Buono 2004, 35).

In order to make repairs to the foundation wall, piers, and chimney, Carroll salvaged handmade bricks from a house demolition in Port Gibson, Mississippi. These materials, along with shutter hinges and window glass secured from the same site, were delivered to the project in January 1966. Older, rough-sawn lumber was procured from another building for the exposed decking on the back porch. For missing features, Carroll selected representative examples found on other historic buildings in the area. The downspout funnels, or boots, were based on examples in Vicksburg dating to the 1860s. He also acquired wooden barrels to be used for the drainage system, although it is unclear if they are the same as the barrels presently at the site.

Unfortunately the use of these salvaged materials contributed to difficulty interpreting the accuracy of the Mission 66 restoration during the work conducted to prepare another historic structure report in 2004 (Buono 2004, 35).

Carroll completed specifications and drawings for the restoration in late 1965, and the project was put out for bid in January 1966. Unfortunately, only one bid was received, and it far exceeded the available budget. Carroll recommended that the project be commenced with day labor, and the EODC agreed. After Carroll was reassigned to begin work elsewhere, architect Henry Judd of the EODC was placed in charge of monitoring the work (Buono 2004, 36).

Work conducted during spring 1966 included removal of the wooden floor from the basement dining room, the interior door and window casings, and baseboard and other trim from the exterior walls of the house so that repairs could be made to the framing. To address the subsidence of the building, 10x10 cypress sills were specified to replace the originals. Deteriorated original studs in the north wall, some of which appeared to have been moved from their original location, were spliced and repaired. The 2x8 joists and flooring in the southeast room and part of the entrance hall, which were not original and had been damaged from rot and termites, were replaced with 3x12 inch joists, to more closely match the original. The four, easternmost, brick piers and the concrete slab under the rear porch were removed, along with the chimney tops above the roof line (Buono 2004, 36).

In July, door frame headers and cripples were removed from the north wall and new timbers, mortised into the summer beam, were treated with pentachlorophenol, a wood preservative. Corner braces were laid out and cut; and when repairing the studding in the north wall, originals were supplemented with new ones to pick up nail spacing for the weatherboarding. An additional 24 feet of the top plate was removed on the west wall. Mortises were laid out and cut to receive studs and one corner brace. The three original west wall studs, which were 5 to 6 inches short due to a 4x6 that was fixed to top of the 4x8 plate in the original restoration, were half-lapped and returned to their original locations. The rest of the studs were replaced by 3-1/4 inch x 3-1/2 inch and 3-1/2 x 4 inch rough-sawn cypress. The gable and main walls were pushed back to fit the new plate. Because the new structural supports changed the alignment of the house interior as it had been restored previously, all of the plaster ceilings on the first floor cracked and had to be replaced (Buono 2004, 36).

The asphalt and metal roofs were removed from the building in July. Efforts to preserve the historic sheathing boards underneath were largely unsuccessful, however. In their place, Carroll had specified "Howell-type" roof trusses that allowed retention of more of the original rafters and joists.

As new window headers were being fitted, it was discovered that many had been changed in 1902. As part of a change order, all new headers were built to conform to a pair found to be "most original" (Buono 2004, 37-38).

When the north foundation wall was found to be in poor condition, porch beams had to be bolted to the main house sill beam and countersunk to reduce the weight on the unstable structure. The crew used 1-1/4 inch cypress plugs to resemble the original 1-1/4 inch cypress tree nails (Buono 2004, 38).

In September 1966, sheet metal was ordered for the dormer flashing and valleys. By the end of the month, roof sheathing had been installed and new wood shingles were being applied, while the front porch roof and balcony were being framed. With several challenging situations

encountered along the way, the work had exceeded the original budget, and by the end of December was halted with the building "weatherproof and secure" but still incomplete (Buono 2004, 38; Memo from Vicksburg Superintendent to Regional Director, November 15, 1966).

Additional funds released in the fall of 1967 allowed for completion of most of the exterior work. The interior, however, remained unfinished. Apparently, the metal roof covering the front porch was also not completed. As a result, the front porch quickly deteriorated, along with the posts associated with the back porch. By the early 1980s, the porches were in ruinous condition (Buono 2004, 38).

During Mission 66, Jackson Road was widened, the parking was expanded, and a brick sidewalk added along the north side of Old Jackson Road that connected the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House. The Illinois Circle Road was closed to visitors as part of a park-wide effort to streamline circulation. The road continued to be used by park personnel for maintenance. The northern segment became the dedicated access road for the Shirley House.
Several roads within the park were paved in 1970. These may have included Jackson Road.

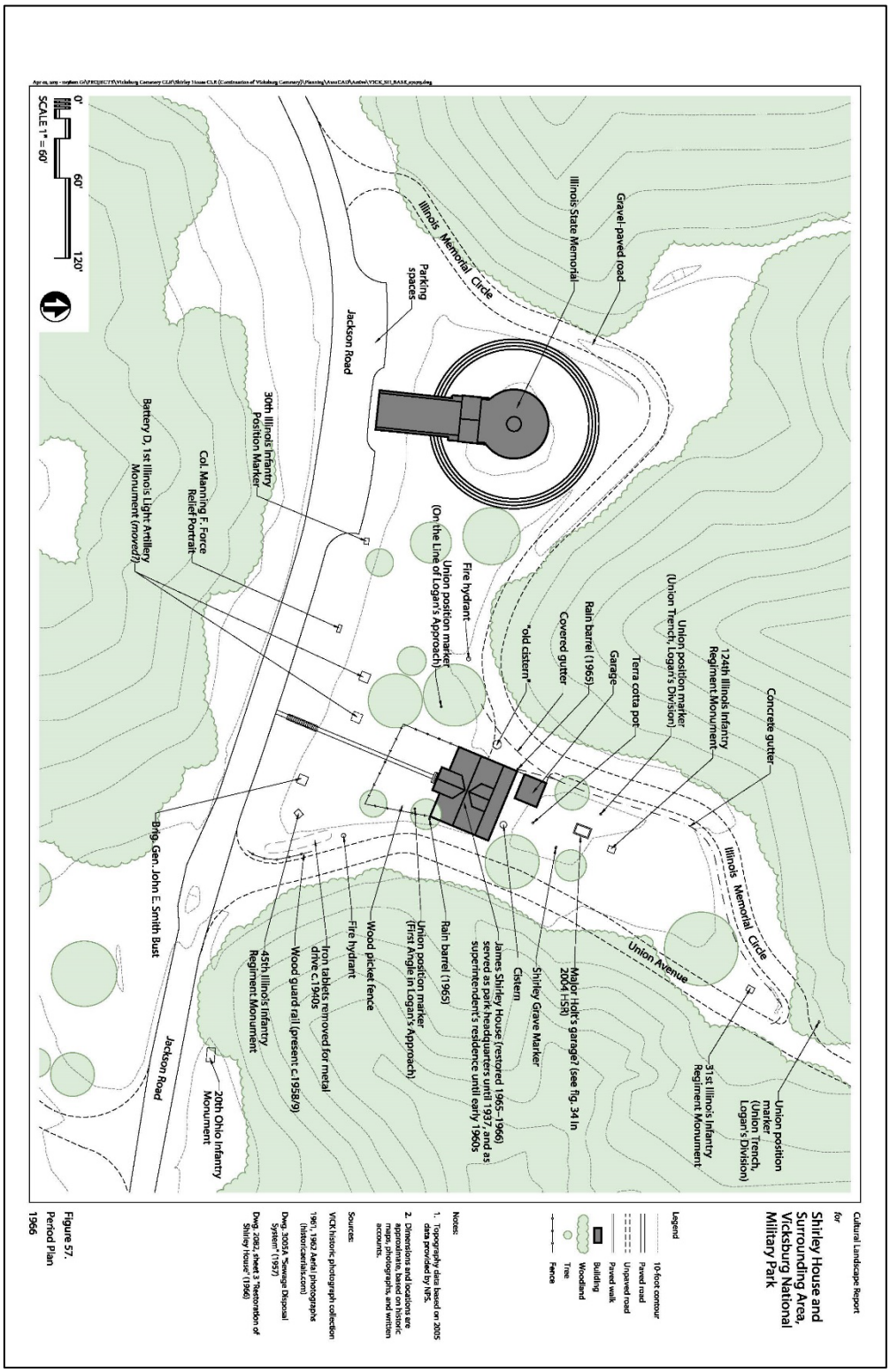


Figure 57.
Period Plan
1966

Fig 51. Period Plan for 1966.

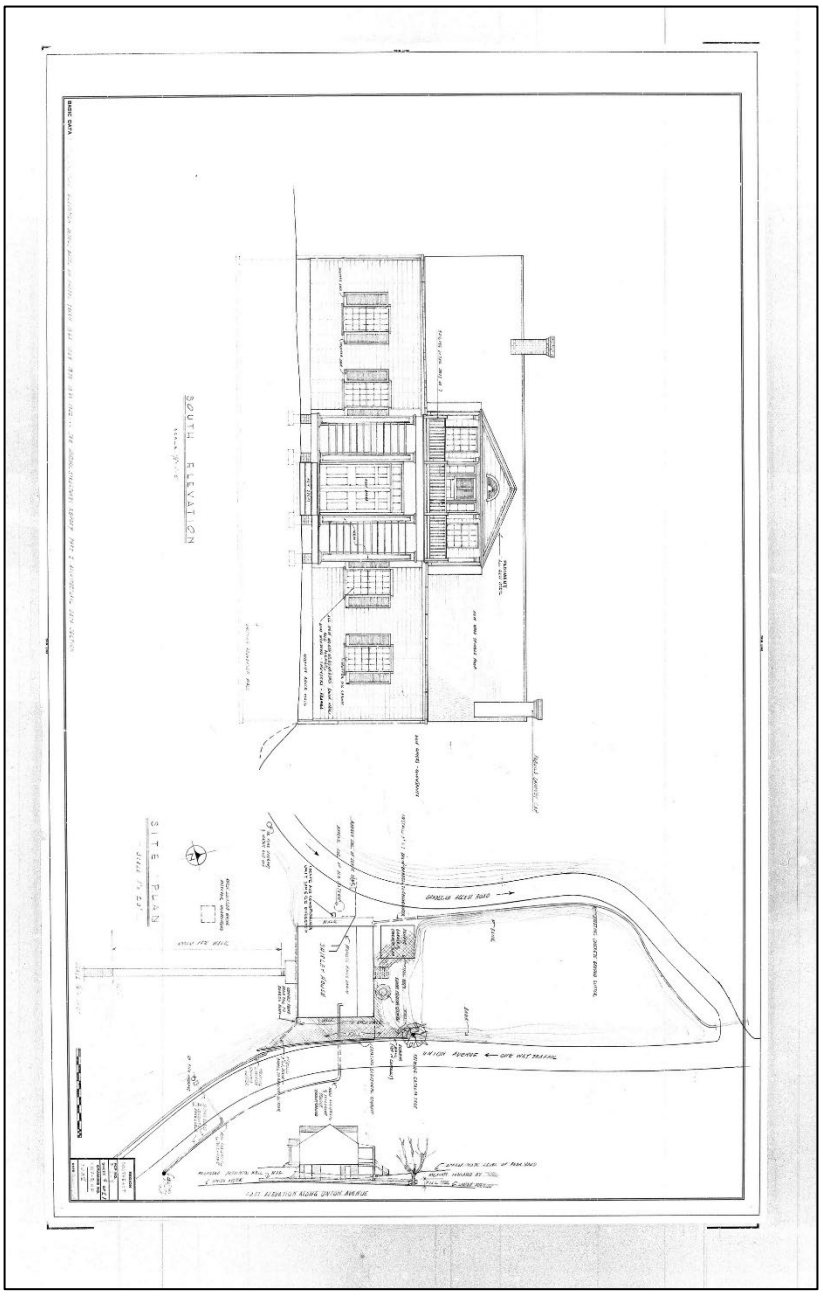


Fig 52. Restoration plans, site plan drawing, October 1965. Source: National Park Service, drawing no. NMP-VIC-3082, sheet 3.

Sequence Number and Physical History Time Period

14 - Park Management, 1966 to present

Physical History Narrative

In 1972, the NPS prepared plans to guide the conversion of two sections of Jackson Road to pedestrian use, including part of the route between the Illinois State Memorial and Third Louisiana Redan (Figure 53).

On December 9, 1977, Vicksburg National Military Park was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Shirley House was indicated as contributing to the significance of the park. In 1982, funding was secured to make repairs to the deteriorated front and rear porches on the Shirley House. As part of the repairs, the front porch was reconstructed. It appears brick retaining or wing walls proposed to be added at the southeastern and southwestern corners of the house as part of Mission 66 era plans were also constructed at this time.

The Shirley House was painted in 1997 (Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report, 1997). In 1998, repairs were made to the Shirley House front porch and columns (Superintendent's Annual Narrative Report, 1998).

Throughout the 2000s, the park continued to work to control invasive plant species. One of the species targeted was kudzu (Pueraria montana lobata). One of the kudzu control areas was located to the north of the Shirley House.

In 2004, the NPS Southeast Regional Office prepared a historic structure report for the Shirley House intended to guide further restoration of the structure in the future (Buono 2004).

In 2008, the National Parks Conservation Association published State of the Parks; Vicksburg National Military Park that identified the Shirley House as one of the park's most important historic structures, while noting the need for more comprehensive interpretation of the property. The report also noted the following about the building:

The work required to return the Shirley House to a semblance of its original condition and interpret the interesting history of the structure for visitors is considerable. Funding requests for 2007 totaled close to $2 million; however, no funds have been awarded yet. As a first step toward restoration, the park has replaced the roof and siding to protect the house from the elements. Restoring the home and using it in some official park capacity would increase the visibility of the building and could help the park gain support for further restoration work. Vandals frequently target the house, and security at the structure is in need of improvement. Installing a security system would help to protect the house when staff are not present (National Parks Conservation Association 2008, 15).

The report also indicated that the Shirley House is listed as an archeological site in the NPS's Archeological Sites Management Information System, but that the site has not been fully documented, and recommended that the park would benefit from an archeological overview and assessment (National Parks Conservation Association 2008, 18).

In 2009, the WJE team that developed this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) also prepared a CLR for Vicksburg National Military Park. The CLR indicated the value associated with directed selective clearing of woodland areas that had grown up since the 1930s, serving to obscure several critical views within the park. The landscape to the south of the Shirley House was among the areas cleared as a result of this recommendation.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was also prepared in 2009 for a proposed project to rehabilitate and restore the Shirley House (National Park Service 2009). The preferred alternative indicated in the EA suggested:

> The exterior of the house would be rehabilitated, and damaged or missing historic fabric would be replaced to match its 1860s appearance. The main level of the house would be restored to its 1860's appearance to the greatest extent practical and opened to the public. The rooms of the first floor would be opened to viewing and used to house exhibits on themes approved in the park's Long Range Interpretive Plan. The attic and basement of

> the house would be preserved as-is and used for mechanical equipment, but would not be open to the public. No heating or cooling system would be installed in the structure. Only ventilation via ducts (no cooling) would be available in summer. Additional modifications would include installation of mechanical, security, fire detection, and fire suppression systems. These modifications also would provide for a safe means of visitor egress, and would help ensure the health, comfort, safety, and security of visitors and park staff, as well as complying with applicable building and safety codes (National Park Service 2009, 2-3).

Work on the project was completed in 2011. The final project report notes:

> The Historic Shirley House was renovated on the ground floor; a fire suppression system was installed; new columns were install at the entrance; new electrical placed throughout; and a handicapped access and lift were installed; rotten lumber was replaced and painted (National Park Service, "Rehabilitate Shirley House As-Constructed Drawings," Drawing No. 306/80020B, 53 sheets, 2011).

In 2011, park staff prepared several planting plans to interpret historic plantings representative of the Civil War period, a project referred to as "Re-Creating Heritage Landscapes." These plans were intended to enhance the front of the Old Administration Building, as well as the Shirley House. The design for the Shirley House landscape was based on review of the memoirs of Alice Shirley Eaton that describe the plants she remembered growing around the building prior to the siege. Planting beds were added to either side of the central walk leading to the front porch of the Shirley House, and to either side of the front door and porch, and plant species added—lilac, quince, crapemyrtle, Rose-of-Sharon, rose, hyacinth, jonquils, and violets— that matched Eaton's recollections as part of an Entergy Volunteer Project in November 2011. The park also installed a wayside exhibit to explain the new plantings.

Since installation, some of the plantings have fared well, while others are in decline. The park has noted that it is challenged to provide the care necessary for these plantings to thrive.

In 2013, a Vegetation Classification and Mapping report was prepared for the park. It classifies the landscape surrounding the Shirley House as composed primarily of bahia grass (Paspalum notatum) and herbaceous vegetation, with woodland occupying the ravine east of the house. The woodland is described as representative of the sweetgum-chinkapin oak-water oak forest of the South-Central Coastal Plain Mespophytic Group (Lea, Waltermire, and Nordman 2013, 29-30). The report discussed the threat posed by invasive species to native plant communities, and listed the eight most abundant non-native species present in the park's forests. These included Chinese privet (Ligustrum sinense), Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica), hardy orange (Poncirus trifoliata), paper mulberry (Broussonetia papyrifera), sacred bamboo (Nandina domestica), English ivy (Hedera helix), Japanese privet (Ligustrum japonicum), and Asian netvein hollyfern (Cyrtomium fortunei). Also of concern are species found in non-forested areas, such as bahia grass, Johnson grass (Sorghum halepsense), and tall fescue (Schedenorus phoenix).

In 2014, the park prepared a Foundation Document, which indicated that the Shirley House had been restored and was in good condition (National Park Service 2014 (foundation doc), 15). It also noted that the lack of adequate heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems was contributing to extreme internal temperature swings that could affect plaster, woodwork, and other features. The Foundation Document also suggested that the house could be better interpreted, further restored, and furnished (National Park Service 2014, 16). One of the studies indicated as needed in the Foundation Document was an exhibit plan accompanied by a historic furnishing report that will provide guidance on new exhibits based on the current long-range interpretive plan for the park (National Park Service 2014, 41). Funding for such a plan has been requested in PMIS 188257 (National Park Service 2014, 17). The Foundation Document also indicated that public input has suggested that the Shirley House be open to visitors on a regular basis (National Park Service 2014, 56).

Projects for which the park has requested future funding include:

- PMIS 219258: Replace Shirley House Wooden Shutters

- PMIS 229831: Repair and Paint Shirley House Exterior
- PMIS 219223: Remove Hazard Trees & Limbs from Park Entrance to Shirley House
- PMIS 188257: Develop Historic Furnishing and Interpretive Exhibit Plan for the Shirley House

Physical History Graphics

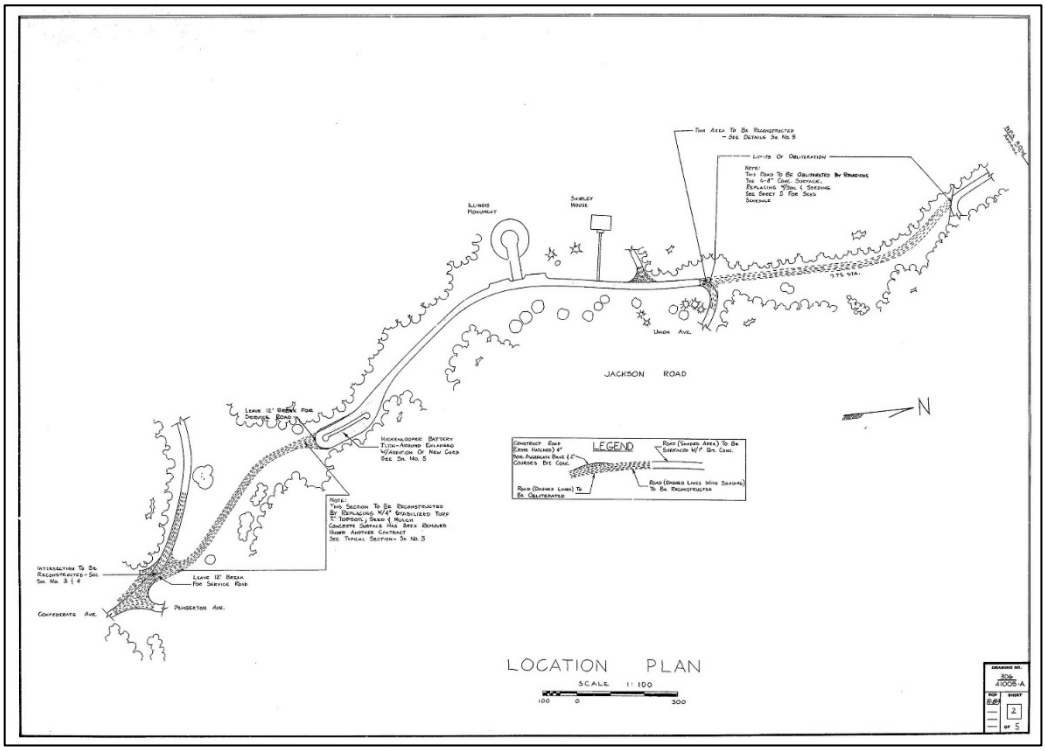


Fig 53. Site plan illustrating proposed changes along two segments of Old Jackson Road, 1972. Source: National Park Service 306/41005-A.

Chapter 7: Uses

Functions and Uses

Seq. No. (R)	Major Category (R)	Category (R)	Use/ Function (R, if exists)	Historic (Yes/No)	Current (Yes/No)	Primary (Yes/No)
01	Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	No	Yes
02	Government	Government Office	Multi-Use Building	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access

Public Access

Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative

Vicksburg National Military Park Visitor Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day of the week throughout the year except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

Associated Ethnographic Groups

Seq. No. (R)	Ethnographic Group [Select from drop down pick list.]	Current (Yes/No)	Historic (Yes/No)
	No survey conducted		

Ethnographic Study Status:

N/A

Ethnographic Narrative:

N/A

Chapter 8: Analysis & Evaluation

Analysis and Evaluation Summary

LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS

Today, the Shirley House landscape most closely approximates the character present by the end of the identified period of significance—1966—as opposed to the antebellum, Civil War, or early park development periods. However, changes have continued to be made to the property since the Mission 66 restoration, notably based on the 2004 HSR that led to extensive repair work being completed in 2011–2012. In addition to repairs to the house, accessible parking, new walks and stairs, and plantings were installed on the property in 2011. The viewshed from the house was also opened up around the same time period based on clearing recommendations provided in the 2009 CLR.

Several elements associated with the Shirley House landscape during the antebellum period and at the time of the siege are missing today and little is currently known about their historic character. These elements include various outbuildings, the original driveway, and the fields and gardens that supported the farm property. Similarly, much of the physical evidence of the Civil War siege, some of which was in view of the Shirley House, has been lost over time as well. Gone is the evidence of the earthen siegeworks associated with both armies and related features—gabions, fascines, headlogs, abatis, chevaux de frise, bombproofs, magazines, soldier privies and latrines, huts and tent sites, and military access roads. Also missing today are views of the ravine where the shebangs were located. Several early park development period elements have also been lost, including five large iron tablets that edged the embankment along Union Avenue east of the Shirley House, cannon that flanked the stairs leading to the Illinois State Memorial, and views of the former tower east along old Jackson Road. Modifications to the old Jackson Road to accommodate visitors, such as widening, and the addition of parking and a brick walk were completed during and after the period of significance.

Although several archeological sites are recorded for the property, including the Shirley House, Shirley graves, Illinois Memorial, White House battery, and 1st Minnesota Light Artillery Battery,

no archeological investigations have been conducted within the study area to date to confirm information relating to the identified missing features.

Otherwise, many of the historic qualities and characteristics of the historic landscape remain present, including the Shirley House, front walk, landform and topography, Union Avenue and old Jackson Road, the access drive that is part of the Illinois Circle Road, stormwater management features—paved swales along the roads and culverts and drop inlets—and numerous monuments, markers, and tablets erected by the War Department based on the input of the veterans during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

INTEGRITY

Overall, the Shirley House landscape possesses sufficient integrity to convey its historic associations. The property retains integrity of location, as it remains on its original site. The property also retains integrity of association due to the antebellum character of the house and the monumentation that ties it to siege and battle events and early park development. The property possesses integrity of setting for the early park development period due to the ongoing presence of the Illinois State Memorial and open interpreted siege landscape. The circa 1936 Old Administration Building is a feature that detracts from the historic view associated with the early park development period, although it was present by the later commemorative period and visible before tree cover grew up between the two buildings, which has since been cleared. Diminishing the integrity of setting is the loss of the tower nearby and the woodland growth on the ravine where the shebangs were located. Integrity of feeling is also retained due to the open character, views, and monumentation that survive from the period of significance. Diminishing integrity of feeling are the new plantings along the front walks and associated wayside exhibit.

The property also possesses integrity of design, workmanship, and materials for the features that survive with integrity from the period of significance, such as the Shirley House, turf lawn, monuments and tablets, Shirley grave marker, trace of the Illinois Circle Road, with continued use of the north segment to access the Shirley House, and the front walk. While the new plantings along the front walk were selected for their historic association with the property, their

arrangement, the use of a reddish colored mulch, and bed delineation convey a contemporary character that detracts from integrity of design and workmanship.

Landscape Characteristics and Features

Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation.

Summary:

The Shirley House landscape is comprised of a collection of culturally derived landscape features integrally tied to the site's ambient natural systems and features. These elements were important to the siting of the Shirley House during the early 1800s, the military features associated with the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, and served as considerations in the development of the park landscape during the early 1900s. The natural features and systems that contribute to the significance of the Shirley House landscape through their association with cultural developments include the knoll landform on which the dwelling was sited, the ravine east of the house, and the declining topography to the north and south of the house. These features and systems have been present since the Shirley House was constructed, and survive with integrity today. A spring described as present on the Shirley property in 1849, which may have been an important factor in the siting of the house, cannot be located today, and may no longer flow.

While several of the responses to these natural conditions that characterized the landscape during the antebellum period as well as the siege are no longer present, others composed during the early park development period do survive today and contribute to the significance of the property. These include the siting of the Shirley House on an elevated knoll to take advantage of its prospect and healthful breezes, and the use of swales, gutters, culverts, and drop inlets added during the early park development period to control stormwater. Work conducted to rehabilitate the Shirley House in the mid-1960s resulted in the addition of rain barrels to collect rainwater

conveyed from roof gutters. These rain barrels help to interpret an antebellum feature of the historic landscape that had been lost.

Missing responses to natural resources present during the 1860s include agricultural use of sufficiently level areas by the Shirley family to cultivate crops and grow food for the household in kitchen gardens and orchards. A spring that likely supported the potable water needs of the household located in the ravine to the east appears to no longer flow. Other responses to natural resources associated with the Shirley House property during the mid-1800s includes the use of cisterns and rain barrels to collect and store water.

Siege-related responses to the natural resources associated with the Shirley House property that are no longer in evidence include the shebangs carved from the ravine east of the house, Union earthworks on the ridgeline, and Logan's approach trench extending from the Shirley House environs to the Third Louisiana Redan.

Knoll landform. Many features of the Shirley House landscape were designed to respond to the elevated knoll landform that is one of the highest points within the region. This siting afforded views and healthful breezes, both important considerations to settlers in the mid-1800s. The Shirley House occupies the high point of the knoll, which abuts the Jackson Road corridor. The original siting, by the 1840s, of the house and the road atop a knoll and along a ridgeline were direct responses to topographic conditions present in the early nineteenth century.

Today, expansive views over the open siege landscape are provided from this elevated position on the knoll as are unobstructed views to the Illinois State Memorial. The knoll and the siting of the house contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

Ravine. From the knoll on which the Shirley House sits, the land falls away on all sides, most precipitously to the east where there is a steeply sloped ravine. The ravine east of the Shirley House was cleared by the time of the siege and was used by Union soldiers to construct sheltered camp sites protected from Confederate artillery fire by the terrain during the siege.

The ravine is currently wooded, and it is difficult to see the extreme drop of the topography in this area (Figure 56). The Shirley House is barely visible behind the trees; during the siege, this exposed ravine was the site of many shebangs, or lean-to shelters, in which Union soldiers encamped. These features are no longer present. Successional woodland currently obscures views of the ravine landscape. The ravine landform otherwise survives from the period of significance and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Sloped area north of the house. The sloped area to the north of the house has been part of the Shirley House landscape since the period of significance. It appears to have served as a work yard during the antebellum period. Later, it was used to site monuments, the graves of the Shirleys, and tablets during the early park development period. This natural feature remains in place today and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Stormwater management systems. Responses to natural resources associated with development of the national military park include stormwater management features such as swales, gutters, culverts, and drop inlets (Figure 58 through Figure 60). Paved and grass-lined swales that edge old Jackson Road and Union Avenue also convey stormwater away from the road surface and prevent erosion. These features were part of a park-wide strategy introduced by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s to address erosion control needs.

Grass swales for drainage are still extant in the landscape west of the Shirley House and extending to the Illinois State Memorial. There are also grass swales associated with road segments where curbs are not in place (Figure 70). In addition, there is a concrete drainage ditch adjacent to the east side of the asphalt access road behind the Shirley House. The extant swales, gutters, culverts, and drop inlets installed circa 1902–1903 and during the 1930s contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

The landscape west of the Shirley House and extending to the Illinois State Memorial contains a stormwater detention area constructed after the period of significance. This later stormwater detention basin is non-contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Knoll landform

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Ravine

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Sloped area north of the house

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Stormwater management systems

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Rain barrels to collect and store water

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Stormwater detention basin

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 54. The Shirley House from a distance, at the high elevation at the top of the knoll landform.



Fig 55. Sloping landscape north of the house contains monuments, a grave marker and tablets. View looking south.



Fig 56. The ravine is currently wooded and it is difficult to see the extreme drop of the topography in this area.



Fig 57. A grass swale is located adjacent to the west edge of Union Avenue below the knoll embankment.



Fig 58. One of two concrete culverts with concrete curb located on the south side of the Old Jackson Road.



Fig 59. A brick culvert in the landscape is located south of the Old Jackson Road.



Fig 60. A metal drop inlet and grate are associated with the area of grass edging north of the Old Jackson Road at the base of the knoll.

Spatial Organization

Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces.

Summary:

The present-day Shirley House landscape is composed of an expanse of open turf in front of and to the rear of the house between Union Avenue, Old Jackson Road, and the environs of the Illinois State Memorial. The house occupies the high point of the narrow ridgeline and the remainder of the landscape setting associated with the Shirley House consists of open lawn around the structure. This open space is edged by roads to the south and east and wooded vegetation to the east, north, and northwest. The house precinct is visually connected to the open

landscape to the south from its position atop the small knoll. The house faces the Old Jackson Road, and is oriented orthogonally to the road Corridor (Figure 61 and Figure 62).

Patterns of spatial organization characteristic of the Shirley House property include the level topography of the ridgeline that supports a physical connection between the house and the Illinois State Memorial to its west, and the expansive views afforded from this high point toward the south. Both features face the Jackson Road corridor, which has been an important structuring element of the landscape since its establishment by 1837. These spatial relationships are reinforced by the open character of the turf lawn maintained between the two structures. Additional important patterns of spatial organization include the role of the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial as focal points for visitors traveling along Union Avenue from the south.

The ravine east of Union Avenue is currently wooded and topographically distinct and is a separate spatial pattern from the house and knoll. The extent of the woodland cover effectively restricts any visual and physical access to the landscape to the east, thus causing a more restricted spatial pattern.

Missing patterns of spatial organization relate to Shirley family use of the property as a farm or plantation during the mid-1800s. The 60 acres owned by the Shirleys were used to cultivate crops, a kitchen garden, and orchards. No evidence of these former uses and their associated patterns of spatial organization that likely included fencelines, hedgerows, and farm roads, or delineation of the property boundary, survive today. Also missing are the Union military earthworks and road features established during the siege.

Open ridgeline occupied by the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial. The Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial are sited on a long narrow ridgeline that overlooks an expanse of open space to the south, and is edged by woodland cover to the north. Both structures face Old Jackson Road. Both structures afford expansive views to the south, while views to the north are contained by woodland cover. The house and the Illinois State Memorial are visually connected

to one another due to their position adjacent to one another along the ridgeline, and the low grass turf maintained between them. Both serve as dramatic focal points along Union Avenue for visitors traveling north. These patterns of spatial organization survive from the period of significance with integrity and contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

Jackson Road corridor. Also present within the landscape historically (by 1837) was the Jackson Road corridor. The road served as one of the justifications for siting the house. It was also an important feature of the siege, and has remained a key element of Vicksburg National Military Park as a circulation route for visitors. The corridor survives from the period of significance and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Wooded ravine east of the house. Also associated with the Shirley House is a secondary space that occurs to the north of the building. This space is contained by the rear facade of the house and the woodland that surrounds the access road and Union Avenue. This space is generally more contained today than it was during the period of significance when the woodland cover was much less extensive. The ravine to the east of Union Avenue, which was formerly associated with the Shirley House property is currently wooded and is thus no longer either physically or visually connected to the house. The extent of woodland cover associated with the ravine east of the Shirley House has expanded since the 1960s, contributing to a loss of open space around the house, and a sense of connection to a space that played an important role in the use of the landscape during the siege of Vicksburg. The wooded ravine to the east of the house remained open until at least the 1930s. The woodland appears to have grown up through a change in management practices implemented since the 1970s. The woodland cover currently obscures important patterns of spatial organization present during the period of significance and constitutes a non-contributing pattern of spatial organization.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Open ridgeline occupied by the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial, and their role as focal points in the landscape
Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Jackson Road corridor

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Wooded ravine east of the house

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - incompatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 61. Shirley House is located on the high point of the small knoll and surrounded by open space within the immediate vicinity.



Fig 62. The house is visually connected to the open landscape to the south and faces the Old Jackson Road.

Land Use

Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction.

Summary:

Land uses associated with the Shirley House today that survive from the period of significance include cemetery, commemorative, and educational/museum/interpretive uses. These uses all date to the early park development period.

There are no land uses that survive from the antebellum or military periods, which included administrative, agricultural, military, and residential. Former land uses associated with family occupation of the house prior to the siege of Vicksburg, including residential and agricultural

uses, are no longer associated with the property. Similarly, military occupation of the house by soldiers during the siege and afterwards as a temporary hospital are also no longer associated with the property.

Following establishment of Vicksburg National Military Park, the Shirley House served as the park headquarters building and as a residence, used by a caretaker and later the Superintendent, until the 1960s. These uses are also no longer associated with the property.

Commemorative. Commemorative land uses were introduced during the early park development period starting in 1899 through placement of markers, tablets, and monuments in support of marking battle events, including the Illinois State Memorial. Commemoration is the primary land use of the park as directed by its enabling legislation. The Shirley House contains several examples of tablets, monuments, and memorials placed by the veterans and commissioners during the early park development period (Figure 63). These commemorative features and associated land uses contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

Cemetery. The graves of Adeline and James Shirley were relocated to a site behind the house on the sloping knoll from the city cemetery to the east in 1900 at the request of their daughter Alice Shirley Eaton. The graves are marked by a shared square, split faced granite headstone. The name "Shirley" is carved into the top and sides of the headstone. The dates on the marker include James Shirley (died 1863) and Adeline Quincy Shirley (died 1888). The burial marker shares the open lawn north of the Shirley House with other granite monuments (Figure 66). The cemetery land use is extant and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Education/Museum/Interpretive. By 1900, Vicksburg park commissioners recognized the value of the Shirley House as an interpretive feature that provided a connection between local lifeways and the siege, and a visual anchor for the battlefield. Educational use of the house has continued to expand over time. Today, opportunities for education and interpretation include interior exhibits that convey early life within the Shirley House (Figure 64). Interpretive information is afforded along the park Tour Road and in association with the numerous tablets, monuments,

and markers located throughout the landscape setting of the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial that help convey the stories of the 1863 siege and engagements (Figure 65). This use additionally continues today through the placement of wayside exhibits and the inclusion of interior exhibits made available to the public. Education/museum/interpretive land uses survive from the period of significance and contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Commemorative

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Cemetery

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Education/Museum/Interpretive

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 63. Two monuments located on the south lawn of the Shirley House.



Fig 64. Interpretive exhibits occupy some interior rooms of the Shirley House.



Fig 65. An array of markers, interpretive waysides, and monuments are visible from the parking area south and southwest of the Shirley House.



Fig 66. The Shirley family burial is located on the sloping landscape north of the Shirley House along with other monuments.

Topography

Topography is the three dimensional configuration of the landscape surface characterized by features (such as slope and articulation) and orientation (such as elevation and solar aspect).

Summary:

Landform and topography are character-defining features of the Shirley House landscape due to the original justification for the siting of the house for prospect and access to fresh air and breezes, and use of the landscape for military tactics involving the importance of high ground. For the direct associations between cultural activities and the landform, topography, and topographic modifications undertaken to support antebellum and Civil War-era use of the site, this landscape characteristic contributes to the significance of the Shirley House property. Additionally, surviving evidence of the topographic modifications made during the early park

development period, such as grading to construct roads and stormwater management systems, are also significant features of the Shirley House landscape.

There is also topographic modification due to erosion along Union Avenue as it runs east of the house. The large water oak on the eastern face of the knoll embankment is threatened by slope erosion resulting in root exposure and subsequent instability of the tree (Figure 70).

Extensive soil slumping is present on the embankment forming the corridor of the access road north and northwest of the Shirley House, resulting in topographic modification of the knoll and the steep embankments.

Missing from the Civil War-era landscape is physical evidence of the Union earthworks built to the south and northeast of the Shirley House, and the shebangs constructed within the ravine to its east, to accommodate Union soldiers stationed in the area. Union military features were ordered destroyed by Grant following the surrender of Confederate forces in July 1863 to prevent their falling into enemy hands.

Grading of roads and swales. Union Avenue and the Illinois Circle Road were built during the early park development period to support visitor access to Vicksburg National Military Park (Figure 67 through 69). The land was graded to accommodate these roads within the steeply sloped terrain at a commodious slope. During the 1930s, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) enrollees added swales and gutters along the roads as needed to address stormwater management where erosion was found to be occurring. The road grades and associated swales survive today from the period of significance and contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Grading to accommodate Union Avenue and Illinois Circle Road
Feature Contribution: Contributing
Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Grading to establish swales and gutters to convey stormwater alongside the road

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 67. Grading and subsequent topographic modification for construction of Old Jackson Road and additional parking.



Fig 68. Grading corridor for siting of the access road south of the house.



Fig 69. Topographic modification due to the grass roadbed is evident.



Fig 70. Erosion and slumping is evident on the embankment north of the house.

Vegetation

Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape.

Summary:

The only cultural vegetation that appears to survive from the period of significance is the turf grass lawn and a mature water oak behind the house.

The Shirley House precinct is bordered to the north and west by woodland cover (Figure 71). The steep ravine slopes east and southeast of the house are along thickly vegetated by native woodlands.

In addition to the native woodland vegetation communities that surround the Shirley House site, ornamental plantings including shrubs and flowering and shade trees, are associated with the property. There is a large crapemyrtle (Lagerstroemia indica) southeast of the house that provides some of the only shade available in the open grass lawn (Figure 72). The tree is in good condition; however, there is poison ivy growth throughout the lower branches in close proximity to the bench provided for visitor convenience.

Cultural vegetation associated with the property during the antebellum period has all been lost. Civil War-era photographs and descriptions of the Shirley House suggest the species that comprised gardens around the dwelling, including pink crapemyrtle, rose of Sharon, red flowering quince, fragrant white syringas (lilacs), roses, violets, jonquils (daffodils), and hyacinths, along with flower beds and grape vines around a rustic summer house. Also described as present during the antebellum period were crop fields, fruit tree orchards, and a kitchen or vegetable garden. None of these are present today.

Review of historic documents has suggested that there was a catalpa tree present to the north of the house during the 1930s that is no longer extant. Tree plantings edged the road corridors. If these survive, they are now part of much expanded woodlands.

Turf grass. Turf grass lawn constitutes the main ground cover in areas of the park that are maintained to interpret historic events to allow for views of landscape features, such as the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial. Turf grass also helps to protect the local loess soil from erosion. It was present during the antebellum period, and used during the early park development period to support interpretation and education and allow monuments to remain visible. Bermuda grass has traditionally been used for turf since at least the early park development period. The use of turf grass within the Shirley House property contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Mature water oak north of the house. A semi-evergreen water oak (Quercus nigra) is the largest tree on the Shirley House site. It is located north of the house. This large shade tree is in good condition and provides shade in the open lawn northeast of the house. The tree location on the embankment slope does affect the long term health and viability of the tree. The roots are undermined from soil erosion on the slope, causing instability, especially during rain and wind events (Figure 73).

The date of origin of the water oak tree north of the house is not currently known. Historic annotated photographs indicate that a catalpa tree was present behind the house during the 1930s. The present tree may have been planted to replace the catalpa once it died. The size of the water oak suggests that it has been present since at least 1966, and thus contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Ornamental plantings in front of the house. An interpretive garden of ornamental plantings is located along the front entrance walk to the house. (Figure 74 through Figure 75). These plantings are meant to recreate the front entrance plantings prior to the Civil War, identified in the writings of Alice Shirley Eaton. Woody species planted in 2011 include common lilac (Syringa vulgaris alba), flowering quince (Chenomeles speciose), Rose-of-Sharon (Hibiscus syriacus), crapemyrtle (Lagerstroemia indica), and Carolina rose (Rosa carolinae). It is evident that "knock out" roses were not in the plan but were also planted in lieu of many of the Carolina roses. Herbaceous species planted (and re-planted in subsequent years) include: common hyacinth (Hycanthus orientalis); yellow and white jonquils (Narcissus jonquilla); and blue violets (Viola cornuta). Plantings near the entrance steps to the house include wax-leaf ligustrum (Ligustrum lucidum), Rose-of-Sharon (Hibiscus syriacus), and crapemyrtle (Lagerstroemia indica). Two wax-leaf ligustrum have also been planted on either side of the entrance sidewalk at the top of the access staircase from the parking area. The ornamental plantings are in fair condition. Some of the rose bushes have deteriorated, likely due to insect infestation and deer browse. Several are dead and need to be replaced. Planting of herbaceous species has been temporarily abandoned due to difficulty maintaining these amidst abundant weeds. Container planting is an option being

considered. While the 'knock out' roses are an incompatible variety, these ornamental plantings overall are a non contributing but compatible feature.

The large crapemyrtle tree to the southeast of the house is of undetermined origin, but likely postdates 1966. Photographs from the 1930s indicate that there were other shrub plantings around the house that are no longer extant today. The existing plantings are non-contributing.

Woodland to the north and east of the Shirley House. Current woodland closely edges an open lawn precinct around the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial. This woodland has expanded since the 1930s, when maps of the site indicated the presence of a few line of trees edging the roads near the Shirley House. Woodland now occupies the ravine to the east of the house, as well as the land to the north of the former Illinois Circle Road. This woodland includes such species as elms, oaks, cedars, and locust, but also contains non-native invasive species such as kudzu and privet. It appears to have grown up through a change in management practices since the 1970s. As such it is non-contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Turf grass

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Mature water oak tree behind the house

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Ornamental plantings in front of the house

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Woodland to the north and east of the Shirley House

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - incompatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 71. Thick woodlands form a boundary to the north and west of the Shirley House site.



Fig 72. The large crapemyrtle is located south of the Shirley House.



Fig 73. The large water oak is the largest tree in the open lawn precinct of the house.



Fig 74. Rose of Sharon, wax-leaf ligustrum, and a small crapemyrtle are located adjacent to the front entrance of the Shirley House.



Fig 75. Ornamental plantings looking south from the Shirley House front entrance.

Circulation

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape.

Summary:

There are several circulation features associated with the Shirley House landscape that date to the antebellum period or can be traced to early park development. These contributing features include old Jackson Road; Union Avenue; the front walk that leads to the house; and the rear access drive, which is part of the former Illinois Circle Road. A trace of the Illinois Circle Road survives today and is used by park staff for maintenance access.

The predominant circulation feature associated with Vicksburg National Military Park is the circa 1903–1905 tour road, which was initially designed for horses and carriages, but was later adapted for the automobile. Originally surfaced with hard-packed earth, and later gravel, the tour road is currently paved variously with concrete or asphalt. Extending for some 16 miles, the tour road allows visitors to experience both the Union and Confederate siege lines. The tour road is comprised primarily of Union and Confederate avenues. A portion of Old Jackson Road has been incorporated into the park tour route. The tour road functions as a guide and narrator, carrying visitors along the two opposing lines and providing access to many of the monuments. There are fifteen designated interpretive stops along the route that highlight the pivotal events of the siege. The tour road provides access to the Shirley House, appropriated during the siege as a Union regimental headquarters.

The first stop along the tour road interprets the Union Battery De Golyer, from which attacks on the Confederate Great Redoubt and Third Louisiana Redan were staged. The second stop occurs near the Shirley House, where a sloped embankment sheltered Union regiments poised to attack the Great Redoubt and Third Louisiana Redan. Union Avenue (the tour road) and Old Jackson Road (now part of the tour road) form the east and south boundaries of the Shirley House property.

Historic maps of the Shirley House property and environs suggest that there may have been several farm lanes and other local roads connected that arose from Jackson Road during the antebellum period. Alice Shirley Eaton describes the Shirley House driveway as ending in a circular turnaround in front of the house. This can be seen in period photographs from 1868. None of these roads survives today.

Military engineer maps from the siege period also suggest that the Union earthworks present in the vicinity of the Shirley House may have been linked by military roads. No evidence of military roads survives today.

Roads.

Union Avenue. Union Avenue was developed by the War Department circa 1902–1903 as part of the initial development of Vicksburg National Military Park. It was designed to follow the Union siege lines and afford visitors an understanding of the military events of May through July 1863. As originally constructed, Union Avenue was gravel surfaced, and edged by a low curb to either side. Commemorative monuments, tablets, and markers were placed along the road in key locations based on the input of veterans as a way to document troop positions and military events associated with the siege.

Several changes have been made to Union Avenue within the environs of the Shirley House since 1902. These include the addition of a wooden guard rail east of the Shirley House, new concrete curbs, and swales and gutters during the 1930s. In 1970, the road was first paved with asphalt. At the same time, Union Avenue was reconfigured for visitors as part of a one-way loop tour route that began at the park visitor center, constructed between 1968 and 1970, near Clay Street. This change was part of a larger effort to separate park roads from public through routes, completed in 1972, and to make travel safer for visitors.

Today, Union Avenue is a 16- to 20-foot-wide, one-lane, one-way, asphalt-paved road that is periodically edged by parking pull-offs associated with tour stops and monuments. A white stripe defines a walking lane along portions of the road margin. Portions of Union Avenue are edged by concrete curbs on one or both sides, while some steeply sloped sections are edged by asphalt-paved drainage ditches. Relatively level sections are edged by grass shoulders. The condition of Union Avenue varies along its length, but is generally good. Union Avenue intersects the Old Jackson Road, providing access to the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial. Union Avenue continues north forming the east boundary of the Shirley House site. The road in this area is edged by concrete curbs and grass. The road pavement and curbs are generally in good condition (Figure 76). Union Avenue survives with a high degree of integrity and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Old Jackson Road. Old Jackson Road is a historic corridor that extends through the center of the park's main battlefield unit south of the Shirley House. Old Jackson Road was present by 1837. It served as a public thoroughfare that connected Vicksburg and the state capital at Jackson, established in 1822. The Shirley House was purposefully sited along the road. Jackson Road remained an important approach route into the city of Vicksburg at the time of the siege. The Confederate army established substantial earthworks to guard the road to prevent enemy attack, including the Third Louisiana Redan.

During the early park development period, the road was adapted for use as part of the tour route that provided access to the Third Louisiana Redan and the Illinois State Memorial. In the 1930s, parking spaces were added along the margins of Jackson Road for visitors to use in accessing the Illinois State Memorial. The addition of the spaces required the realigning of Jackson Road further to the south. The road was further modified when parking was expanded eastward, a brick sidewalk was added to connect the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House, and the travelway was widened. Although the date of these modifications is not currently known, it is likely that they occurred as part of the Mission 66.

Jackson Road remained a public thoroughfare that extended through the park until 1972. At that time, modern Jackson Road was completed through a ravine that crossed through the park, and over Glass Bayou via a new overpass. Old Jackson Road was converted to park tour road use. The paved surface of Old Jackson Road was removed west of the Illinois State Memorial in an effort to restore its historic character based on proposals made in the park's Mission 66 master plan. As part of the conversion, and connections to public roads were removed. At the west end, this entailed closing down the connection between Hickenlooper's Battery parking lot and Confederate Avenue, while at the east end any access points to Union Avenue from public roads were removed.

The center segment of the Old Jackson Road road has been appropriated for park circulation as a spur offshoot of the tour road and is asphalt-paved and 20 to 30 feet wide. It is a two-way street and has two lanes. Head-in parking spaces edge the road from the steps to the Shirley House and

past the Illinois State Memorial. There are approximately thirteen spaces between the Shirley House steps and the Illinois State Memorial steps and an additional four spaces on the west side of the Illinois State Memorial steps. The corridor is edged by concrete curbing except for a small length of grass edging east of the Shirley House steps and continuing around the corner until the curb picks up again on Union Avenue. The paved road segment, curbs, and adjacent parking are in good condition (Figure 77 through Figure 78).

The tour road spur Old Jackson Road ends in a parking area and turn-around located near the Third Louisiana Redan. Traces of the historic road continue beyond the spur to the southeast and northwest. To the northwest, the road trace leads to and intersects Pemberton Avenue and Confederate Avenue. To the southeast, the trace continues to the park boundary. The trace is maintained as a 10-foot-wide, gravel, two-track service road. Portions are edged by berms or higher grades of several feet. This service road is utilized by park staff and is open to pedestrian use (Figure 79).

Although Jackson Road has diminished integrity of design, workmanship, and materials due to the addition of parking, road widening, replacement of gravel with asphalt paving, the addition of a brick sidewalk, and the closure of the route to through traffic, Old Jackson Road otherwise retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic associations and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Illinois Circle Road/Shirley House access drive. The Illinois Circle Road was established between Jackson Road and Union Avenue as part of the construction of the Illinois State Memorial in 1906. It was designed, like similar roads built in association with other significant monuments, to allow visitors to see the monument from all sides. The CCC added paved swales to segments of the road in the 1930s to address erosion and stormwater management needs.

The Mission 66 master plan for the park identified the desire to remove all monument circle roads within the park. The Illinois Circle Road was likely closed to the public in the 1960s or

1970s as a result of this recommendation. The access road currently terminates at a parking area northwest of the Shirley House.

Although the road no longer serves the public, it continues to be used by park personnel for maintenance access in the vicinity of the monument. The northern segment has been adaptively reused as the access road for the Shirley House. Despite loss of integrity of association, the road survives with sufficient integrity to convey its historic associations and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Parking along the margins of Old Jackson Road. Parking was first afforded along Jackson Road to either side of the Illinois State Memorial in the 1930s. The addition of these parking spaces required the realignment of the Jackson Road corridor southward. The parking area was later expanded eastward as part of Mission 66 program improvements. The parking area has diminished integrity of design and feeling, but otherwise possesses sufficient integrity to convey its historic associations and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Asphalt access road. An entrance is provided from Union Avenue to the paved asphalt road leading to the back of the Shirley House. The road terminates in a universally accessible parking space linked to an accessible path and entrance lift into the dwelling. There is a turn-around provided adjacent to the parking. Access to the road is regulated by a metal gate, which is closed and locked when the park is not open to the public. The road pavement is in generally good condition. A concrete-lined swale runs along the access road. The swale is in fair to good condition but overrun with grass in some areas and susceptible to the slope slump on the adjacent embankment (Figure 70).

Accessible parking. Universal access to the Shirley House for visitors is afforded north of the house through the provision of two accessible parking spaces and a walk leading to a lift. These spaces were installed circa 2008. They postdate the period of significance and are non-contributing.

Pedestrian Circulation and Accessibility.

Concrete stairs and walk to the front of Shirley House. As described by Alice Shirley Eaton, and visible in historic photographs, a walk led to the front of the Shirley House from Jackson Road during the antebellum period. The walk may have been replaced in 1931 as part of the renovations made to the property to support residential use by park superintendent J. B. Holt. Photographs from the early 1930s show concrete stairs and a walk leading to the front of the house. At the top of the stairs pillars marked the entrance into the property.

Most visitor access to the Shirley House requires climbing the concrete steps north of the house. There are 19 concrete steps with concrete cheekwalls and associated metal tube railings painted black. The railings are anchored in concrete footings on either side of the steps. The steps and front entrance to the Shirley House are not universally accessible (Figure 83). The stairs are in good condition.

From the top of the stairs, there is a concrete sidewalk leading straight to the front entrance of the Shirley House. This sidewalk is flanked on both sides by ornamental shrub plantings and there is one interpretive wayside located on the west side of the sidewalk (Figure 84). A small landing is covered by rubberized matting providing space adjacent to the sidewalk to stop and read the wayside information. The wayside provides text and photographs of the conditions of the Shirley House and site in 1863. The front sidewalk is in good condition. The landing is showing some wear and is in fair condition. It does not appear to conform to code for allowable space around an outdoor interpretive exhibit.

The concrete stairs were replaced in 2010–2011, and metal handrails were added as part of the project. The pillars that formerly marked the top of the stairs are no longer present. Although the existing concrete stairs and walk are replacements, and thus possess diminished integrity of materials and workmanship, as well as feeling, they possess sufficient integrity to convey their historic associations and contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

Brick sidewalk along Old Jackson Road. There is a brick sidewalk edged with concrete curbing adjacent to the head-in parking located between the stairs to the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial. The other side of the walk is edged by grass at the base of the steep embankment. The sidewalk is in good condition and provides pedestrian access between the house and the memorial (Figure 82). The brick sidewalk is immediately adjacent to the steps of the memorial. It intersects with a concrete walkway leading to steps up the slope to the Shirley House. The concrete curb near the Shirley House steps drops to sidewalk level to allow universal access to the brick sidewalk. The brick sidewalk was likely added as part of Mission 66 program park improvements. As such it contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Interpretive landing along the front walk. Edging the concrete walk leading to the front of the Shirley House is a removable rubber mat to be used by visitors to read the wayside exhibit that interprets the plantings installed along the walk and in front of the house in 2011. The landing postdates the period of significance and is non-contributing.

Concrete walk and stair system on the western and northern sides of the Shirley House. The front concrete sidewalk leads to the front steps and expands to a small concrete landing immediately adjacent to the bottom step. Before the sidewalk becomes a landing, it intersects with a perpendicular concrete sidewalk that leads west to another set of stairs. These stairs descend toward the back of the house and the associated access road, parking, and additional site features. The stairs are concrete with concrete cheek walls and an associated handrail of metal tubing, painted black. The stairs alternate two steps and a landing and the railings are stabilized within the cheekwalls. The sidewalks and stairs are in good condition (Figure 85 through Figure 86).

The concrete sidewalk continues along the west elevation of the house and leads to a set of stairs associated with a rear entrance to the house. This sidewalk also leads to the accessibility lift that provides access to the interior of the house.

Universal accessibility to the Shirley House is achieved only at the rear entrance and in association with the access road, accessible parking, accessible pathway to the lift, and the lift itself. That is the only route that enables all visitors to access the interior of the structure. All the sidewalks, parking, and roadway are in good condition.

This walk system was installed circa 2008 to improve the accessibility of the Shirley House property. These walks postdate the period of significance and are non-contributing.

Social Paths. There are two social trails forming up the embankment to the Shirley graves. Vegetation has been trampled and worn away.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Union Avenue

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Old Jackson Road

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Illinois Circle Road/Shirley House access drive

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Concrete stairs and walk to front of the Shirley House

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Parking along the margins of Old Jackson Road

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Brick sidewalk along Old Jackson Road

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Concrete Walk and the stair system on the western and northern sides of the Shirley House

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Accessible Parking

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Interpretive landing along the front walk

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - incompatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 76. Segment of concrete curb on the west edge of Union Avenue adjacent to the Shirley House site.



Fig 77. Old Jackson Road has associated head-in parking between the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House.



Fig 78. Road and parking are edged with a concrete curb except for the grass edge section east of the Shirley House steps and around the corner to Union Avenue.



Fig 79. A spur of the tour road follows the Old Jackson Road trace and provides access to the Shirley House, Illinois State Memorial, and the Third Louisiana Redan.



Fig 80. Asphalt access road with the concrete-lined swale.

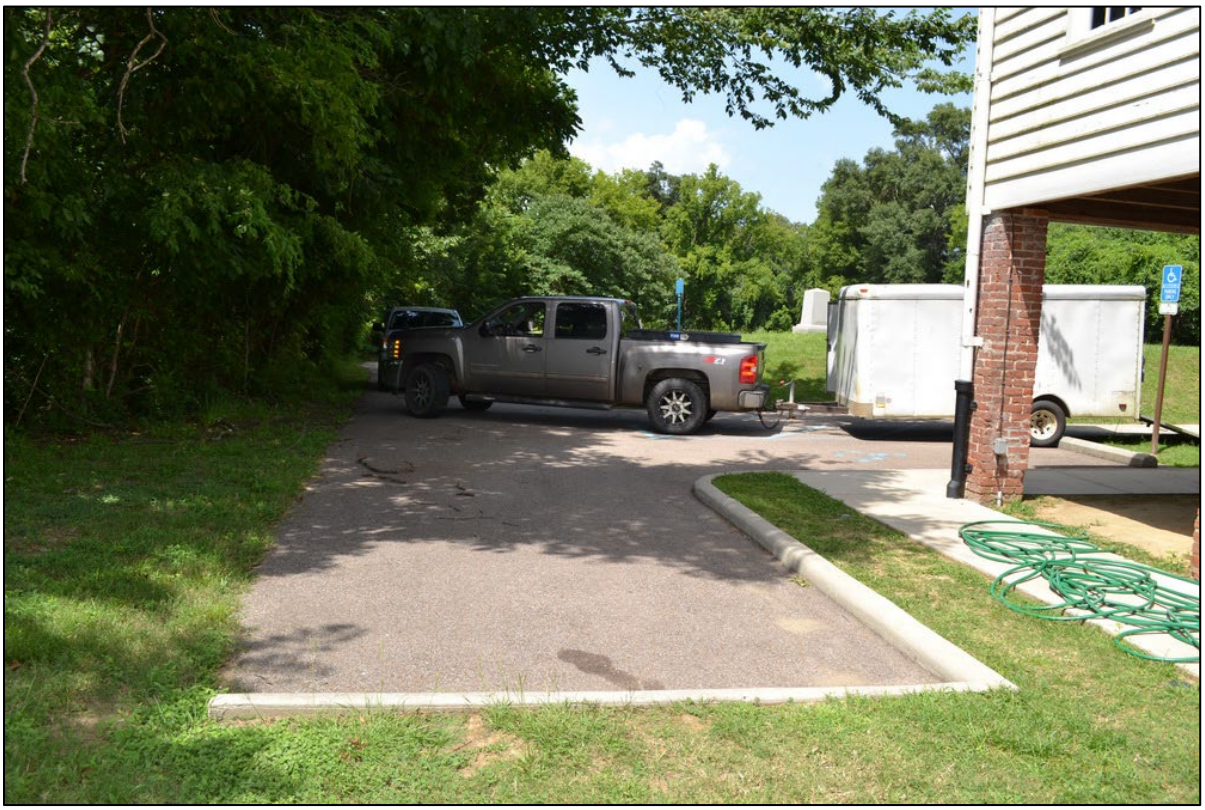


Fig 81. Road terminates in a universally accessible parking spot and a turn-around.



Fig 82. Visitors use the brick sidewalk once cars are parked and to access the steps to the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial.

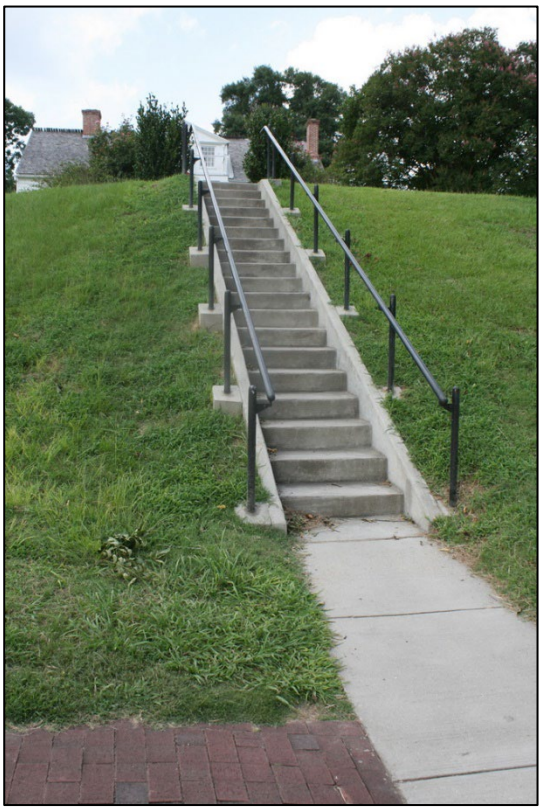


Fig 83. Concrete steps up the steep embankment to the Shirley House.



Fig 84. Concrete sidewalk flanked by Rose of Sharon and flowering quince shrubs leads to the front door of the Shirley House.



Fig 85. Concrete landing adjacent to the bottom step and the intersecting sidewalk are visible from the front yard of the Shirley House.



Fig 86. Concrete steps descend north toward the rear of the house.

Buildings and Structures

Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity.

Summary:

Buildings.

The Shirley House constitutes one of only two antebellum structures present within Vicksburg National Military Park. It is the only antebellum dwelling located within the main battlefield unit. The other is the residence appropriated as a headquarters by Confederate General John Pemberton during his occupation of Vicksburg.

During the antebellum period, the Shirley House was a working farm that contained various outbuildings. Historic documentation relating to the property suggests that the property featured a hen house and stable during the period of Gray ownership. Alice Shirley Eaton indicates that her family also built an outkitchen, privy, and buildings where servants slept. These were located to either side of the garden located near the house. None of these buildings survive today.

During the early park development period, Superintendent J. B. Holt built a wood-frame garage behind the house in 1931. The garage was indicated for removal in the restoration plans prepared for the Shirley House property in the 1960s.

Shirley House. The Shirley House is believed to have been built circa 1837 by Nicholas Gray as "Wexford Lodge." It was acquired by James Shirley in 1851. James and Adeline Shirley renovated the house after acquiring it to accommodate the needs of their family. They are thought to have expanded the porches on the front and back, and made unspecified improvements to the interior.

The Shirley House was the only antebellum structure to survive Confederate clearing of the field of fire from their defensive earthworks built around the perimeter of Vicksburg in 1862. During the siege, the house served as a headquarters for an Illinois regiment. It was also used as a smallpox hospital for Federal troops in 1864. The Shirley House was referred to as the White House by Union soldiers.

The house was abandoned and lay unused until 1899 when Vicksburg National Military Park was established. The War Department acquired the house from Alice Shirley Eaton in 1900. In 1902, the War Department conducted restoration efforts intended to return the house to its antebellum appearance, while repairing and replacing deteriorated and lost structural components. Due to limited funding, however, the house was only partially restored. The house served as a park residence and museum following its restoration.

In 1931, park Superintendent, Maj. J. B. Holt, undertook renovation of the house to improve its suitability as a residence and administrative offices. The renovations involved removal and

replacement of original building fabric, as well as some of the work completed in 1902. After the park was transferred from the War Department to the NPS in 1933, it was determined that further restoration would be needed. In 1939, Francis F. Wilshin developed a historic structure report for the house that was intended to guide further restoration. Funding, however, was not available for the necessary work.

A third restoration was completed by the NPS in 1966 and 1967. The work followed preparation of a second historic structure report by NPS architect Orville Carroll. The Mission 66-funded restoration was designed to correct the historically inaccurate changes made in 1902 and 1931. Due to funding limitations, this restoration was also left unfinished. Additional deterioration resulting from the unfinished restoration was corrected in the 1980s. Residential and administrative use of the building also ceased at that time.

Today, the Shirley House is a one-and-one-half story wood-frame residence that faces south along Old Jackson Road (Figure 87 and Figure 88). The 60-by-40-foot side-gabled structure has a wood-shingle gable roof, two asymmetrically placed brick chimneys, and a brick foundation. The brick basement is accessible from grade along the rear (north) and side (east) elevations. To the east, the land falls away toward Union Avenue, and beyond where shebangs—excavated earthen caves—were used by soldiers to avoid artillery fire. The exterior walls are white-painted clapboard. The first-floor windows are twelve-over-twelve double-hung units with green-painted wood shutters.

Prior to the completion of the Old Administration Building in 1936, the Shirley House was used as the park headquarters. The interior is currently used for limited interpretation (Figure 89). The house is in fair to good condition, as repairs and plans for further restoration continue.

In 2004, NPS personnel prepared a third historic structure report to guide additional repair and restoration of the Shirley House. Several changes were made to accommodate accessibility in 2008, while structural work on the house followed in 2009–2011.

Despite the extent of the changes that have been made to the Shirley House since 1863, it remains an essential part of the park landscape and possesses sufficient integrity of location, feeling, and association to convey its historic associations. As such it contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Structures.

Four types of structures are present within the Shirley House study area. These include large monuments and state memorials, represented by the Illinois State Memorial; engineered features such as walls, culverts, and swales; utility features; and fences and gates.

Structures located within the study area that can be attributed to the early park development period include the Illinois State Memorial, several culverts and drop inlets, and paved swales. Mission 66-era additions include an underground water reservoir southwest of the Shirley House and a spigot and hose hookup that were part of an updated fire suppression system. The fire hydrant associated with the system is no longer extant.

Fences and gates were likely part of the agricultural landscape associated with the property during the antebellum period. However, little information exists to indicate where fences were located and what materials comprised the fences. During the 1930s, a picket fence was added in front of the house. No fences survive within the Shirley House study area today.

The Shirley House landscape is otherwise described by Alice Shirley Eaton as featuring a rustic summer house (no longer extant), as well as two cisterns used to collect water for use by the household in various ways. These cisterns were likely located to the west of the house. Cisterns continued to be used during the early park development period to furnish water for the house. In 1931, when the house was renovated to accommodate the park superintendent and his family, the cistern west of the house was adapted as a septic tank. It is not currently known whether any of the former cisterns survive today.

Also missing from the siege era are the earthen fortifications built to the south and northeast of the Shirley House to protect Union positions. These structures may have been associated with abatis, chevaux de frise, headlogs, and sap rollers. The Union earthworks were destroyed after the siege and do not survive today.

Illinois State Memorial. The Illinois State Memorial was built west of the Shirley House in 1906 to mark the location of troops from Illinois during the siege of Vicksburg. 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 Old 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 are constructed of Stone Mountain, Georgia, granite, while the rotunda is composed of Georgia white marble. The monument stands 62 feet high and was designed by William Le Baron Jenney, with a sculpture by Charles J. Mulligan. Frederick C. Hibbard sculpted a gilded bronze eagle associated with the monument.

Today, a species of brown bat (Eptesicus fuscus) uses the interior of the memorial as a roosting habitat and guano must be regularly cleaned from its walls and floor. In addition, pigeons roost in the monument and contribute heavily to the mess (Figure 90 and Figure 91). The Illinois State Memorial is in good condition.

The monument has been little changed since its construction. The principal alteration has occurred within its setting through the discontinuation of the public use of the Illinois Circle Road, the addition of parking in front of the structure and the shifting of Jackson Road to the south, removal of cannon flanking the stairs leading to the monument, and the growth of woodland to its north. The Illinois State Memorial otherwise possesses all aspects of integrity and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Engineered Stormwater Management Features. Engineered features associated with the Shirley House property include brick retaining walls that extend from the southeast and southwest corners of the house, culverts, drop inlets, and paved swales, and an underground reservoir.

The stormwater management features appear to date from the New Deal era, and were likely installed by the CCC as part of the erosion control projects conducted at the time. Features include culverts with grates at the margins of Old Jackson Road and Union Avenue, a brick headwall where collection pipes empty onto the sloped ground below Old Jackson Road, and drop inlets set within the lawn of the Shirley House. There is also a concrete paved drainage swale that edges the access road behind the house, and another along the western margin of Union Avenue. An underground reservoir and spigot and hose hookup were installed southwest of the Shirley House as part of a fire suppression system in 1964. These features are generally in good condition. Exceptions may include areas where grass has overgrown the structures, as with the brick headwall in the landscape and the concrete swale adjacent to the access road. These features contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

The remaining structures on the property were established after the period of significance. They include brick retaining walls, a metal gate, and a utility box.

Brick Retaining Walls. There are two brick retaining walls that extend out from the southeast and southwest corners of the Shirley House. One of the walls is adjacent to the rain barrel connected to the roof drainage system on the house (Figure 92). The walls are in good condition.

The date of origin of the brick retaining walls is not currently known, but they are believed to have been added in 1982. They were originally proposed for addition to the house as part of the Mission 66 restoration. These walls post-date the period of significance and are non-contributing.

Utility Features. These features include a concrete utility structure located on the embankment of the knoll west of Union Avenue and a metal utility box located northwest of the house at the edge of dense woodland vegetation. Both of these structures are in good condition (Figure 93).

The concrete utility box originally featured a fire hydrant and was part of a fire suppression system installed in 1964. The fire hydrant has since been removed. The concrete utility box has lost integrity due to the loss of the fire hydrant and is non-contributing. The metal utility box is a contemporary feature that postdates the period of significance. It is also non-contributing.

Gate . A metal gate currently limits public access to the asphalt drive leading to the Shirley House property and the universally accessible parking (Figure 94). This gate was likely installed after public use of the Illinois Circle Road ceased. The gate is in good condition, but it postdates the period of significance and is non-contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Shirley House

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: 32.361476352722065

Longitude: -84.84055406344615

CRIS-HS Resource name: Shirley, James, House

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 001362

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 74965

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Illinois State Memorial

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: Illinois State Memorial

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 007276

FMSS Record Type: Location

FMSS Record Number: 75299

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Culverts and brick headwall

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Drop inlets

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Paved gutters

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Underground reservoir

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Spigot and associated hose hookup

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Gate limiting visitor access to the road behind the Shirley House

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Metal utility box

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Concrete utility box

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Brick retaining walls

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 87. South elevation of the Shirley House facing the Old Jackson Road.



Fig 88. The Shirley House as seen from Union Avenue (park tour road).

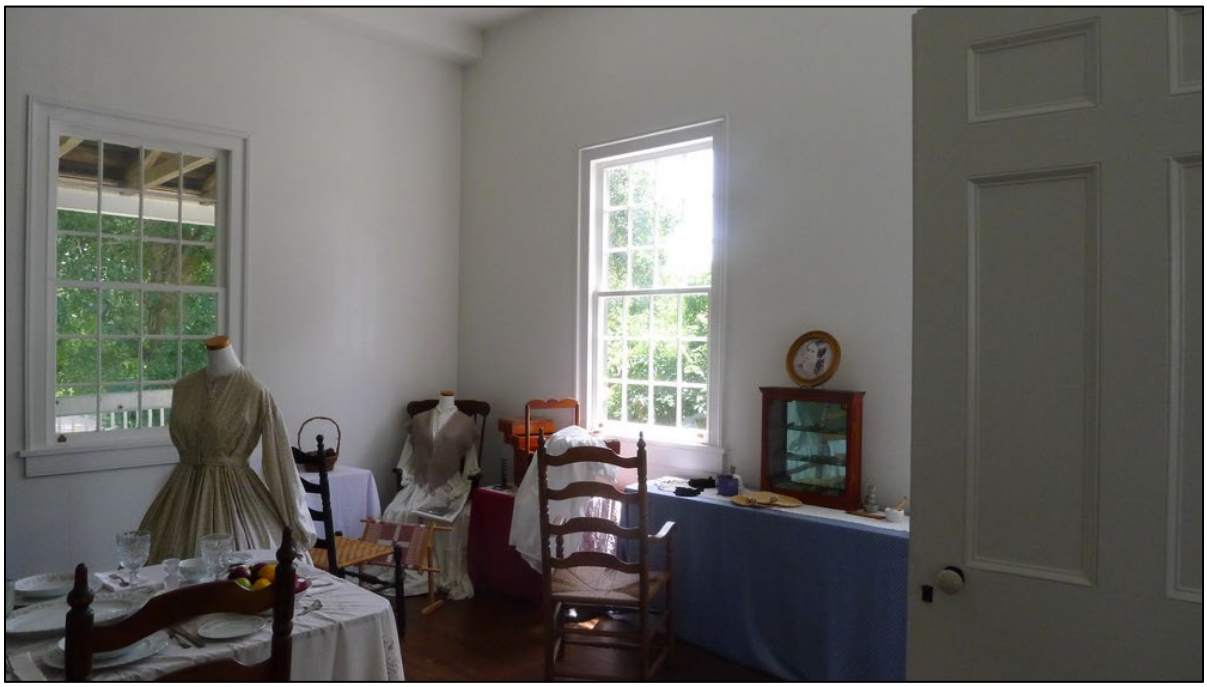


Fig 89. Interior of the Shirley House includes interpretive features depicting furnishings and period clothing.



Fig 90. This view of the Illinois State Memorial is from the Union Avenue western spur leading to the monument, looking toward the northeast with the Shirley House in the background.



Fig 91. The Illinois State Memorial looking northwest from the parking area associated with the Old Jackson Road.

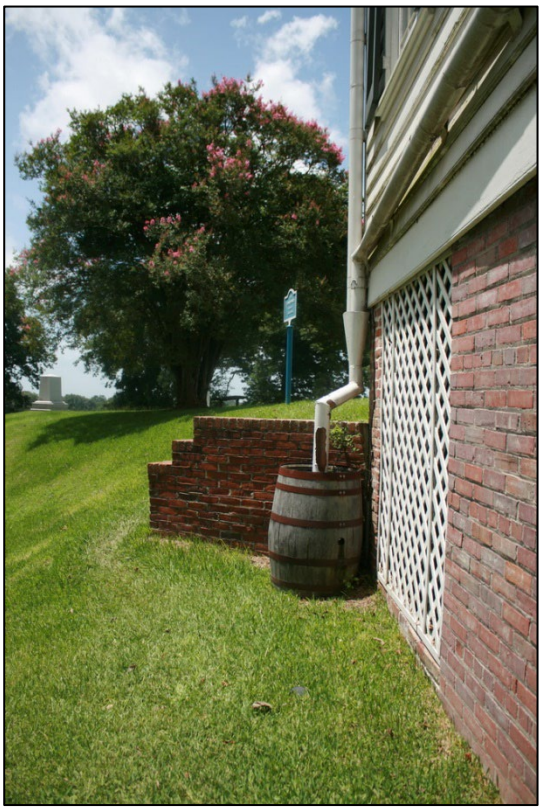


Fig 92. Brick retaining wall is connected to the east side of the dwelling and is adjacent to a rain barrel that collects water from the roof.



Fig 93. Concrete utility structure on the knoll embankment.



Fig 94. The metal gate controls access to the drive that leads to the Shirley House and parking.

Views and Vistas

A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived.

Summary:

There are several important views associated with the Shirley House landscape that are consistent with those present during the antebellum, siege, and early park development periods. Of particular note are the long views afforded from the house to the south due to its siting atop a prominent knoll. These views were an important factor in the original siting of the house. The house has also served as a local landmark along Jackson Road, as well as the park's Union

Avenue, due to the views afforded toward the house from the south and east. Also important are the reciprocal views between the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial.

Views within the park focus primarily on the military terrain associated with many of the Civil War fortifications and the striking monuments that mark key locations of siege events, as visible from the park tour road system. There are also maintained visual connections between monuments and fortifications, and to monuments from road corridors. The areas maintained in mown grass often are used to afford views to these features; given the rugged and diverse landform of the Loess Bluffs, these views are often dramatic and express the challenges faced by the Union army in attacking fortified positions atop the ridges. Tree cover and woodland vegetation limits the extent of many of these views. In many locations, woodland cover currently blocks views associated with placed artillery pieces and visual connections that formerly existed between opposing fortification systems.

Views relating to the Shirley House site and associated landscape are indicative of the conditions discussed above. The viewshed west from the Shirley House to the Illinois State Memorial is unimpeded. There is also an open viewshed southwest from the Shirley House that includes the Old Administration Building (Figure 97).

Views from the Shirley House to the south. Views were clearly considered in the original siting of the Shirley House in 1837. The prospect afforded from the knoll overlooking Jackson Road was expansive across the declining landscape to the south.

The high ground and the viewing opportunities it afforded toward the Confederate defensive line was also of interest to the Union Army, who used the landscape beginning in May 1863 to establish battery positions and earthworks along the ridge and knoll from which to observe the enemy.

The view south from the house and monument is over open siege landscape (Figure 96). There is also an open viewshed southwest due to clearing that occurred in 2009 from the Shirley House

that includes the Old Administration Building (Figure 97), which interferes with the interpretation of the siege landscape. This expansive view to the south remains available to visitors today based on the tree clearing efforts conducted in 2009. It survives with diminished integrity due to the views of the Old Administration Building, and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Views to the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial from Union Avenue and old Jackson Road. During the early park development period, views were considered in the placement of roads and monuments. The Shirley House was recognized as a landmark that would be visible from Union Avenue to the south, and from Jackson Road to the east and west. After the Illinois State Memorial was completed in 1906, these two structures offered a dramatic view from the approaching park roads due to their location on a ridgeline.

The dramatic views from the tour road north to the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial over cleared areas now maintained in grass remain (Figure 95). These views survive with integrity and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Reciprocal views between the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House. The Illinois State Memorial and Shirley House are located on the same ridge overlooking Old Jackson Road. The landscape between the two structures is generally maintained clear of trees allowing for reciprocal views between them. This view, established with construction of the Illinois State Memorial in 1906, survives with integrity and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

View of an electrical transmission line to the east. An electrical utility line that extends east of the park is visible from Old Jackson Road. This transmission line likely post-dates the period of significance and views of the line are non-contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Views from the Shirley House to the south

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Views to the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial from Union Avenue and Old Jackson Road

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Views between the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: View of an electrical transmission tower to the east

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 95. View north from the tour road to the Illinois State Memorial and Shirley House.



Fig 96. View south from the Shirley House over open siege landscape. View is partially blocked by a large deciduous tree.



Fig 97. View southwest from the Shirley House to the Old Administration Building. (The approach to the Illinois State Memorial is visible at right.)

Small-Scale Features

Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape.

Summary:

There are numerous small-scale features located within the Shirley House study area that contribute to the significance of the historic landscape through their association with the early development of Vicksburg National Military Park. These contributing features include monuments, markers, and tablets erected to convey the history of the siege, as well as the gravestone of James and Adeline Shirley. A rain barrel added during the 1966 restoration of the house is also contributing.

A concrete outline in the ground to the west of the Shirley grave marker is of unknown origin and function. Anecdotal accounts suggest that the plot outline may mark the site of a wading pool built by Superintendent Holt for his children. The ASMIS report for the Shirley burial site suggests that the grave marker may indicate the general location of their reinterment, and the concrete outline the actual burial site.

Otherwise, all small-scale features that may have been present during the antebellum and Civil War periods have been lost. Little is known about the features that may have been present during these periods, including elements that supported the shebangs within the ravine.

Historic photographs from the early 1900s indicate the presence of rustic-style signs, guard rails, five iron tablets, stone markers at the top of the concrete stairs leading to the house, and cannon in the environs of the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial that do not survive today. The tablets that were originally placed along Union Avenue marked the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, 17th Army Corps; 3rd Division Artillery; 3rd Division, 17th Army Corps; 17th Army Corps, 1st Brigade, 3rd Division. They are presumed to have been removed in 1942 along with approximately 435 plaques in support of a World War II metal drive.

Also missing is a flagpole that was added to the lawn in front of the Shirley House following National Park Service acquisition of the national military park in 1933.

Monuments, Tablets, and Markers.

Seven monuments and markers and four tablets were erected by the War Department between 1902 and 1919 within the Shirley House study area to indicate the locations and contributions of military units during the siege of Vicksburg. They represent the national movement among veterans and related groups to commemorate and mark major Civil War battlefields. The monuments and markers include the 124th Illinois Infantry Monument (1905); 31st Illinois Infantry Monument (1905); 45th Illinois Infantry Monument (1905); 30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker (1905); Battery D 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument (1905); Col. Manning F. Force Relief Portrait (1912); and Brig. Gen. John E. Smith Bust (1919). The four position marker tablets

were erected in 1902. They indicate aspects of Logan's approach and trench. These features survive on the Shirley House property today with integrity and contribute to the significance of the historic landscape.

124th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument. This gray granite monument is 5 feet by 4 feet 2 inches by 6 feet 6 inches and has a double step base supporting an obelisk. ILLINOIS is in raised polished letters on the second step. The face of the obelisk is polished and inscribed with unit designation, commanders, and the campaign record. The monument is in good condition and is located on the north lawn of the Shirley House just north of the concrete curb plot outline.

31st Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument. This gray granite monument identical in appearance to the 124th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument. This monument is located on the north lawn of the Shirley House overlooking the intersection of Union Avenue and the access road. The monument is in good condition.

Battery D 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument. This gray granite monument is identical to the other Illinois Infantry monuments. The monument is located on the south lawn of the Shirley House in close proximity to the front sidewalk and the associated shrub plantings. This monument is in good condition (Figure 98). This monument has lost integrity of location. It was moved several feet to the east at some time in the 1960s, possibly to allow for the installation of a water reservoir in 1964. Nevertheless, it still contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

45th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument. This gray granite monument identical to the other Illinois Infantry monuments. The monument is in good condition and is located on the south lawn of the Shirley House and east of the Brig. Gen. John E. Smith bust.

Brig. Gen. John E. Smith Bust. 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. Notably, many of the busts and reliefs were fabricated by Tiffany and Company foundry. The light gray granite monument consists of a 44 inch square, tapered base, supporting a rectangular pedestal for a total height of 72 inches. A 36 inch by 24 inch by 52 inch bronze bust of the brigadier general rests on top. One bronze plaque is attached to the pedestal. This monument is located on the north lawn of the Shirley House and is in good condition (Figure 99).

Col. Manning F. Force Relief Portrait. This two-piece granite monument measures 4 feet by 2 feet by 6 feet. Attached to the front of the monument is a 25 inch by 30 inch bronze relief portrait of Col. Manning F. Force. The relief panel has an inscription and a decorative border. A smaller bronze panel contains Force's service record. This monument is located adjacent to the sidewalk that connects the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial. There are several other small-scale features placed along the edge of this sidewalk. This feature is in good condition (Figure 100).

30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker. This marker is a 22 inch by 29 inch by 16 inch gray granite, consisting of a nearly horizontal tablet with beveled edges and inscribed with "ILLINOIS," the unit designation, and unit's casualties. The marker is in good condition and located along the edge of the brick sidewalk connecting the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial (Figure 101).

Shirley Grave Marker. Located to the north of the Shirley House is a grave marker that indicates the final resting place of former owners James and Adeline Shirley. On the request of their daughter, Alice Shirley Eaton, James and Adeline Shirley were moved from Cedar Hill Cemetery and reinterred behind the house in 1900, as part of the terms of the sale of the Shirley House to the War Department. 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 (Figure 102). The marker is in good condition. The grave marker survives with integrity and contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

War Department tablets (2) marking Logan's Approach and (2) marking Union Trench. The park features more than 540 iron tablets and position markers 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.

The position markers indicate the lines of battle. The two position markers of Logan's Approach are blue and are associated with Union operations. They are in good condition. One is located northeast of the house and the other is northwest of the house (refer to Figure 132).

The two position markers indicating the Union Trench, Logan's Division, are also blue and are associated with Union operations. One is located on the north side of the access road entrance and the other is located on the north lawn on the knoll above the access road. Both are in good condition (Figure 103).

Concrete plot outline. Located north of the Shirley House and northwest of the Shirley grave marker is a rectangular concrete curb that forms an outline on the ground. Little is currently known about the origin or function of the outline. It is surrounded by the grass of the open lawn north of the house. This feature is in good condition, though susceptible to mower or trimmer damage (Figure 104). The contributing status of this feature is undetermined.

Rain barrel. The downspout associated with the eastern side of the Shirley House roof empties into a wooden barrel. A rain barrel was included as part of the 1966 restoration of the house by the NPS to interpret a similar feature present historically. The barrel is adjacent to one of the brick retaining walls associated with the house. The barrel is in good condition and functions well for rainwater removal from the roof (Figure 105). With diminished integrity of association, the rain barrel contributes to the significance of the historic landscape.

Signage.

Several signs are located on the Shirley House property. These include traffic, wayfinding, and interpretive signs. All extant signs are contemporary additions that postdate the period of significance and are non-contributing.

Signs for Tour Road and stops. Located at the intersection of Union Avenue and the Old Jackson Road, is a large rectangular sign painted brown, with white letters that directs visitors on the tour road. The rectangular metal sign is bolted to wooden posts which are anchored in concrete footings. The sign is in good condition (Figure 106). A smaller tour stop sign is located west of the previous sign in the vicinity of the staircase leading to the Shirley House. The tour stop sign is rectangular in shape constructed with metal, with a metal base that is bolted to a concrete slab. The painted text identifies Tour Stop 2, the Shirley House.

Wayside Exhibits. Three wayside exhibit signs are associated with the Shirley House property and landscape extending toward the Illinois State Memorial. The first wayside is adjacent to the front sidewalk of the house and a small landing is provided for visitors to stand and read the wayside text (Figure 107). The sign frame is a typical National Park Service design for wayside exhibits. It consists of a metal frame designed to hold a signboard at a 45-degree angle. The frame is anchored on a concrete slab. This wayside exhibit is entitled, Digging In at the Shirley House. The sign is in good condition, the landing in fair condition. Adjacent shrub growth threatens to minimize space for viewing the wayside and for viewing the face of the sign.

A similar wayside exhibit sign is located along the edge of the brick sidewalk that connects the Shirley House and the Illinois State Memorial. It is entitled Art That Honors.

The third wayside exhibit sign is an upright rectangular metal frame with a painted signboard. This style of wayside is also an NPS standard for wayside exhibits. The metal frame is anchored to a concrete slab in a similar fashion to the other waysides. The text is entitled Standing Guard at Jackson Road. All of these small-scale features are in good condition.

Traffic Regulation and Accessible Parking Signs. There are standard signs associated with the roads that regulate traffic, reminding drivers to slow down or to stop. In addition there are standard signs that indicate universally accessible parking. There are two parking signs associated with the Shirley House precinct. The first is located at the intersection of Union Avenue and the access road to the Shirley House terminating in universally accessible parking for visitors. The second sign marks the universally accessible parking space.

Site furnishings. The only site furnishing present within the Shirley House landscape is a bench located on the south lawn beneath the mature crapemyrtle tree in front of the Shirley House. The bench provides rest or shade to visitors at the Shirley House. The bench is constructed of wooden 4x4 members mounted on metal posts. The posts are anchored in concrete footings. The bench is in fair to good condition (Figure 108). The bench appears to postdate the period of significance and is non-contributing.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name: Shirley grave marker

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: Shirley Grave Marker

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003454

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 562946

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Union position marker (On the Line of Logan's Approach)

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Union position marker (Union Trench, Logan's Division)

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Union position marker (Union Trench, Logan's Division)

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Union position marker (First Angle in Logan's Approach)

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: 124th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: 124th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003518

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 561753

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: 31st Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: 31st Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003481

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 561615

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Battery D, 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: Battery D, 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003595

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 561762

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: 45th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: 45th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003488

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 561642

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: 30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: 30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003537

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 563000

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Col. Manning F. Force Relief Portrait

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: Colonel Manning F. Force Relief Portrait

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003379

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 559909

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Brig. Gen. John E. Smith Bust

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: Brigadier General John E. Smith Bust

CRIS-HS Resource ID: 003344

FMSS Record Type: Asset

FMSS Record Number: 557613

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: Yes

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Rain barrel

Feature Contribution: Contributing

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Tour stop sign

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Slow road sign

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Stop sign

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Accessible parking sign

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Wayside exhibit

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - compatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A

Feature Name: Bench beneath crapemyrtle tree

Feature Contribution: Non-contributing - incompatible

Latitude: N/A

Longitude: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource name: N/A

CRIS-HS Resource ID: N/A

FMSS Record Type: N/A

FMSS Record Number: N/A

Is FMSS Record Exact Match?: N/A

Associated CRIS-AR Resource ID: N/A



Fig 98. Battery D 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument.



Fig 99. Brigadier General John E. Smith Bust.



Fig 100. This relief portrait memorialized Col. Manning F. Force and was given by his son.

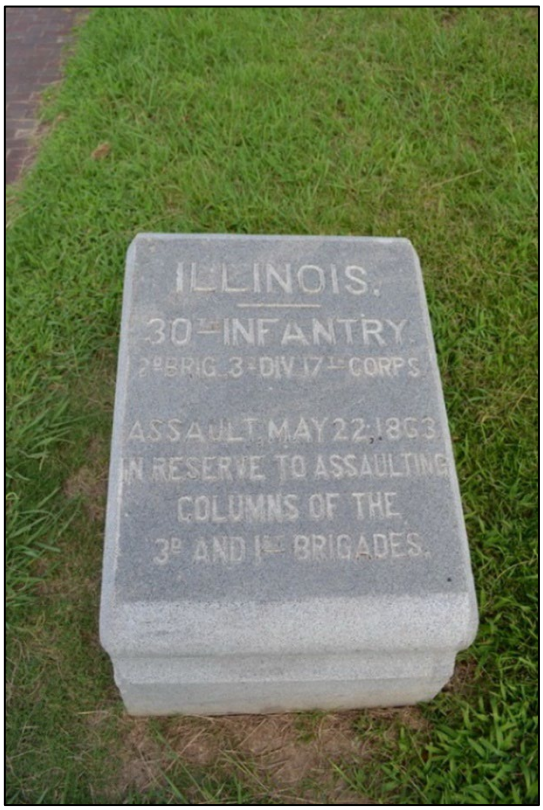


Fig 101. 30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker.



Fig 102. The grave marker is located on the sloping landscape north of the Shirley House with a number of other monuments.



Fig 103. The Union Trench, Logan's Division position marker is located north of the entrance to the access road.



Fig 104. Concrete curb is near the grave marker on the sloping north lawn of the Shirley House.

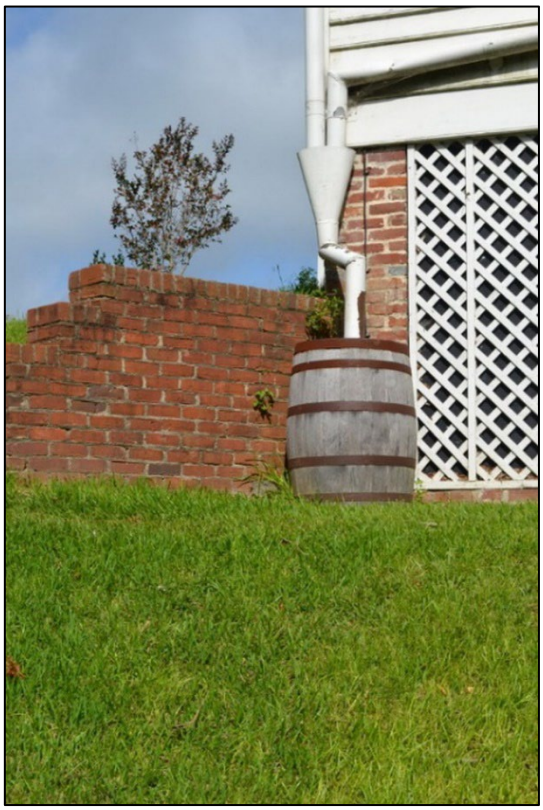


Fig 105. Rain barrel collects roof water runoff through downspouts.



Fig 106. Large directional tour road sign is located below the Shirley House at the intersection of Union Avenue and Old Jackson Road.



Fig 107. Wayside adjacent to the front sidewalk leading to the Shirley House.



Fig 108. The bench is constructed of wood with metal posts.

Archeological Sites

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Only sites identified in approved National Register documentation are identified in this report.

Summary:

Existing Conditions: 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. 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 2016, currently lists 142 sites, with 171 subsites at Vicksburg. In 2014, SEAC split up the large battlefield complex into separate sites.

Chapter 9: Condition Assessment

Assessment Interval:

6

Condition

Condition:

Good

Condition Date:

06/28/2022

Primary Inspector Name:

[opt. enter name here]

Profession/Credentials:

[opt. enter selection here]

Narrative:

Although the Shirley House and its environs are susceptible to some negative impacts, the overall condition of the Shirley House cultural landscape is characterized as "good." The Shirley House is situated on a steep knoll landform composed of loess soil that is highly vulnerable to erosion, especially of the embankment east of the access drive. Improper drainage issues contribute to the erosion problem, and a depression to the west of the house often contains standing water, which serves as a breeding ground for mosquitoes. A recent roof leak has caused structural deterioration in the form of a partially collapsed ceiling, which will need to be repaired. The house and its environs continue to face the threats of invasive plant species, such as kudzu, Chinese tallow, and Japanese honeysuckle, and pests, including squirrels, mice, and carpenter bees.

Impacts

Seq. No.	Type	Impact Type – Other	Internal Source?	External Source?	Narrative	Date Identified
xx			Yes/No	Yes/No	1000 Char.	mm/dd/yyyy
01	Erosion	N/A	Yes	No	Steep loess soil bluffs are highly prone to erosion. Erosion issues are exacerbated by heavy precipitation events, removal of forested areas, and fire ants. The park noted erosion problems on the embankment east of the access drive. Warm-season grasses planted in this area are not succeeding. The park is concerned that at some point in the future it will not be able to manage steep slopes; a balance is needed between vegetation and mowing, with a grounds plan developed to include an appropriate vegetation that would address both issues. Selection of vegetation for steep slopes is a critical issue.	10/17/2019

02	Improper Drainage	N/A	Yes	No	Other erosion and possible drainage issues remain in the landscape. There is a grading problem at the porch. Also, the water source in front of the house, consisting of an underground spigot/hose hookup, has sunk more than 1 foot over the past few years. The cause of this problem needs to be investigated and addressed. In addition, the land to the west of the house contains a depression that regularly contains standing water and encourages breeding of mosquitos.	10/17/2019
03	Structural Deterioration	N/A	Yes	No	A roof leak at the flat roof at the rear of the house near the elevator recently caused the ceiling to collapse. The park plans to conduct an investigation prior to implementing repairs and will probably perform the needed repairs using park personnel.	10/17/2019

04	Vegetation/Invasive Plants	N/A	Yes	Yes	Invasive non-native plant species pose a threat throughout the park. At Shirley House, they generally occur in the wooded areas. Kudzu represents the highest-priority management target, though ongoing treatments by the Exotic Plant Management Team (EPMT) have greatly reduced the amount of infested area over the past years. Other threats like Chinese tallow may not be as widespread as kudzu, but still have a high rate of spread and the ability to outcompete native plant species. Japanese honeysuckle may also represent a high-priority target for removal because of this ability to spread quickly and its difficulty of removal. Fortunately, recent treatments by the Gulf Coast EPMT are reducing kudzu infestation at the park. Recent inventory summaries provide some information on the status of exotics at the park, with the exception of kudzu, little information exists regarding specific infested areas, treatments, and their efficacy.	10/17/2019

05	Pests/Diseases	N/A	Yes	No	Pests, specifically mice and squirrels, have been able to enter the house through gaps around door and window openings, particularly at the door thresholds; repairs to the back door threshold were reportedly implemented but gaps still remain. Carpenter bees were present in some of the original wood beams. Bees and subsequent damage were found in the exterior horizontal beam between the basement and the first floor at the rear of the house. Treatment of carpenter bees began in 2017. Screens were placed over existing holes to discourage continued bee activity. The park continues to monitor for carpenter bees. Pigeons have been observed in the house.	10/17/2019

Chapter 10: Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Stabilization Measure Narrative (R)	Stabilization Cost (R)	Stabilization Cost Date (R)	Estimate Level (R)	Cost Estimator (R)	Cost Narrative
N/A	N/A	NA	N/A	N/A	N/A

Approved Treatments

Type	Com-pleted	Approved Treatment Doc.	Doc Date	Narrative	Approved Treatment Cost	Cost Date	Estimate Level	Estimator	Cost Narrative
Rehabilitation		Cultural Landscape Report	10/17/2019						

Chapter 11: Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

See attached Excel spreadsheet.

Supplemental Information

Seq. No.	Supplemental Information Title	Supplemental Information Narrative

Appendix

Landscape Features

Seq. No.	Feature Name	Feature Contri-bution	CLI Feature ID	Latitude	Longitude	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match?	CRIS-AR ID
	Natural Systems and Features										
01	Knoll landform	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
02	Ravine	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
03	Sloped area north of the house	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
04	Stormwater management systems	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
05	Rain barrels to collect and store water	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
06	Stormwater detention basin	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Spatial Organization										

07	Open ridgeline occupied by the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
08	Jackson Road corridor	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
09	Wooded ravine east of the house	NC - incompatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Land Use										
10	Commemorative	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Cemetery	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	Education/Museum/Interpretive	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Topography										
13	Grading to accommodate Union Avenue and Illinois Circle Road	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

14	Grading to establish swales and gutters to convey stormwater alongside the road	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Vegetation										
15	Turf grass	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Asset	1510485	N/A	N/A
16	Mature water oak tree behind the house	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
17	Ornamental plantings in front of the house	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Asset	1559729	N/A	N/A
18	Woodland to the north and east of the Shirley House	NC - incompatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Circulation										
19	Union Avenue	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
20	Old Jackson Road	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
21	Illinois Circle Road/Shirley House access drive	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

22	Concrete stairs and walk to front of the Shirley House	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Asset	1559715	N/A	N/A
23	Parking along the margins of Old Jackson Road	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
24	Brick sidewalk along Old Jackson Road	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
25	Concrete Walk and the stair system on the western and northern sides of the Shirley House	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Asset	1559722	N/A	N/A
26	Accessible Parking	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
27	Interpretive landing along the front walk	NC - incompatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Buildings and Structures										
28	Shirley House	Contributing		32.361476352722065	-84.84055406344615	Shirley, James, House	001362	Location	74965	Yes	N/A

29	Illinois State Memorial	Contributing		N/A	N/A	Illinois State Memorial	007276	Location	75299	Yes	N/A
30	Culverts and brick headwall	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
31	Drop inlets	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
32	Paved Gutters	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
33	Underground reservoir	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
34	Spigot and associated hose hookup	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
35	Gate limiting visitor access to the road behind the Shirley House	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
36	Metal utility box	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
37	Concrete utility box	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

38	Brick retaining walls	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Views and Vistas										
39	Views from the Shirley House to the south	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
40	Views to the Shirley House and Illinois State Memorial from Union Avenue and Old Jackson Road	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
41	Views between the Illinois State Memorial and the Shirley House	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
42	View of an electrical transmission tower to the east	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Small-Scale Features										
43	Shirley grave marker	Contributing		N/A	N/A	Shirley Grave Marker	003454	Asset	562946	Yes	N/A

44	Union position marker (On the Line of Logan's Approach)	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
45	Union position marker (Union Trench, Logan's Division)	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
46	Union position marker (Union Trench, Logan's Division)	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
47	124th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument	Contributing		N/A	N/A	124th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument	003518	Asset	561753	Yes	N/A
48	31st Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument	Contributing		N/A	N/A	31st Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument	003481	Asset	561615	Yes	N/A
49	Battery D, 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument	Contributing		N/A	N/A	Battery D, 1st Illinois Light Artillery Monument	003595	Asset	561762	Yes	N/A

50	45th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument	Contributing		N/A	N/A	45th Illinois Infantry Regiment Monument	003488	Asset	561642	Yes	N/A
51	30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker	Contributing		N/A	N/A	30th Illinois Infantry Position Marker	003537	Asset	563000	Yes	N/A
52	Col. Manning F. Force Relief Portrait	Contributing		N/A	N/A	Colonel Manning F. Force Relief Portrait	003379	Asset	559909	Yes	N/A
53	Brig. Gen. John E. Smith Bust	Contributing		N/A	N/A	Brigadier General John E. Smith Bust	003344	Asset	557613	Yes	N/A
54	Rain barrel	Contributing		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
55	Tour stop sign	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
56	Slow road sign	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
57	Stop sign	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

58	Accessible parking sign	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
59	Wayside exhibit	NC - compatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
60	Bench beneath crapemyrtle tree	NC - incompatible		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A