

STATE: **Mississippi**

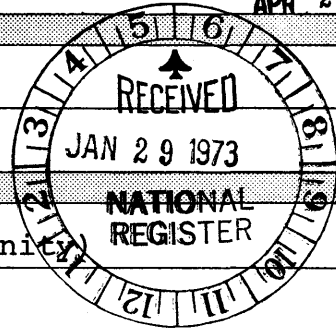
COUNTY: **Warren**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: _____ DATE: **APR 24 1973**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME

COMMON: **Chickasaw Bayou Battlefield**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Chickasaw Bayou Battlefield**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **U. S. Highway 61 North (King's Community)**

CITY OR TOWN: **Vicksburg**

STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **39180** COUNTY: **Warren** CODE: **149**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **William K. and Nattydell Dornbusch**

STREET AND NUMBER: **805 South Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Vicksburg** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **39180** **2690**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Warren County Courthouse, Chancery Clerk's Office**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Cherry Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Vicksburg** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **39180** **149**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: _____

DATE OF SURVEY: _____ Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Mississippi**

COUNTY: **Warren**

ENTRY NUMBER: **149**

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

At the time of the battle between the Union army of Major General William T. Sherman and the defenders of Brigadier General Stephen D. Lee, the terrain of the Chickasaw Bayou area was interwoven with small bayous. The cultivated land between the bayous was subject to becoming very muddy with the slightest rain. Only the bluffs and the area near the Yazoo River were high enough to remain dry. This maze of bayous and quagmire fields contributed to the defeat of the Union army.

Today the terrain is still laced with bayous, but Chickasaw Bayou is the only one that retains an appreciable amount of water. The minor bayous have ceased to be a problem because of the flood control projects sponsored by the United States Corps of Engineers. Fields are still cultivated in the area and become just as muddy as they did during December, 1862. The Johnson Plantation where the Federal army landed its troops is still in operation and is owned by descendants of Captain Walter Johnson.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

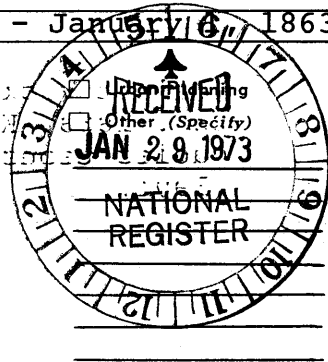
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) December 25, 1862 - January 6, 1863

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chickasaw Bayou Battlefield was the site of the first land engagement in the numerous Federal attempts to capture Vicksburg. Vicksburg had been under fire from the Federal gunboats several times since May of 1862, but the Federal army did not attempt a landing in the area until December, 1862.

Confident of an easy victory and swift surrender of Vicksburg, Grant gave the job of attacking the city from the river on the north side of Vicksburg to Major General William T. Sherman. On December 12, 1862, Sherman requisitioned the quartermaster at St. Louis for a transport fleet to carry 32,000 men and their equipments from Memphis to Vicksburg. A week later (December 19), seventy large transport steamers were at Memphis to embark Sherman's army. Admiral David Dixon Porter was called on to reinforce General Sherman and to participate in the expedition against Vicksburg. Meanwhile, Grant was to take his army of 30,000 on a route inland from Holly Springs to arrive simultaneously in the rear of Vicksburg. Grant's plan was to keep pressure on Confederate Generals Earl Van Dorn and Nathan B. Forrest to prevent them from reinforcing the troops at Vicksburg. Grant was no match for these two as Forrest entered Tennessee, destroying railroads, and Van Dorn raided Grant's base of supplies at Holly Springs, destroying millions of dollars worth of material. Van Dorn's raid forced Grant to abandon his trip to Vicksburg and to eventually return to Memphis leaving Sherman alone on his expedition. Although Sherman denied knowing of Grant's plight in his Memoirs, he learned of Van Dorn's raid at Helena, Arkansas, on December 21, but elected to proceed with his attack on Vicksburg.

The Federal flotilla descending the Mississippi was not without notice. The Confederates had stationed Major Lee L. Daniel, a telegrapher, below Lake Providence, Louisiana. Daniel wired the telegraph station at DeSoto, just across the river that the fleet of eighty-one boats was passing him. Colonel Phillip Fall, received the dispatch and carried it

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brown, D. Alexander. "Battle of Chickasaw Bluffs." Civil War Times Illustrated, IX (July, 1970).

Lee, Stephen D. "The Campaign of Generals Grant and Sherman Against Vicksburg in December, 1862, and January 1st and 2nd, 1863, Known as the 'Chickasaw Bayou Campaign'," Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, IV (1901).

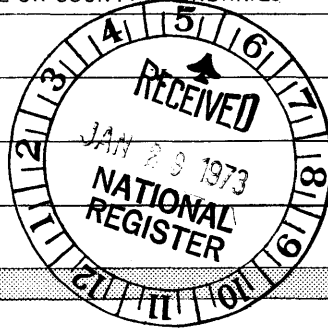
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 32° 25' 35"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 90° 51' 18"		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	32° 24' 50"	90° 50' 25"				
SE	32° 23' 55"	90° 51' 29"				
SW	32° 24' 40"	90° 52' 22"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1,067 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
William C. Wright, Historian

ORGANIZATION: Mississippi Department of Archives and History DATE: January 17, 73

STREET AND NUMBER:
Post Office Box 571

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson STATE: Mississippi CODE: 39205 28

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: R. A. McLemore
 Title: Director, Miss. Dept. of Archives and History
 Date: January 17, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4/18/73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

JAN 29 1973
NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE	Mississippi	
COUNTY	Warren	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	APR 24 1973	

(Number all entries)

8.

across the river to the Vicksburg commander, Major General Martin L. Smith. The commander and his officers were attending a Christmas ball, reported to have been held at the Balfour House. Smith immediately ordered Brigadier General Stephen D. Lee to take command of the defenses between the city and Snyder's Mill, twelve miles north of Vicksburg. Lee spread his three thousand troops along the valley road and the bluffs near Chickasaw Bayou.

Sherman landed a brigade on the Louisiana side of the river to cut the rail line, preventing reinforcements from the west entering Vicksburg. Sherman then proceeded up the Yazoo River to the plantation of Captain Walter Johnson. On December 27, five divisions under the commands of Generals Francis Steele, George W. Morgan, Frank P. Blair, Martin L. Smith (no relation to the commander at Vicksburg) and Alfred J. Smith began their advance toward the bluffs about three miles to the east. All but Steele were on the south side of Chickasaw Bayou, a small tributary of the Yazoo River. Almost immediately the Federal vanguard encountered Confederate skirmishers, who withdrew down the only dry road leading to the bluffs. The pursuing Federals fell into a trap. As soon as they broke into the open fields which had purposely been left unobstructed, they came into the fire of sharpshooters and artillery from the defenses. Attacks were made from this point, but all were failures. As the night fell, the action turned to a general artillery duel along a three mile front. During the night Lee was reinforced by two brigades (Generals Maxie Gregg's and John C. Vaughn's), which enabled him to strengthen his battle line about five hundred yards to the rear and upslope of the line abandoned.

General Morgan abandoned hopes for completion of a temporary bridge on his front and requested Sherman to come to the front. Sherman came about nine o'clock on the morning of December 29, and said, "That is the route to take." Without uttering another word, General Sherman wheeled his horse and rode back to his headquarters behind the woods. Sherman repeated his order shortly afterwards by instructing his adjutant with the message, "Tell Morgan to give the signal for the assault; that we may lose five thousand men before we take Vicksburg, and we may as well lose them here as anywhere else." Morgan issued orders for the assault shortly before noon, and the men, under artillery cover, attempted to rush across a narrow sand bar and up a narrow path. Many of the men eventually became mired in waist deep mud and water. Lee had his artillery firing criss-cross into the mass of Federal troops. "All formations were broken," Morgan said. "The assaulting forces were jammed together and, with a yell of desperate determination, they rushed to the assault and

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Number all entries)

8.

were mowed down by a storm of shells, grape, and canister, and minie balls which swept our front like a hurricane of fire." The 4th Iowa lost 112 of its 480 men and a Missouri regiment (U. S.) lost 645 of its 1,900. Many of the 6th Missouri troops were trapped below the bluffs for most of the night. Louisiana troops threw fresh bread down to them, and the Missourians cheered loudly. Not until dark and under the cover of rain were the Missourians able to escape.

On the next morning, December 30, a flag of truce was sent from the Federal lines for the purpose of burying their dead and bringing in the wounded that had not been taken into the Confederate lines. In some instances, the defenders assisted in burying the dead.

When the four days of fighting ended, the Federals had suffered ten to one casualties, 1,776 for the Federals and 187 for the Confederates. Sherman admitted defeat and boarded the transports on New Year's Day, 1863, under the fire of the 2nd Texas and the 3rd and 30th Tennessee regiments, which did little damage other than hurrying the embarkment of the Federal troops. Terrain, rather than strategic planning, had caused the defeat of a superior force. The Confederate victory at Chickasaw Bayou enabled the South to control Vicksburg for another seven months.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

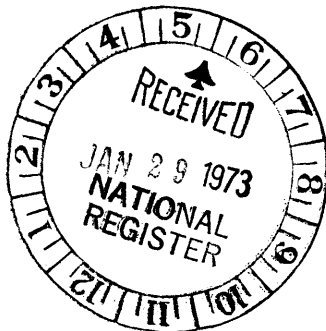
STATE Mississippi	
COUNTY Warren	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 24 1973

(Number all entries)

9.

Sherman, William T. The Memoirs of General William T. Sherman, (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1875), I.

The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (Washington: 1880-1901), Series I, Vol. XVII, Parts I and II.





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NATIONAL REGISTER

VICKSBURG, MISS.-LA.
15 Minute Series
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1964 Scale 1:62500

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE		Mississippi
COUNTY		Warren
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	APR 24 1973	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Chickasaw Bayou Battlefield
AND/OR HISTORIC: Chickasaw Bayou Battlefield

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Near Vicksburg

STATE:

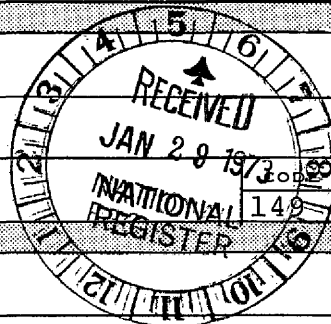
Mississippi 39180

CODE

28

COUNTY:

Warren



3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. Vicksburg, Miss.-La.

SCALE:

1:62,500

DATE:

1964

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.