

1413 no UTM

STATE: Mississippi	
COUNTY: Claiborne	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 11 1972	

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Grand Gulf Military State Park

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Grand Gulf, approximately 6 miles west of Port Gibson

STATE Mississippi	CODE 28	COUNTY: Claiborne	CODE 021
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Grand Gulf Military Park Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Jackson	STATE: Mississippi	CODE: 28
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Office of Chancery Clerk, Claiborne County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Port Gibson	STATE: Mississippi	CODE: 39150 28
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

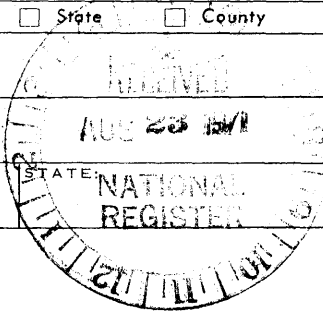
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: Mississippi
COUNTY: Claiborne
ENTRY NUMBER: APR 11 1972
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

There are no structures remaining from the town which was incorporated in 1833. Prior to the devastation wrought upon the town by Federal forces in 1862, a storm in 1853 had caused extensive damage.

Grand Gulf received its name from the large whirlpool formed as the Mississippi River struck a great rock formation near the town, but even the river has deserted Grand Gulf. The Mississippi River changed its course in 1929, leaving the area of the gunboat positions high and dry. Now the river which once flowed practically at the foot of Fort Wade is almost a half mile away.

The existing earthworks at Grand Gulf are in a remarkable state of preservation. Rifle pits and gun embrasures are very much intact after the passing of over a century.

Dug into the side of the Point of Rock, about forty feet above the gulf, Fort Cobun was protected by a parapet nearly forty feet thick. Here was located the upper battery, mounting at the time of the attack, two 32-pounder rifles, one 8-inch Dahlgren, and a 30-pounder Parrott rifle, with extensive rifle pits.

Fort Wade, the lower fort, just behind the ruined town, was situated on a shelf about twenty feet above and a quarter of a mile distant from the river. Fort Wade's armament consisted of one 100-pounder Blakely rifle, one 8-inch Dahlgren, and two 32-pounder rifles. Fort Wade also had extensive rifle pits.

Among the facilities at the Grand Gulf Military State Park are a museum and visitors' center and rest area. A lookout tower on Fort Wade provides a scenic view of the river to the west.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

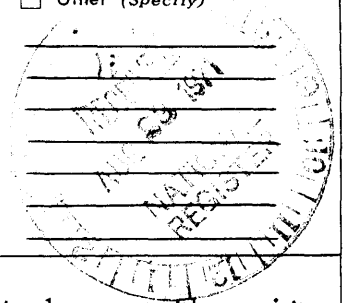
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grand Gulf Military State Park, located near the site of the extinct river town, Grand Gulf, in Claiborne County was the scene of considerable military activity during the Federal campaign to capture Vicksburg, approximately twenty miles to the north.

In late May, 1862, the cannoneers of the Brookhaven Light Artillery, commanded by Captain James A. Hoskins, reached Grand Gulf. Hoskins had his gunners emplace and mask their four 6-pounders on the bluffs behind the village. Their task was to harass the Federal fleet commanded by Flag Officer Commodore David G. Farragut. On the morning of May 26, 1862, the Confederate artillerists wisely let three warships pass undisturbed, but as the unarmed transports drew abreast of the guns, the four 6-pounders roared into action, scoring a number of hits on the Laurel Hill. Before the warships could get into a position to return the fire, the flying battery was gone.

Captain Thomas T. Craven, commander of the warship, Brooklyn, determined to teach the Confederates a lesson by bombarding the town of Grand Gulf, whose citizens claimed that the battery was there without their consent.

Captain Craven, who was intent on burning the town, decided to confer with Brigadier General Thomas Williams. At this conference, it was agreed that the town would be spared, but that the Federal forces would remain until the next day and levy a forced contribution of cattle, pigs, poultry and wood upon the populace.

Under the cover of darkness on the night of June 8, 1862, the Confederates moved a number of 6 and 12-pounders into position on the ridge behind Grand Gulf. The next morning the crews of these guns struck the Wissahickon and Itasca, while these vessels were passing the batteries.

On June 24, 1862, an attempt was made by the Union forces to get into the rear of Grand Gulf by way of Bayou Pierre, which was blocked by a raft across the bayou about six miles below the Bayou Pierre railroad bridge. The ships

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bearss, Edwin C. Decision in Mississippi. Little Rock: Pioneer Press, 1962. Passim, 211-468.
 Bearss, Edwin C. "Grand Gulf's Role in the Civil War." Civil War History, Vol. V (March, 1959), p. 23.
 Bearss, Edwin C. Rebel Victory at Vicksburg. Little Rock, Ark.: Pioneer Press, 1963. Passim, 30-273.
 Grant, U. S. Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant. 2 Vols. New York: The Century Co., 1885-1886. Vol. 1, p. 397.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	31° 02' 43"	91° 03' 16"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	31° 02' 43"	91° 02' 43"				
SE	32° 01' 20"	91° 02' 43"				
SW	32° 01' 20"	91° 03' 16"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **505 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
William C. Wright, Historian

ORGANIZATION: **Miss. Department of Archives and History** DATE: **July 27, 1971**

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

R. A. McLemore

Title

Director, Miss. Department of Archives and History

Date

July 27, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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

Date

4/11/72

ATTEST:

A. Bradford
 Keeper of The National Register

Date

April 5, 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
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8.
had to back down the bayou to Colonel Barry's plantation, where a wagon road led to Grand Gulf four miles to the northeast.

As the task force approached the Confederate encampment near the railroad, the Federals sighted a locomotive and a freight car approaching from the direction of Port Gibson. On the car, protected by bales of cotton, the versatile Brookhaven Artillery had mounted one of their field pieces. A brief exchange of fire ensued, before the Confederates backed their train from the scene. This may well have been the first armored train employed in America.

After searching the bluffs behind Grand Gulf in vain for the Confederates, Colonel Halbert E. Paine's troops marched into the town of Grand Gulf, where they rendezvoused with the Federal transports. Before the troops embarked, they set fire to the town of Grand Gulf.

By the use of flying batteries, the Confederates were so mobile that it was hard for the Union troops to put a stop to their fortifying the bluffs of Grand Gulf. This continued harassment forced Farragut to start convoying his unarmed ships.

In March of 1863, the Confederate fortifications were strengthened and the armament was increased by the addition of Wade's and Guibor's Missouri Batteries under the command of Colonel William Wade, chief of artillery for General John S. Bowen. Bowen had some 2,500 infantry to man the extensive new rifle pits.

In April, 1863, General Ulysses S. Grant decided to alter his Vicksburg strategy by moving his troops down the Mississippi River; and, on April 29, 1863, the Federals launched a determined assault on Grand Gulf. The Confederates made a vigorous reply to the Union attack with their eight heavy field pieces. For six and a half hours, the two forts were shelled by the gunboats. Realizing how capable the Confederate batteries were at withstanding the assault, the gunboats were signaled to withdraw. General Grant, who witnessed the encounter on board a tug in the Mississippi River, decided against trying to run the unarmed transports, loaded to the gunwales with men, pass the Confederate batteries. Instead, Grant executed his alternate plan of disembarking his men and marching them down the Louisiana side of the river to DeShroon's [Disharoon's] plantation about three miles down the river.

Despite the estimated more than 2,500 heavy projectiles fired into the Confederate forts, there was little extensive

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damage. The Confederates suffered three dead, including Colonel Wade, and eighteen wounded, whereas, Union losses totaled nineteen dead and fifty-seven wounded. The Benton was rendered inactive by a shot through her control house from Fort Cobun. The forts with thirteen guns had held off seven Federal gunboats. The ships of this squadron amassed eighty-one guns, many of which were 11-inch Dahlgrens.

The defeat of Bowen's small army in the engagements west of Port Gibson on May 1, 1863, made the fortifications at Grand Gulf untenable, and the Confederates decided to spike the guns, destroy the ammunition and abandon the works. Grand Gulf was then occupied by Union forces, who used the site as a temporary base of supplies.

In 1958, the Mississippi Legislature created the Grand Gulf Military Park Commission to purchase land and develop the Grand Gulf site. Dedication ceremonies for the Grand Gulf Military State Park were held April 7, 1968.

9.
Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion. Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1894-1922. Series I, Vol. 24, pp. 607-628.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. APPLI- CANT'S APPLI- CATION	a. NUMBER	3. STATE APPLICA- TION IDENTI- FIER	NUMBER 78111008
1. TYPE OF ACTION (Mark ap- propriate box)	<input type="checkbox"/> PREAPPLICATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION <input type="checkbox"/> NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt.) <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION	b. DATE Year month day 19 78 11 15		b. DATE Year month day ASSIGNED 19 78 11 13	
4. LEGAL APPLICANT/RECIPIENT				5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 64-6000-738	
e. Applicant Name : State of Mississippi b. Organization Unit : Department of Archives and History c. Street/P.O. Box : P.O. Box 571 d. City : Jackson e. County : Hinds f. State : Mississippi g. ZIP Code: 39205 h. Contact Person (Name & telephone No.) : Elbert R. Hilliard (601) 35406218				6. PRO- GRAM (From Federal Catalog)	
7. TITLE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT Fort Wade -Grand Gulf Military Park - <u>Claiborne County</u> , Site of a Union victory during the Civil War battle at Fort Wade and the subsequent abandonment of its companion fortification, Fort Cobun, in April, 1863, which unlocked the back door to the Southern stronghold at Vicksburg. Located near Port Gibson. The project objective - archaeological research by excavation.				8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT A-State H-Community Action Agency B-Interstate I-Higher Educational Institution C-Substate J-Indian Tribe D-District K-Other (Specify): E-City F-School District G-Special Purpose District Enter appropriate letter A	
10. AREA OF PROJECT IMPACT (Names of cities, counties, States, etc.) Claiborne County				11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING 10,086	
13. PROPOSED FUNDING				15. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 12c or 12e) A-Increase Dollars B-Decrease Dollars C-Increase Duration D-Decrease Duration E-Cancellation F-Other (Specify): N/A Enter appropriate letter(s) <input type="checkbox"/>	
a. FEDERAL \$ 8,443 .00		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:		12. TYPE OF APPLICATION A-New C-Revision E-Augmentation B-Renewal D-Continuation Enter appropriate letter A	
b. APPLICANT 12,916 .00		a. APPLICANT Statewide		16. PROJECT START DATE Year month day 19 78 7 3	
c. STATE .00		b. PROJECT Fourth		17. PROJECT DURATION 6 weeks Months	
d. LOCAL .00		18. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY ▶		19. EXISTING FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	
e. OTHER .00		19 78 11 15			
f. TOTAL \$21,359 .00		20. FEDERAL AGENCY TO RECEIVE REQUEST (Name, City, State, ZIP code) Dept. of Interior, Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service, Washington, D.C. 20240			
22. THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT ▶		21. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
a. To the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this preapplication/application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is approved.		b. If required by OMB Circular A-95 this application was submitted, pursuant to instructions therein, to appropriate clearinghouses and all responses are attached: (1) State Clearinghouse <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (2) (Responses will be forwarded upon receipt) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
23. CERTIFYING REPRESENTATIVE		a. TYPED NAME AND TITLE Elbert R. Hilliard, Director Dept. of Archives & History		b. SIGNATURE <i>Elbert R. Hilliard</i>	
				c. DATE SIGNED Year month day 19 78 - 12 - 4	
24. AGENCY NAME Department of the Interior				25. APPLICATION RECEIVED Year month day 19 78 12 14	
26. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT HCRS				27. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Grants Admin. Div.	
29. ADDRESS Washington, D.C. 20243				28. FEDERAL APPLICATION IDENTIFICATION	
				30. FEDERAL GRANT IDENTIFICATION 28-0940	
31. ACTION TAKEN		32. FUNDING		34. STARTING DATE Year month day 19 79 01 01	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. AWARDED		a. FEDERAL \$ 8,443 .00		35. CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Name and telephone number) Stephen D. Newman 202-343-4941	
<input type="checkbox"/> b. REJECTED		b. APPLICANT 12,916 .00		36. ENDING DATE Year month day 19 80 09 30	
<input type="checkbox"/> c. RETURNED FOR AMENDMENT		c. STATE .00		37. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> d. DEFERRED		d. LOCAL .00			
<input type="checkbox"/> e. WITHDRAWN		e. OTHER .00			
		f. TOTAL \$ 21,359 .00			
38. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION		a. In taking above action, any comments received from clearinghouses were considered. If agency response is due under provisions of Part 1, OMB Circular A-95, it has been or is being made.			
		b. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.) same as #35			

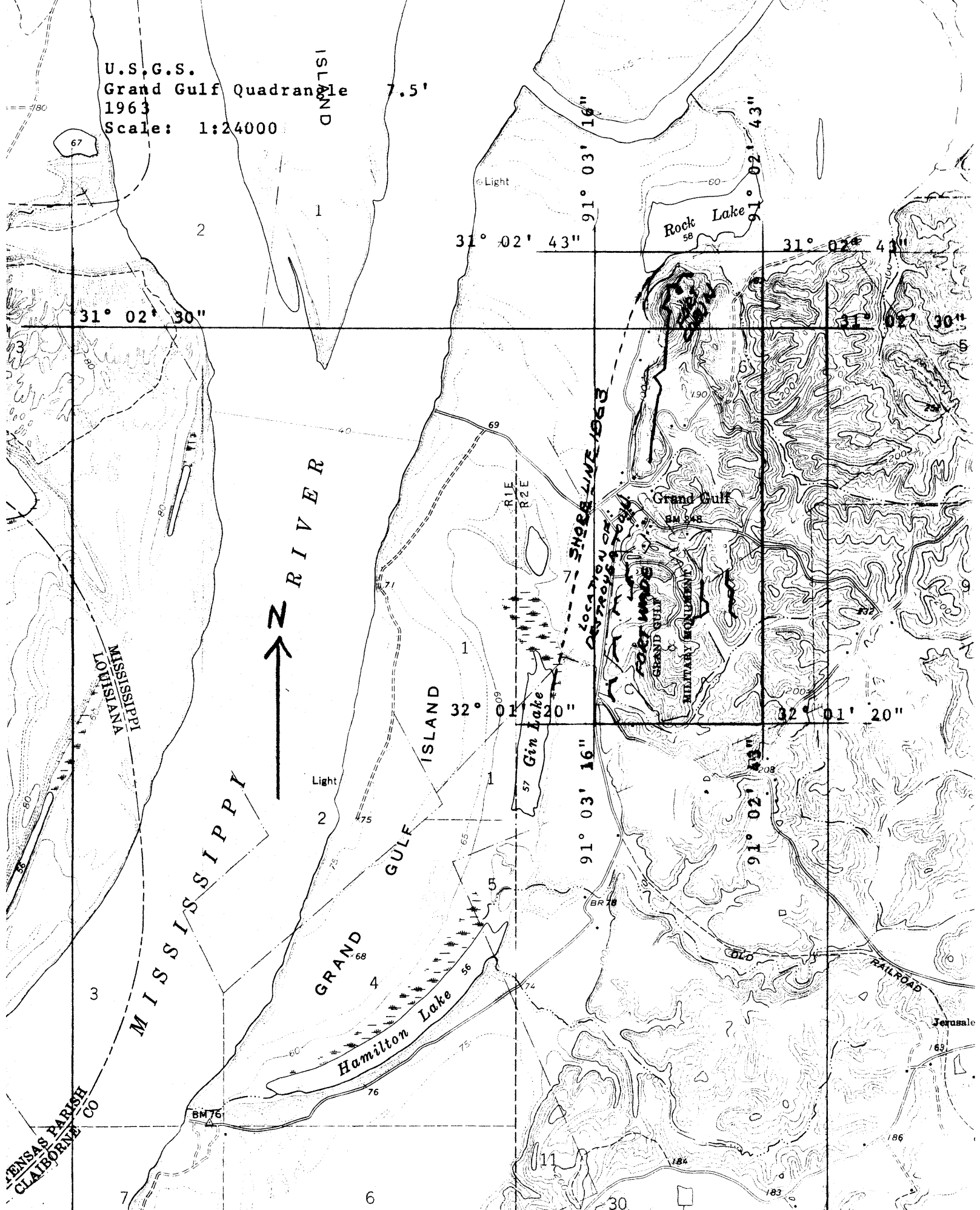
DEC 14 1978

SECTION I - APPLICANT/RECIPIENT DATA

SECTION II - CERTIFICATION

SECTION III - FEDERAL AGENCY ACTION

U.S.G.S.
Grand Gulf Quadrangle 7.5'
1963
Scale: 1:24000



MISSISSIPPI
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
CLAYBORNE CO
LOUISIANA

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

GRAND GULF ISLAND
Hamilton Lake
Rock Lake

Grand Gulf
Rock Wood
MILITARY MONUMENT

SHORE LINE 1963
LOCATION ON OUTPOST

681 5' 682 (ST JOSEPH 1:62500) 684 1 2130"

SCALE 1:24000



