

**Movement Order**  
**Cleveland Civil War Roundtable**  
**2025 Field Trip**  
**The Vicksburg Campaign (from Bruinsburg to Vicksburg)**  
**25-28 September, 2025**

Our field trip last year covered the Gettysburg Campaign in the Eastern Theater of the war from June 3 to July 13, 1863. This year’s field trip will explore Grant’s operations against Vicksburg in the Western Theater. We will follow Grant’s movements from April 29 and April 30, 1863, when his army crossed the Mississippi and landed at Bruinsburg, Mississippi, to the ultimate surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, one day after the victory at Gettysburg.

**Thursday, September 25, 2025 (Wednesday, September 24, 2025, for those driving down in the fifteen-passenger van; see Appendix B)**

**Troop movement:** Home station to bivouac site. (If you are flying, the closest airport is Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport in Jackson, Mississippi, which is about 57 miles from Vicksburg. Depending on the number of participants flying into Jackson, we will look at renting a van to transport the group to Vicksburg. The van will then be used during the weekend for the tour and will be available to take you back to the airport on Sunday morning. One-stop roundtrip flights from Cleveland to Jackson are currently running about \$367. For those driving down in the fifteen-passenger van, see Appendix B)

**Bivouac Site:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the Courtyard by Marriott Vicksburg<sup>1</sup>, about a mile drive to the Vicksburg National Military Park Visitor Center. The address is as follows:

Courtyard by Marriott Vicksburg  
 1 Underwood Drive, Vicksburg, MS 39180  
 Phone: (601)636-8788  
 Check-in time: 3:00pm  
 Check-out time: 11:00am

**Commissary:** You’re on your own for dinner this night. The trains won’t arrive until Friday.

1900 – 2000 – Presentation: Courtyard by Marriott Meeting Room  
 Topic: To be announced.  
 Presenter: To be announced.

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<sup>1</sup> A block of 15 rooms has been reserved. Room rates vary depending on single or double occupancy. The rate will be the same for 2 Queen Beds or a King Bed. Group rates are as follows plus applicable state taxes:

	Single Occupancy	Double Occupancy
9/25/2025	\$ 134.00	\$ 142.00
9/26/2025	\$ 134.00	\$ 142.00
9/27/2025	<u>\$ 134.00</u>	<u>\$ 142.00</u>
	\$ 402.00	\$ 426.00 Plus Applicable State Taxes For All Three Nights
	<u>\$ 40.20</u>	<u>\$ 42.60</u> Applicable State Taxes
	<u>\$ 442.20</u>	<u>\$ 468.60</u> Total Room Charge for Three Nights

Reservations need to be made by August 25, 2025 to receive the group rate. Let them know you’re with the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable when making your reservation.

Complimentary parking and breakfast are included with your room. Breakfast is served from 6:30am-9:30am on Friday and 7:00am-10:00am on Saturday and Sunday.

**Friday, September 26, 2025**

**OUR GUIDE RECOMMENDS LONG PANTS, NO OPEN-TOED SHOES (SANDALS), RAINGEAR, A HAT, SUNSCREEN, AND EXTRA WATER ON THE FRIDAY OF THE CAMPAIGN TOUR. THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY OF LONG GRASS IN CERTAIN AREAS AND THE AREA HAS FIRE ANTS, CHIGGERS, TICKS, AND POISONOUS SNAKES. WE DON'T EXPECT TO RUN INTO ANY OF THESE CRITTERS, BUT BE AWARE! (AS USUAL, THE CLUB WILL HAVE COLD WATER AVAILABLE IN COOLERS FOR PARTICIPANTS.)**

**Depart the hotel at 0800. (Our guide will be Rick Martin, retired Chief of Operations/Chief Ranger for Vicksburg National Military Park for 17 years. See Appendix C for his bio.)**

The itinerary includes in-depth Campaign discussions en route and site-specific presentations at all **STOPS.**

0900 **STOP 1 – Grand Gulf State Park, Battle of Grand Gulf (April 29, 1863).** The park entrance fee is included in the trip fee.

1000 Depart

1045 **STOP 2 – Shaifer House, (*provided road is open*), Battle of Port Gibson (May 1, 1863)**

1115 Depart

1140 **STOP 3 – Windsor Ruins, Bruinsburg, Grant Pushes Inland**

1230 Depart

**Box lunches from McAlister's Deli.** (See Appendix D to order your box lunch. The box lunch is included in the trip fee.)

1300 Depart Port Gibson

#### **Follow Grants March, Rolling Stops**

Actions and events at Willow Springs, Hankinson's Ferry, Rocky Springs (**STOP 4**), Reganton Crossroads, Cayuga, Auburn, Dillon's Plantation (**STOP 5**)

1400 **STOP 6 – Raymond, Battle of Raymond (May 12, 1863)**

1445 Depart

1510 **STOP 7 – The Coker House, Battle of Champion Hill (May 16, 1863), Crossroads**

1600 Depart

1645 **STOP 8 – Smith's Station, Edwards, Battle of Big Black River (May 17, 1863)**

1700 Depart – Return to Hotel

1900 – 2100 – Commissary: We will try to arrange a group dinner at a local restaurant. The dinner will not be included in the trip fee. You can order off the menu and will be responsible to pay for your own dinner.

**Saturday, September 27, 2025**

**SHORTS ARE OK TODAY IF WEATHER APPROPRIATE. STILL RECOMMEND NO OPEN TOED SHOES.**

**Depart the hotel at 0815.**

0830 **Tour Vicksburg National Military Park Visitor Center.** See the 20-minute orientation film "Where Brothers Fought". Film starts at 8:30 am.

0900 **Depart Visitor Center, Siege of Vicksburg**

0915 **STOP 1 & 2 – Grant’s Canal/Navy Circle/South Fort/Louisiana Circle**

1015 **STOP 3 – Pemberton’s Headquarters**

1100 **STOP 4 – USS Cairo Gunboat and Museum/National Cemetery**

1145 **Box lunches from McAlister’s Deli.** (See Appendix D to order your box lunch. The box lunch is included in the trip fee.)

1230 **STOP 5 – Battery DeGolyer**

1300 **STOP 6 – Jackson Road, Shirley House, Illinois Monument, 3<sup>rd</sup> LA Redan, MG McPherson’s 17<sup>th</sup> Corps**

1345 **STOP 7 – Stockade Redan Assaults, May 19 & 22, MG Sherman’s 15<sup>th</sup> Corps (US), Forney’s Division (Conf), MS African American Monument (Milliken’s Bend Battle)**

1500 **Rolling Stops to Surrender Monument**

1530 **Proceed to South Loop, Rolling Stops at 2<sup>nd</sup> TX Lunette, Rail Road Redoubt, Fort Garrott, Several State Monuments, TX, AL, KY, GA, IN, & IA, MG McClelland’s 13<sup>th</sup> Corps (US), Stevenson’s Division (Conf)**

1600 **Proceed to Visitor Center Parking Lot. Conclusion, Significance, Questions**

1645 **End of Tour**

1900 – 2100 – Commissary: We will try to arrange a group dinner at a local restaurant. The dinner will not be included in the trip fee. You can order off the menu and will be responsible for paying for your own dinner.

**Sunday, September 28, 2025**

Troop movement: Return to home station.

**War budget:** Lodging is at your own expense. Free breakfast is included with your hotel room. Box lunches are included in the trip fee. The group dinners on Friday and Saturday are at your own expense. The cost for guides and any entrance fees is included in the trip fee. **The trip fee is \$175 per person and is payable to The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable. You can mail checks or cash to:**

**Gary Taylor  
24960 Wildwood Drive  
Westlake, OH 44145**

**If you would like to attend, please send an email to [clecwr@gmail.com](mailto:clecwr@gmail.com) with your name, email address and mobile number so that we can keep you updated on the trip.**

See Appendix A for suggested reading in preparation for the battle.

## **Appendix A – Vicksburg Field Trip Suggested Reading**

Bearss, Edwin C. *The Campaign for Vicksburg: Three Volumes.*

*Volume 1 – Vicksburg is the Key.* Morningside Books, 1985.

*Volume 2 – Grant Strikes a Fatal Blow.* Morningside Books, 1985.

*Volume 3 – Unvexed to the Sea.* Morningside Books, 1986.

Ballard, Michael B. *Vicksburg, The Campaign That Opened the Mississippi.* University of North Carolina Press, 2004.

Miller, Donald L. *Vicksburg: Grant's Campaign that Broke the Confederacy.* Simon & Schuster, 2019.

Grabau, Warren E. *Ninety-Eight Days: A Geographer's View of the Vicksburg Campaign.* University of Tennessee, 2000.

Winschel, Terrence J. *Triumph and Defeat: The Vicksburg Campaign, 2 Volumes.* Savas Beatie, 1999.

Shea, William L. and Winschel, Terrence J. *Vicksburg is the Key: The Struggle for the Mississippi River.* University of Nebraska Press, 2003.

Pemberton, John C., Edited by Smith, David M. *Compelled to Appear in Print: The Vicksburg Manuscript of John C. Pemberton.* Ironclad Publishing, 1999.

Carter, Samuel, III. *The Final Fortress, The Campaign for Vicksburg 1862-1863.* St. Martin's Press, 1980

## **Appendix B – Travel to Vicksburg**

A fifteen-passenger van was reserved to drive down to Vicksburg for the groups' use on the tour. This is a van similar to the one that was rented for the Gettysburg trip last year. Attendees of the field trip are welcome to travel down to Vicksburg in this van per the below itinerary. There is room for ten passengers and luggage on the way down and returning. Seats will be reserved on a first come first served basis. If the demand is great enough, we will look into reserving a second van.

Contact Bob Pence at [mpoff@cox.net](mailto:mpoff@cox.net) if you are interested in reserving a seat in the van.

### **Itinerary**

The van will be picked up on Wednesday morning, September 24, 2025 at 8:00am and will drive to a rally point, (to be announced), at the Southpark Mall in Strongsville to pick up any passengers traveling in the van. You must be at the rally point by 8:45am for a 9:00am departure. You must arrange your own transportation to the rally point.

It is roughly an eight-hour drive to Franklin, TN where we will spend the evening at the Best Western Franklin Inn, (or something similar). You are responsible for setting up your own hotel reservation at whatever hotel is chosen.

The Franklin Battlefield opens at 9:00am. We will spend about three hours at the Franklin Battlefield, (Carter House, Carnton House and Ripa Villa). The cost of the ticket to tour the Battlefield, which is administered by the Battle of Franklin Trust is \$50, which is not covered in the trip fee.

After the Battle of Franklin tour, it is about a six-and-a-half-hour drive to Vicksburg. We will travel south to Birmingham, AL, and then west to Vicksburg.

For the return trip on Sunday, September 28, 2025, we will depart the hotel at 7:30am and drive straight through back to the rally point at the Southpark Mall in Strongsville. This is about fourteen hours of driving time. We would shoot to get back to Strongsville between 11:00pm to midnight. The van will be dropped off back to the rental site that evening.

### **Cost**

The cost per seat for each rider in the van will be \$80, which will cover the gas and part of the rental cost.

### **Appendix C – Richard (Rick) Martin’s Bio, (Our Guide)**

Rick had the fortune to have two careers during his lifetime. He spent 38 years with the National Park Service and retired in 2015. He worked at 6 different National Park sites, the last being Vicksburg National Military Park, where he was the Chief of Operations/Chief Ranger for 17 years.

His other career was with the military. He had 33 years with the US Army and the Army National Guard. He was an enlisted soldier, Infantry Officer, Ordnance Officer, and then Logistics Officer. He had deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He retired in 2013 as a Brigadier General in the MS Army National Guard. His last duty assignment was COL, G3 (Operations Officer), 184 Expeditionary Sustainment Command, MSARNG.

Currently he is President of the Licensed Battlefield Guides of Vicksburg and conducts tours of the park and campaign area when requested. He lives near Vicksburg, where he and his wife, Tatiana, he are raising and recently adopted their 10-year-old grandson, Owen, which, you can imagine, keeps them busy!

**Appendix D – Box Lunch Order Form**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Box Lunches – Please email your Lunch Order Form to <a href="mailto:clecwr@gmail.com">clecwr@gmail.com</a> no later than September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.</b>	<b>Fri 9/26</b>	<b>Sat 9/27</b>
<b>1x Regular Chips (Choose one for each day)</b>		
Sea Salt Chips		
BBQ Chips		
Salt & Vinegar Chips		
Jalapeno Chips		
Cheetos		
Nacho Cheese Doritos		
Baked Lays		
Classic Lays		
<b>1x Regular Cookie</b>		
Mardi Gras Cookie – a sweet, buttery cookie with a hint of cinnamon and a cream cheese filling		
Apple Caramel Crisp Cookie – sweet dried apples, gooey caramel bits, rolled oats, brown sugar, a hint of cinnamon and natural vanilla flavor		
Sugar Cookie – sweet cookie, flavored with a hint of lemon and dusted with flakes of sugar		
Salted Caramel Cookie – brown sugar cookie dough, with sea salt, creamy caramel and HEATH toffee bits, covered in milk chocolate		
White Chocolate Macadamia Cookie – Roasted macadamia nuts and white chocolate chips in a sweet and buttery cookie		
Chocolate Chip Cookie – need I say more		
<b>Sandwich Option (Choose one for each day)</b>		
McAlister’s Club Wrap – Roasted turkey, Black Forest ham, bacon, mayo, honey mustard, sharp cheddar cheese, spring mix, Swiss cheese, tomato		
Harvest Chicken Salad – Chicken salad with cranberries and pecans, spring mix and tomato on croissant		
The Italian – Black Forest ham, salami, provolone, house-roasted multicolored peppers, spring mix, tomato, red onion, black olives, olive oil & balsamic vinaigrette and spicy brown mustard on a baguette		
Memphian – Roasted turkey, Black Forest ham, Black Angus roast beef, provolone, spring mix, tomato, mayo and spicy brown mustard on baguette		
The New Yorker – Corned beef, pastrami, Swiss cheese and spicy brown mustard on marbled rye		
The Veggie – Spinach, tomato, cucumber, red onion, house-roasted multicolored peppers, avocado and herb mayo on 9-grain bread		
Garden Fresh Turkey – Roasted turkey, avocado, spinach, tomato, Swiss cheese and olive oil & balsamic vinaigrette on 9-grain bread		
Grilled Chicken Caesar Wrap – Grilled chicken, romaine, parmesan and Caesar dressing		
BLT Avocado – Applewood smoked bacon, spring mix, tomato, avocado and herb mayo on country white		

McAlister’s Deli  
 4200 East Clay Street  
 Vicksburg, MS 39180  
 +1 (601) 619-8222