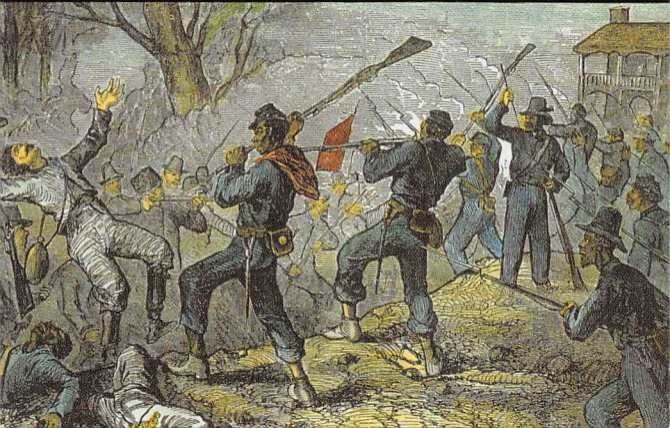


# Vicksburg National Military Park



# Proving Themselves in Battle

## Milliken's Bend, June 7, 1863

Milliken's Bend helped to change the belief that African Americans couldn't fight in combat. After demonstrating bravery in this battle, over 185,000 more African Americans joined the Union Army between 1863 and 1865; participating in the fight for freedom. The African American monument at Vicksburg honors the black troops who fought there.

**To learn more, visit:** [www.nps.gov/vick](http://www.nps.gov/vick)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE