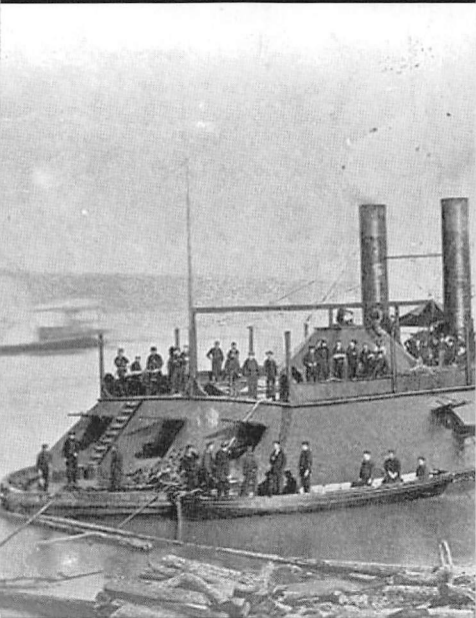


Vicksburg National Military Park



U.S.S. Cairo Strong but not Invincible

Ironclad gunboats were a new weapon in the Civil War. *Cairo* was critical to Union operations along the Mississippi. On December 12, 1862, while clearing mines in the Yazoo River, near Vicksburg, *Cairo* struck a mine, sinking in 12 minutes—the first armored warship sunk by a mine. *Cairo* was raised in 1964 and is now restored.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/vick

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