



Friends of Raymond

Raymond, Mississippi

P. O. BOX 1000, RAYMOND, MS 39154
TAX ID: 64-0895846

To preserve, interpret, manage, and promote significant historic sites in Raymond, Mississippi

December 12, 2018

Mr. Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park
3201 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3495

Dear Bill:

Thank you for coming to our board meeting last night to discuss the potential transfer of the property owned and/or managed under easement agreements by Friends of Raymond, Inc. to the National Park Service. Our discussion certainly helped us understand more clearly the process and time frames involved and answered some of our questions regarding the ongoing partnership between Friends of Raymond and the National Park Service.

Certainly there are many details to be resolved in future discussions. As I think you know, we have devoted many years, dollars and sweat equity in acquiring, interpreting, improving and maintaining the Raymond Military Park property. Our intent from the beginning has been to preserve this historic property in perpetuity so that it can be utilized fully as an economic, recreational and educational resource. This property and particularly the walking trail is utilized by many people in the community and is a free recreational resource that the community would not want to lose. We take great pride in maintaining the property so that it provides a safe and inviting environment for visitors. We want to ensure that these standards are maintained in any future use of the property.

Based on our conversations and understanding of the interests of the National Park Service in acquiring this property, the Board of Directors of Friends of Raymond, Inc. would like to confirm with you our desire to donate the Raymond Military Park lands to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Vicksburg National Military Park. We are providing you with this formal letter of intent so that you may start the process to achieve this goal. We believe that we can be a valuable partner in the future and that together we can enhance and improve the value of this historic site and preserve it for future generations.

We will establish a working committee to oversee the efforts that are needed on our end and look forward to partnering with you on this ambitious project.

Sincerely yours,

Pamelia C. Howorth
President