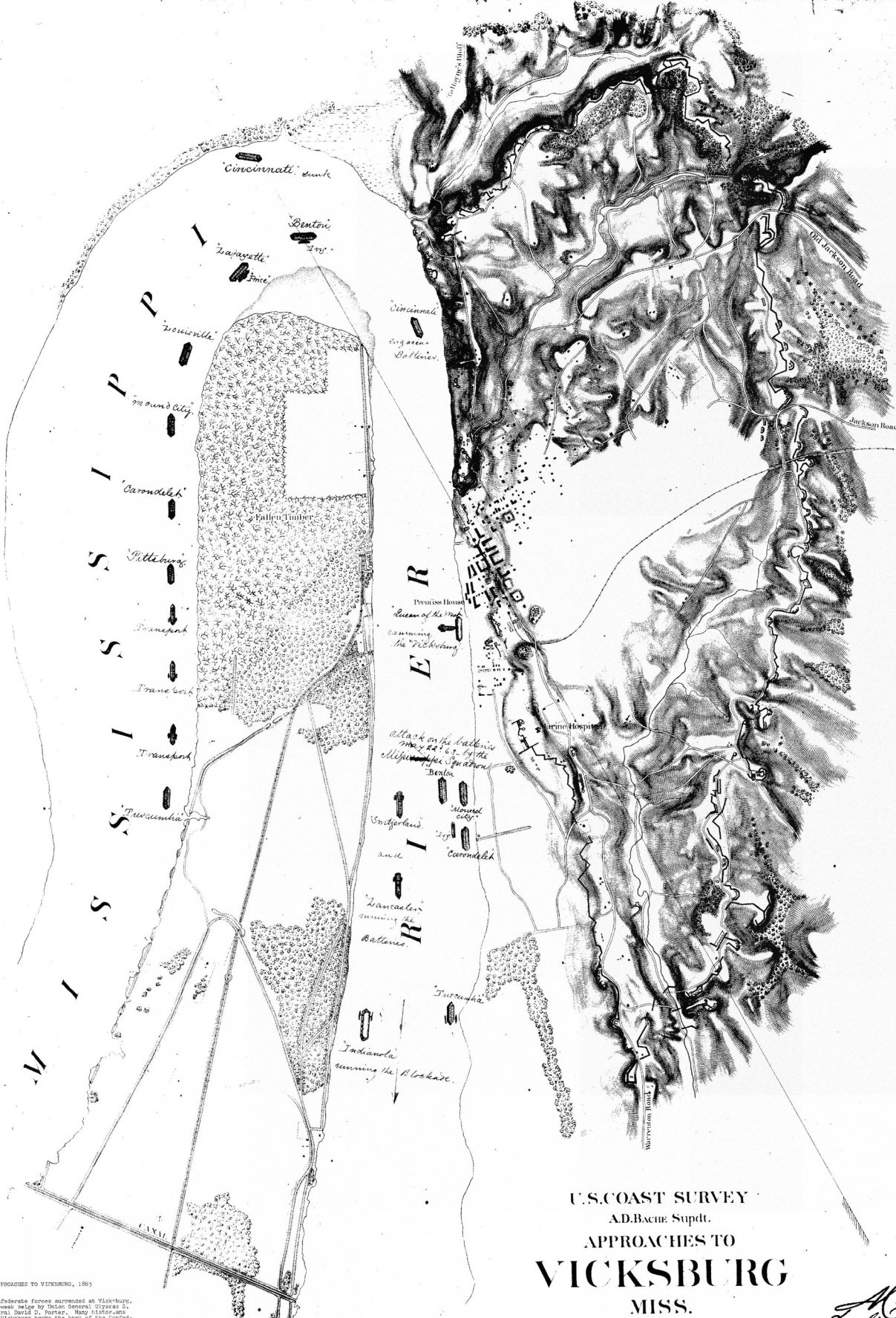




U.S. COAST SURVEY
AD. BACHE, Supdt.
APPROACHES TO
VICKSBURG
MISS.
AND REBEL DEFENCES

Surveyed by C. F. DUDAL, Sub-Assist.
under direction of F. H. GERDES, Asst. U.S.C.S.
attached to
Mississippi Squadron under command of
Rear Admiral D.D. PORTER
U.S. Navy
1863

Section VIII.
504

874 W
1863

*Copy returned by Adm. Porter
with positions of fleet
Dec. 1863.
Ms. 39, Sec. VIII
Rec'd at Reg. July 2, 1864*

PLATE 10: APPROACHES TO VICKSBURG, 1863

On July 4, 1863, Confederate forces surrendered at Vicksburg, Mississippi, after a six-week siege by Union General Ulysses S. Grant and Union Rear Admiral David D. Porter. Many historians believe that the fall of Vicksburg broke the back of the Confederacy in the Mississippi Valley and ultimately led to the total breaking of the Confederacy.

Prior to and after the passing of the Vicksburg batteries by Admiral Porter on the night of April 16, 1863, Sub-assistant Clarence Penhall of the Coast Survey, made the accompanying map of the approaches to Vicksburg by plane-table surveying. Assistant Penhall's report states that they were fired upon often by the enemy.

The map was prepared at the request of Admiral Porter under the general direction of Assistant P. H. Gerdes of the Coast Survey. The positions of the fleet during the main assault were put on several months later under Admiral Porter's direction.

Note: The blank space within the Fortifications is not yet surveyed.