

Western NC Civil War Roundtable Speaker to discuss the Battle of Jackson Mississippi on August 12



The Western NC Civil War Round Table continues its 2024 series of programs on Monday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m. with a presentation by Jim Woodrick. The program, entitled “Under a Hot Mississippi Sun, the Siege of Jackson”, will take place at the Haywood County Public Library in Waynesville. The program is free and open to the public.

The talk will highlight the travails of Jackson, Mississippi. Even after a grueling forty-seven-day siege at Vicksburg, the U.S. Army did not rest on its laurels. Just fifty miles away in Jackson, a Confederate army still posed a threat to this hard-won victory. In the second week of July 1863, General William Tecumseh Sherman marched Union troops to Jackson. After a weeklong siege under a hot Mississippi sun, the Confederates abandoned the city, leaving the fate of Jackson in the hands of Sherman's troops. The presentation will recount the destruction that followed and then the rebirth of Mississippi's capital.

A native of Mississippi, Mr. Woodrick went to Millsaps College in Jackson, graduating as a Political Science major. He would later go on to spend more than two decades at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in the Historic Preservation Division. He has found great joy in working with educational and preservation groups like the Blue and Grey Education Society and the American Battlefield Trust, and for many years, he has been a Licensed Battlefield Guide at the Vicksburg National Military Park.

WNC Civil War Round Table meetings will continue on September 9 with Ed Lowe speaking about General Longstreet and the Knoxville Campaign. All of these

meetings are free and open to the public. More information about programs and field trips with the Round Table can be found at <http://wnccwrt.com> (link below).