Kentucky's War of 1812:
Ephraim Brank

The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1609 in Greenville recognizes war hero Ephraim Brank, a sharpshooter during the War of 1812.

A native of North Carolina, Brank moved to Muhlenberg County in 1808. Known as a "crack shot," he served in the Kentucky Militia and fought at the Battle of New Orleans on Jan. 8, 1815. There, he earned his fame as a sharpshooter.

When British troops charged the American lines at New Orleans, they were met with a hail of gunfire and artillery. A British officer specifically recalled one Kentucky rifleman, who was likely Brank. The officer said that this Kentuckian fired with deadly accuracy. The American victory at New Orleans proved to be the last battle of the war.

Afterwards, Brank returned to Greenville. Recognized as a hero, he died in 1885.

The Kentucky Historical Society is the administrator of the Kentucky War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. For more information on KHS, see www.history.ky.gov.

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