



Kentucky's War of 1812: Hickman County

The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 895 in Clinton commemorates Hickman County being named for a War of 1812 casualty.

Paschal Hickman moved to Kentucky in 1784. The family settled in Frankfort, and Paschal's house was supposedly "near the railroad tunnel" there. He was active in the Kentucky militia and fought in several military campaigns, including at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in present-day Ohio. By 1812, Hickman owned 5,984 acres across 16 Kentucky counties.

During the War of 1812, Hickman served as a captain in the First Kentucky Rifle Regiment. Most of his troops were from Franklin County, and these soldiers soon found themselves engaged at the Battle of the River Raisin (Michigan). After the battle, he was one of nearly 65 Kentuckians murdered by Native Americans. Only 13 men out of the 86 in his company survived the battle.

Hickman County was formed and named in his honor in 1821.

Pictured: The Hickman County Courthouse, about 1920. Image courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.