



## Kentucky's War of 1812: Owen County

*The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 831 commemorates Owen County, named after a casualty of the Battle of Tippecanoe.*

Born in Virginia in 1769, Abraham Owen moved to Kentucky in 1785. He lived in present-day Shelby County and fought in several campaigns against Native Americans in 1790 and 1791. While fighting in Indiana, he was wounded twice.

Col. Owen also had a successful political career. He was elected to the Kentucky legislature in 1799, and also served at one of Kentucky's constitutional conventions. He was the first Kentuckian to join the command of Gen. William Henry Harrison for the late 1811 campaigns against Native Americans in the upper Wabash Valley. Owen was killed at the Battle of Tippecanoe, fought in present-day Indiana, on Nov. 7, 1811.

When Owen County was formed in 1819, it was named in his honor. The city of Owensboro in Daviess County is also named for him.

KHS is the administrator of the Kentucky War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. For more information, see [www.history.ky.gov](http://www.history.ky.gov).