



2024 LEGISLATIVE MOMENTS

KENTUCKY'S OLD STATE CAPITOL

Establishing a Boundary

Kentucky shares a border with seven different states, but its borders have not always been clearly defined.

When Kentucky became a state in 1792, it was bounded by the Northwest Territory, Southwest Territory, and Virginia, with Spain in possession of the land west of the Mississippi. As time passed, the United States created Tennessee, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, and West Virginia.

The creation of new states did not always lead to clear borders. It was not until 1878 that the Kentucky Legislature approved an act to establish a joint survey with Indiana to firmly fix the boundary of **Henderson County**.

Working together, the commission established a firm line between the present-day cities of **Henderson**, Kentucky (**Henderson County**), and Evansville, Indiana (Vanderburgh County).



1805, Kentucky Historical Society, A New Map of Part of the United States of America; 970.04 C332, MAPsm

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