



Kentucky's War of 1812: Solomon Brandenburg

The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1652 in Meade County recognizes Solomon Brandenburg, an 1812 veteran for whom the town of Brandenburg is named.

An early settler to present-day Meade County, Brandenburg purchased 3,000 acres on the Ohio River in 1804. He built and operated a tavern that was visited by Aaron Burr, J. J. Audubon and others. The tavern reputedly served as a courthouse, school and hotel.

Brandenburg was also a land speculator and ran a ferry across the river to Harrison County, Ind. In 1825, the settlement that grew up around Brandenburg's tavern was made the county seat, and in 1872 the prosperous port was named Brandenburg in his honor.

During the War of 1812, Brandenburg was a company captain in the Third Regiment, Kentucky Detached Militia. Although his wartime service was limited, Brandenburg played a large role in bringing success to the town that bears his name.

Pictured: East view of the Ohio River at Brandenburg. Courtesy the Kentucky Historical Society.