



## **Kentucky's War of 1812: John P. Gaines**

*The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1194 in Boone County recognizes the home site of John Pollard Gaines, a War of 1812 veteran who became governor of Oregon Territory.*

Born in Virginia, Gaines moved to Kentucky when he was a child. While little is known about his 1812 service, he represented Boone County in the Kentucky legislature in the 1820s and 1830s. Gaines then volunteered for the Mexican War. During that conflict, he was a major in the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry, a unit that included famous Kentucky emancipationist Cassius M. Clay. During the Mexican War, he fought at Churubusco, Chapultepec and around Mexico City. Captured by enemy forces, he was also briefly a prisoner of war.

Gaines's home site is located on Kentucky Highway 338 in Boone County.

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](http://www.history.ky.gov).