



Kentucky's War of 1812: William Bratton

The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1194 at the Boone National Guard Center in Frankfort commemorates William Bratton, a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition who later served in the War of 1812.

Born in Virginia in 1778, Bratton moved to Kentucky with his family at age 12. A trained blacksmith and gunsmith, he joined the Lewis and Clark expedition and traveled across the continent with the explorers. Afterwards, he returned to Kentucky.

During the War of 1812, Bratton served in the First Rifle Regiment of the Kentucky Volunteer Militia. He was captured and taken prisoner at the Battle of the River Raisin, but was later released. Bratton died in 1841.

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.