



Kentucky's War of 1812: Perryville

The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1284 in Boyle County highlights the community of Perryville and notes that this town was named after a War of 1812 veteran.

Originally established in a cave located near the Chaplin River, Perryville was first called Harberson's Station after an early settler. In 1815, however, Edward Bullock and William Hall officially organized the town and named it Perryville, in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, who had won a great naval victory on Lake Erie during the War of 1812. The town was incorporated by the Kentucky legislature on Jan. 17, 1817.

Although the town name recognizes an 1812 hero, the community is best known as the site of Kentucky's largest Civil War battle. On Oct. 8, 1862, more than 40,000 Union and Confederate troops clashed near the village, resulting in about 7,500 casualties. This October, the site will commemorate the 150th anniversary of this important battle.

National flag carried by the 15th Kentucky Union Infantry Regiment during the Civil War battle of Perryville. The town of Perryville is named after a War of 1812 hero.