

# This Day in History... November 14, 1765

## Birth of Robert Fulton

Engineer and inventor Robert Fulton was born on November 14, 1765, in Little Britain, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

From a young age, Fulton showed a great talent for art. After his father died, he moved to Philadelphia and painted portraits and landscapes and provided technical drawings for houses and machinery to provide for his mother and siblings. While in Philadelphia, he met Benjamin Franklin and several businessmen who encouraged him to travel to Europe to further his art training.



*Fulton lived with West in England for several years.*



*Stamps issued for the Hudson-Fulton Celebration and picture Fulton's ship the Clermont.*

After that success, Fulton was made part of the Erie Canal Commission. During this time he also worked on another boat, *New Orleans*, which was the first steamboat to travel down the Ohio River. The journey was through relatively uncharted territory and the fact that he was able to get the boat down the river and back home was a major milestone. *New Orleans's* success marked the start of commercial steamboat use in the west and midwestern rivers.

In early 1815, Fulton was walking home on the frozen Hudson River when one of his friends fell through the ice. Fulton rescued his friend, but was soaked in the cold water and caught pneumonia. He then contracted tuberculosis and died on February 24, 1815, in New York City.

A number of towns and other locations have been named for Fulton throughout the country. There have also been five US Navy ships named for him and he was honored as part of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration in 1909.



*Issued for Fulton's 200th birthday*



*Fulton designed the first practical submarine in history, named the Nautilus. Jules Verne named his vessel in 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea after Fulton's Nautilus. At least two other submarines have carried the same name, including the first nuclear-powered submarine pictured on this stamp.*



*New Orleans was the first inland steamboat and the first steamboat to travel the Ohio River.*



*Livingston worked with Fulton on the Clermont and New Orleans.*

# This Day in History... November 14, 1765

## Birth of Robert Fulton

Engineer and inventor Robert Fulton was born on November 14, 1765, in Little Britain, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

From a young age, Fulton showed a great talent for art. After his father died, he moved to Philadelphia and painted portraits and landscapes and provided technical drawings for houses and machinery to provide for his mother and siblings. While in Philadelphia, he met Benjamin Franklin and several businessmen who encouraged him to travel to Europe to further his art training.



*Fulton lived with West in England for several years.*



*Stamps issued for the Hudson-Fulton Celebration and picture Fulton's ship the Clermont.*

After that success, Fulton was made part of the Erie Canal Commission. During this time he also worked on another boat, *New Orleans*, which was the first steamboat to travel down the Ohio River. The journey was through relatively uncharted territory and the fact that he was able to get the boat down the river and back home was a major milestone. *New Orleans's* success marked the start of commercial steamboat use in the west and midwestern rivers.

In early 1815, Fulton was walking home on the frozen Hudson River when one of his friends fell through the ice. Fulton rescued his friend, but was soaked in the cold water and caught pneumonia. He then contracted tuberculosis and died on February 24, 1815, in New York City.

A number of towns and other locations have been named for Fulton throughout the country. There have also been five US Navy ships named for him and he was honored as part of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration in 1909.

**Mystic Stamp Company • Camden, NY 13316**



*Issued for Fulton's 200th birthday*



*Fulton designed the first practical submarine in history, named the Nautilus. Jules Verne named his vessel in 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea after Fulton's Nautilus. At least two other submarines have carried the same name, including the first nuclear-powered submarine pictured on this stamp.*



*New Orleans was the first inland steamboat and the first steamboat to travel the Ohio River.*



*Livingston worked with Fulton on the Clermont and New Orleans.*