Name: Robert R. Livingston

Years: November 27, 1746 – February 26, 1813

Residence: New York City, New York; Clermont, New York.

Brief Biography: Robert R. Livingston was born in New York City on November 27th, 1746. He graduated from Kings College and moved with his wife to Clermont, New York. Livingston was very influential on the early republic. He was part of the Committee of the Five, where he helped write the Declaration of Independence. After that he became New York’s first chancellor, the highest judicial position in the state. He even swore in George Washington as the first president of the United States. After a failed election for New York Governor, Livingston became the US minister to France. He played a key role in negotiation for the Louisiana Purchase, effectively doubling the size of the United States. He also helped invent the first steam boat with his friend Robert Fulton. Livingston would eventually retire to his estate in Clermont, where he passed away on February 26, 1813.

Major Accomplishments:

• One of the writers of the Declaration of Independence
• US minister to France who helped negotiate the Louisiana Purchase
• Was the 1st chancellor of New York
• Was secretary of foreign affairs
• Developed the first steam boat

For more Information: For more information, consult

for another biography.