



Benjamin Rush, 1828

Benjamin Rush, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and close friend to the founding fathers, studied medicine as an apprentice to John Redman, the most prominent physician in Philadelphia. Rush is considered one of the greatest physicians of American history. He called for the restriction of alcohol and tobacco use, proposed the study of veterinary medicine, and wrote the first American textbook on psychiatry. One of his primary interests was yellow fever, a disease he battled in Philadelphia during the epidemic of 1793-94. He published his observations and his suggestions for the prevention of the disease in 1794. He died in 1813.

Type/Rig/Class:

Builder: ?; Erie, Pennsylvania

Dates of Service: 1828 - 1833

Disposition: Sold

Displacement: 39 tons

Length:

Beam:

Draft:

Propulsion

Machinery:

Complement:

Armament:

Cutter History:

The small revenue boat *Benjamin Rush* was first launched in Erie, Pennsylvania on 13 September 1833. She has been confused with the revenue cutter *Richard Rush*, in service at this time in New York but these were two separate vessels.

The *Benjamin Rush* was stationed at the District of Presque Isle, Presque Isle Bay, Erie, Pennsylvania. Near the end of her service life she was used to transport equipment for her successor, the revenue cutter *Erie*.

The *Benjamin Rush* was sold in 1833.

Sources:

Donald Canney. *U.S. Coast Guard and Revenue Cutters, 1790-1935*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1995.

U.S. Coast Guard. *Record of Movements: Vessels of the United States Coast Guard: 1790 - December 31, 1933*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1934; 1989 (reprint).

