

Nicolas-Joseph Cugnot (26 February 1725 – 2 October 1804) was a French inventor who built the first working self-propelled land-based mechanical vehicle, in 1769, the world's first "automobile."

In 2010, a copy of the "fardier de Cugnot" was built by pupils at the Arts et Métiers ParisTech, a French Grande école, and the city of Void-Vacon. This replica worked perfectly, proving that the concept was viable and verifying the truth and results of the 1769 vehicle.

<https://www.autoblog.com/2006/10/19/the-very-first-car-1769-cugnot-steamer/>

<https://www.supercars.net/blog/1769-cugnot-steam-tractor/>

Karl Benz is credited with the first internal combustion engine automobile, the 1886 Benz.



Today this 1886 Benz sits in the basement of the Deutches Museum in Munich.

I rode in Bernard Garratt's 1893 Benz in the 1988 London-Brighton Rallye⁽¹⁾. Note the RAC#3 as it was the third oldest car of the 400 plus entries that year. The oldest was an 1884 deDion Bouton steam car. #2 was Mrs. Moore's 1892 Panhard. #4 was the Mercedes Benz museum's 1893 Benz, identical except it was one month newer, hence entry #4.



(1) London-Brighton: For anyone familiar with the premier "Veteran Car Run" race event of the world, the 53 mile London-Brighton Rallye has taken place on the 1st Sunday in November since 1896. London to Brighton is for automobiles built 1904 or earlier, NO exceptions. Each year, more that 400 cars are entered. Yes, certain years it is very cold or raining! Entrants are allowed to have their car pushed up in areas where a hill rise is present.
From 2018: <https://youtu.be/Fz7XNWqhJFY>