1840 Birth of Edith Hamilton’s mother Gertrude Pond (April).
1843 Birth of Edith Hamilton’s father Montgomery Hamilton (June 7).
1866 Marriage of Montgomery Hamilton and Gertrude Pond in Dresden, Germany (August 25).
1867 Birth of Edith Hamilton at Schweizermuehle, near Dresden (August 12).
1869 Birth of Alice Hamilton in New York City (February 27).
1871 Birth of Margaret Hamilton in Fort Wayne, Indiana (June 13).
1873 Birth of Norah Hamilton in Fort Wayne, Indiana (December 3).
1877 Edith Hamilton likely began the study of Latin under her father’s tutelage; the study of Greek eventually followed.
1883 Edith Hamilton began study at Miss Porter’s School in Farmington, Connecticut (October).
1886 Birth of Arthur Hamilton in Fort Wayne, Indiana, always called “Quint” (March 31).
1886 Edith Hamilton completed her studies at Miss Porter’s School and returned to Fort Wayne.
1888 Completion of Hamilton family cottage on Mackinac Island.

1889 Edith Hamilton attended a performance of the Electra of Sophocles mounted by Franklin H. Sargent’s American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City (March 20).

1891 Edith Hamilton successfully passed the entrance exams for Bryn Mawr College and began college (February).

1893 Edith Hamilton became a leader in student government at Bryn Mawr College when she was elected executive president of the student government board (February).

1894 Edith Hamilton granted both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Bryn Mawr College (spring).

1894–95 Edith Hamilton was fellow in Latin at Bryn Mawr College.

1895 Edith Hamilton was offered the position of headmistress of the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore; she accepted.

1895 Edith Hamilton was offered the Mary E. Garrett European Fellowship, which would permit her to study in Germany for one year (spring).

1895 Birth of Edith Hamilton’s future lifetime partner Doris Fielding Reid in Baltimore (September 4).

1895 Edith and Alice Hamilton sailed for Germany to begin their year of study there (October 5).

1895 Both Edith and Alice Hamilton studied at the University of Leipzig (autumn).

1896 Edith Hamilton became the first female student admitted to the University of Munich (May).

1896 Edith and Alice Hamilton returned to the United States (August–September).

1896 Edith Hamilton settled in Baltimore to begin her career as headmistress of the Bryn Mawr School (September).

1897–99 Edith Hamilton befriended Harry Fielding Reid, professor of geology at the Johns Hopkins University, and his wife Edith Gittings Reid.
1898–99 Edith Hamilton visited the Dewey School in Chicago and met John Dewey. She becomes interested in his concept of the school as a community that helps individuals achieve self-realization.

1899 Edith Hamilton’s last mention in her correspondence of achieving a doctorate (June).

1899 Norah Hamilton suffered a nervous breakdown.

1899 Margaret Hamilton settled in Baltimore and began work at the Bryn Mawr School.

1900 Edith Hamilton recommended by her Bryn Mawr College friend Susan Walker to be the new dean of Barnard College, but due to illness in her family, Edith could not interview for the position.

1903 Visited Gertrude Stein in her atelier at 27, rue de Fleurus, Paris (fall).

1903 Doris Fielding Reid enrolled in the Bryn Mawr School (fall).

1906 The National American Woman Suffrage Association held its annual convention in Baltimore, including an evening devoted to women’s education (February).

1907 Gilbert Murray visited Bryn Mawr College, giving Edith Hamilton a possible chance to meet him (May).

1909 Beginning of Edith Hamilton’s suffrage activism with the Baltimore Equal Suffrage League.

1909 Doris Fielding Reid left the Bryn Mawr School to study at Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

1909 Death of Montgomery Hamilton (June 9).

1910 Edith Hamilton established the Bryn Mawr League in Baltimore, a social work organization in which the Bryn Mawr School students and graduates could participate.

1910 Edith Hamilton, accompanied by Lucy Martin Donnelly, visited Bernard Berenson’s villa I Tatti outside of Florence (July).
1912 Edith Hamilton addressed the constitutional amendments committee of the Maryland state legislature on the subject of women’s suffrage (February 12).

1912 Edith Hamilton visited Paris, saw the Salon d’Automne’s exhibition of cubist paintings about which she would write in 1951 (fall).

1913 Doris Fielding Reid studied music in Europe.

1913 Edith Hamilton among the estimated five thousand to eight thousand women who marched for women’s suffrage on the eve of President Woodrow Wilson’s inauguration (March 3).

1913 Edith Hamilton diagnosed with breast cancer. Her struggle with the disease would continue until 1920 (December).

1914 Edith Hamilton had two more operations for breast cancer although the tumor later proved to be benign (December).

1915 Death of Mary Garrett, founder of the Bryn Mawr School (April 3).

1915 Edith Hamilton and Dr. Mary Sherwood among the sponsors of a production of The Trojan Women of Euripides in Baltimore intended to promote the pacifist cause (May).

1915 Arthur Hamilton married Mary Neal (June 15).

1915 Edith Hamilton and Lucy Martin Donnelly arrived in Yokohama, Japan (November).

1915–16 Edith Hamilton and Lucy Martin Donnelly spend the winter in Kyoto (December–March).

1916 Edith Hamilton visited China, accompanied by Lucy Martin Donnelly with whom she saw the cities of Shanghai, Nanjing, and Beijing (March–July).

1916 Purchase of house in Hadlyme, Connecticut, as a future home for all four of the Hamilton sisters (December).

1917 Edith Hamilton published her first article, “Interesting Schools,” which defended the teaching of Latin at the Bryn
1917 Birth of Dorian Fielding Reid, who would eventually be adopted by Edith Hamilton (November 17).

1917 Death of Gertrude Pond Hamilton (December 10).

1918 Edith Hamilton forced to close the Bryn Mawr School completely during the worst period of the flu pandemic in Baltimore.

1918 Reappearance of breast cancer. Edith Hamilton underwent a fourth operation for the condition (spring).

1918 Edith Hamilton spent her first summer in Maine with the Reid family.

1919 Alice Hamilton became the first woman appointed to the faculty of Harvard University (March).

1919 Arthur Hamilton appointed professor of Romance languages at the University of Illinois.

1919 Edith Hamilton first submitted her resignation to the Bryn Mawr School’s board of managers although she later withdrew it (October).

1920 Edith Hamilton first moved into the Reid family home on Cathedral Street in Baltimore.

1920 Edith Hamilton had fifth and final operation for the cancerous condition she had suffered since 1913 (summer).

1920 Edith Hamilton again submitted her resignation to the Bryn Mawr School’s board of managers, stating that she wanted it to take effect in two years (October).

1921 Edith Hamilton spent time in Britain with Edith Gittings Reid and Doris Fielding Reid (June–November).

1922 Edith Hamilton submitted her resignation to the Bryn Mawr School board of managers for the third and final time, asking that the board either accept it or grant her
medical leave. The board chose to accept the resignation (January).

1922 End of Edith Hamilton’s career as headmistress of the Bryn Mawr School (June).

1922 Beginning of construction of summer house at Seawall Point on Mount Desert Island, Maine, with the Reid family (summer).

1923 Completion of the Seawall house (summer).

1923–24 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid, together with Dorian, spend the winter at Seawall.

1924 Edith Hamilton began work on her translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Aeschylus (July).

1925 Edith Hamilton’s portrait painted by Lydia Field Emmet at the request of the Bryn Mawr School alumnae. The portrait now hangs in the school’s library (spring).

1925 Edith Hamilton began to write “Tragedy,” her first essay on a classical subject, with a plan to publish it in *Theatre Arts Monthly* magazine.

1925 Edith Hamilton read the translations of the poet H. D., or Hilda Doolittle (summer).


1926 Edith Hamilton taught about ancient Greek tragedy at the American Laboratory Theatre with the future drama critic John Mason Brown, who became a lifelong friend.

1927 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid moved into the Gilder family’s apartment building at 24 Gramercy Park (early).

1927 Edith Hamilton likely saw the actress Margaret Anglin perform the *Electra* of Sophocles at the Metropolitan Opera House (May).

1927 *Theatre Arts Monthly* published Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Aeschylus (July).
1927 Edith Hamilton began to translate the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus (summer).

1928 John Mason Brown took Edith Hamilton to the offices of the publisher W. W. Norton and introduced her to him.

1928 Edith Hamilton signed her first publishing contract with W. W. Norton for her translations, which will eventually be published in 1937 as *Three Greek Plays* (April).


1929 *Theatre Arts Monthly* published her essay on Sophocles (February).

1929 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid, together with Dorian, embarked on their first trip to Greece (February).

1929 Edith Hamilton, Doris Fielding Reid, and Dorian spent ten days in Greece (March).

1929 *Theatre Arts Monthly* published her essay on Euripides (May). Together, with a chapter on Aeschylus, the chapter on Sophocles, and her earlier article on tragedy, the core of *The Greek Way* was completed.

1929 Doris Fielding Reid entered the firm of Shaw-Loomis-Sayles and began her long career as a stockbroker (October).

1930 First performance of Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Aeschylus, held at the Heckscher Theater in New York City as a fundraiser for the second Delphic Festival to be mounted at Delphi that summer (January).

1930 *The Greek Way* was published (spring).

1930 Edith Hamilton began to consider writing *The Roman Way* at the request of W. W. Norton, who was pleased with the success of *The Greek Way* (November).

1931 Edith Hamilton wrote the chapters on Cicero for eventual publication in *The Roman Way*. 
1932 Publication of *The Roman Way* (November).

1933 Edith Hamilton began to develop the idea of a book on the Old Testament, moved by both the rise of Hitler and his persecution of German Jews and by the spiritual crisis she felt was brought on by the Great Depression (January).

1933 Edith Hamilton read *A History of the Jews* by Dr. Abram Leon Sachar, which also helped to inspire the book that will be published in 1936 as *The Prophets of Israel* (December).

1933 Margaret Hamilton became headmistress of the Bryn Mawr School.

1934 Dorian Fielding Reid graduated from the Gunnery School and entered Amherst College.

1935 Set designer Lee Simonson asked Edith Hamilton to translate *The Trojan Women* of Euripides for a possible production by the New York Theatre Guild.

1935 Edith Hamilton began to translate *The Trojan Women* and heard the actress Dame Sybil Thorndike read some of her lines of translation at the apartment of John Mason Brown (spring).

1935 Edith Hamilton learned that the New York Theatre Guild would not produce *The Trojan Women* (July).

1935 Margaret Hamilton retired from the Bryn Mawr School and settled permanently in Hadlyme with Clara Landsberg.

1936 Publication of *The Prophets of Israel* by W. W. Norton (spring).

1936 Severe flooding along the Connecticut River damaged the Hamilton house at Hadlyme (May).

1936 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid moved to a larger apartment at 1165 Park Avenue as it became evident that two of the Reid daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, would reside permanently with them (September).
1937 Publication of *Three Greek Plays*, including Edith Hamilton’s translations of the *Prometheus Bound* and *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus and her more recent translation of *The Trojan Women* of Euripides.

1938 First performance of Edith Hamilton’s translation of *The Trojan Women* of Euripides held at the Master Institute Theater in New York City (January 24).

1938 Graduation of Dorian Fielding Reid from Amherst College. Elizabeth Reid graduated from the Brearley School in New York City and entered Wellesley College in the fall.

1938 More severe flooding on the Connecticut River caused further damage to the Hamilton house at Hadlyme (September).

1938 Proposal to write *Mythology* first brought to Edith Hamilton’s attention by C. Raymond Everitt, an editor at Little, Brown publishers who wanted to create a more recent version of Thomas Bulfinch’s work on mythology (October).

1938 Edith Hamilton signed a contract with Little, Brown for the publication of *Mythology* with an expected completion date of January 1, 1941 (November).

1940 Mussolini attempted to invade Greece from Albania, sparking the creation of the Greek War Relief Association by the American Friends of Greece. Edith Hamilton served on the National Citizens’ Committee of the Greek War Relief Association (October 28).

1940–41 Doris Fielding Reid participated in the activities of the New York chapter of the America First Committee.

1941 Edith Hamilton completed the writing of *Mythology* (summer).

1941 Edith Hamilton began writing five additional chapters for *The Greek Way*, including three on the historians Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon. The other two
1941 Doris Fielding Reid coedited the volume *We Testify* with Nancy Schoonmaker as part of her activities on behalf of America First. The anthology of isolationist thought was published by Smith and Durrell (October).

1942 *Mythology* published by Little, Brown (spring).

1942 Dorian Fielding Reid married Gertrude Elizabeth Sharley, always known as Betty, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts (June 27).


1943 Edith Hamilton gave a series of lectures on Christianity at the New York City home of Alida Milliken. These became the basis for Hamilton’s book *Witness to the Truth: Christ and His Interpreters*, which would be published in 1948 (February–March).


1943 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid decided to move to Washington, D.C., where Doris had been asked to start an office of Loomis-Sayles and serve as a vice president of the company (May).

1943 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid moved to Washington, D.C., and settled into an apartment on Connecticut Avenue (June).

1943 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid moved into a colonial-era house on P Street in Georgetown (autumn).

1944 Death of Doris Fielding Reid’s father Dr. Harry Reid (June 18).
1944  Purchase of house at 2448 Massachusetts Avenue NW as home for Edith Hamilton, Doris Fielding Reid, and Edith Gittings Reid (autumn).

1944  Staging of Edith Hamilton’s translation of *The Trojan Women* of Euripides at the Hearst Greek Theatre on the campus of the University of California-Berkeley under the direction of drama department chair Fred Orrin Harris.

1945  Death of Norah Hamilton at Hadlyme (February 9). She was buried at Hadlyme Cove Cemetery.

1945  Edith Hamilton proposed the concept for the book *Witness to the Truth: Christ and His Interpreters* to W. W. Norton editor Storer B. Lunt. The idea was rejected by Warder Norton (April).

1945  Staging of Edith Hamilton’s translation of *The Trojan Women* of Euripides at the Hearst Greek Theatre on the campus of the University of California-Berkeley under the direction of drama department chair Fred Orrin Harris to honor delegates arriving in San Francisco for the opening of the United Nations (May).

1945  Edith Hamilton proposed the concept for the book *Witness to the Truth: Christ and His Interpreters* to Little, Brown editor C. Raymond Everitt, who accepted it for his firm (November).

1945  Death of Warder Norton (November 7).

1945  Reorganization of the firm of W. W. Norton by his widow Mary; Storer B. Lunt became president of the firm (December).

1946  Edith Hamilton met Huntington Cairns, secretary-treasurer of the National Gallery of Art. He would expand her social circle in Washington, D.C., and become her coeditor on the work *The Collected Dialogues of Plato*, eventually published in 1961.

1946  Marriage of Elizabeth Reid to Homer Fay Pfeiffer (May 7).
1947  Death of Little, Brown editor C. Raymond Everitt; all of Edith Hamilton’s writing on the New Testament acquired by the firm of W. W. Norton to be published under the title *Witness to the Truth: Christ and His Interpreters* (May–August).

1947  Staging of Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Aeschylus at the Hearst Greek Theatre on the campus of the University of California-Berkeley under the direction of drama department chair Fred Orrin Harris (June).


1948  George Washington University drama department performed Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus (March).


1949  Edith Hamilton introduced to Ezra Pound, who was incarcerated at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Washington, D.C. She began work with Pound on the translation of the *Women of Trachis* of Sophocles (May).

1949  Marriage of Mary Reid to Boyd McKnight (June 25).

1949  Edith Hamilton received her first honorary doctorate, from the University of Rochester (June 20).

1950 Edith Hamilton received her first recognition from academic classical scholars when she delivered the Horton Lecture sponsored by the classics department at Wellesley College (March 20).

1950 Caricature sketch of Edith Hamilton by the artist Feliks Topolski placed her among the prominent figures in Washington, D.C., society and was published in *Vogue* magazine (August 1).

1950–51 Staging of Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus on the Dartmouth College campus by drama professor Henry B. Williams (winter).

1951 Concept of the book that will become *The Echo of Greece* proposed to Edith Hamilton by Storer B. Lunt, who had discussed the idea with Doris Fielding Reid the previous month (January).

1953 Edith Hamilton received her second honorary doctorate, from the University of Pennsylvania (June 10).

1954 Death of Doris Fielding Reid’s mother Edith Gittings Reid (April 5).

1954 Arthur Hamilton, having become dean of foreign students in 1946, retired from the University of Illinois and settled in Guadalajara, Mexico.

1954 Senator Ralph E. Flanders, a Republican from Vermont, initiated and led efforts to censure Joseph McCarthy, the Republican senator from Wisconsin, in the U.S. Senate, concluding with McCarthy’s condemnation by the body. The efforts likely inspired Edith Hamilton’s chapter on Demosthenes submitted to Storer B. Lunt in early 1955 (June–December).

1954 Edith Hamilton interviewed by Gertrude Stein biographer Elizabeth Sprigge (December).

1955 Edith Hamilton elected to the National Institute of Arts and Letters (January).
1955  First completed chapters of what will become *The Echo of Greece* submitted to Storer B. Lunt (February).

1956  Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid departed for a trip to Italy, beginning in Sicily, where they were joined by Francesca Gilder Palmer (February). Edith and Doris visited Rome, Siena, Perugia, Arezzo, and Florence. Due to unseasonably cold weather, they dropped plans to visit Spain.

1956  Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid return to Washington, D.C. (March).

1956  Edith Hamilton wrote the final chapters of *The Echo of Greece* on the Stoics and “The Greek and Roman Way” (summer).

1957  *The Echo of Greece* was published by the firm of W. W. Norton (January).

1957  *The Echo of Greece* was positively reviewed by academic classicists, including Richmond Lattimore, C.A. Robinson Jr., and Moses Hadas (January–March).

1957  Edith Hamilton made an honorary member of the Classical Association of the Atlantic States and invited to address their meeting at Columbia University (April).

1957  Official announcement of upcoming Delphic Festival to be held in Athens that summer made jointly by the Greek Ministry of Education and ANTA (the American National Theater and Academy), which would feature, in part, a production of Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Aeschylus. Edith Hamilton had learned of the plans and the proposal to bring her to Athens with the theater company a few months earlier (June).

1957  Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid, together with friends such as Elling Aannestad, Alida Milliken, and Sir George Paget Thomson, sailed from New York City aboard the *Queen Frederica*, bound for Athens (July 20).
1957 Edith Hamilton awarded the Gold Cross of the Legion of Benefaction by King Paul of Greece at a luncheon. She was made an honorary citizen of Athens that same evening before the performance of her translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Aeschylus at the Roman-era theater of Herodes Atticus at the base of the Acropolis (August 8).

1957 The Book of the Month Club introduced a boxed set of *The Greek Way* and *The Echo of Greece* as a special offer for its members after Edith Hamilton’s trip to Greece. In general, the trip increased the sales of Hamilton’s books.

1957 Edith Hamilton turned ninety years old (August 12).

1957 Edith Hamilton proposed a book titled *Plato: An Interpretation* to Storer B. Lunt, who encouraged the project (October).

1957 Edith Hamilton elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters (November).

1957 Huntington Cairns asked Edith Hamilton to help select the translations for his proposed complete volume of the dialogues of Plato (November).

1957 Edith Hamilton agreed to write introductions to all of the dialogues to be included in the volume (December).

1958 Edith Hamilton gave address at Washington’s Institute of Contemporary Arts, of which a recording, “Echoes of Greece,” was made (January 31).

1958 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid traveled to Spain with Rosamond Gilder and Francesca Gilder Palmer (April–June).

1958 Edith Hamilton interviewed by Huntington Cairns at Seawall for an episode of the NBC television series *Wisdom* (July).

1959 Episode of the NBC series *Wisdom*, which featured Edith Hamilton, broadcast (February).
1959 Edith Hamilton had completed all but two of the introductions that she was writing for the Plato volume (February).

1959 Edith Hamilton received third honorary doctorate, from Yale University (June 8).


1960 George Washington University’s drama department performed Edith Hamilton’s translation of *The Trojan Women* of Euripides. Edith Hamilton attended the opening night performance with Greek Ambassador Alexis Liatis and his wife (January).

1960 Edith Hamilton named one of five most distinguished alumnae by Bryn Mawr College (March).

1960 Edith Hamilton again addressed the Classical Association of the Atlantic States when it held its meeting at George Washington University. Her lecture on Plato was largely drawn from the introductions to the dialogues that she had just finished writing (April).

1960 Edith Hamilton and Doris Fielding Reid traveled to France with Francesca Gilder Palmer and Dorna McCollester. It was Edith’s last trip abroad (June).

1960 Edith Hamilton visited the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore in honor of its seventy-fifth anniversary. The library at the school had been named in her honor (November).

1961 The Old Vic Theatre in London performed Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus as part of its production of the *Oresteia*. 
1961  Edith Hamilton invited to the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy. Due to the cold weather, however, she did not attend (January 20).

1961  Edith Hamilton spoke on Voice of America (summer).

1961  Edith Hamilton suffered a stroke but largely recovered by January 1962 (autumn).

1961  The Collected Dialogues of Plato, coedited by Edith Hamilton and Huntington Cairns, published (October).


1962  Edith Hamilton interviewed by Washington Star editor and photographer Jim Birchfield, who compared John F. Kennedy’s inaugural address to the opening chapters of The Echo of Greece (July).

1963  Death of Edith Hamilton (May 31).

1963  Edith Hamilton buried at Hadlyme Cove Cemetery next to her mother Gertrude (June 4).


1964  Edith Hamilton’s collected essays published by the firm of W. W. Norton as The Ever-Present Past with a prologue by Doris Fielding Reid.

1966  Doris Fielding Reid began to collect Edith Hamilton’s notebooks, her correspondence with John Mason Brown, and other records for a single comprehensive Edith Hamilton archive to be housed in the Firestone Library at Princeton University.

1966  Death of Clara Landsberg, lifetime partner of Margaret Hamilton (April 10). She was buried in Hadlyme Cove Cemetery, eventually lying next to Margaret.
1967  Doris Fielding Reid’s biography of Edith Hamilton published by the firm of W. W. Norton as *Edith Hamilton: An Intimate Portrait*.


1969  An anthology of Edith Hamilton’s writings selected by Doris Fielding Reid published by the firm of W. W. Norton as *A Treasury of Edith Hamilton*.

1969  Death of Margaret Hamilton at Hadlyme (July 6). She was buried in Hadlyme Cove Cemetery.

1970  Death of Alice Hamilton at Hadlyme (September 22). She was buried in Hadlyme Cove Cemetery.

1971  Film version of Edith Hamilton’s translation of *The Trojan Women* of Euripides, directed by the Greek Cypriot director Michael Cacoyannis, released (September).

1973  Death of Doris Fielding Reid in New York City (January 15). She was buried next to Edith Hamilton in Hadlyme Cove Cemetery.

1977  Romanian director Andrei Serban staged Edith Hamilton’s translation of the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus at the Vivian Beaumont Theater in Lincoln Center (April–May) and then as part of the New York Shakespeare Festival at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park (August 2–28).

AMERICAN CLASSICIST