

# Influential Women



Many peonies are named in honor of a loved one, while others are named to commemorate an event. A number of the peonies in our Peony Garden are named after influential women in history. See if you can find them all!



Florence Nightingale



Faith Fenton



Marguerite Gerard



Mrs. F.D. Roosevelt



Phoebe Cary



Lady Alexandra Duff



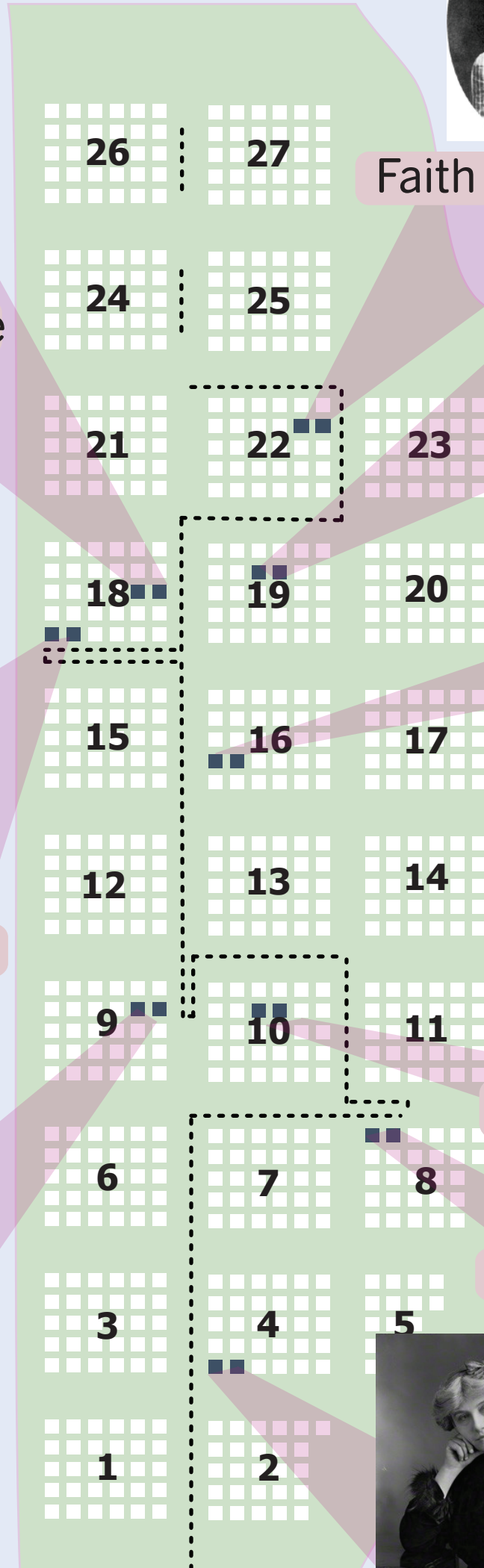
Fanny Crosby



Mrs. Edward Harding



Edith Lyttleton





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## Marguerite Gerard

Marguerite Gerard (1761-1837) was a leading French female artist. She learned much of what she knew from her brother-in-law, artist Jean-Honore. Marguerite painted in a precise, romantic style, often depicting domestic scenes and images of the wealthy enjoying a care-free life. Napoleon purchased her only contemporary history painting and commissioned her on other works.

## Fanny Crosby

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) was an American lyricist best known for her thousands of Protestant hymns. She was stricken blind as a baby when an incompetent doctor treated her for inflammation of the eyes. She attended the New York Institution for the Blind for twelve years and remained there as a teacher for eleven more. Fanny was friends with almost every president during her lifetime.

## Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) was born in and named after Florence, Italy. Nightingale decided to devote her life to nursing in 1844. She worked to reform military hospitals and improve medical care and living conditions for soldiers and the poor. After 1860, Nightingale's health prevented her from physically working as a nurse, but she continued her activism through her writings. She was awarded many Medals of Honor for her service.

## Phoebe Cary

Phoebe Cary (1824-1871) was an American poet and champion of women's rights. She and her sister, Alice, began publishing poetry together, and eventually they were both publishing their own volumes. Cary also edited a newspaper published by Susan B. Anthony.

## Faith Fenton

Alice Fenton (1857 - 1936) was a Canadian school teacher. Alice used the pseudonym "Faith Fenton" when writing her columns for the Toronto Empire newspaper as an investigative journalist. If her identity was known, she would have lost her teaching job since the crimes she reported on were morally inappropriate for a teacher's involvement. Additionally, she was the very first woman to write for this paper.

## Mrs. Edward Harding

Alice Harding (D.O.B obscure-1938) was a gardener and writer of the early 20th century. She lived on Burnley Farm in Plainfield, New Jersey where she collected, tested, and evaluated the finest new peony varieties. Mrs. Edward Harding had a rose, an iris, two French hybrid lilacs, a tree peony, and two herbaceous peonies named in her honor.

## Edith Lyttleton

Edith Lyttleton (1865-1948) was a British World War I era activist, a novelist, and a spiritualist. She gave assistance to the unemployed in London, and served on the War Refugees Committee during World War I. Later, Lyttleton became the Deputy Director of the Women's Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture. Lyttleton was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1917 and Dame Grand Cross in 1929.

## Mrs. F.D. Roosevelt

Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962) was the First Lady of the United States from 1933 to 1945. She supported the New Deal reforms put in place by her husband, and she was an advocate for civil rights. Eleanor Roosevelt also helped begin the second wave of feminism when she was on President Kennedy's commission on the Status of Women.

## Lady Alexandra Duff

Lady Alexandra Duff (1891-1959) was the granddaughter of King Edward VII. She served as a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Paddington, and she worked on the behalf of local hospitals in South Africa. Lady Alexandra Duff had many honors bestowed upon her including Royal Red Cross 1st Class, Dame Grand Cross of the Most Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Royal Family Order of King Edward VII, and the Royal Family Order of King George V.