

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, promote the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute and elect this first Congress, to meet on the 4th day of September, 1789, at the City of New York.



EDITH KERMIT CAROW ROOSEVELT

First Lady (1901–1909)

Edith was born on August 6, 1861 in Norwich, Connecticut, the daughter of Charles Carow and Gertrude Tyler.

While Theodore knew Edith from the time she was four years old (she was his sister's friend), he began proposing marriage when she was 16. But things didn't work out and he married Alice Hathaway Lee in 1880. Alice died in 1884 and the romance rekindled once more. At the age of 25, Edith married Theodore Roosevelt on December 2, 1886 at St. George's Church in London. They honeymooned in France and returned to the States in early 1887.

Edith and Theodore had five children: Theodore Jr., Kermit, Ethel, Archibald, and Quentin.

Edith accomplished many things as First Lady. She was the first First Lady to have a social secretary. Not a supporter of equal rights, Edith wanted to have her children experience a "normal" home life, so she remodeled the White House to separate her private quarters from the official quarters.

Edith died at the age of 87 on September 30, 1948 in Oyster Bay, New York.

"Being in the centre of things is very interesting, yet the same proportions remain. When I read 'The World is too much with us' or 'Oh for a closer walk with God' they mean just what they did, so I don't believe I have been forced into the 'first lady of the land' model of my predecessors."

~Edith Roosevelt



Edith's Portraits

Edith's block was created to commemorate the fact that she started the collection of First Lady portraits that remain a tradition in the White House today.



Edith's Portraits

Making the Block

Using the diagram above (pattern is reversed for fusible appliqué), make templates and appliqué to a 7" square of background fabric according to the block design. Trim block to 6½" x 6½".