



A BRIEF HISTORY ALEXANDER HAMILTON

- 1755** Hamilton was born on the island of Nevis, in the Eastern Caribbean. His parents, Rachel Faucette and James Hamilton, were not married to each other; therefore there was no official record of his birth.
- 1765** Hamilton's mother moved her two children, Alexander and James Hamilton, to St. Croix.
- 1768** Rachel Faucette died, leaving her two Hamilton sons penniless. They were placed in the care of her cousin, Peter Lytton.
- 1769** Peter Lytton died. Alexander Hamilton went to work for the trading company of Beekman and Cruger, which also had an office in New York City.
- 1773** Largely self-educated up to this point, Hamilton was offered an opportunity to come to America. He entered King's College, now known as Columbia University and soon became active in the movement toward revolution.
- 1774** Hamilton organized an artillery company.
- 1776** At the battle of Harlem Heights Hamilton met General Washington for the first time.
- 1777** Hamilton joined Washington's staff as aide de camp.
- 1780** Hamilton married Elizabeth Schuyler, daughter of Major General Phillip Schuyler.
- 1781** Hamilton distinguished himself during the siege of Yorktown.
- 1787** While working as an attorney, Hamilton continued to advocate a strong national government. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and the only original signer of the Constitution from New York, although others added their names later.
- 1788** Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay wrote the "Federalist Papers" in support of the Constitution.
- 1789** Hamilton became the first Secretary of the Treasury during President Washington's administration. As Secretary, he

organized the National Bank, the first U. S. monetary system, the tax system, the Customs Service, and established the national debt. In addition, he remained a trusted advisor to Washington on foreign policy, wrote the President's speeches, etc.

- 1795** Hamilton resigned from the government and resumed his legal practice in New York.
- 1801** Hamilton's eldest son, Phillip, was killed in a duel defending his father's reputation.
- 1802** The Hamiltons moved into the Grange with their seven surviving children.
- 1804** Hamilton was killed in a duel with Vice President Aaron Burr.