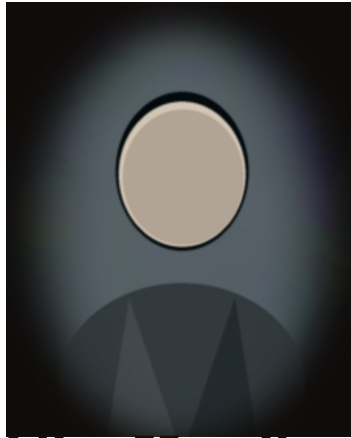




Alice Hamilton

February 27, 1869 - September 22, 1970

Hadlyme, Connecticut

Alice Hamilton - American physician, pathologist, and founder of industrial medicine in the United States - died at her home in Hadlyme, Connecticut, on September 22, 1970. She was one hundred and one. Born February 27, 1869, in New York City and raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana, she earned a medical degree from the University of Michigan, studied bacteriology in Germany, and joined Jane Addams's Hull House in Chicago, where immigrant workers' illnesses became her laboratory.

She traced lead, mercury, and other workplace poisons through factories and mines, writing reports that forced reforms when owners preferred silence. In 1919 she became Harvard's first woman faculty member, appointed to a new professorship in industrial medicine - without the right to use the Harvard Club or march in commencement, indignities she noted with dry precision. Later work for the League of Nations and U.S. agencies extended the same method: go to the plant, talk to the workers, measure what management denied.

Hadlyme was the long retirement address where she wrote memoirs and watched industrial hygiene become a profession she had helped invent. She lived to see OSHA-era debates that still argued from evidence she first insisted on collecting.

She died in Hadlyme on September 22, 1970. Textbooks of occupational health still open with her name.

Hamilton's gift was forensic empathy - turning workers' symptoms into proof that factories could be made less lethal. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so September 22 remembers the physician who made American industrial medicine a science instead of an afterthought.

Services

Died in Hadlyme, Connecticut, September 22, 1970. Physician and industrial-medicine pioneer; first woman faculty member at Harvard; Hull House resident.

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