EILEEN GRAY CHRONOLOGY

1879  Born in Enniscorthy, County Wexford, Ireland.

1895  Mother inherits title Baroness Gray.

1898  Studies drawing at Slade School in London. Discovers shop repairing oriental lacquer in Soho and begins to learn complicated technique of making lacquer.

1902  Decides to leave England and make life for herself in Paris, where she continues to study art and work in lacquer.

1905  Contracts typhoid fever, travels through North Africa during convalescence where she observes Moorish houses.

1907  Takes apartment in Paris at 21, rue Bonaparte, which she keeps throughout her life.

1913  Exhibits lacquer work in Paris Salon des Artistes Decorateurs, and is well received by critics.

1914  Designs screens, tables, etc. in lacquer for grand couturier Jacques Doucet.

1916  To London with her chief Japanese lacquer worker.

1918  Returns to Paris.

1919-22  Designs and executes interior of apartment for famous modiste Suzanne Talbot, with lacquer walls as well as furnishings.

1922  Opens gallery Jean Desert in rue du Faubourg, St. Honore, selling furniture, lamps, lacquer, and carpets she designed. Her work is discovered by de Stijl architects in Amsterdam.

1923  Exhibits bedroom-boudoir for Monte Carlo in Salon des Artistes Decorateurs, which is savagely attacked by French critics. Dutch architect J.J.P. Oud, however, sees photograph of room and writes her in praise.

1924  Entire issue of avant-garde Dutch design magazine Wendigen devoted to her work. With prompting of architects such as Oud and Le Corbusier, and especially Jean Badovici, begins to make architectural studies.

1926-29  Designs and builds house for herself and Badovici "E-1027" at Roquebrune on Riviera, including furnishings.
1929  Entire issue of L'Architecture Vivant devoted to E-1027.
1932-34 Builds second house, "Tempe a Pailla," for herself near Menton. Works on variety of experimental architectural and furniture projects. Continues working on projects for rest of life.
1937  Le Corbusier exhibits her architectural work at his pavilion in the Paris International Exhibition.
1940  Interned by Nazis as enemy alien.
1945  Returns to "Tempe a Pailla," which was occupied by German, Italian, and American troops during War, and attempts to rebuild it.
1956  Having lost most of her sight, sells "Tempe a Pailla" to painter Graham Sutherland and returns to Paris.
1968  Articles appear on her in Italian and American architectural magazines. Young scholars become aware of her.
1971  Small exhibition of her work at Royal Institute of British Architects.
1976  Exhibition "1925" at Paris Musée des Arts Decoratifs features her work. She dies at 97.
1979  Exhibition organized by MOMA on her opens in Victoria and Albert Museum, with accompanying book.