

1840s

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Pre-Raphaelite Events
 Year
 Other Events
 Brown marries cousin and begins to exhibit at the Royal Academy
 Queen Victoria marries her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha
 Ruskin meets J. M. W. Turner
 Penny postage established in Britain
 Millais enters the Royal Academy Schools, youngest ever student
 2,816 miles of railway in USA; 1,331 miles in England
 Future King Edward VII born
 Punch magazine launched
 Invention of the Saxophone
 Brown: 'Parisina's Sleep': study for the head of Parisina
 Treaty of Nanking ends Opium War and confirms cession of Hong Kong to Great Britain
 Queen Victoria makes her first railway journey
 Ruskin's 'Modern Painters', volume one is published
 Competition launched for decoration of new Houses of Parliament
 Woolner first exhibits at Royal Academy
 Thomas Carlyle: Past and Present
 Deverell attends Sass's Academy and meets Rossetti
 Samuel Morse sends first telegraph message
 Dyce commissioned for frescoes in Westminster competition
 YMCA founded in England
 Hunt enters Royal Academy Schools at third attempt, meets Millais and Stephens
 Wood-pulp paper invented
 Brown travels to Italy for his wife's health; visits the studios of Nazarene painters Cornelius and Overbeck in Rome
 Failure of potato crop in Ireland leads to famine and emigration
 First submarine cable laid under the English Channel
 Newman converts to Roman Catholicism
 Millais first exhibits at the Royal Academy; meets Effie Grey
 Ruskin
 Mendelssohn's oratorio Elijah first performed in Birmingham Town Hall
 Brown returns to England after the death of his wife in Paris
 Sewing machine patented by Elias Howe
 USA declares war on Mexico
 Discovery of planet Neptune
 Hunt reads Ruskin's Modern Painters and discovers poetry of Keats
 Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell born
 Millais is lent a book of engravings of the frescoes in the Campo Santo, Pisa
 Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre
 Emily Brontë: Wuthering Heights
 Evaporated Milk made for first time
 Deverell, Hunt, Millais and Rossetti contribute to the Cyclographic Society
 Revolutions all over Europe
 Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood founded in September by Rossetti brothers, Millais, Hunt, Woolner, Collinson and Stephens
 Marx and Engels proclaim Communist Manifesto
 Last Chartist demonstration
 Deverell meets Elizabeth Siddal
 European Revolutions subside
 First pictures inscribed with the initials P. R. B. are exhibited at the Royal Academy (Hunt: 'Rienzi'; Millais: 'Isabella')
 John Ruskin: The Seven Lamps of Architecture
 Benjamin Disraeli becomes leader of Conservative Party
 Britain annexes Punjab