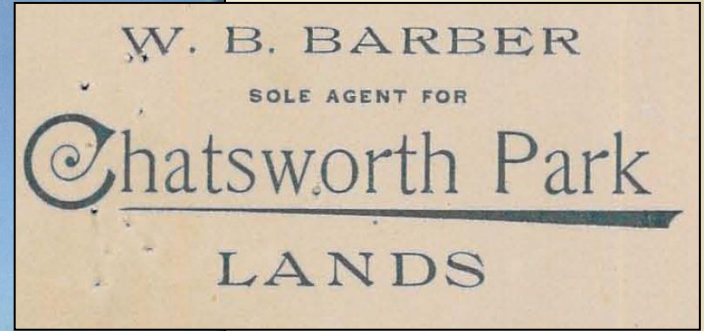
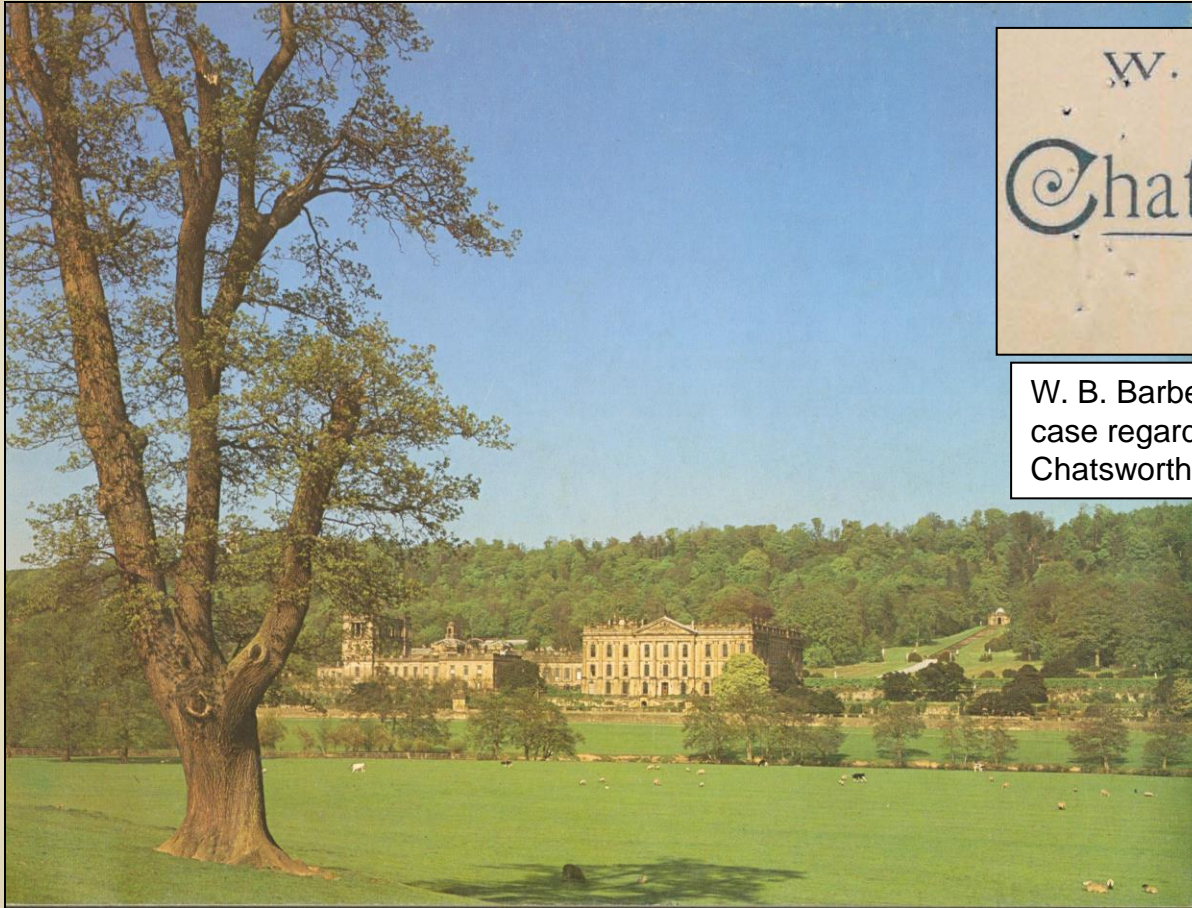


How Chatsworth Got Its Name



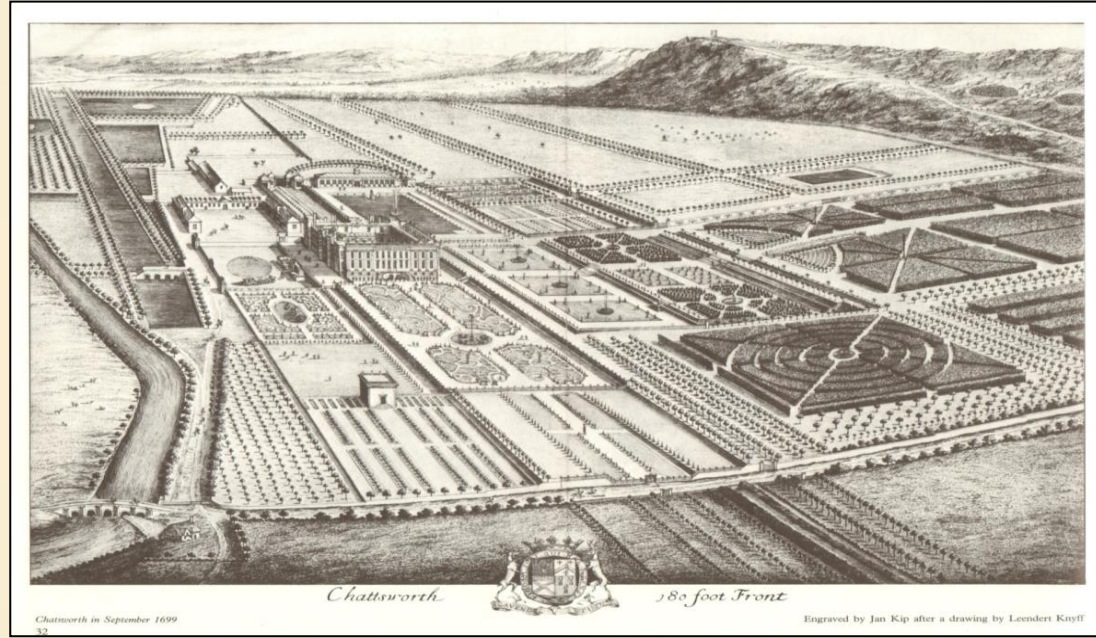
W. B. Barber letterhead from an 1895 court case regarding the 3rd failure of the Chatsworth Park Dam (Huntington Library)

At left: Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, England. It is part of the Duke of Devonshire's 1,822-acre park and 105-acre garden.
[Visit the Chatsworth Estate](#)

How Chatsworth Got Its Name



Chatsworth Park, California founded in 1888...
a flat plain of oaks with a background of hills.



Map of Chatsworth Estate, England 1699...
a flat plain of gardens and oaks with hills in the background.

Introduction

This presentation was first shown in April 2014, and featured Zena Thorpe sharing her memories of visiting with the Duke of Devonshire.

Chatsworth Park was founded in 1888 by the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company.

The President was 69 year old William Booth Barber, who was born in England 17 miles from the Duke of Devonshire's palatial estate, Chatsworth House.

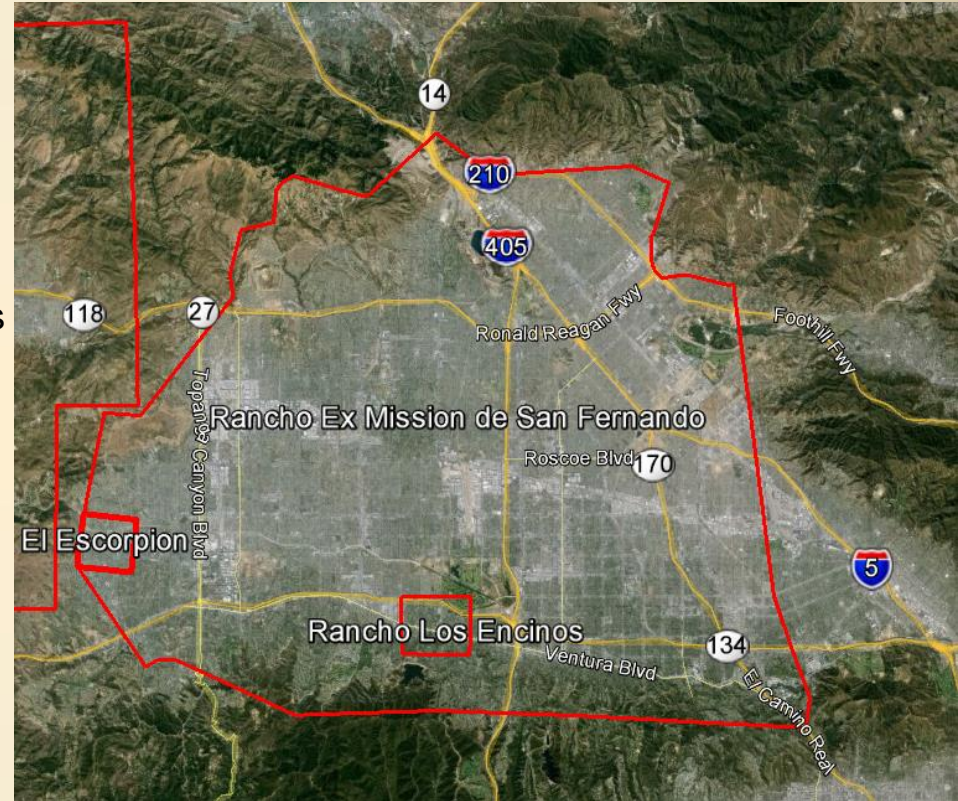
This presentation will be divided into three parts:

- The founding history of Chatsworth Park, California, and William Barber's ancestry and timeline.
- The history of Chatsworth House, England (including a 2013 nine minute PBS video)
- Our Chatsworth England Connection
 - A history of Chatsworth California contacts with the Duke of Devonshire
 - Historical Society members John and Zena Thorpe and their connection to England, Including the Duchess of Devonshire's Chatsworth Food distributed by Zena Thorpe.

This presentation will be posted at our website, chatsworthhistory.com, Digital Archives, Presentations.

Chatsworth Beginnings

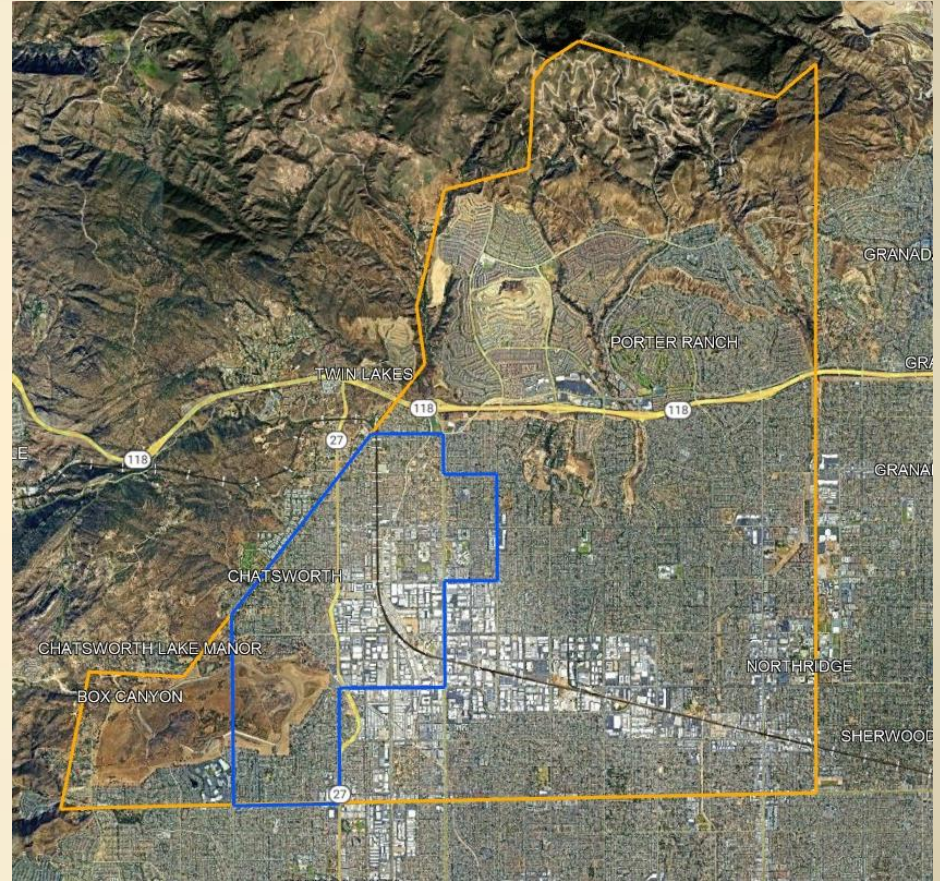
- **1797** – Mission San Fernando founded
- **1821** – Mexico declares independence from Spain.
- **1846** – to raise funds for the Mexican-American War, San Fernando Mission lands were sold to Eulogio de Celis, managed by Andres Pico.
- **1848** – the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ends the Mexican-American war, and provides that land grants will be honored.
- Andres Pico had his headquarters at the San Fernando Mission. In **1854** Pico purchased the southern half of the Rancho from Eulogio de Celis.
- **1869** – Pico sold the southern half of Rancho Ex-Mission de San Fernando to Lankershim and Van Nuys.
- **1874** – the de Celis family sold the northern half to Charles Maclay, George Porter, and Benjamin F. Porter.



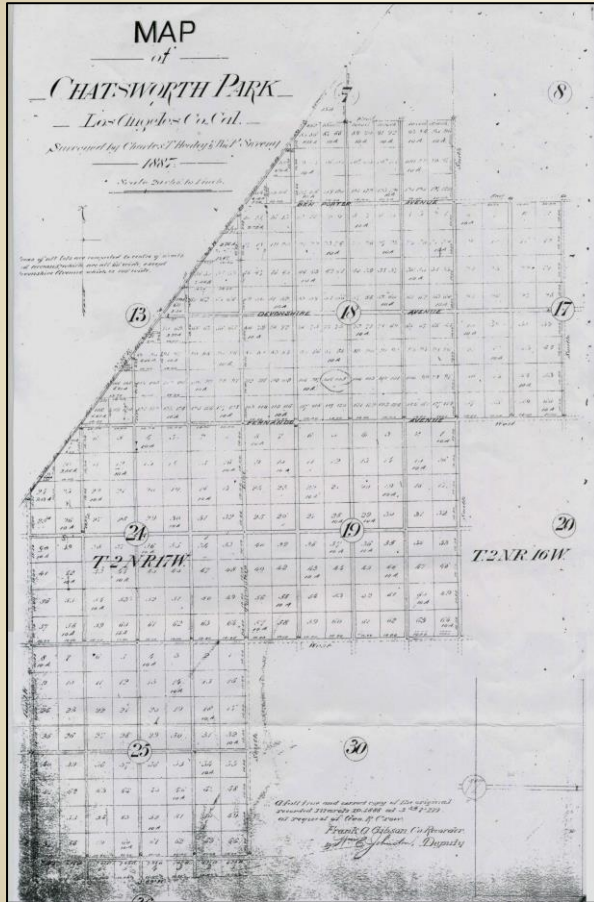
Chatsworth Beginnings

- In **May 1887**, Benjamin F. Porter contracts to sell all of his interest in Rancho Ex-Mission of San Fernando lands (19,417 acres) to F.C. Howes, William Booth Barber, W.F. Barber and George R. Crow for \$485,439, or \$25/acre. Payments were to be made over 4 years.
- In **July 1887**, the new purchasers conveyed their interest to the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company.

Boundaries of 1887 B.F. Porter 19,417 acres in Orange, 1888 Chatsworth Park 3,364 acres in blue.



Chatsworth Beginnings



- On **March 10, 1888** George R. Crow filed this map of a subdivision called Chatsworth Park with the LA County Recorder's office.
- Chatsworth Park was named after the Duke of Devonshire's estate "Chatsworth House" in England.
- Chatsworth was originally planned as a farming community with the land divided into ten acre family plots.
- Only three roads were identified: Ben Porter Avenue (Chatsworth St.), Devonshire Avenue and Fernando Avenue (Lassen).

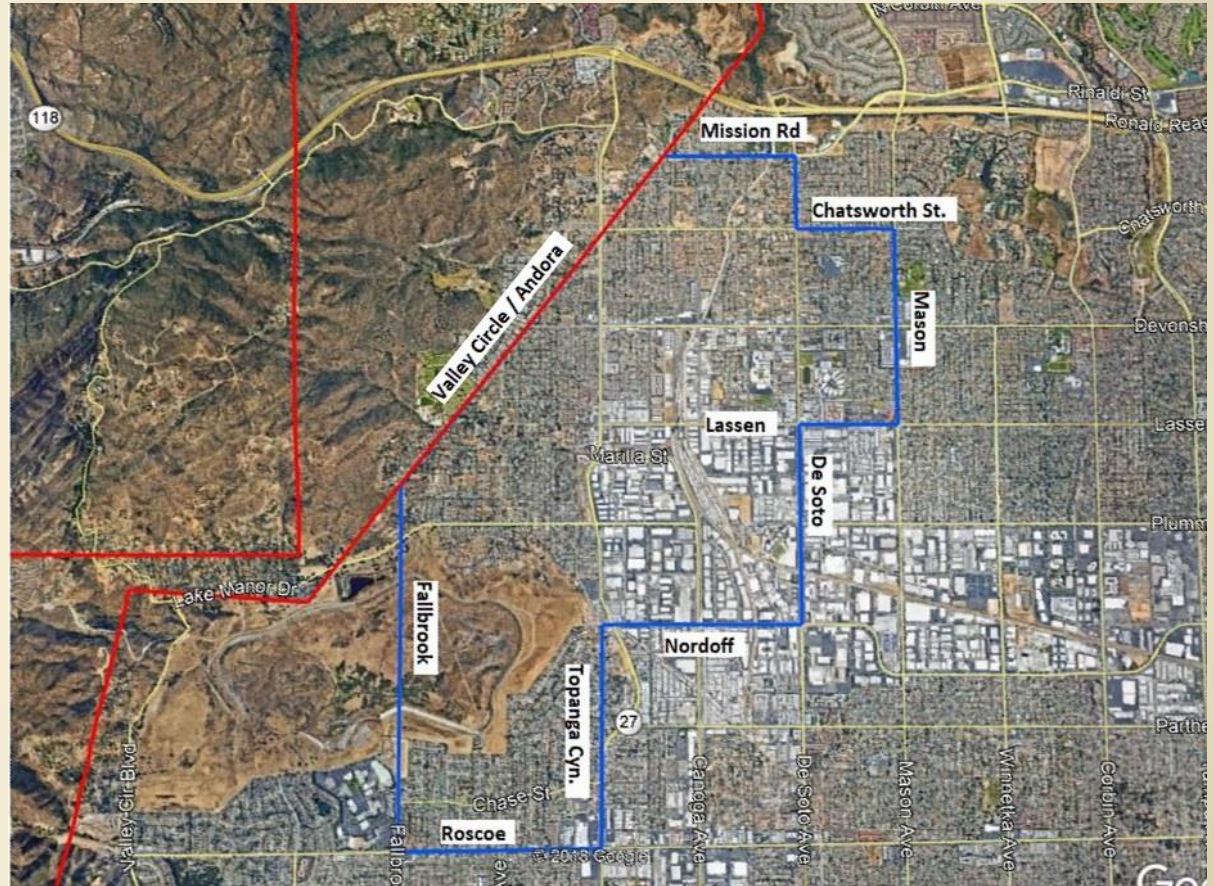
Chatsworth Beginnings

The boundaries of
Chatsworth Park 1888

on today's
Google Earth Map

3,364 acres

Boundaries of Chatsworth
Park 1888 in blue, Rancho
Ex-Mission de San
Fernando in red



Chatsworth Beginnings

- In **1889**, The San Fernando Valley Improvement Co. builds a water-storage earthen dam in the Mormon Cañon, today's Brown's Canyon. This dam failed 3 times (the first two were earthen dams), was rebuilt in **1896**, and can still be seen today at the very north end of DeSoto. (it silted up in the 1940's)
- By **1898**, the real estate boom burst, and payments dwindled, with a balance due of \$257,613. As a result, over 12,000 of the almost 20,000 acres reverted back to B.F. Porter.

AT THE COURT HOUSE,
LARGE LAND DEAL,
TWELVE THOUSAND ACRES REVERT TO B. F. PORTER.

The End of a Boom Enterprise—How the Southern Pacific Put in Improvements Without Holding Deeds to the Land.

Another relic of the boom times loomed up in Department Three yesterday in the foreclosure suit of B. F. Porter against the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company, the Los Angeles Construction Company and twenty-four other defendants, to foreclose over twelve thousand acres of fine land in the vicinity of Chatsworth Park.

During the halcyon days of the boom all kinds of schemes—good, bad and indifferent—were worked off successfully upon a long-suffering public. But at that time the large tracts of land were broken up and disposed of to incoming settlers, and excellent work was done

in that direction. In May, 1887, Porter entered into a contract with F. C. Howes, W. B. and W. F. Barber and G. R. Crow, for the sale of all of his interest in the Rancho ex-Mission of San Fernando. The land had not been surveyed, but it was approximately estimated that the tract contained about twenty thousand acres, and for this \$500,000 was to be paid. Later, when the survey was made it was found that there were 19,417.56 acres in the tract, so that the exact price of purchase was \$485,439, or at the rate of \$25 per acre.

In July, 1887, the original purchasers conveyed their interest to the San Fernando Improvement Company, and from thence on for some years large blocks of land were disposed of to settlers. The payment of the purchase price was spread over four years, but the boom burst, and for a time real estate values declined, and business stagnated. In October, 1892, there was a very large balance still owing to Porter, but an amicable arrangement was arrived at by which the time for payment was extended. But affairs drifted on and payments could not be made until September, 1897. When the present suit was instituted, there remained due \$257,613.43, and for that amount, with accruing interest at 6 per

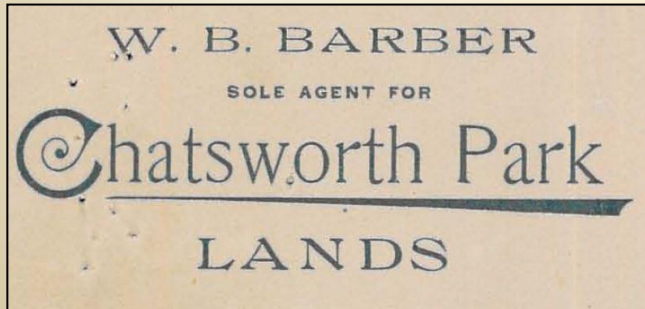
cent., Porter obtained judgment yesterday, the defendants being allowed sixty days within which to pay, and, failing to do so, their interest in about twelve thousand acres of land will be foreclosed.

One of the most curious complications in this large land deal was one to which the Southern Pacific Railroad Company was a party. At Chatsworth Park the company built about a mile and a half of track, put in switches, and built a two-storied depot, all of which has been of immense convenience and benefit to the ranchers down there. But the company did all this without having a deed, or ever a scrap of writing, to any of the land upon which these improvements have been placed. How the Barbers contrived to get the Southern Pacific to give so much without getting anything in return has been a puzzle.

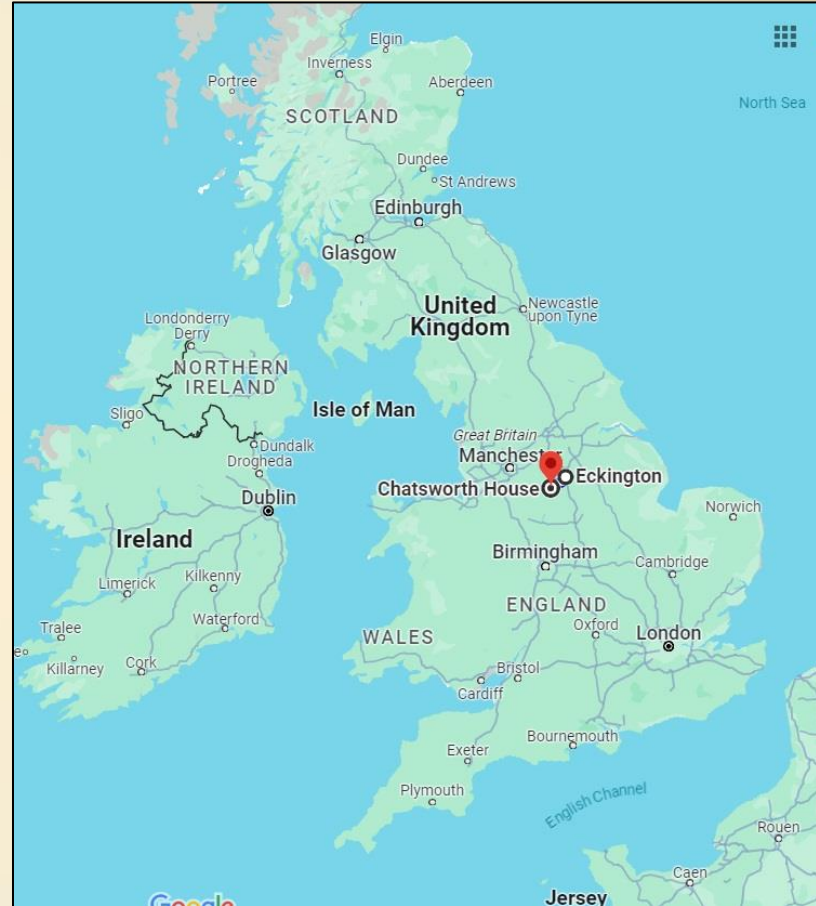
1898-06-08 Los Angeles Times

William Booth Barber

- **William Booth Barber** (1819-1901) was the **President** of the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company; in 1888 he was 69 years old. His son-in-law Charles T. Robedeau (married to Lucy Barber) was Vice President, and his son William F. Barber was Secretary.
- William immigrated to the United States from England with his wife in 1841 at the age of 22.
- **William was born and grew up in Eckington, Derbyshire, which is 17 miles from Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, England.** (map at right, red arrow on Chatsworth House)



W. B. Barber
letterhead from an
1895 court case
regarding the 3rd
failure of the
Chatsworth Park Dam
(Huntington Library)



William Booth Barber - Timeline - birth to Los Angeles

- 1819-01-15 Born in Eckington, Derbyshire, England (which is 17 miles from Chatsworth House, the Duke of Devonshire's estate)
- 1841 William (22yo) married Mary Riley (28). William's occupation was butcher. They immigrated to New York that same year.
- They would have nine children:
 - 1842 Mary, born in Brooklyn, NY
 - 1847 William Frederick, 1851 Lucy Deborah, born in St. Louis, MO
 - 1852 Martha, 1854 Charles, 1855 Edward, 1857 Chester, 1859 Walter, 1861 Edwin, born in Brooklyn, NY
- 1861 (42) His wife Mary (48) dies in Brooklyn, one month after Edwin is born.
- 1862 (43) He marries Sarah Burks (30) in Brooklyn, they have a daughter Ruth in 1862.

During that time....

- 1850 (31) Census, is listed as a Merchant in St. Louis with Mary, Mary and William
- 1855 (36) New York Census, is listed as a Merchant with family, Mary's mother Elizabeth, and two servants
- 1865 (46) New York Census, is a tobacco inspector. He has a daughter Ruth from his second wife Sarah. And three servants from Ireland.
- 1866 (47) IRS Tax assessment, he owns 4 carriages, 3 gold watches, and a piano.
- 1868 (49) travels "First Cabin" to England with wife Sarah. Did he visit John Barber Esq, one of the stewards of the Devonshire Estates?
- 1868 (49) An article mentions William Barber's stores on Clinton Warf in Brooklyn on Long Island
- 1873 (54) Was the marshal of a parade of 1,500 school children from the Brooklyn Uptown schools
- 1874 (55) Was a preacher for two years at the Cook Street Methodist Episcopal Church
- 1875 (56) New York Census with family, grain dealer.
- 1875 (56) notice of foreclosure on two mortgages in NY.
- 1877 (58) Lots for sale, Nob Hill, Los Angeles

William Booth Barber - Timeline - in Los Angeles

- 1877 (58) Lots for sale, Nob Hill, Los Angeles
- 1880 (61) Census, he is a grain dealer in Kansas City with wife Sarah and daughter Ruth.
- 1887 (68) Purchases B.F. Porter lands as a part of the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company (SFVIC).
- 1888 (69) On March 10, 1888, George R. Crow filed a map of a subdivision called Chatsworth
- 1889 (70) W.B. & W.F. Barber, Barber & Co. Real Estate, and sole agents for the SFVIC's property at Chatsworth Park, have offices at Second and Spring Street, in the Bryson-Bonebrake Block.
- 1892 (73) Voter Registration, his occupation is "Capitalist", living at the corner of Figueroa and 30th.
- 1893 City Directory, three Barbers WB(74), WF(46) & WF Jr(21) living on Figueroa

Barber William B. (Barber & Co.) res 2921 Figueroa
Barber William F. (Barber & Co.) res 2915 Figueroa
Barber William F. Jr., res 2915 Figueroa
Barber William H., brakeman S. P. Co., res 1604 San Fernando
BARBER & CO. (William B. and William F. Barber) real estate, 229
West Second

- 1895 (76) Land for sale, in Chatsworth Park, 50 acres planted in apricots, and twenty 10-acre pieces, offices at 2nd & Spring.
- 1896 (77) Voter Registration, his occupation is "Real Estate", residence is 822 S. Hope
- 1897 (78) His son William F. Barber (secretary of SFVIC) dies at the age of 50, buried at Angeles-Rosedale Cemetery
- 1898 (79) Unsold lands from the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company revert back to BF Porter.
- 1900 (81) US Census, living with wife Sarah, renting at 404 9th St., Los Angeles.
- 1901 (82) Death, buried at Angeles-Rosedale Cemetery



1889-02-24 Offices at 2nd & Spring LAHerald

William Booth Barber

The following is from a 1960 interview with Mrs. Catherine Dace, the granddaughter of Charles Maclay, the founder of San Fernando:

"In the meantime, I think I should bring this in, B. F. Porter had sold a tract of land to a man by the name of Barber, who was the third son of the lord, or whatever he was [Duke of Devonshire], who lived in Chatsworth Park, England. He had very little money. Barber subdivided this land and was able to sell a little of it, but he came at just the time that the boom in Los Angeles burst [about 1888], and he was unable to sell any more.

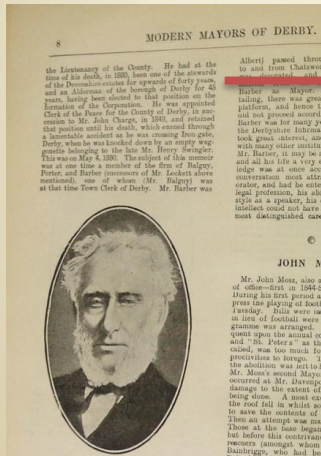
He came to Porter and told him he couldn't make any more payments, and asked Porter to take the land back, except those pieces that had been sold. And that is where Chatsworth got its name: from this man's home in England"

Note: W.B. Barber was not related to the Duke of Devonshire.
Sidenote: British Titles were inherited based on "primogeniture", where the person's property passed on to the first born son.

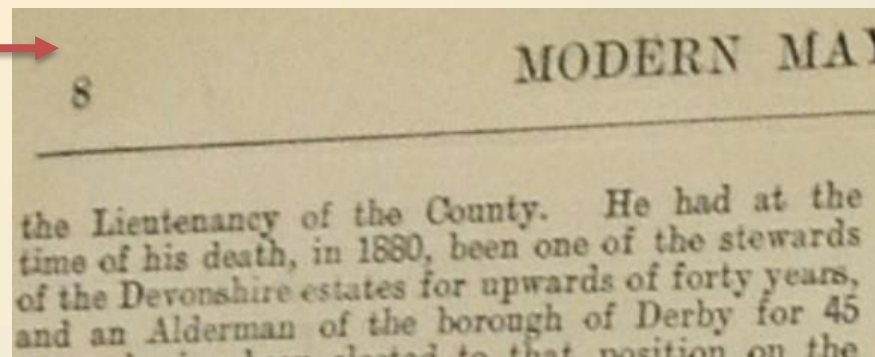
Source: "Oral Histories Three Pioneer Women's Memories of the San Fernando Valley, 1860s-1930s" pgs 11-12 of 40,
Spring 2015 issue vol 97, No. 1 Southern California Quarterly

William Booth Barber - unanswered questions

- Was William Booth (W.B.) Barber (1819-1901), founder of Chatsworth, related to John Barber Esq (1797-1880), one of the stewards of the Devonshire estates?
- There were a lot of Barbers in England near the Chatsworth House at that time. But we could not find an ancestral link between W.B. Barber and John Barber Esq.
- However, W.B. Barber in 1868 traveled "First Cabin" to England with wife Sarah.
- If W.B. visited Chatsworth house during that visit to England, and perhaps even met with the Duke of Devonshire, or John Barber Esq, it may have been additional inspiration to name his 1888 township "Chatsworth Park", twenty years later.



John Barber Esq (1797-1880) was Mayor of Derby in 1843, and was one of the stewards of the Devonshire estates from 1840 to 1880.

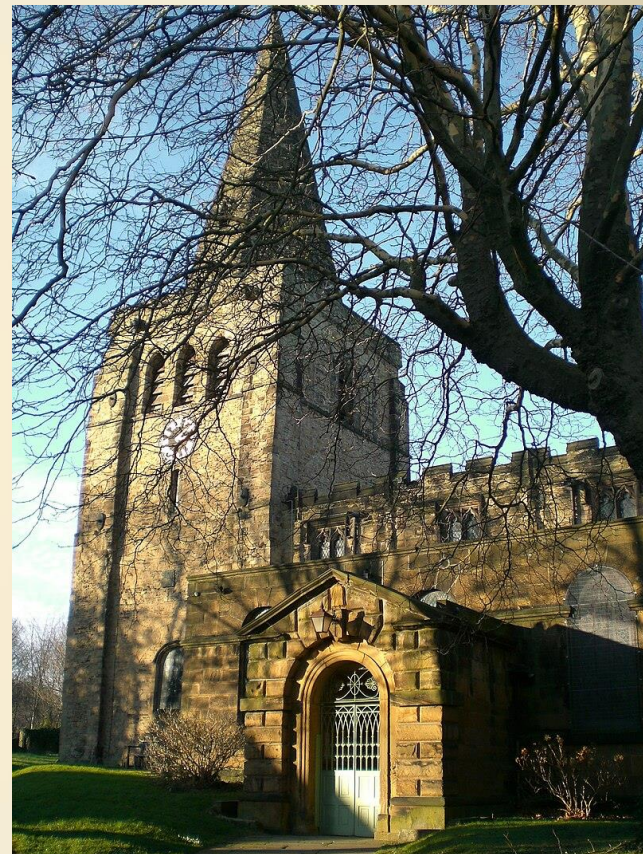


William Booth Barber - Ancestry

- William Booth Barber (1819-1901) was born in Eckington, as was his father and grandfather. When William was married, he was a butcher, as was his father. William was the first born male, he had 11 siblings.
- His father, William Barber (1780-1868) was a butcher, and he married Deborah Booth, which was their first son's middle name.
- His grandfather, William Barber (1747-1794) was born and died in Eckington.

Interesting historical note: Ten Roman coins discovered in Eckington in 2008 may be evidence of a Roman settlement or road in the area. The oldest of the silver and copper coins is from the reign of the emperor Domitian (AD 81 to 96) while the others are from the reigns of Trajan (AD 98 to 117) and Hadrian (AD 117 to 138).

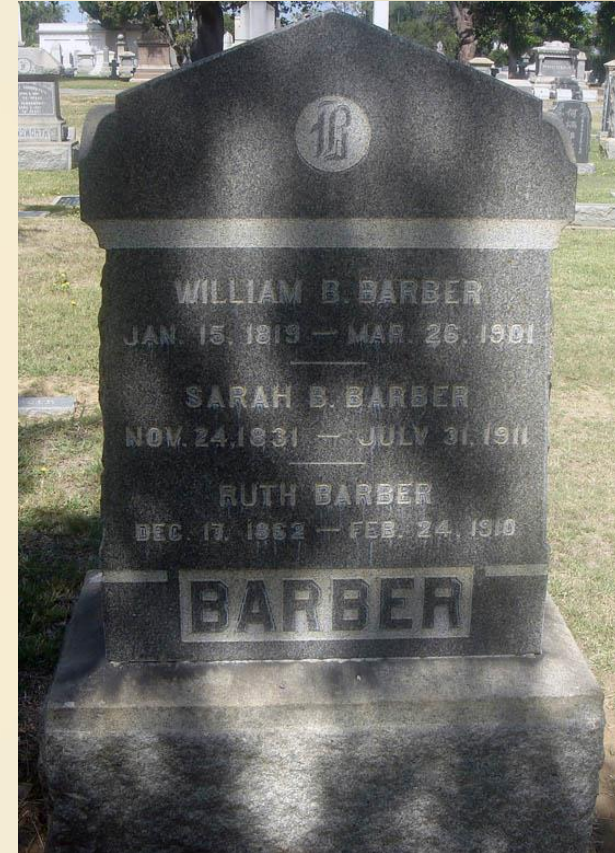
St Peter and St Paul's Church, Eckington
The church dates from the 12th century



William Booth Barber family - at Angeles-Rosedale Cemetery

- William Frederick Barber (1847-1897), son of WB Barber
- William Booth Barber (1819-1901) founder of Chatsworth, President of San Fernando Valley Improvement Company (SFVIC)
- William Frederick Barber Jr. (1872-1904), grandson of WB Barber
- Ruth Barber (1862-1910), daughter of WB Barber and Sarah Birks
- Sarah Birks Barber (1831-1911), wife of WB Barber
- Lucy Barber Robedeau (1851-1943) daughter of WB Barber and wife of Charles T., VP of SFVIC

For a good introduction to the history of the cemetery, visit the YouTube video [Exploring Famous Graves of Angelus-Rosedale Cemetery, Part 1](#)

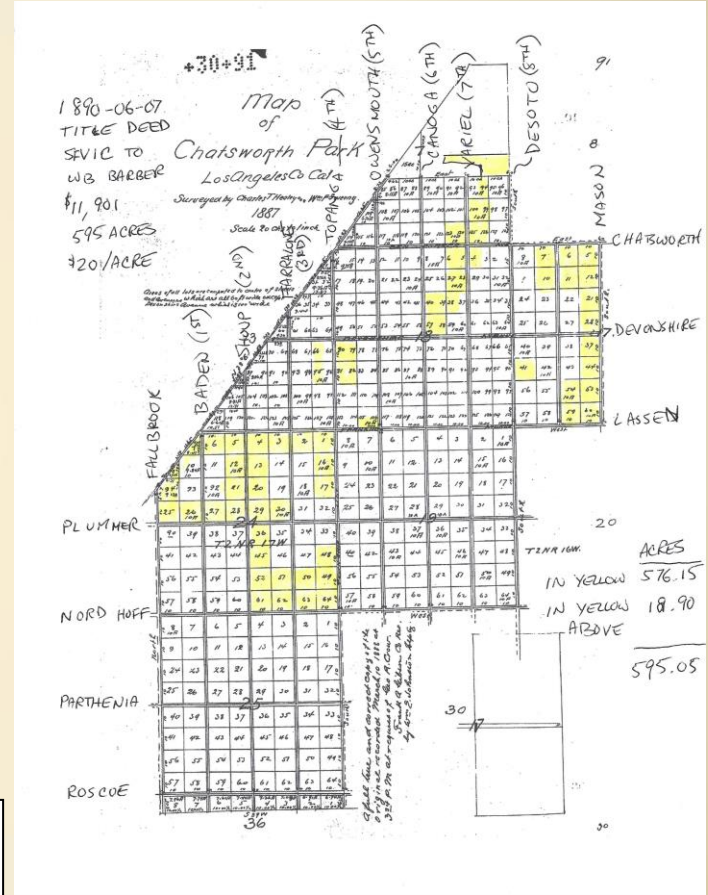


William Booth Barber - SFVIC Title Deed

1890 Chatsworth Park Title Deed - San Fernando Valley Improvement Company to WB Barber

- In 2014, Teena Takata gave us a copy of a 1890-06-07 title deed. It was a sale of 576 acres of 62 different lots in Chatsworth, plus 19 acres above and bordering the Chatsworth Park lot map, where Sierra Canyon School is today. (map at right). The lots included Brown's canyon creek, plus other lots
- The sale was \$11,901 for 595 acres, or \$20/acre.
- Included in the deed was a lengthy section of 267 words restricting the "**vending of intoxicating liquors for drinking purposes**", and if violated the title of the land would revert back to the grantor.
- This intoxicating liquor clause was included in other/all? grant deeds from the San Fernando Valley Improvement Company.

Map of lots sold (highlighted in yellow) to WB Barber in 1890



History of Chatsworth House, England

Up next is a nine minute introduction video,

2013 Secrets of Chatsworth PBS

It is available on our YouTube channel,
chatsworthhistory1, at

<https://youtu.be/1hcTnEKaJF8?si=odp6LYmYKdnfLoMr>

The full Public Broadcasting Video is available on
Amazon DVD



History of Chatsworth House, England

- Some recent Cavendish/Duke of Devonshire history related to the United States:
 - William Cavendish (1808-1891) was the **7th Duke of Devonshire** from 1859-1891. W.B. Barber visited England in 1868, and may have met the Duke. There is no record of the Duke ever visiting Chatsworth California.
 - Charles Cavendish (1905-1944) was the second son of the **9th Duke of Devonshire**. He married Fred Astaire's sister Astele in 1932 in the family's private chapel at Chatsworth. He died at 38 due to chronic alcoholism. Astele is buried near Fred Astaire, Fred's wife, and their mother at Oakwood Cemetery.
 - Edward Cavendish (1895-1950) was the **10th Duke of Devonshire** from 1938 to 1950.
 - His first son, who was inline to inherit the title of Duke, William Cavendish married Kathleen Kennedy in 1944, sister of John F. Kennedy. He went to war soon after they were married and was killed. Kathleen Kennedy lived in London, and died in a plane crash in 1948. She is buried on the Cavendish family burial grounds, in the Church at Edensor outside of Chatsworth, England.
 - His second son, Andrew Cavendish (1920-2004), was the **11th Duke of Devonshire** from 1950 to 2004.
 - The current Duke is Peregrine Cavendish, **12th Duke of Devonshire** (born 1944), second son of the 11th Duke of Devonshire.

Note: Fred Astaire had a 20 acre horse breeding ranch, Blue Valley Farm, at 10901 Melvin Ave in Porter Ranch, bordering today's Monteria Estates. His wife passed away in 1954 and was buried at Oakwood.

Our Chatsworth England Connection


- In 1944 the Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to the Duke requesting the use of his family crest while promoting Chatsworth California.
- Our more recent connection to Chatsworth England has been John and Zena Thorpe, who grew up in England near Chatsworth.
- Zena is a Past President of the Chatsworth Historical Society 1991-1993. John was president during 1997-2000 which included the 1988 Chatsworth Centennial. During the Centennial, Zena was President of the Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council.
- In 1987, Zena met with the 11th Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth House.
- In 1989, Zena became a distributor of Duchess of Devonshire foods in the United States.
- The following documents are a fun remembrance of the involvement in Chatsworth England by our own Chatsworth Historical Society members.....
- Comments on each document are taken from Zena's recorded presentation to the Chatsworth Historical Society on April 2014.

Our Chatsworth England Connection



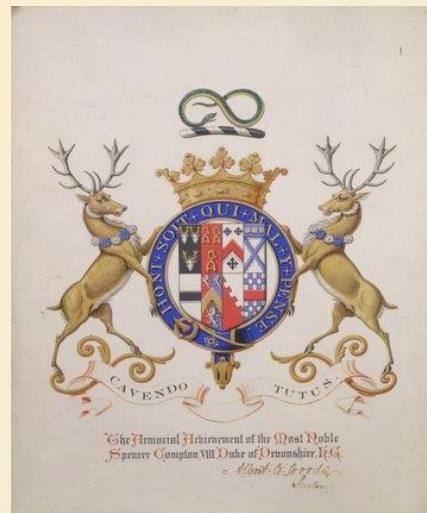
Arms of the Duke of Devonshire: three stag-heads on shield
Chatsworth was named after his estate



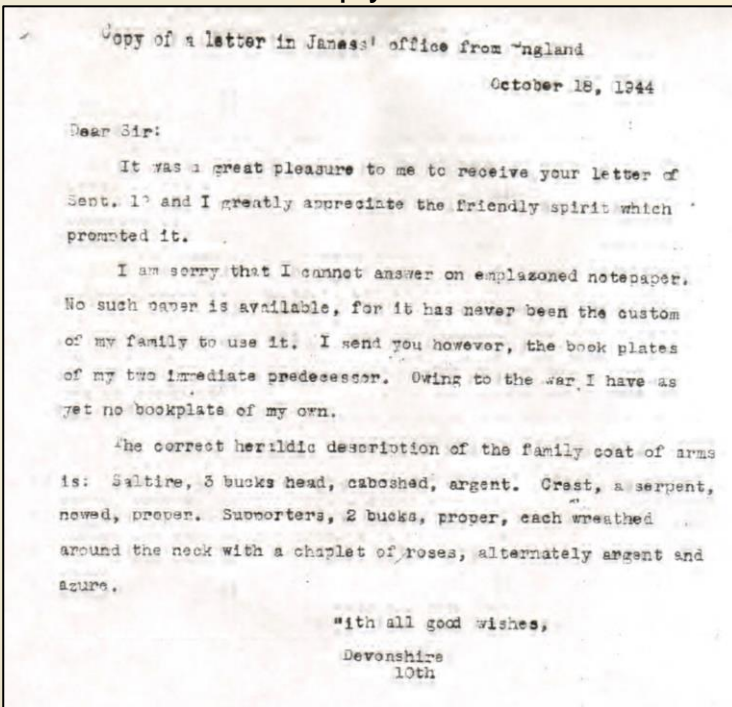

CHATSWORTH

A
COLORFUL
CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY

ISSUED BY THE
CHATSWORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



The Armorial Achievement of the Most Noble
Spencer Compton VIII Duke of Devonshire K.G.
c. 1810



Note:
I have
cropped
the
documents
in this
section to
best fit on
each page

Our Chatsworth England Connection

Sign at the northwest corner of Devonshire and Topanga, in front of Chatsworth Park Elementary – circa 1940s-50s

Note that the Duke of Devonshire Shield is shown on the sign, representing Chatsworth England



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- In 1987, in preparation for the 1988 Chatsworth Centennial, it was suggested that we invite the Duke to come and visit for the celebration.
- Zena Thorpe was planning a visit to England later that year, and was seeking an introduction with the Duke, to give him a personal invitation to the event.

A draft of the 1987 letter
before corrections

APRIL 16, 1987

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE
CHATSWORTH HOUSE
HARDWICK 1545
CLEBY SHINE
D341PN, ENGLAND

DEAR SIR,

THE COMMUNITY OF CHATSWORTH, CALIFORNIA U.S.A. WILL BE CELEBRATING OUR CENTENNIAL IN 1988. PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE VARIETY OF EVENTS THAT WILL TAKE PLACE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

NESTLED IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES. LIFESTYLE IN OUR UNIQUE COMMUNITY HAS SUCCESSFULLY PRESERVED OUR HISTORICAL PAST. MAINTAINED A COMFORTABLE RESIDENTIAL LIFE STYLE AND HAS ESTABLISHED A FUTURISTIC HIGH TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIAL AREA. WE ARE A PROUD COMMUNITY OF ALL THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PREVIOUS 100 YEARS.

IN JUNE OR JULY OF THIS YEAR A REPRESENTATIVE FROM OUR 100 YEAR COMMITTEE WILL BE VISITING YOUR AREA. WE WOULD IMMENSELY APPRECIATE IT IMMENSELY IF YOU WOULD AFFORD HER THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND SPEAK WITH YOU.

ZENA THORPE IS ORIGINALY FROM ENGLAND AND HAS BEEN A RESIDENT OF CHATSWORTH FOR THE PAST YEARS. SHE HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN ALL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHATSWORTH COMMUNITY COORDINATING COUNCIL, COMPRISED OF GROUPS, CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS, SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES FROM THE AREA.

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THROUGH HER VISIT WITH YOU WE CAN MAKE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE FROM CHATSWORTH, ENGLAND AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR CELEBRATION.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

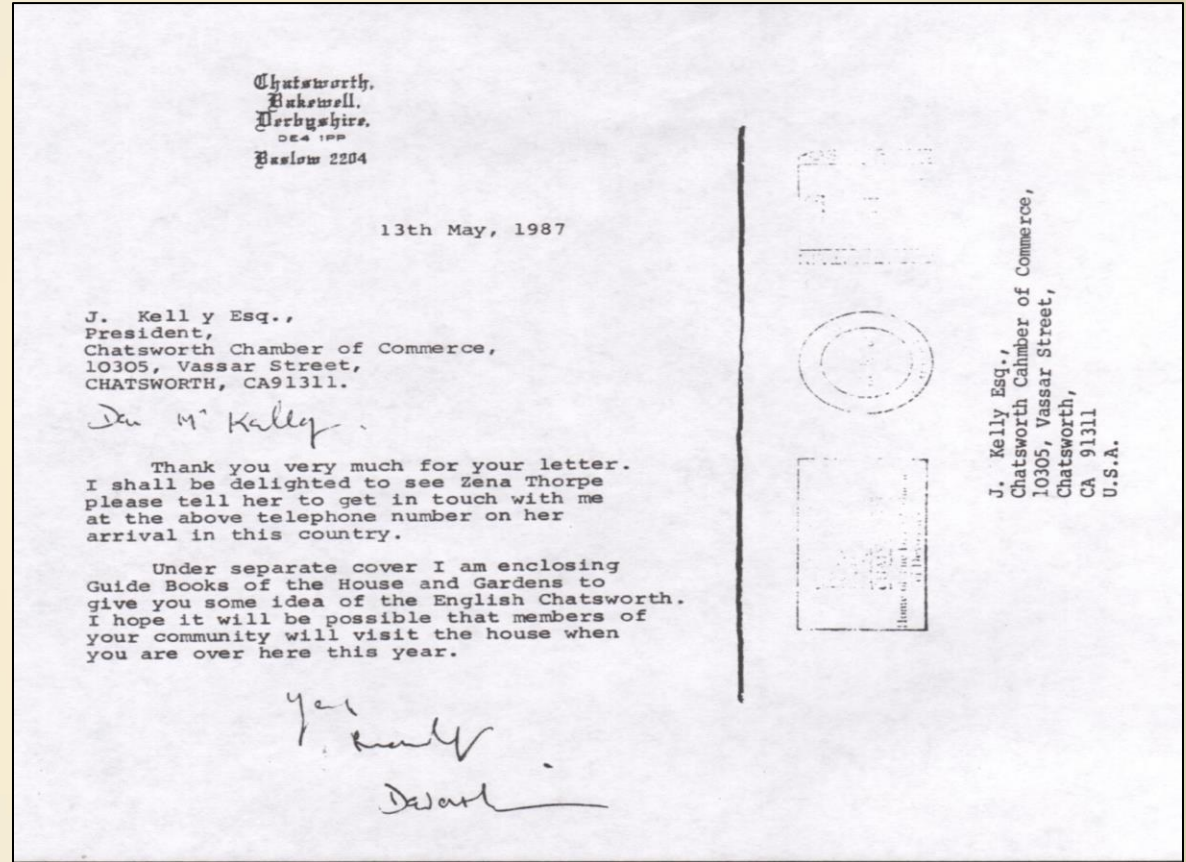
SINCERELY,

JOHN KELLY, PRESIDENT
CHATSWORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*out
5/14
C*

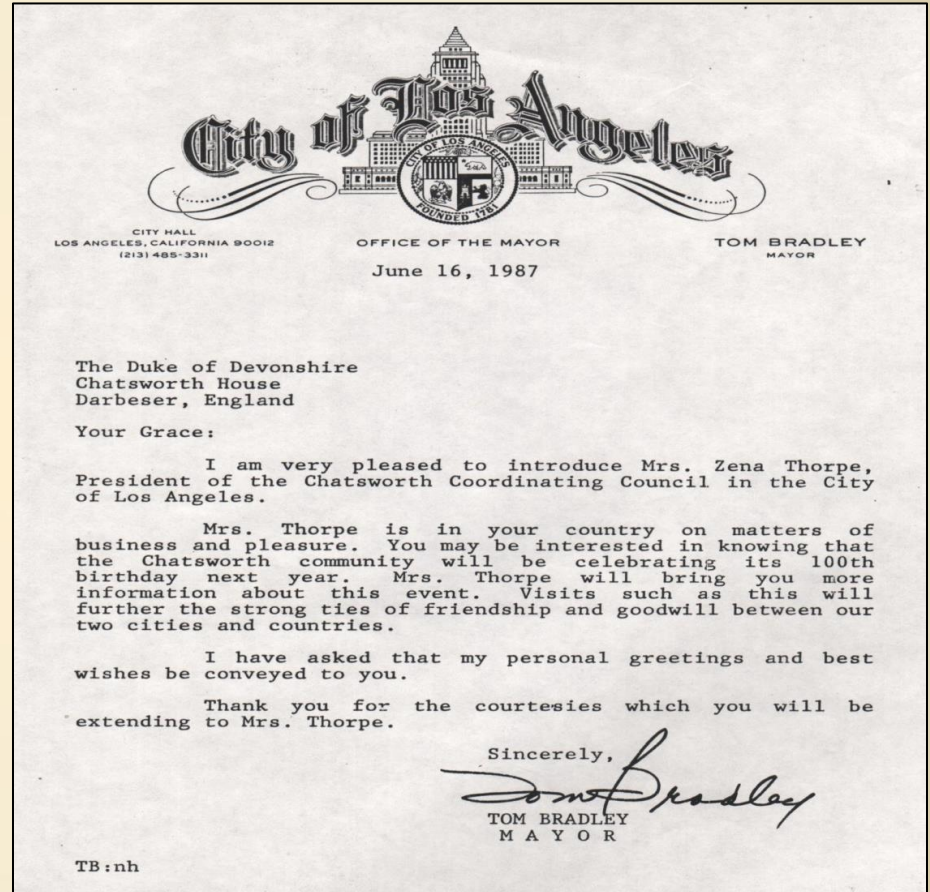
Our Chatsworth England Connection

- The Duke replied, and would be delighted to see Zena Thorpe.



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- Zena went to visit the Duke, and arranged with Mayor Tom Bradley's assistant to prepare a letter of greetings from Mayor Tom Bradley to the Duke.
- Zena would visit England on matters of business and pleasure, and provide more information about Chatsworth's 100th birthday next year.
- When Zena arrived for her visit, she was informed to call a Mr. Oliver, the Duke's personal secretary. She called from her brother's house about 12 miles from Chatsworth House. The person answered, "Hello", and Zena asked "Is this Mr. Oliver?" The reply was "THIS IS THE DUKE".
- She met him in his study and shared a glass of champagne with him. And invited him to the centennial celebration the following year.



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- Zena wrote to him as a follow-up letter, suggesting that he combine his visit with the "UK-LA 88" Arts Festival.
- Chatsworth House is one of the richest houses in Europe in terms of art treasures.

Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council

9657 Glerson Ave.,
Chatsworth,
Calif. 91311,
U.S.A.

The Duke of Devonshire
Chatsworth House
Derbyshire, England

August 20th 1987

Your Grace:

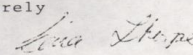
I am writing to you in follow-up of my visit with you on June 29th of this year at your beautiful home at Chatsworth. I enclose a copy of the letter from the Mayor of Los Angeles with which I presented you at that time.

You will remember that the main purpose of my visit was to invite you to visit Chatsworth, California and to take some part in our centennial celebration which is planned for 1988.

In the course of my correspondence with the British Consulate in Los Angeles I have discovered that a British Arts Festival is planned for Los Angeles during the months of Feb.-April 1988, namely, "UK-LA '88, A CELEBRATION OF BRITISH ARTS," and it has occurred to me that you may want to include a visit to this festival. The Duke and Duchess of York are scheduled to participate in the arts festival but we do not, as yet, have a definite date for their visit.

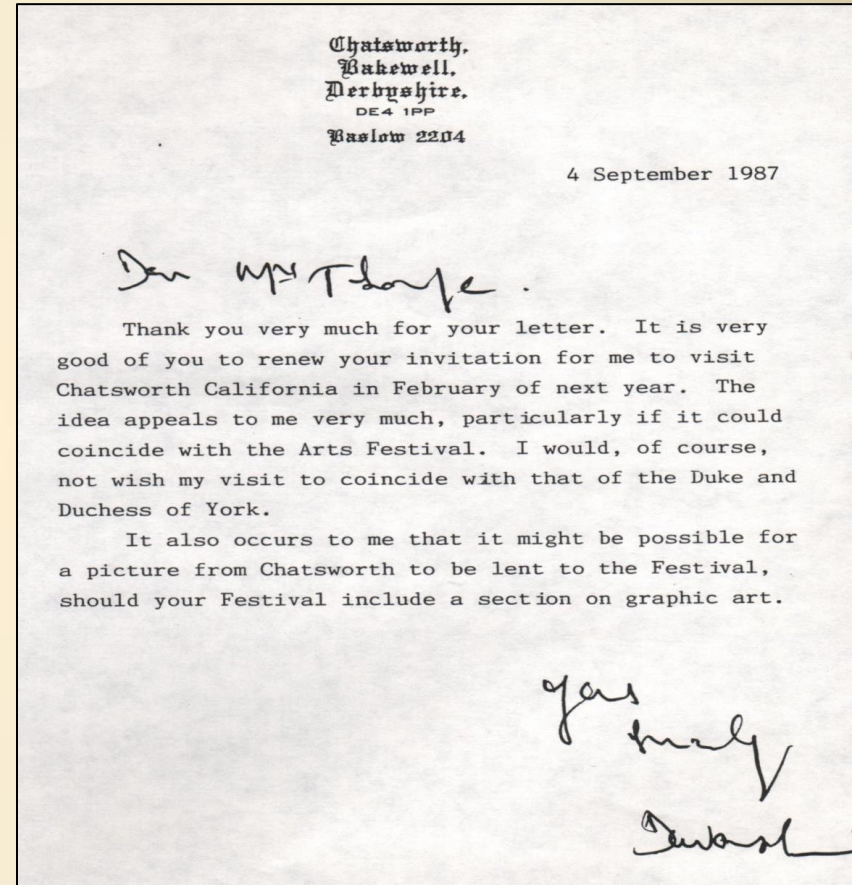
If you would consider making the trip to Chatsworth, California and would like to incorporate with it some participation in "UK-LA '88" we would be very happy to initiate arrangements.

Sincerely


Zena Thorpe - President

Our Chatsworth England Connection

- The Duke replied that the idea of a visit appeals to him very much, particularly if it could coincide with the Arts Festival.
- At this point Zena thought "Woah", if the Duke comes to visit, what do I do with him, I don't have a spare bedroom...there were no hotels in Chatsworth at this time.



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- So Zena wrote to the UK-LA Arts Festival, and also sent a copy to the British Consulate down on Wilshire Blvd.
- She was interested in the proper protocol and how to deal with the Duke.
- Her comments were that the British Consulate were very unhelpful, and it took the longest time for their reply. And they replied that it is already planned and we don't have any more room to add anything.....

Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council

9657 Gierson Ave.,
Chatsworth,
Ca. 91311

September 11th 1987

Mr. Bruce Joseph
Denton, Hall, Burgin & Warrens
2121 Avenue of The Stars, 22nd floor
Los Angeles, Ca. 90067

Dear Mr. Joseph,

Next year is the 100th birthday of Chatsworth and I am working with the Chatsworth Chamber of Commerce in planning a celebration of this centennial.

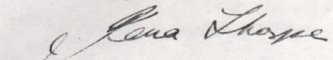
As a part of the celebration we would like to have the Duke of Devonshire, after whose estate "Chatsworth" in England our town is named, to visit Chatsworth, California and to take some part in our festivities.

Please find enclosed copies of our correspondence thus far.

As you see, the Duke is interested in a visit to the UK-LA Arts Festival and has also offered art work. His house is one of the finest in Britain and is one of the richest in Europe in art treasures. I am enclosing a brochure for your information.

I am hopeful that we may be able to coordinate our efforts to arrange this official visit.

Yours sincerely



Zena Thorpe - President
(818)882-3572

Copy to Mr. Angus Mackay - British Consulate

Our Chatsworth England Connection

- Zena replied to the Duke with the letter from the consulate stating that there was limited room at the Festival for new entries.
- Zena also mentioned that the Duchess of Devonshire might be interested in a promotion of her Chatsworth line of teas and jams at the UK-LA Arts Festival.

Chatsworth Community Coordinating Council

9657 Gierson Ave.,
Chatsworth,
Calif. 91311

October 16th 1987

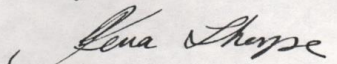
Your Grace,

Thankyou for your letter of September 4th indicating your interest in visiting Chatsworth, California and the UK-LA Arts Festival.

I enclose a program for the entire festival and a copy of the letter which I received from the British Consulate regarding your proposed visit. It was also mentioned to me by the consulate that in conjunction with the arts festival one of the major Los Angeles department stores is holding a special promotion featuring British goods and that the Duchess of Devonshire might be interested in a promotion of her Chatsworth line of teas, jams etc. (which, incidentally, I sampled this last summer and thought were excellent).

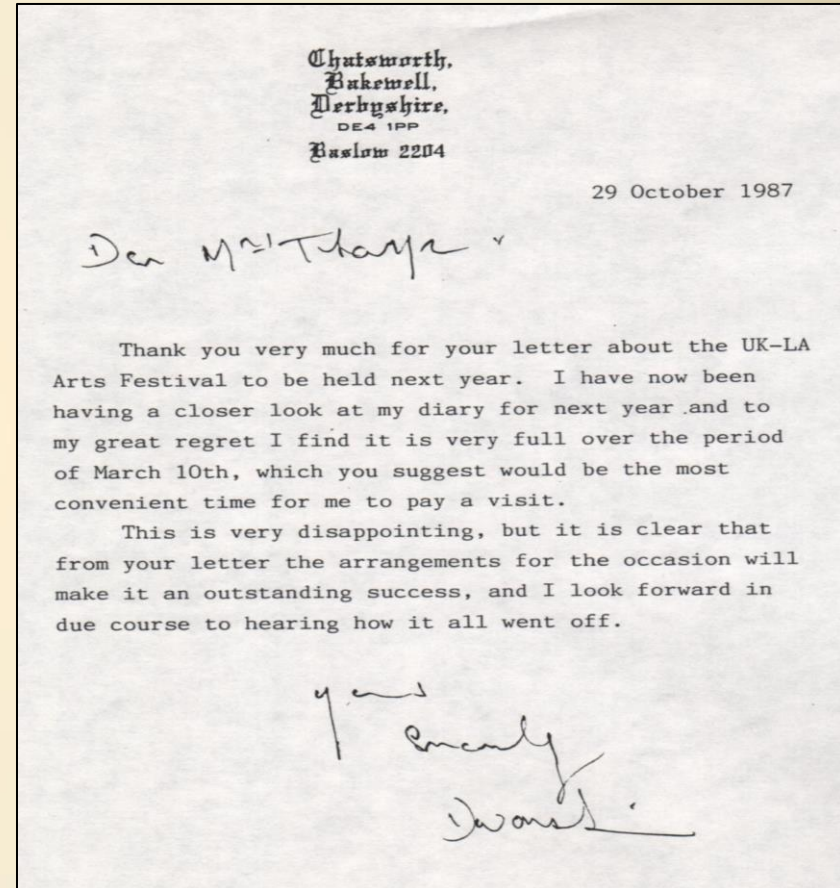
The Chatsworth Centennial Committee would be particularly pleased if you could visit Chatsworth, California on or around March 10th but we are flexible and would be most honoured by your visit at any time.

Yours sincerely


Zena Thorpe

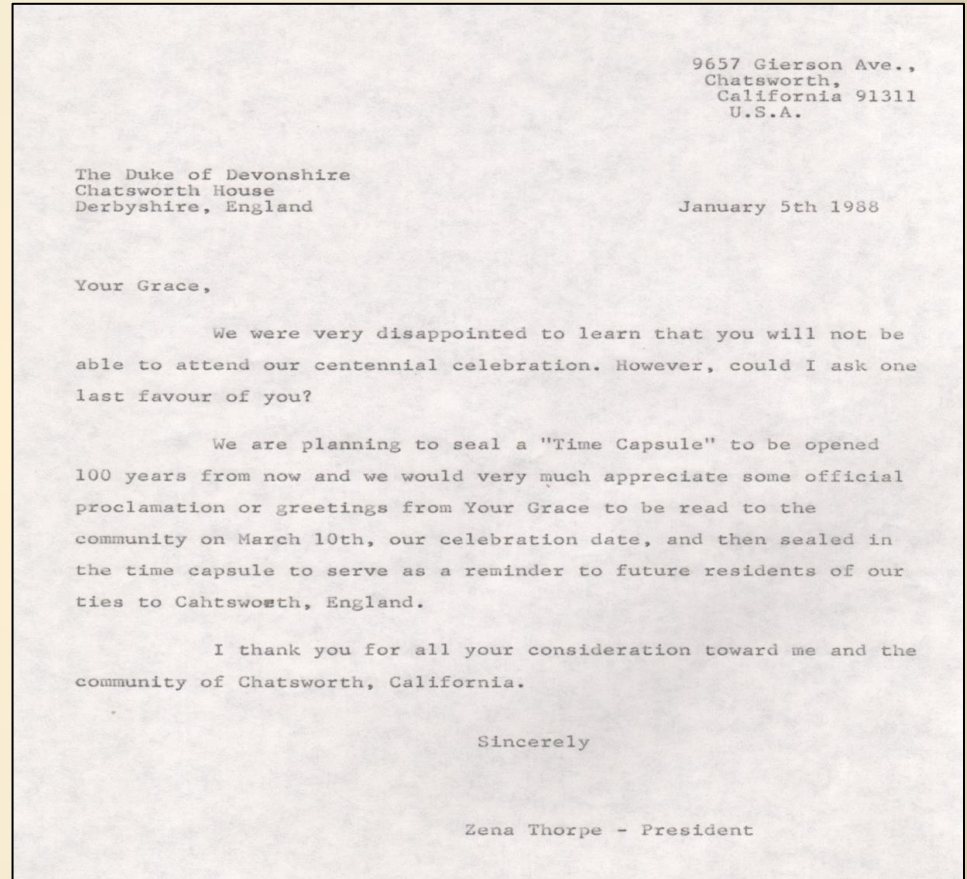
Our Chatsworth England Connection

- Not surprisingly, the Duke decided that his schedule no longer allowed a visit.



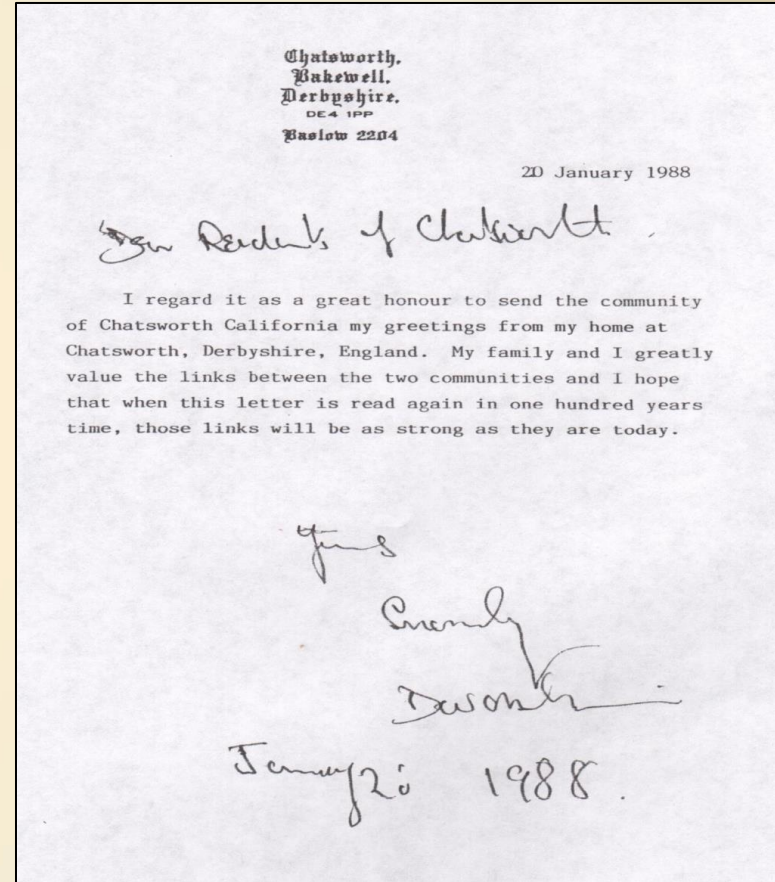
Our Chatsworth England Connection

- Zena replied back saying that we were disappointed, but also asked if the Duke could send a message to be included in the "Time Capsule" to be opened 100 years from now?



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- The Duke replied in a letter, that will be revealed when the Time Capsule is opened in 2088.



This is the visitors brochure that was handed out when Zena visited Chatsworth House and the Duke of Devonshire in June 1987.



ADMISSION CHARGES

House and Garden	
Adults	£3.75
Senior Citizens	£3.00
Students	£3.00
Children	£1.90
Family Ticket (a saving if more than one child)	£10.00

Pre-booked Parties	
Adults	£3.25
Senior Citizens	£2.75
Students	£2.75
School Parties (including accompanying staff)	£1.90

Garden only	
Adults	£2.00
Children	£1.00
Family Ticket (a saving if more than one child)	£5.50

Farmyard and Adventure Playground	
Adults	£1.50
Children	£1.00
Family Ticket (a saving if more than 2 children)	£5.00

Scots Suite (8 extra rooms in the House)	
Adults	£0.30
Children	£0.15

Car Park	£1.00
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The Directors of the Chatsworth House Trust reserve the right to alter the admission charges and times of opening without notice.

Chatsworth supports British Food and Farming

Printed in Great Britain.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

FARMYARD AND ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
Live animals as produced on Chatsworth Farms; Forestry Exhibition; Trout rearing, milking demonstration daily at 3.30 pm. Exciting Adventure Playground.
Tel: Baslow (024 688) 2204 ext. 364.

CAFE AND LICENSED RESTAURANT
Light Refreshments, lunches, high teas and snacks served all day. All home made food.
Tel: Baslow (024 688) 2204 ext. 364.

CHATSWORTH SHOPS:
THE ORANGERY AND THE PARK SHOP
Gifts, many selected by the Duchess of Devonshire and based on designs from the House and Garden, produce, stationery, books and much more. Tel: Baslow (024 688) 2204.

POTTING SHED in the Garden
Home grown plants, fruit and vegetables as available.

CHATSWORTH ESTATE FARM SHOP, STUD FARM, PILSLEY
Meat, game in season, dairy produce, cheese, home-made sausages, bread, cakes, English wines & beers and other specialities. Tel: Baslow (024 688) 3392.

STUD FARM WORKSHOPS, PILSLEY
Adjacent to the Farm Shop. Craft Workshops and Coffee Shop open to visitors.

BROOME'S BARN WORKSHOPS, PILSLEY
Penrose and Rietberg, upholsterers. Tel: Baslow (024 688) 3444.

CHATSWORTH GARDEN CENTRE, CALTON LEEK
Large selection of house plants, hardy nursery stock and garden sundries. Tel: Matlock (0629) 734004.

CHATSWORTH FORESTRY SAWMILL, CALTON LEEKS
Fencing stakes, gates, posts and rails, jumping poles. All ungalvanised. Tel: Matlock (0629) 732316. Adjacent to Garden Centre.

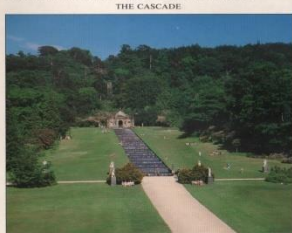
FISHING TICKETS
Trout fishing on the river Wye. Day or week tickets.
Tel: Great Longstone (062 987) 484.

CHATSWORTH PARK CARAVAN CLUB SITE
118 touring caravan pitches in an old walled garden. April-October. To book, telephone: Baslow (024 688) 2666.

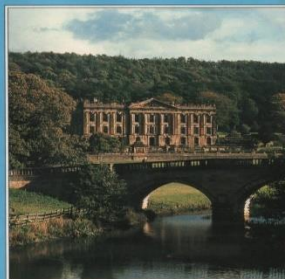


HOW TO GET TO CHATSWORTH

Chatsworth is 8 miles north of Matlock off the B6612. It is 16 miles from M1 Junction 29, signposted via Chesterfield. 36 miles from M6 Junction 19.
Chatsworth House, Garden and Café are open every day from 22nd March to 29th October, 1989.
Farmyard and Adventure Playground every day from 22nd March to 1st October, 1989. Adventure Playground only Saturdays and Sundays during October. Half price.



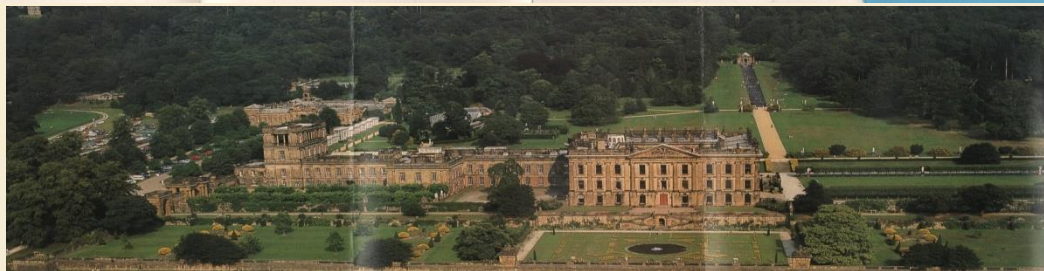
CHATSWORTH
DERBYSHIRE
1989



Home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire

House and Garden open every day 22nd March to 29th October

Farmyard and Adventure Playground 22nd March to 1st October



A visit to Chatsworth in its splendid setting on the banks of the River Derwent in the Peak District National Park, is much more than a visit to one of the most beautiful houses in Great Britain. There are plenty of things to see and do to interest all members of the family for a whole day.

The home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Chatsworth is one of the grandest country houses in England. It was built

THE LIBRARY



between 1686 and 1708 for William Cavendish the 1st Duke of Devonshire, with extensive additions in the 1820s. It is richly furnished and decorated throughout with painted walls and ceilings, woodcarvings, elaborate inlay furniture and wall hangings of tapestry and leather. There is a magnificent library and the collection of paintings, drawings, sculpture, silver, porcelain and curiosities is world famous.

Visitors follow, at their own pace, a clearly marked route round the House for which at least one hour should be allowed.

The Garden covers over 100 acres. It provides many delights and surprises: a cascade, spectacular fountains and rocks, a tropical greenhouse, herbaceous borders, rose garden and secluded walks among rare shrubs and forest trees. The surrounding park of 1,500 acres was landscaped by Capability Brown.

Guided tours of the House and/or the Greenhouses are available at an extra charge by prior arrangement. We greatly regret it is not possible for people in wheelchairs to tour the House due to the number of stairs. They are most welcome in the Garden and 2 wheelchairs are available at the Garden entrance.

Dogs on leads welcome in the Garden.

CHATSWORTH'S TEMPLE OF FLORA
An exhibition of paintings, drawings, books, manuscripts, silver and porcelain celebrating five centuries of flowers, fruit and vegetables.

OPENING TIMES
HOUSE AND GARDEN every day
Wednesday, 22nd March to Sunday, 29th October
House: 11.30-16.30 Garden: 11.30-17.00

Visitors are requested to conclude their visit one hour after the above times.

FARMYARD AND ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
Wednesday, 22nd March to Sunday, 1st October
Every Day 10.30-16.30. Adventure Playground only Saturdays and Sundays during October.

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 1989

Saturday & Sunday, 13th & 14th May
ANGLING FAIR
The only specialist Angling Fair in the Country catering for game, coarse and sea fishing enthusiasts with added family attractions.

Sunday, 28th May
The Norwich Union R.A.C. Classic Run 10.30-13.30.

Saturday & Sunday, 2nd & 3rd September
2-DAY COUNTRY FAIR SPECTACULAR for all the family including massed pipe and military bands, hot air balloons, free fall parachuting and over 150 trade stands.
House and Garden open to Country Fair visitors only.

CHATSWORTH AUDI HORSE TRIALS
International 3-Day Event - please telephone Baslow (024 688) 2204 for details.
House and Garden open to Horse Trials visitors only.

For further information on Chatsworth and special events, please contact: Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire.
Tel: Baslow (024 688) 2204. 24 hour manned service.

BOOKING FORM FOR PARTIES OF TWELVE OR MORE.

Your party booking can be made by completing the following

DATE OF VISIT:
NAME OF PARTY:

ORGANISER'S NAME:
ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:
NUMBER IN PARTY:
ADULTS CHILDREN STUDENTS OAPs
DO YOU REQUIRE INVOICING? YES/NO
HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT CHATSWORTH?

Payment can either be made on arrival or, if you prefer, we will invoice you after your visit on submission of your voucher on arrival. Cheques should be made payable to 'CHATSWORTH HOUSE TRUST LTD'.
This form should not be used for a guided tour. Please telephone - (024 688) 2204 for details and prices of guided tours.

Our Chatsworth England Connection

- During Zena's visit to Chatsworth House, she had seen the Duchess's fancy foods, and she decided that she would like to be a distributor for the foods.
- Later John went with Zena and visited with the Duchess regarding her fancy foods. They visited her at Chatsworth House in her apartment, and had tea and chocolate cake with her.
- Zena made arrangements that she would be the sole distributor of Chatsworth Food in the United States.



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- She came back and organized an import license.
- In 1989 there was a British Food Exhibit, and Zena had a booth there. And she got all sorts of orders, and she was shipping it all over the country, including Hawaii and Canada.
- And it was quite heavy work. She would get these great big pallets piled with cookies and teas and jams and jellies, and John would rent a U-Haul truck and they would go down to the port of Los Angeles, and get it stacked in the truck.
- And they were storing it all in the garage.
- She did it for about 5 years.



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- It was going gangbusters, and around Christmas as well. It was a real heavy job, and she would get her son to help carry these great big cartons over to UPS.
- She realized that business can't stand still.
- She either needed to expand and grow, and rent a warehouse and helpers, or else fold.
- And it was kind of getting in the way of her quilting anyway at that time.
- But it was a lot of fun.....



Our Chatsworth England Connection

- When we give tours at the museum, we always start with the cabinet near the door with displays of items related to the Duke of Devonshire and Chatsworth House.
- Included in that case are three tea canisters from Zena's collection of products from the Duchess of Devonshire.



The
Duchess Of Devonshire's
Chatsworth Food



CHATSWORTH HOUSE
Zena Thorpe
9657 Gierson Ave.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 882-3572





When in England, please visit the 175-room Chatsworth House. The magnificent estate, set on the River Derwent banks in the 1,100 acre Peak District National Park, is open to the public daily from April to October. Located in mid-England, Chatsworth House is 50 miles east of Manchester and 150 miles north of London.

The present building, begun in 1686, houses a world-famous collection of paintings, sculpture, tapestries, furniture, china, and gold and silver plate. The Duchess has carefully chosen a piece of this art to decorate each item in the food line. For example, the apple chutney label is taken from a portrait of an Elizabethan family in an informal setting complete with bird and lapdog. The tea canister pictures five drawings of the estate from the Library Archives.

The formal gardens, greenhouses, farmyard, tea rooms, and gift shop provide unique delights for local residents and visitors from around the world.



The Duchess of Devonshire's Chatsworth Food
is distributed in CA and Arizona
by **CHATSWORTH HOUSE**
Zena Thorpe, Managing Director
9657 Gierson Ave.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 882-3572



The
Duchess Of Devonshire's
Chatsworth Food

From a 300 Year Tradition
of Culinary Excellence

Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, perhaps the greatest of Britain's historic houses, has entertained Royal families and other famous men and women for nearly 300 years. The House, ancestral home of the Dukes of Devonshire since the 17th Century, has always been renowned for the excellence of its cuisine, a tradition which continues to the present day.

Today, the guardian of the treasured Chatsworth recipes is Jean-Pierre Beraud. This superb chef personally supervises the preparation of all the foodstuffs in the Duchess of Devonshire line, insisting that only the finest ingredients are used.

Her Grace, the Duchess of Devonshire, launched this food line as part of her devotion to the preservation of Chatsworth House and grounds. All profits from the line go towards the \$2 million annual upkeep.

Some of the essentially British items in the Duchess of Devonshire food line may be unfamiliar . . .

CHUTNEY

During the 18th Century, trading by the British East India Company introduced many new foods and spices to England from the Indian subcontinent.

Chutney, a subtle blend of fruit, sugar, and spices, proved to be a popular and enduring discovery. The British adaptation became a standard addition to a meal of cold meats (an English tradition dating to the early Middle Ages).

Today chutney is popularly served as a relish with meat dishes. Yet its unique, piquant taste transforms even a simple dish into a special meal. Use your imagination. Discover what chutney can do for the humble cheese sandwich!

The Duchess offers four Chatsworth House variations: Apple with Dill, Apricot and Walnut, Plum with Fennel, and Spicy Tomato.



CONDIMENTS

Cranberry Jelly is a familiar, traditional accompaniment for the Thanksgiving turkey. The delicious Chatsworth version offered by the Duchess is enriched with port wine.

Redcurrant Jelly, perfect with lamb roasts and venison, has a full, fruity flavor with a hint of sharpness.

Apple Mint Jelly is designed to give an astringent contrast to the richness of pork roast.

English Mustard is a revelation--far stronger than what is usual to the American palate. The Duchess's blend with horseradish, one of the hottest herbs, should be used with care! Either of our two varieties can be served with beef roasts, hamburgers, or steaks. The Mustard with Mead (an ancient British wine made with honey) and Honey is mild, tasting particularly delicious with roasts or cold meat, especially ham.

Cumberland Sauce with Port is a rich mixture of hot and sweet--combining redcurrants, lemons, and oranges with onions and hot spices. It is excellent served with pork and other robust meats.

TEA

The British obsession with tea started in the 17th Century when trade with China and India began. The first tea to arrive in Britain was very expensive (today's equivalent of \$200 a pound), and thus was used exclusively by the rich.

The Duchess of Devonshire has made a small concession to the 20th Century by offering her Chatsworth blends in tea bags as well as in the original loose-leaf form.

Correct preparation of fine tea best liberates its delicate aroma and flavor. First, warm a teapot by rinsing in boiling water. Place one teaspoon per serving of loose tea leaves in the pot. Boiling water should then be added and left to brew for four minutes. Next, pour the resulting nectar through a fine strainer into the cups. The Earl Grey blend is best served with a thin slice of lemon. The Breakfast and Afternoon blends are served "black" or with fresh milk (not cream).

BISCUITS

English biscuits are light cookies traditionally served at "tea time". The Chatsworth House Stem Ginger Biscuits are very typical and a delicious treat any time!

The Duchess of Devonshire's

PRESERVES · MARMALADES · SAUCES · JELLIES
CHUTNEYS · MUSTARDS · TEAS · BISCUITS



“A TASTE OF CHATSWORTH”



DISTRIBUTED BY:
FARMHOUSE BISCUITS, BROOK STREET, NELSON, LANCASHIRE BB9 9PX, ENGLAND. TELEPHONE: 0282 63520.

The
Duchess of Devonshire's
Chatsworth Food



CHATSWORTH HOUSE
Zena Thorpe
9657 Gierson Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 882-3572

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST

FOODS	unit price	July 1991	
		case	case price
Accompaniments			
Cranberry Jelly with Port	2.95	12	35.40
Cumberland Sauce with Port	2.95	12	35.40
Redcurrant Jelly with Whole Fruit	2.60	12	31.20
Apple Mint Jelly	2.60	12	31.20
Case of Assorted Accompaniments			33.00
Biscuits			
Butter Shortbread	3.50	12	42.00
Chocolate Chip Cookies	3.35	12	40.20
Stem Ginger Biscuits	3.35	12	40.20
Case of Assorted Biscuits			40.80
Chutney			
Apple Chutney with Dill	3.20	12	38.40
Apricot Chutney with Walnut	3.20	12	38.40
Plum Chutney with Fennel	3.20	12	38.40
Spicy Tomato Chutney	3.20	12	38.40
Case Assorted Chutney			38.40
Mustard			
Coarse Grain Mustard with Mead & Honey	2.70	12	32.40
Strong English Mustard with Horseradish	2.70	12	32.40
Preserves			
Apricot Preserve with Almond	2.60	12	31.20
Black Cherry Preserve with Cherry Brandy	2.95	12	35.40
Blackcurrant Preserve	2.50	12	30.00
Raspberry Preserve	2.50	12	30.00
Seville Orange Marmalade with Whisky	2.65	12	31.80
Strawberry Preserve	2.50	12	30.00
Three Fruit Marmalade with Honey	2.30	12	27.60
Quince Jelly	2.60	12	31.20
Case of Assorted Preserves			30.00
Teas Available loose (4.4 oz.) or bags (25)			
Afternoon Tea	4.00	12	48.00
Earl Grey Tea	4.00	12	48.00
English Breakfast Tea	4.00	12	48.00
Case of Assorted Teas			48.00
Misc.			
Mini-Accompaniments (3 x 1 1/2 oz.)	3.50	12	42.00
Mini-Preserves (3 x 1 1/2 oz.)	3.50	12	42.00
Rich Fruit Cake (2 lb. tin)	11.75		
Chocolate Orange Cake	9.00		
Traditional Christmas Pudding (1 lb. 10 oz.)	10.00		
Traditional Christmas Pudding (6 oz.)	3.25		
Gift "Books" (Breakfast, Teatime, Christmas)	12.50		
Tins Fruit Drops (2.64 oz.)	3.50		

· How Chatsworth Got Its Name

Sources and Acknowledgements

References:

- A 2013 PBS documentary video, "Secrets of Chatsworth"
- [2015 - Oral Histories Three Pioneer Women's Memories of the San Fernando Valley, 1860s-1930s] 40pgs Spring 2015 issue vol 97, no 1 Southern California Quarterly
- Newspaper articles, birth & death records, censuses, voter registrations, city directories, etc. available from Ancestry.com
- Findagrave.com
- Prepared by Ann & Ray Vincent in April 2014, revised January 2024