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The Duchess of Cambridge’s Ancestors Discovered on Film

Several of the Duchess of Cambridge’s ancestors have been discovered on newsreels within the British Pathe film library.

The earliest film dates back to 1915 and shows Kate Middleton’s great-great-great uncle, the Lord Mayor of Leeds Sir Charles Lupton paying a visit to the Leeds Pals Battalion in a camp near Colsterdale in the Yorkshire Dales. Sir Charles Lupton is being accompanied by his three brothers, one of which is the Duchess’ great-great grandfather, Francis Lupton. Francis and his other two brothers, Arthur and Hugh (who became Lord Mayor of Leeds in 1926) are the Duchess’ other great-great-great uncles and they were all Aldermen of the City of Leeds.

Another film called ‘Princess Mary’ is from 1927 and it shows Kate Middleton's great-great-great uncle the Lord Mayor of Leeds Hugh Lupton and his wife Lady Mayoress Isabella Lupton greeting Princess Mary who had arrived in Leeds to inaugurate the Girls Week Campaign of Hunslet Young Women’s Christian Association. Princess Mary was King George VI’s sister and therefore is Prince William’s great-great- Aunt.

Alastair White, General Manager of British Pathé says, “We often get contacted by visitors to our website who are thrilled to find films of their ancestors, their close family or even themselves as youngsters. We knew we had many films of Prince William’s family, but it was a real surprise to find that we also have the Duchess of Cambridge’s ancestors and that they were meeting Royalty”.

The films, can be seen at http://www.britishpathe.com/workspaces/BritishPathe/Middletons

Notes to Editor

- If you require additional stills or more information please contact James Hoyle on +44 (0) 207 665 8340 or email us at info@britishpathe.com
- If you would like to license a film for your online edition please contact us for details.
- Please credit pictures British Pathe Ltd

British Pathé is one of the oldest and best-known media companies in the world. Their roots lie in 1890s Paris where their founder, Charles Pathé, pioneered the development of the moving image. British Pathé was established in London in 1902, and by 1910, the company was producing its pioneering bi-weekly newsreel, the Pathé Gazette. After the First World War, British Pathé also started producing a series of Cinemazines, and by 1930, they were covering news, entertainment,
culture and women’s issues through groundbreaking programmes including the Pathétone Weekly, the Pathé Pictorial, the Gazette and Eve’s Film Review.

By the time Pathé eventually stopped producing the cinema newsreel in 1970, they had amassed over 3500 hours of filmed history. All these films are available to the public to view free of charge at http://www.britishpathe.com

Kind Regards,

British Pathé Ltd,