GROSVENOR HOUSE
A JW MARRIOTT HOTEL
LONDON

IN THE BEGINNING

1665
Aged one, Mary Davies inherits land

1677
Mary Davies marries Thomas Grosvenor who eventually becomes the richest urban landlord in England

1730
Mary's sons develop the land as London expands

1731
Viscount Chetwynd signs the agreement to build the first property on the site

GROSVENOR HOUSE

1730
The Duke of Gloucester, brother of King George III, acquires the property and names it Gloucester House

1806
Lord Grosvenor purchases Gloucester House and renames it Grosvenor House

1914
During the First World War the house is put at the disposal of the government for use in the War effort

A HOTEL IS BORN

1920
The Duke of Westminster decides to sell to commercial speculator Mr A.O Edwards

1927
Designed by Wimperis, Simpson and Guthrie, building work on a 472 room hotel starts

1929
On 14th May the hotel opens its doors

The hotel is the first in London to have a bathroom in every bedroom and the first in Europe to have running iced water in every bathroom

THE THIRTIES

1930
The Great Room hosts The Park Lane Ice Club where Queen Elizabeth II has ice skating lessons

The popularity of ice galas and balls gives A.O Edwards the idea to convert the Great Room to a banqueting space

1934
A.O Edwards, purchases the De Havilland Comet 'Grosvenor House' and subsequently wins the Mac Roberson Air Race of Australia

WAR YEARS

1939
World War II brings dramatic changes to the hotel

The Great Room becomes the home to the Officers' Sunday Club Entertainment for 300,000 officers

The hotel is also used briefly as an annexe to the Immigration Section of the US Embassy

1943
The hotel becomes the largest US Officers' mess, serving 5.5 million meals in 2 years

THE SIXTIES

1956
The final stage of the building is added

The new section of the hotel is officially opened in 1957 by Chancellor of the Exchequer Peter Thorneycroft

1960
Major events take place in the Great Room in the 60's

From The Beatles concert to boxing events, making the Great Room the new home of British boxing

1963
The hotel is acquired by Trust Houses who spend £500,000 on decoration

NEW OWNERSHIP

1996
Grosvenor House passes through the hands of no fewer than six owners

2004
In January of 2004, Marriott International finally acquires the hotel

The company commences plans to re-brand it to a JW Marriott hotel

2008
On the 8th September Grosvenor House becomes a JW Marriott Hotel

A multi million restoration covers all aspects of the 494 bedroom hotel

RECENT YEARS

2009
Bill Marriott, Chairman of Marriott International arrives in April with his wife, Donna to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the hotel

2010
New additions to Grosvenor House:

A new spacious and modern fitness suite

JW Steakhouse offering tender hand-cut selections of dry-aged American USDA prime beef

Virtual Meetings by Marriott with ATandT and Cisco Telepresence studio

LondonGrosvenorHouse.co.uk