

ROSA MARKHAM (1840-1912)



Rosa Paxton was born in 1840, the fifth daughter of the architect Joseph Paxton; famous for his work at Chatsworth in Derbyshire and for designing Crystal Palace for the Great Exhibition.

From 1850 and 1855, between the ages of 10 and 15, Rosa actually attended a young ladies seminary at Tipton House in Chesterfield. Little did she realise that this would later become her home from 1873 until her death in 1912. Rosa married Charles Markham in 1862.

The Markhams were not typical of many wealthy Victorian families of the time. Rosa was very much in charge and personally involved in her children's upbringing. The Markham household was not at all extravagant and waste was heartily disapproved of. Rosa Markham was a popular figure in her day and her funeral, in April 1912, was attended by hundreds of local people.