

the constituency boundary changes of 1974 since when she has sat for Barnet, Finchley.

Mrs. Thatcher's first ministerial appointment came in 1961, when she became a Parliamentary Secretary to the then Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, remaining in this position until the change of Government in 1964. From 1964 to 1970, while the Conservatives were in Opposition, she was a front-bench spokesman for her party in the House of Commons, and from 1967 a member of the Shadow Cabinet, being concerned during this period with a very wide range of subjects, including social security, housing and land, Treasury matters, fuel and power, transport and education. When the Conservatives returned to office in June 1970, she was appointed Secretary of State for Education and Science and was made a Privy Counsellor. After the general election of February 1974 she was appointed to the Shadow Cabinet and became Opposition front-bench spokesman, first on the environment and later (in December 1974) on Treasury matters. She was elected Leader of the Conservative Party and thus Leader of the Opposition in February 1975.

Since becoming Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher has visited the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany (including West Berlin), Italy, Japan, Australia, Zambia, Yugoslavia, Greece, Luxembourg, the Irish Republic, the Netherlands, India, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar, Canada, Bahrain, Kuwait,