

# Lieutenant Henry Boyton, 1891 - 1916

Henry James Boyton was born in 1891 and was the only son of James and Emma Boyton, who lived at Thames Lawn, Marlow and in London. Henry's father James was a keen supporter of the Marlow Rowing Club. In 1910, he bought the site of the current clubhouse and leased it, under favourable terms, to the Club. He was elected President of the Club in 1915. He also served as a Justice of the Peace for the County of London, was a member of the London County Council from 1907 to 1910 and was Member of Parliament for Marylebone East from 1910 to 1918. He was made Knight Bachelor in the 1918 New Year Honours List.

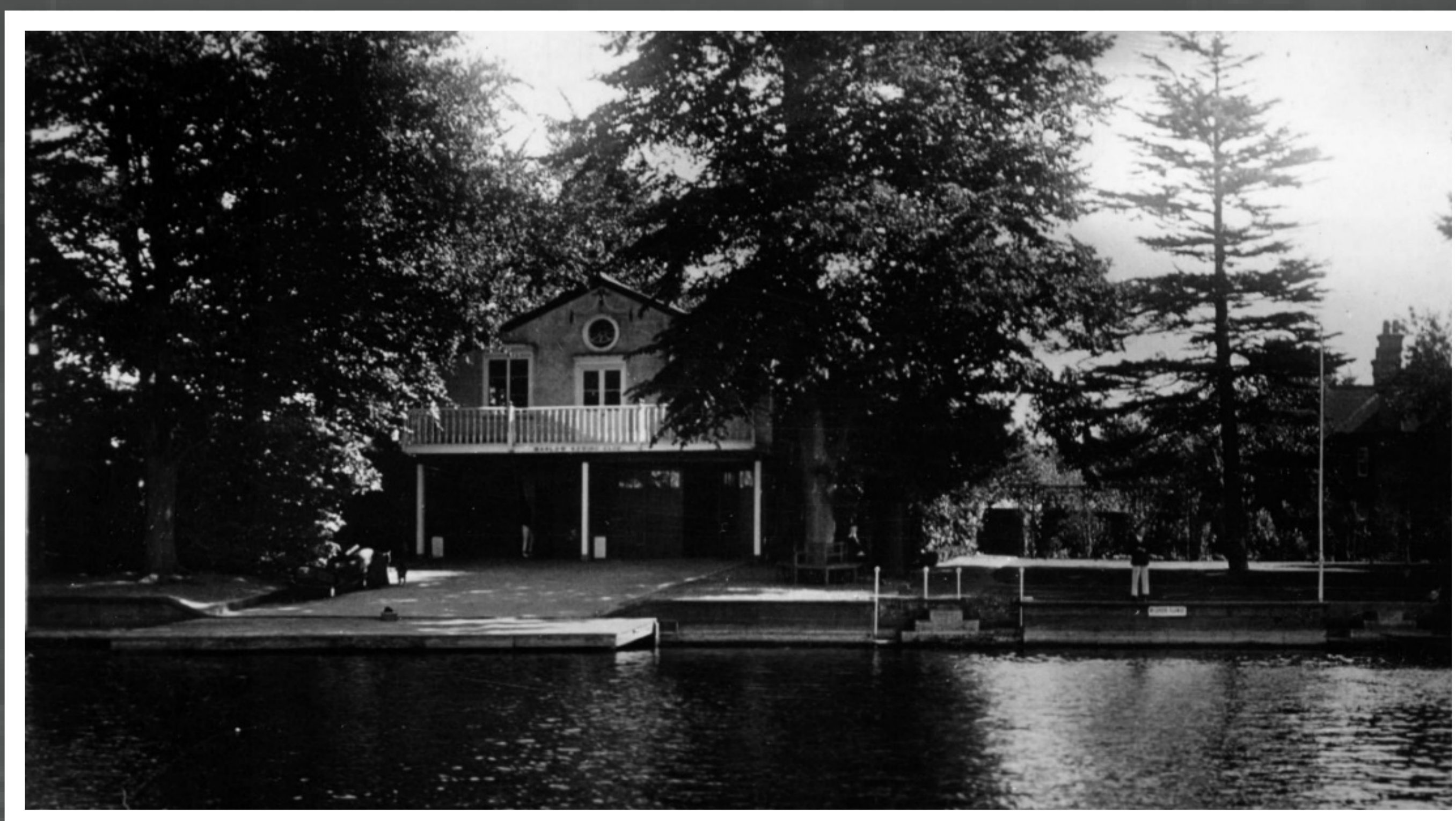
Henry was educated at Stanmore Park School and then Harrow School, before going to Jesus College, Cambridge. He was in the Officer Training Corps at Harrow and attached to it during his time at Cambridge. In 1912 he took a commission in the 1st Battalion, City of London Regiment. Soon after the outbreak of the War, his regiment was despatched overseas and Henry was wounded in France in May 1915. He returned to England and served in a reserve battalion for a period of time.

In July 1916, he transferred to the Grenadier Guards and in October returned to France, where he was killed at Sailly-Saillisel on 14 December 1916, aged 25. He is buried in Combles Communal Cemetery Extension in France and is commemorated in All Saints Church in Marlow. His death was reported extensively, both at home and abroad, for example in The Washington Post.

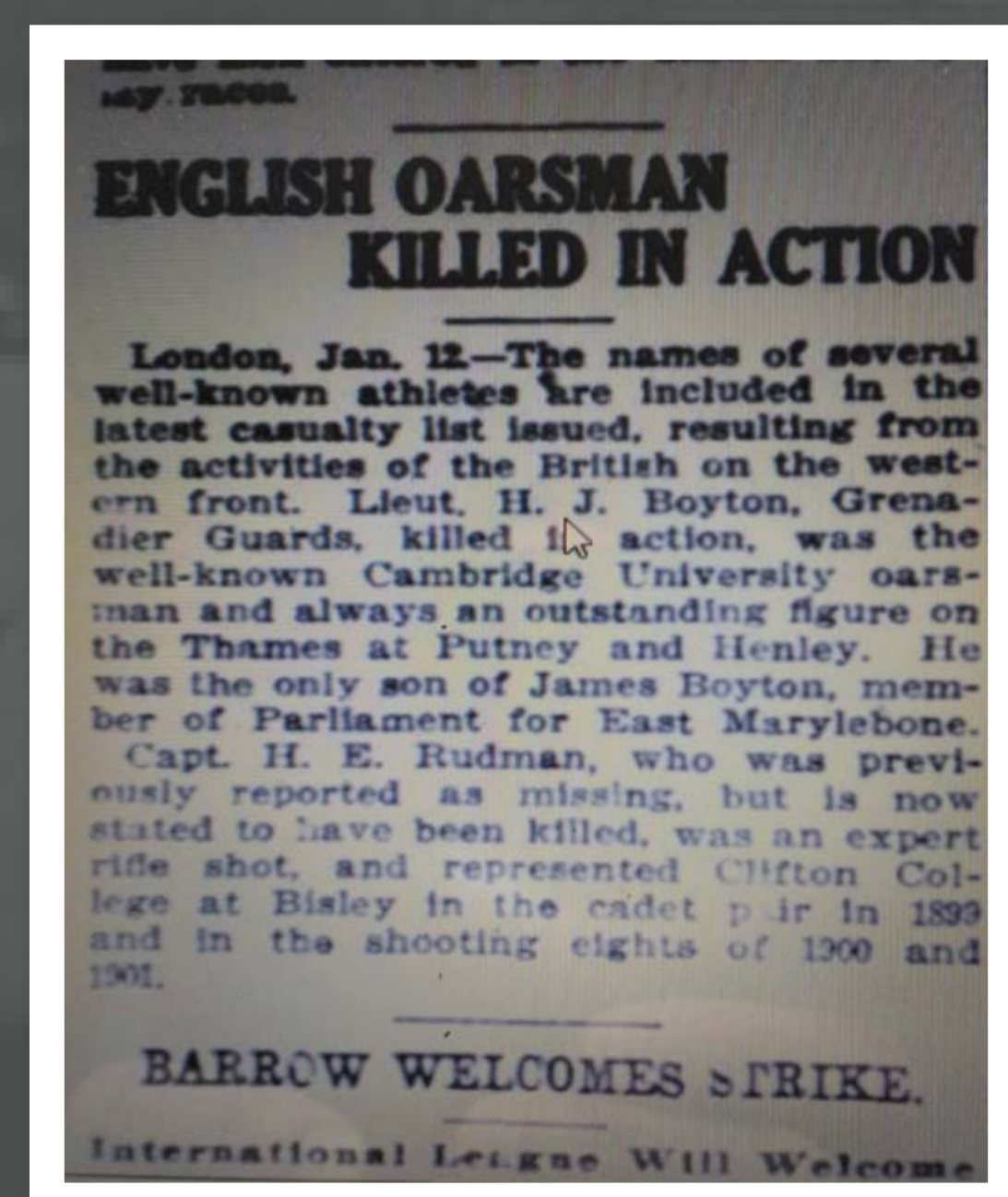
Henry's obituary in the South Bucks Free Press described him as a 'brave and efficient officer, always keen on his work. He was a favourite with officers and men...He will be greatly missed by a wide circle of friends.'



Henry as a student. Photo courtesy of Jesus College, Cambridge



Marlow Rowing Club before the First World War



News of Henry's death in The Washington Post.