

## Boynton 1930 Video – Narration for 16:26 minute video by Douglas Quine

This is the dictation for the Boynton video from approximately 1930. The cast of characters being

- Ruth Boynton
- Marjorie Boynton
- Barbara Boynton
- their mother known to me as grandmother Alice Boynton
- their father known to me as grandfather Augustus Boynton
- then grandmothers father Charles Frederick Payne who was born in 1842 served on the first Union steam powered ship “Stars and Stripes” in the civil war and patented an improvement to Rotary engines and became a lawyer after graduating from Harvard Law School
- and grandmother’s mother Lillian Peabody is also in this video - she's a thin severe looking woman who was born in 1852

I'm going to indicate when the video starts and at that point if you start playing the video the timestamps should match what I'm saying (the video lasts 16 minutes and 30 seconds)

The Video is starting and there is about 14 seconds without any images

Grandmother Alice Boynton is on the Liberty Street, Meriden porch smoking

Now we have Ruth standing in front of a grape arbor and sister Barbara comes up - they both pulled grapes off and they're eating the grapes

**30 seconds** now into the video Ruth and older sister Barbara are eating, now Marjorie is standing in front of the house waving, now Ruth comes so we have oldest Barbara then Marjorie and youngest Ruth. Now they're playing croquet, with Barbara the oldest, Marjorie in the middle and Ruth is the youngest one and Barbara's now screwing the handle back on her croquet mallet and they're playing croquet in the grass with a lot of leaves around just sort of whacking the ball around not going through the wickets Barbara just picked up her sister Ruth.

Ruth is now walking down the sidewalk at a **minute 15 seconds** and there's a doll in the baby carriage and Ruth just put the brakes on the baby carriage picked up the doll. She's holding it and two of her neighboring friends came over.

They're standing on either side of her at a **minute and a half** and Ruth just handed off the doll to somebody else and now there's a neighbor and Ruth and her friend are standing with an old neighboring man and they just ran with their skates down the sidewalk now there's a man in a hat a tie white shirt vest painting the house he's painting the back corner of the house by the back stoop at the door to the kitchen

**one minute 58 seconds** and he's talking to the camera and waving his paintbrush in the air wearing his tie and vest and nice pants and just finished painting. He is walking away now from the corner of the house.

2:14 Ruth and Marjorie are playing in the ocean at Hammonasset beach they're wearing striped tank top shirts and shorts and waving at the camera. Marjorie just walked over to Grandmother Alice Boynton who just stood up from under her umbrella and Ruth followed over.

2:30 Grandmother Boynton, Barbara, and Barbara's dark haired friend are sitting on the sand. Barbara in a white shirt with a flower and a friend of hers they started doing a ring around the Rosie and all fall down by Grandmother Boynton and Ruth.

2:45 a neighbor woman walks over in a black tanktop and then Grandfather briefly picked up Ruth and two older girls are now in the ocean they've got about a 10 foot long fat log with three notches cut in it that looks like it came from a giant Lincoln log set.

3:00 scene moves to the Meriden house and Ruth just walked out of the house and bowed to her mother in a rocking chair on the porch and then Marjorie came out after her and bowed to her mother. The girls are both wearing white dresses.

3:13 An unidentified woman is sitting in the driver's seat of an old car, Ruth climbed into the back seat. and the car drives away.

3:21 Now back at the beach Marjorie just did a somersault on the sand and behind her is Ruth and the two of them are just running around on the sand and jumping in the water and they got a shovel and they're shoveling some dirt into a bucket and you can see some houses up the beach. (Ruth is now wearing a tank top). The 2 girls are on the beach and Marjorie just picked up a crab and threw it in the water.

3:51 An older man is now shoveling sand into a small bucket with Ruth and his small boy.

4:05 Ruth is waving from rocks at the shore and you can see behind her there's some houses on a spit of land. She's now running off the rock. I believe it's Alice Boynton - grandmother swimming. Now the 2 girls are back on the log

4:20 girls are playing on the log and just jumping on the log rolls back and forth it's floating they're kind of paddling a bit and then fall off it and stand up on it jump off it into the water. It is a nice plaything – a log floating just off the beach and I guess the waters maybe waist high for them

4:52 an unidentified woman is setting up a small picnic table with 2 girls watching. Two older men sitting / smoking on the edge of the beach I don't know who they are. Now Marjorie and Ruth and my grandmother and the unidentified woman and another child and are gathered at the picnic table. Now the unidentified woman is behind them. My Grandmother Alice Boynton is wearing a coat with a fur collar and a dress. The girls are at the water and

5:26 Grandmother just picked up Ruth who was wearing a strapped bathing suit. Now Marjorie has just picked up a crab and is showing it to Ruth then threw it in the ocean. Ruth is doing a partial head stand on the sand. Now it looks like Marjorie is fishing with a friend of hers while Ruth is waving her hands on the side. They're standing on a rock ledge by the ocean. Now our Ruth is climbing around on the rock ledge and there are some buildings on the spit of land across the water.

608 and Ruth is still climbing on the rocks.

610 Now the scene switched back to Meriden CT. Aunt Barbara is wearing a white shirt with a bow and she is standing talking at the side of the house with her friend with dark hair. Barbara just gave her a flower.

625 Now we can see the front of the house at 291 Liberty St. – the street numbers are visible. Ruth is sitting on the stoop with a friend of hers, she rings the doorbell, and Marjorie comes out to join them. Now the three of them are sitting on the stoop. A dog just came up which they are patting. It looks like a Cocker Spaniel ... but I'm not good with dogs. Now all three girls just stood up and walked towards the camera and now they're back on the stoop again and the dog is jumping up and down. Now the girls went into the house and left the dog outside.

6:59 Now they're playing ring around the Rosie and they're dressed up in costumes maybe for Halloween waving at the camera with three people I don't recognize. Marjorie is wearing a white Pilgrim hat and dress and waving at the camera. The kids are all jumping up and down in their costumes.

7:26 Now Ruth, Marjorie, and a neighbor girl are pushing a wheeled baby crib with a little child inside down the sidewalk. Marjorie just picked a little kid out of the wheeled crib.

7:40 Now the scene switches back to the beach with Ruth and Marjorie and a little kid

7:52 Now Grandmother Boynton, Barbara, Marjorie, and Ruth are standing by the old angular car. Ruth jumped into the back seat and Grandmother sat in the driver's seat. Barbara and Marjorie give Grandmother a kiss and then Barbara and Marjorie pose next to Grandmother in the car. Now just Barbara standing on the sidewalk with some plants around her and a car just drove by in the background.

8:22 Now there's a camper at the beach and unidentified man with a Irish cap on is adjusting the leveling jacks. Inside the camper you can see a mattress on a bed and the pointed top of the camper tent. A woman is setting up the table for food and men are working around the pop up camper pop and one of them just mopped his brow. They're all wearing Irish caps and his old rectangular car is in the back.

9:05 They just pulled down the camper tent so it's now flattened. and one of the men just picked up a jug of water and had swig

9:23 now we're looking up the beach at the scenery and one of the guys is slipping on a new pair of pants and sitting in the car and his wife I suppose is laughing about him being in there getting all dressed up now with his tie and everything. He just gave her a kiss and they are now driving the car away pulling the pop up camper collapsed into a rectangular cube behind him

9:50 now Alice Boynton is walking down a rural road with rolling hills with a wooden guardrail on the side. Now she's standing by a bay or a river that is flowing by I don't know if this is the Merrimack. There are houses along the shoreline

10:25 A very severe looking sort of a schoolmarm type woman is standing by the front of the car – she is Lillian Peabody – Grandmother Boynton’s mother. She is talking with a man who is polishing the car. I don't know who he is (her husband will show up a little later in the video).

10:46 On the snowy behind the Meriden house, Marjorie and Ruth and a friend of theirs have a sled. The backyard has an upper level against the house and then a few yards out there is a 5 foot drop at a 45 degree angle providing a tiny slope for sledding. It's a very short trip but they get a little speed going down it and then are having a very hard time climbing back up the steep incline with the sled to the upper level to sled down again. Marjorie and a friend and Ruth have been making multiple attempts to climb up they just got up to the top of it. One sleds down standing on the sled another time two of them sled down lying on top of each other.

11:59 Now Barbara and Ruth are wearing black leather coats and standing in front of the car. Ruth is getting in first and going into the back seat and Barbara's getting in the front seat and they're just sort of sitting there with the door shut these are suicide doors so the back door opens to the back while the front door opens to the front so you can open up the back door and get pulled out of the car if you're not careful

12:25 seconds Ruth is buttoning up Barbara's leather jacket and standing on the running board so she's the same height as Barbara. She just gave Barbara a kiss. Now Ruth is standing in front of the door

12:40 Now an old man has just walked up ... he must be a relative because Ruth is very excited and just gave him a big hug. Now Ruth and then Barbara are posing in front of the car.

13:10 Marjorie and Ruth in the backyard of the Meriden house. The Grandmother Boynton walks over in her full fur coat followed by Barbara. The girls all give Grandmother a kiss and then walk away and then return to smile in front of the camera.

13:51 Now it's just Barbara in a Native American costume and Marjorie is wearing a white Pilgrim / cook costume bust stirring imaginary food in a black metal frying pan and the front stoop of 291 Liberty Street with the number clearly visible.

13:57 Grandfather and Grandmother Augustus and Alice Boynton are standing at the side of the house both in their winter coats waving at the camera. Then a friend comes along who puts on his jacket and sits on the running board of the car. on the car just took his hat off I don't know who he is .

14:26 Just now an older man with a white mustache came up with his head tilted to the right. This is Grandmother Boynton’s father - Charles Frederick Paine. Now he and his wife Lillian Peabody Paine are standing on the back porch of the Liberty Street house. Then they walk out down the stairs. He was born in 1842, served in the Civil War on the first steam powered ship “Stars and Stripes” and he got a patent for an improved Rotary engine. Now their daughter Grandmother Boynton came out and they picked up some things from the ground – apparently apples – which they are eating. Then Grandfather Boynton came out and handed them something to eat from a small packet in his hand. Now Lillian Peabody Paine, Charles Frederick Paine, and Grandmother Alice Boynton are sitting together on the steps in the

back of the house and the clock reads 1518. Lillian takes off her wire rim glasses and Charles pulls his monocle out of his pocket and popped it on his eye.

1534 Now we're back at the river or the tidal estuary and very exuberant slightly younger man - it feels hyperactive - I think the speeds wrong in the film - is waving at the camera and it's panning and there's some beachfront houses and boats on the sandy beach.

1558 now we're suddenly in Boston at an elevation looking at the Back Bay Churches then panning past the Ritz Carlton, then the Public Garden with the Longfellow Bridge in the distance, then the Boston Common with the State House dome in the background. Now there is a distinguished politician standing on the steps of the statehouse who accepts a hat from someone and then walks up as if to open the doors and the video ended at 1626