



Eton Field Game Team Photograph Mitchell's House Eleven 1897

£280



REF: 31617

Height: 21 cm (8.3")

Width: 27 cm (10.6")

Framed Height: 38.5 cm (15.2")

Framed Width: 46 cm (18.1")

Framed Depth: 46 cm (18.1")

Description

Eton Field Game Photograph R.A.H. Mitchell's House Eleven, 1897.

An evocative late-19th-century Eton football team photograph, formerly the property of Etonian G. Lee, whose name appears in pencil on the reverse of the mount board. The photograph remains in its original Hills & Saunders mount, featuring the characteristic arched window cutout and the Eton College crest (three silver lilies on black; a gold lion on red; and a fleur-de-lis on blue). It is presented in a glazed gilt frame (frame size:- 38½ cm high by 46 cm wide).

The players' names are written along the lower edge of the mount, corresponding to those posed formally above in traditional striped football kit:- G. Lee, C.R. Lumsden, F.L. Pardoe, P.R. Johnson, R.C. Bonsor, H.C. Pilkington, R. Bonsor (Capt.), C.H.B. Marsham, Lord F. Scott, H. Hulton-Harrop and G. Hargreaves.

Eton College is home to two distinctive forms of football, the Field Game and the Wall Game, both of which differ markedly from standard association football. The 1897 photograph depicts players of the Eton Field Game posed formally in their sports kit, with the silver trophy cup balancing on the football. The Field Game is a traditional sport that blends elements of soccer-style dribbling with aspects reminiscent of early rugby. The Field Game is played on a conventional pitch, whereas the even more idiosyncratic Wall Game is contested along a narrow strip beside a historic brick wall and is known for its intense, scrum-like play. Scoring in the Field Game involves two principal methods.

A goal, worth 3 points, is scored by kicking the ball into the opponent's net. A rouge, worth 5 points, occurs when the attacking side grounds the ball over the opponent's end line after it has deflected off a defending player. A successful rouge also grants the attacking team the chance at a conversion, worth an additional 2 points.

Together, these long-standing games form an important part of Eton's sporting heritage, each with its own deeply rooted traditions, rules, and style of play.

Taken from the book 'Fifty Years of Sport - Eton, Harrow and Winchester' (page 90).

Eton House Football Cup 1897, R.A.H. Mitchell's 1 goal, 1 rouge - E. Impey's 0.

Mitchell's were the stronger side, with Pilkington at short behind a host in himself. Mitchell's pressed all the match, but especially in the first half, when they scored two rouges, one of which was forced. Hollins played very well behind, and was the main reason of a heavier score not being made by Mitchell's. Pilkington did the same for Mitchell's against the weaker attacks of Impey's.

E. Impey's team:- P.L. Hollins, G.L. Hoare, E.A. de la P. beresford-Peirse, O.C.S. Gilliat, W.R. Campbell, E.H. Arkwright, L. Hoare, E.H. Norman, C. Salkeld, C.N. Smith & P. Henderson.