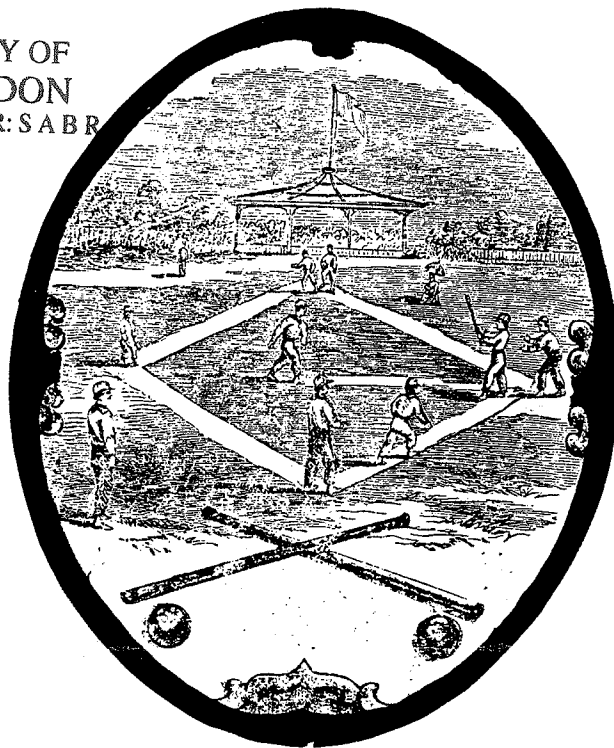


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JOHN F. PARDON  
A FOUNDING MEMBER: S A B R

*The*  
*Ballparks*  
*Bulletin*



No. 4, September, 1986

"THE BALLPARKS ARE US"

They live short, intense lives, these green cathedrals,  
Bearing ghosts of plays we immortalize in our shaky memory grip,  
These ballparks live and die by fire, wrecking balls, and bonds.

It is odd that we, who resist the new and the shallow,  
Someday will give romance to stories of indoor baseball.  
We are old stick-in-the-mud sad-eyed lyrical grouches.

But -- we are right.  
It was better with irregular,  
Worser with cement donuts and plastic retractibles.

We can't even bang the wooden chairs when Williams menaces with the  
bases loaded. There he is now, big Number 9, just brimming grand  
slam in his foreplay. He takes Strike Three Called, across the out-  
side corner, low. He didn't like the pitch. No runs, no hits, no  
errors, three left. Why?

Why are there none left?  
Obits for ballparks are left out of "transactions."  
Comiskey and Wrigley are in the twilight of their careers,  
About to get unconditional releases.

What do ballparks do after they retire?  
They are expediently murdered in the name of green paper.  
We keep them alive on postcards and across our tender stories.  
Old ballparks should be buried above ground in Iowa,  
Right next to each other, like lovers.

Wouldn't that be a hall of fame to sit and cry in?  
The National Baseball Ballpark Hall of Fame.  
In Iowa.

(From Steve Cummings, Seattle, Washington 1986)

SABR BALLPARKS COMMITTEE MEETS IN CHICAGO  
Reported by Bob Bluthardt and Kyle Johnson

The Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) held its 16th annual convention at Loyola University in Chicago on the July 18-20 weekend. Over 450 members and their guests attended, a new record.

A highlight of the convention was the specially arranged tour of Comiskey Park. Eight bus loads of SABR members and guests went from Loyola to that historic ballyard on 35th Street on the south side. With the White Sox out of town, several members of the club office staff met with the tour in the seats behind home plate and spoke on various issues. Of course, the club had just made a dramatic announcement concerning their probable move, leaving Comiskey for a newly constructed facility. The White Sox staff passed about an architect's conception of what the new park might look like while many SABR members posed pointed questions about the move. It was obvious that the majority of the members were opposed to the abandonment of the major's oldest ballpark (opened in July of 1910). The last hour of the program saw the hundreds of special visitors taking a tour route that few people get to experience in any ballpark. After walking under the left and center field grandstand, the group checked out the bullpen and then returned to the infield area via the outfield warning track and left field foul area. At the home dugout everyone got to sit on the bench where generations of White Sox players and managers spent their careers. After a similar visit to the visitor's dugout, the long line of SABRites walked through the visitor's clubhouse, examining the dressing rooms, trainer's room, and manager's office. Then, upstairs to the rooftop restaurant, and as time was running out, some had the chance to see the press box and upper deck areas. The White Sox had provided souvenir batting helmets in the registration packets, and to this they added a copy of the 1986 press guide book.

A central part of any SABR meeting is the research presentations, and thirty-seven members had registered to make short summaries of their work over the past year. This year's program included several excellent presentations relating to baseball parks, past, present and future. The most topical talk came from a new SABR member from Chicago, Phil Bess. Phil, a practicing architect and ardent Cubs fan, had developed a proposal for a new "urban ballpark" that preserved all of the positive features of the classic parks, but maintained the practical and modern aspects that the new stadia have created. While this proposal was set for a parcel of land on the near south side of Chicago that was under some consideration for a stadia project, Phil made it clear that his proposal was adaptable to any urban setting. With a superb use of slides, handouts, and charts, he sketched his vision of a park (significantly not called a stadium) that had ample but intimate seating, modern but varied exterior design and a playing field that rejected the monotonous uniformity of recent ballparks for a set of dimensions reflecting Fenway Park, Yankee Stadium, and other classic ballfields. This ballpark prototype, called Bill Veeck Park, was enthusiastically received by SABR members, as the organization hopes to convince the builders of modern parks that this prototype is a legitimate model for the future.

Richard Miller of Cincinnati gave a most impressive slide show that concentrated on the late nineteenth and early twentieth century ballparks of many major league cities. Dick is working on a major ballpark oriented book, and his slides were the result of many hours of research at libraries, photo sources, and newspapers across the country. James Skipper provided SABR members with a good summary of "Baseball in the Windy City" as he covered the city's teams, parks, names, and nicknames. Bob Bluthardt supplemented that talk with a slide show that illustrated the Chicago ballparks, including Comiskey, Wrigley, Lakefront, West Side Grounds & Park, and South Side Grounds & Park.

The definitive resource work on all major league ballparks, Green Cathedrals, was on the mind of many SABR members as it was published this spring. Author Phil Lowry invited members to send him changes and suggestions for the second edition under consideration for 1987 or later. Phil and Ballparks Committee chairman Bob Bluthardt received over a hundred letters outlining new information. Phil gave a brief talk summarizing some of the major questions that remain with his book regarding certain field dimensions,

locations, special features, and names/dates. Throughout the three-day meeting Phil and Bob chatted with people who had questions about the book.

Another SABR convention tradition is the committee meeting, where the many subdivisions of SABR research activity are discussed and planned for the coming year. This year's ballpark committee meeting was the largest since the committee's creation in 1982. More than 30 people attended and heard a variety of issues discussed. Phil Bess gave a quick summary of his ballpark prototype design and took questions. A spirited discussion ensued over the organization's right or propriety in advocating that this type of park be built or that type of park be saved. Newly elected SABR president, Gene Sunnen, expressed great support for the committee and hoped that it could co-sponsor several ballparks related projects for the 1987 convention that will meet in Washington. One project suggested would be the ballparks run, continuing the Chicago event when several SABR members braved the excessive heat and humidity and ran from Wrigley to Comiskey. Several members suggested that this be repeated for Washington in a run that would increase the committee's visibility and aid its attempts to properly remember the sites of lost ballparks. Phil Lowry took the assignment of organizing the Washington-87 Ballparks Run that might also include a run connecting the sites of Baltimore parks just to the north. Phil Lowry invited everyone to pursue many research projects to answer the mysteries still unsolved in Green Cathedrals; Bob Bluthardt urged those present to use the resources of the committee and its fellow members - he also summarized several projects that received research help over the past year; and several members suggested ways to effectively implement the ideas put forth by Phil Bess. No doubt the meeting could have continued long into the early hours of the morning, but an adjournment was declared at 1:46 a.m. and some believe that this was a new SABR record!

Baseball fans of all types and levels of interest are invited to join SABR. The annual dues cost \$20/year and are payable to the SABR office at PO Box 1010, Cooperstown, NY 13326. For more information on the Ballparks Committee of SABR, contact Bob Bluthardt at 244 N. Oxford Drive, San Angelo, TX 76901

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WHERE IS IT? Nobody figured out the one submitted by Dan Palubniak on page 8 of the July TBB. It is still a mystery. Ditto for guessing the ballpark on the back page but if you look at the lower left corner one more time, remember Navin Field!

This ballpark has seen them all when it comes to animals. Where is it? The photo was taken in the early 1940's. It has had many names and many levels of play have known its peculiarities. Hall of Famers of other than baseball have played there.

Satchel pitched in this park...but was there one he didn't pitch in?

Where is it?





THE BEGINNING...Chicago, July 1, 1910

Today, with Charles A. Comiskey, noblest Roman of them all, as host, Chicago will christen at the new home of its White Sox, the greatest baseball plant in the world, not only in size, but in detail; one which combines every perfection of its predecessors in other cities, and in which no expense has been spared to remove all imperfections of other plants of similar nature.

The new park eclipses any similar structure in the world in its mammoth proportions and the careful appointments of its minutest detail. All the improvements of recent park architecture have been combined in this new baseball plant.

Years of experience and months of study went into the new plant before a line was drafted on the architect's table. Other months of careful thought and scrutiny were given the plans before the work of materializing them into steel and concrete realities commenced. Those fortunate enough to be able to attend the inaugural ceremonies will behold the result. And those who cannot be present will have tomorrow, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday to which to satisfy their growing curiosity.

What probably will strike the fans most forcibly will be the mammoth proportions of the stands and the toylike size of the playing field. So great are the structures which surround the lot that they seem to dwarf the area of combat and yet no baseball plant covers greater area, and the inclosure devoted to the players will be much larger than that on the old south side lot.

Greater than the plant itself has been the task of erecting it in record-breaking time for not until early in March was the first actual work commenced. How those immense structures have been put up in four months despite an unexpected strike of steel workers which held up most of the work for five consecutive weeks would make a story in itself. Pluck and cold cash triumphed however, and enabled the Old Roman to keep faith with his friends by opening on the date fixed last winter. These vicissitudes have added so much to the originally figured cost of the plant that even Comiskey himself has not yet counted up the total outlay represented.

Lest too great anticipation may lead to disappointment the crowd which turns out for today's opening should not expect to see a perfect finished plant. All its essentials will be ready by the time the army of workmen quits the place just before noon but there will be little things yet to be done which had to be left undone on account of the strike.

Some confusion in handling the crowd may result from the newness and strangeness of everything but patrons can help avoid it by remembering a few simple directions. The entrances to the grandstand and pavilion which include all the \$1., the 75 cent and the 50 cent seats are located at the corner of Thirty-fifth Street and Shields Avenue. Four ticket windows and four turnstiles are located there and a passageway leads back of center field from the left to the right field bleachers.

After passing the turnstiles box seat holders will pass under the stand to the nearest

entrance to their boxes. Holders of reserved seats in the upper deck and all purchasers of 75 cent seats will turn either to the right or left and walk up gentle inclines leading to the rear of the main floor of the big stand. The reserved seat holders continue on up another story by means of broad stairways.

One of the perfections of the new plant is that there is not a seat of any denomination or description from which a clear view of the game and the field cannot be obtained. This is due to the fact Architect Davis had the advantage of inspecting all the other baseball plants of the kind before completing his plans for the Sox park and was able to obtain the exact pitch and elevation required to give the last row in any part of any stand as clear a view of the proceedings as can be had from anywhere else.

The cantilever form of construction eliminated all except a single row of uprights half way between the front and rear of the stands and these uprights of steel carry their heavy load without seriously obstructing the view from anywhere behind.

Yesterday, Cleveland shut out St Louis 5 to 0. It was Cy Young's 499th big league win.

July 2, 1910

Chicagoans, justly proud of the new baseball plant, turned out in force to see christened with all the ceremony and splendor befitting such an epoch-making event in the history of sport yesterday. Those who were privileged to attend the opening were amazed at the sight presented to their view. They did not expect to view such a spectacle and it goes without saying that every fan went away greatly impressed with what has been accomplished in the way of constructing a mammoth baseball plant in the scheduled time of a few months.

Despite the strangeness of it all to every one concerned and the fact not one in 100 of the visitors had any idea of the location of their seats or the byways and hedges which led to them, the big crowd was handled smoothly and expeditiously. The yawning gates, with their swiftly clicking turnstiles, swallowed the people almost as fast as the transportation facilities could get them to the grounds and an army of guides and ushers directed the strangers to their places.

Unfinished as the plant was in spots, its decorations of bright tri-colored bunting and potted plants and ferns distracted attention from everything except the giant proportions of the structures themselves. In fact the size of the new palace was what most forcibly struck all visitors who were making their first call. As each emerged from the sloping inclines which led to the rear of the main stand he or she stopped for a moment in silent awe, gazing at the broad, sweeping lines of the stands and at the seemingly endless rows of seats.

The crowd began gathering early and thereby greatly assisted in the work of handling it. When the gates were thrown open to the public for the first time at 1 o'clock more than a thousand people already were in line waiting to purchase admissions and the early comers were met in the runways by squads of workmen departing from tasks completed barely in time.

A brass band provided by the host, was already there to entertain the forehanded and before the stands were half-filled two more bands of military persuasion helped amuse the waiting multitude. No sooner were they seated than the fans realized how much more graceful to the eyes was the background of the new plant than that at the old stand. Armour Square flanked by the institute and its playground and the Seventh Regiment Armory were much more pleasing to look upon than the more familiar surroundings only four blocks south.

The White Sox were given a hearty greeting when they emerged from their dressing rooms clad in new coming out gowns of dazzling white nattily trimmed with blue, and designed by G. Harris White, dentist, pitcher and outfielder as well.

In spite of its newness and the small time allowed to put it in condition, the playing

field did not give the athletes a great deal of trouble. The base lines and infield position were firm and fairly true although the balls which hit the brand new turf, both on the infield and outfield were somewhat uncertain in their courses at times.

To Mrs. John Edwards fell the honor of being the first woman to pass through the gates and occupy a seat in the grandstand. Miss Alice Cann followed shortly afterward and was the first feminine holder of a box coupon which bore No. 23.

A fitting climax to the day's ceremonies was the banquet given by President Comiskey at the Chicago Automobile Club last night to a large party of his guests. At the conclusion of the feast an incident occurred showing that President Comiskey never forgets the least of his friends even in the moment of greatest success. The veteran host gave orders that all the edibles which had been provided for the banquet and remained unserved should be sent to the Newsboys' Home.

The Chicago White Sox, with Ed Walsh on the mound, lost to the Saint Louis Browns by the score of 2 to 0 before a crowd of twenty-eight thousand in one hour and fifty-five minutes.

(Clips from Bill Loughman, Elmhurst, Illinois)

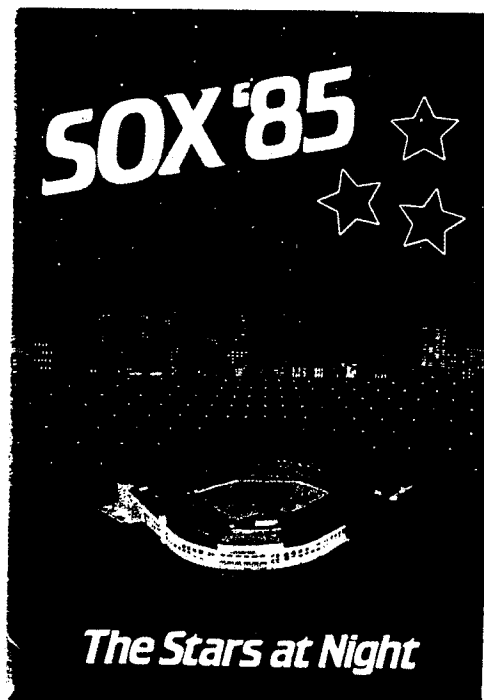
THE BEGINNING OF THE END...Chicago, July 18, 1986

Governor Thompson has asked me to respond to your letter regarding Comiskey Park of July 16, 1986.

Unfortunately, there appears to be little that we can do to save Comiskey Park. Engineering reports for the stadium owners, the Chicago White Sox, have concluded that Comiskey Park is near the end of its economic life. The magnitude of funding for necessary repairs to keep Comiskey Park viable is extraordinary. It appears from these studies that no repair program will be feasible in the long run.

Although we support your interest in trying to retain historic structures all over the state, it appears that Comiskey Park will not be one of them. We believe we will at least be able to keep the Chicago White Sox in Illinois for their fans to enjoy, although the stadium will likely be at a different site. Sincerely, John E. Glennon, Assistant to the Governor for Economic Development.

(Response to letter of concern written by Rick and Rosie Sabo, Maumee, Ohio)



## THOUGHTS ON COLLECTING

by Mike Walsh, Levittown, Pennsylvania

I've been a baseball fan and collector for most of my life. Cards, photos, books, what have you. If it relates to baseball I like it. Five or six years ago I acquired my first stadium postcard. While I found postcards to be an interesting source of baseball history, initially I didn't have a great deal of respect for them. Little did I realize that these cards would become my passion.

At first I had no idea how many postcards of major league parks existed. Also I was unaware how tough the quality cards are to come by. If I got a new card once in a while I was happy. Within a year or two after starting, I found my interest growing. It's at a point now where at least a part of every day is devoted to stadium postcards. If it's not a show, letter, flea market, or phone call where I am trying to obtain a new card it is simply sitting down and going through my collection.

One of the things that I like to do when I look at my cards is to pick out my favorites.

It's not always easy and I regularly change my mind.

# Engel Stadium



Home of the "LOOKOUTS" . . CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE



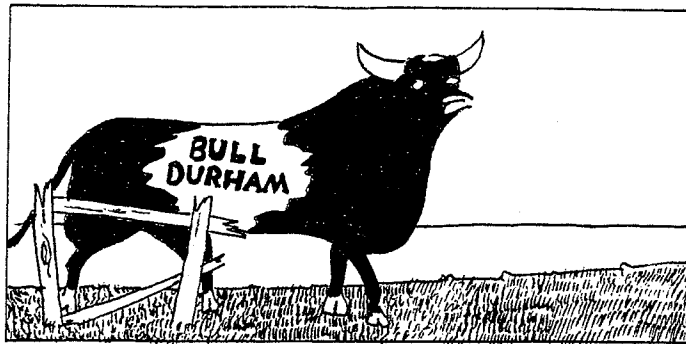
Of the early or pre-linen cards my preference is to those of Shibe Park. It was truly a magnificent structure and so are the cards. If I have to narrow it down to one I'll pick the no # borderless 1909 card by the Rose Co. Linen cards are, as a rule, just not that attractive. Some are fairly nice and of those best is a minor league park, Engel Stadium, # 16,308F. Chrome postcards were introduced around 1950 and the early ones are really nice. Picking my favorite in this category is easy. Comiskey Park #P13149 is a beautiful card. All three cards have one thing in common, beautiful colors. Two shown here are copies but black and white does not do them justice. Anyone who would like is invited to visit me and see the real thing. I would enjoy meeting you and perhaps even trade a card or two. If you get to Philly, I'm nearby at 11 Pinewood Drive, Levittown, PA 19054. Telephone 215-547-2929.

Readers would like to hear about such visits...send your notes about meetings, plans for new ones to us and we'll print it.

## THE BULLPEN

by Gordon Tindal, Decorah, Iowa

It's official, a ballpark news column entitled "The Bullpen". The logo is courtesy of Hilltop Park, New York home of the Yankees at the beginning of the century. I'd rather like to think of it as a ballpark "bull" session. In the May issue of The Ballparks Bulletin I mentioned a trip to Roosevelt Stadium for this issue. Jersey Giant fans please forgive me for changing subject matter, but there's more current and interesting news at hand, so I decided to write a little about stadium models.



Most all Ballpark Bulletin readers collect ballpark postcards. I know of only a few hobbyists who have constructed models of the old ballparks. Maybe after reading this, others may try their hand at building their favorite park in 3-D.

This interest on my part started several years ago. In search of a picture of Robison Field, I happened on the Dean of ballpark model builders, Carl Schoen of the St. Louis area. Carl has been building replicas of old ballparks for 35 years or so. Not only did I get several pictures of Robison Field, but a complete history course in St. Louis ballparks. Carl also laid out a Robison Field on a board for me. All I had to do was build the park.

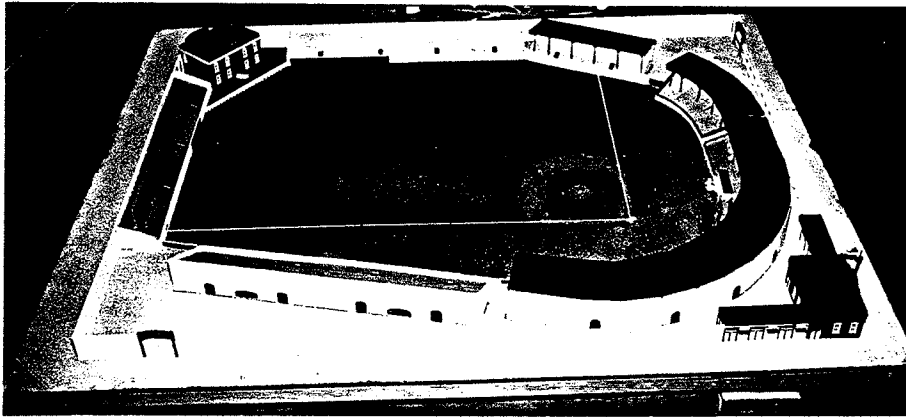
You need a lot of patience, but the effort is well worth it when completed. It took a week just to do the scoreboard. The numbers are 1/8" high and have to be applied with tweezers. Before leaving our home that weekend Carl surprised me with the ultimate, an unfinished Shibe Park. All it needs is detailing. That is the kind of hobbyist Carl is. As a researcher, he has no equal, spending countless hours going over microfilm of old newspapers searching for information on old ballparks.

Since meeting Carl, I've built a Lakefront Park, Chicago and Borchert Field, Milwaukee. Starting from scratch, as he has done with so many of his models, especially the ones from the 1890 era, is much more rewarding than building one that has already been laid out for you. I could hardly wait to get started on Borchert Field. In mapping out your ballpark you may find yourself consulting with city engineers, street departments, newspapers, libraries, ballclubs, and fire insurance maps. Once you have the exact dimensions of the block, you can build your board to scale and lay out the field. Construction is of bass wood using dollhouse clapboard siding for seats. The lined wood simulates the rows of seats. Ballparks built in 1" equals 16' scale can make use of railroad modelers supplies, including lights, figures, windows, doors, I-beams, grass and dirt. The Robison Field model has dirt from the actual site. The students at Beaumont High must've thought I was crazy digging up a tube full of dirt for no apparent reason.

As Carl would say, building a ballpark makes you feel like a combination historian, architect, researcher, contractor, and builder. It is a frustrating and yet most enjoyable undertaking. Seeing the stands take shape little by little, the posts installed making sure each one is straight, adding the roof, and detailing with paint; I have plans to build several if I ever get the time and get the ones I'm working on now finished. Any readers who built parks? I'd like to exchange photos with you. I know of a Chicago man who has spent 16 years building a fantastic model of Wrigley Field. Another hobbyist in the St. Louis Area has built Baker Bowl, Polo Grounds, Forbes Field, and Griffith Stadium. I hope that someday all of these can be assembled under one roof for a grand showing.

In addition to the stadium models, Carl has a mechanical game that can be built right into the model. He invented it 18 years ago. It consists of a left or righthanded pitcher that can throw basically a fast ball and a change. The batter is a wire loop that flips up and strikes the small ball. When hit, the ball reacts much like one in a real game.





Model of Robeson Field, St. Louis, MO

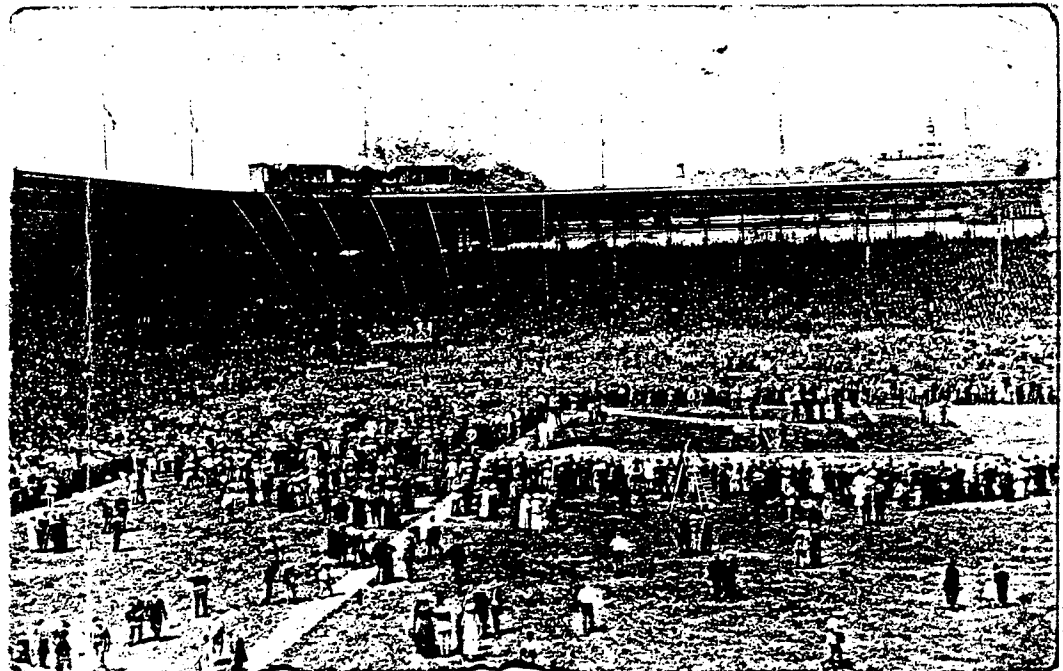
finally getting much deserved recognition. He's been written up in many newspaper articles, been on local news and talk shows on radio and TV, and had many recent showings. At present some work has been done on a video, a recent piece in USA Today and hopefully something in the near future in a national magazine offers promise for Carl's works. The mechanical game and a model of Ebbets Field are presently under consideration for manufacture. That hopefully will be the end result of all the publicity. If anybody deserves to be called Mr. Ballpark it would have to be Carl Schoen.

One more quick note on ballpark models. If ever in St. Louis, do stop into the St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame at Busch Stadium. They have 2 stadium models. One, the architect's model of Busch Memorial Stadium, the other and much more spectacular is a giant size replica of Sportsmans Park complete with stands filled to capacity.

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 KANSAS CITY BLUES...Recent shows at Tulsa and Kansas City held much promise for Houston and K. C. postcards. Had hoped to find a Colt Stadium and a K.C. #22261. No such luck! Not a complete bust however as 5 minutes from leaving, a dealer threw a sepia photo card at me of Muelebach Field. At this point in time I'm 90% sure it's Muelebach Field but still have some checking to do. It would appear to be an opening day game and possibly the first opener of 1923. High school in background is Lincoln High where I believe Frank White attended. Has anyone else seen this card? See photo below.

The old Municipal Stadium site is still vacant except for the OLD BALLPARK GARDEN, a community garden. Sam's Baseball Parking sign can still be seen on the bridge over nearby railroad tracks. Across Brooklyn Avenue, much of the steel beams, roof supports, etc are still lying in a heap. I rummaged through it hoping to find a seat or a Braves Field scoreboard. Nothing more than rusty metal, rotting wood, and crumbling hunks of concrete remain. The demolition job was awarded to a Nashville firm 10 years ago. Have written to them and am still waiting for a reply.

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 CROSLY FIELD REBUILT FOR 2ND TIME...The city of Blue Ash, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati is building a scale replica of Crosley Field. They are using seats and other relics that were part of a similar attempt made several years ago by Larry Luebbers. Blue Ash will now give it a try.



Line drives, pop ups, fouls and grounders are all normal flights of the ball. Our first game several years ago found Carl beating me 2-1 in extra innings on his Robison Field model. The game requires intense concentration. It is very difficult to put a few hits together in one inning in order to score any runs. Carl Schoen has poured a lifetime of interest into these creations and he is now

NEW ISSUES...Congratulations to Phil Lowry on his new ballparks book, "Green Cathedrals." It is a much needed reference book and a perfect compliment to the pictorial coffee table books also of recent issue. To Mel Bailey for scores of black and white, real photo post cards of major and minor league ballparks. Great shot of the D.C. Stadium scoreboard, Mel! And to Bauer Diamonds of Burdett, Kansas for providing us with cardboard models of Ebbets Field, Yankee Stadium, and the Polo Grounds. Finally thanks to Wayne Stuben for the colorful ballpark poster showing aerial views of all 26 major league parks.

No new Royals Stadium cards to report, but just out is a beautiful aerial view of Sec Taylor Stadium. This view shows only the ballpark situated between the Racoon and Des Moines Rivers. We call it 2 Rivers Stadium! I have a few of these and some earlier issue cards that show stadium and some of surrounding area in an aerial downtown view. These are available at 50¢ each plus a SASE (see scoreboard section for address). Good to see Pookie Bernstine again, now as an Iowa Cub in recent game against Oklahoma City. Nothing too dramatic to report this time around. He was 1 for 5.

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BALLPARK TRIVIA QUIZ...Congratulations to Fred Taylor. Yours was the only correct answer last time around. Have several questions this time to make it more a test than a quiz. Good luck!

1. 1904 N. Y. Highlanders played a home game at site other than Hilltop Park. What was the name of the park and location and in what city?
2. What was the name of the developer who built Ebbets Field Apartments?
3. Why is Fenway Park called Fenway Park?
4. Why can't it be doubledecked?
5. What was the first concrete and steel stadium?
6. What was the first ballpark built by Osborn Engineering of Cleveland?
7. Name at least 4 doubledecked minor league ballparks.
8. Name the first doubledeck grandstand in the Major Leagues.
9. Name the first stadium with sliding pits.
10. Has there ever been a game called on account of rain at the Astrodome?

WHO SAID IT AND IN WHAT BALLPARK?

- Whoa Nellie - - - - - Red Barber, Ebbets Field  
 Oh my - - - - - Dick Enberg, Anaheim Stadium  
 So-in-so's throwing up in the bullpen - - - - - Gerry Coleman, San Diego Stadium  
 It's a White Owl Wallop - - - - - Mel Allen, Yankee Stadium  
 The bases are F. O. B. - - - - - Red Barber, Ebbets Field  
 He hit it a ton - - - - - Leo Durocher on game of the week telecasts  
 Have a Ganset - - - - - Jim Britt and Tom Hussey, Fenway Park and Braves Field  
 Holy Cow - - - - - Harry Caray, Sportsmans Park, then others  
 The Preacher is in the pulpit, ready to deliver his sermon - - - - - Red Barber, Ebbets Field  
 There's a harply shit ground ball - - - - - Ron Menchine, RFK Stadium  
 It's a Ballantine Blast - - - - - Mel Allen, Yankee Stadium  
 If you want a treat instead of a treatment, treat yourself to Old Golds - - - - - Red Barber, Ebbets Field  
 He slud into third - - - - - Dizzy Dean, Sportsmans Park  
 It's an Old Goldie - - - - - Red Barber, Ebbets Field  
 Atlantic keeps your car on the go - - - - - Curt Gowdy, Fenway Park  
 How about that - - - - - Mel Allen, Yankee Stadium  
 The Giants win the pennant, the Giants win the pennant - - - - - If you don't know, you must be a football fan!

## A FOOTBALL/BASEBALL DIAMOND

by John Spalding, San Jose, California

Here's one for all you cross-over fans who collect football stadium postcards along with the ballparks. In these days of the multi-purpose stadium, it's not unusual to find views of stadiums that show either a football gridiron or a baseball diamond. Candlestick Park in San Francisco and the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum in my neighborhood are just two examples of this type of postcard. But, how often do you see a postcard that depicts a baseball diamond on a university football stadium's turf?

I have one showing the University of California's Memorial Stadium at Berkeley in just that configuration. The postcard is an unnumbered black and white photo produced by The Albertype Co. of Brooklyn, N.Y., which was published by the Associated Students, Berkeley, California.

I know a little more about this interesting view because my father was graduated from the university in 1925, the first (and possibly the only) year the Golden Bears baseball team played in the stadium.

Memorial Stadium had opened in the last game of the 1923 football season, with Cal beating cross-bay rival Stanford, 9-0. This was the era of the Bears' "Wonder Teams", that were undefeated in 50 straight games (46 wins, four ties) in 1920-1925.

Before the 75,000-seat concrete stadium was erected, Cal's football and baseball teams played at old California Field, which seated only 16,000 in its wooden bleachers. When the stadium became available, California Field was demolished to make room for a women's gym, leaving the baseball team without a home for at least the 1925 season. Later, a new diamond was laid out next to the Edwards Field track and field stadium. The Bears seemed to like the stadium in 1925, going undefeated in 13 games against college and local club opponents, but losing to the St. Louis Cardinals, 8-3.

"On the whole," the university's yearbook said about the stadium, "it has proved quite satisfactory although the light background makes it hard for fielders to judge their catches and also right field is very short and makes it easy to hit home runs." I wonder if there are other postcards that show on campus football stadiums with a baseball diamond?

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When ballparks open for the first time ever, or close forever, or celebrate an anniversary, it is celebrated in its own way with some owners and users of the park doing what is necessary to make the occasion truly memorable.

Suppose your favorite ballpark was coming up on a special date and you had a year to plan for the big day, what would you do for the ballpark, for the city and for the fans who come to it?



THE CROWE ENGINEERING BUILDING  
by Joe Hammann, Miamisburg, Ohio

Probably as famous in baseball lore as the old ballparks themselves were many of the buildings and landmarks that stood just beyond the outfield walls of these playing fields. Ebbets Field had its DeSoto dealership just across Bedford Avenue. Shibe Park's right field shared East 22nd Street with row houses where citizenry, perched precariously on roofs, watched World Series play until Connie Mack ended this free spectating by raising the right field fence's height in 1935.

Being a Cincinnati Redleg fan of the 1950's, I recall most fondly the buildings and billboards that hovered over Crosley Field before Interstate 75 construction led to their removal in the early 1960's. Most readers are probably familiar with the famous laundry beyond the left field wall where homers would bound around on its roof or carom off the big sign atop that advertised various beers over the years. The hitters in the pre-1960 era probably recall just as vividly another building. For beyond the center field wall just across Western Avenue stood a brick three story edifice that served as a hitting backdrop for batters in those days. Various businesses inhabited this structure over the years. In the 1940's it was owned by the Regal Belting Co. and in the 1950's a firm by the name of the Crowe Engineering Co. took it over. Being a child in the 1950's, I always assumed that George Crowe (Redleg first baseman and pinch hitter par excellence) owned the building.

At any rate, in 1962 I was treated to a story about this building that I have not since forgotten. My uncle Paul in 1962 took me to a father and son's banquet at the local Methodist Church in my hometown of Sidney, Ohio where former Redleg pitcher Brooks Lawrence (aka "Bull") was to be the featured speaker. My father had just died the previous winter (I always used to attend Redleg games with him) and I think my uncle felt that I would enjoy this evening.

Lawrence had wound up his career with Cincinnati in 1960. During Brook's talk that evening he told of an episode that occurred between Manager Fred "the Bear" Hutchinson of the Reds and Charlie "Jolly Cholly" Grimm who piloted the Cubs for a few games that 1960 season.

The episode started it seems in Chicago where Hutch felt that Grimm was stealing signs from the Reds catcher and relaying them to Cubs' batters by blinking the lights above Wrigley Field's exit gates on the outfield walls. Hutch felt that one blink of the lights signaled a fast ball and two blinks a curve. He protested to the umpires that the lights be turned off.

Well, when the Cubs came to Cincinnati, the Reds' skipper intended to even the score. He told Brooks to somehow gain access to the Crowe Engineering Building across the street beyond center field. He wanted Lawrence to station himself on the second floor of this building with a newspaper and a pair of high powered binoculars. If the Cubs' catcher called for a fast ball, Lawrence was to raise the newspaper up to the window. If the pitch was to be a curve, Brooks would drop the newspaper. Well, when the Reds came to bat, these antics went on for about three pitches. On the fourth pitch, Grimm bolted out of the Cubs' dugout running and screaming to the umpires, "There's someone in that (expletive deleted) building across the street." Lawrence was quickly removed and the Crowe Engineering building had gained a place for itself in baseball history. According to Lawrence, Hutch was not to be intimidated by this temporary turn of events. The Giants were due in town the next series and Hutch had Brooks reposition himself in the right center field corner of the sundeck again armed with his newspaper and binoculars. This section of Crosley Field along with the Crowe Engineering Building can be seen on a linen stadium postcard, #18,66543.

Well, events proceeded unimpeded for much of the first game with the Giants. However, late in the game, one Red batter hoisted a deep drive out toward the 390 foot mark in right center. Naturally, Willie Mays was playing center field and he raced over to the

right center field screening and snared the ball right in front of the startled Lawrence who was seated in the first row. Mays and Lawrence happened to be good friends. After catching the ball, Mays looked down and saw Brooks. He blurted out, "Hey Bull, what are you doing out here?" Thus came to an end Brook Lawrence's short career of espionage, but the episode once again immortalizes the quaintness and charm of the intimate ballpark environment that used to be ubiquitous to our National Game.



Crosley Field, Cincinnati

FROM JOHN THOM, Los Angeles, California

Ebbets Field is featured prominently in a colorful illustration on the dust jacket of a new book entitled "When Brooklyn Was The World, 1920-1957." It is written by Elliott Willensky, published by Harmony Books, New York, at \$19.95. Unfortunately, there is hardly any photographic coverage of the Dodgers and apparently no shots of Ebbets Field in the book. The work is not intended as a baseball history. Nevertheless, it seems to a non-New Yorker that even a social history of this famous borough would have to pay more than scant attention to the Dodgers and its famous landmark ballpark. Perhaps the author is trying to say there's more to our past than baseball and ballparks. If he is, may he have heartburn for such a silly thesis!

FROM RON MENCHINE, Glen Arm, Maryland

There's an attractive new postcard out of Candlestick Park. Actually it is a mailer rather than postcard but it is on heavy stock measuring about 7 by 10. It was sent out last spring by a national lawn care service CHEMLAWN. There is probably a branch in each major U. S. city. It features Jim Delfino, Groundskeeper for Candlestick Park expounding on the virtues of Chemlawn. A trip to a local Chemlawn office enabled me to pick one up!

# THE CONTINENTAL CORNER

by Rick & Jim Dadouris, Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Riverfront Stadium sits on the north bank of the Ohio River. It is bounded on the west by the historic Suspension Bridge, north by the downtown section of Cincinnati and west by it's sister facility Cincinnati Coliseum. Being on the river affords it the luxury of many great views from the river and the shores of Kentucky. It serves as home to both the NL Reds and AFC Bengals. Despite being open since only 1970, it has already been the site of 4 world series, 1 AFC championship game plus numerous divisional playoff games.

Despite being similar to the many newer multi-purpose facilities, it has enough unique features which set it apart. It has three levels of parking beneath the stadium itself. It contains the home plate from old Crosley Field which was transplanted on opening day. It was the first field to have cutouts at the bases rather than the normal infield configuration.

Riverfront is unique among stadium postcard collectors in that a significant number of new chromes have been issued. Both new chrome continentals of the mid 1980's and those previously released are popular among collectors. In order to help those who wish to know what some of those views were, we have prepared the checklist which follows. There have been many issues since the stadium opened and we may have missed some of them. If you should have or know of any others, please contact Rick at 152 High Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey, 08861, telephone (201) 442-7970.

## Cincinnati Riverfront Stadium

### Designations used:

PL = Pre-linen era (1900 to 1930's)      CCD = Continental size (4x6), deckle-edged  
L = Linen era (1930's to 1950's)      CCP = Same but plain (straight) edged  
CH = Chrome era (1950's to date)      G = Giant size  
B&W=Black and white

CH	00001	Aerial with stadium in foreground
CH	00011	Aerial, stadium bottom left corner, hot air balloons in sky
CH	00016	Shot directly over stadium with hot air balloon covering 2nd base
CH	00021	Stadium on right, coliseum left
CH	00022	Night view from across river, lights of stadium to right of bridge
CH	00023	Aerial from across river, stadium in center of card
CH	9272-D	Nite, from across river, "Cincinnati, Ohio" on front
CH	25435-D	From across river, coliseum on right, stadium visible on left
CH	62136-D	From across river, stadium left center, many boats
CH	64510-C	As above, black back, blank stamp block
CH	64519-C	Across river, boat center, bridge left, stadium right
CH	66410-C	Across river at nite, stadium lit, slightly above and right, blue back
CH	66410-C	As above, black back
CH	67103-C	From street, walkway packed from left to right, blue back
CH	67103-C	As above, black back
CH	67104-C	1970 All-Star Game, high from seats past 1B, blue back
CH	67104-C	As above, black back
CH	67105-C	As CH 67104-C, players lining each base line
CH	67410-C	As above, black back, no words in stamp block
CH	68243-C	2 views, top as CH 67103-C, bottom is of convention center, blue back
CH	68243-C	As above, black back
CH	68971-C	Across river, boats foreground, bridge left, stadium center and right
CH	68972-C	From under bridge, sta on opposite riverbank, bridge support right side, blue back
CH	68972-C	As above, black back
CH	71026-C	Autumn scene, Sta across river, leaves from photo, blue back
CH	71026-C	As above, black back

CH S-75222-1 Air, model, empty stadium  
 CH 83238-D Dusk, view from across river, stadium in center  
 CH 83239-D Night from across river, stadium in center, fireworks on left  
 CH 83240-D View from across river, 2 Paddleboats in water, stadium on right  
 CH 83241-D Night, from across river with reflections in water, stadium in center  
 CH 83244-D View from across river, setting sun on left, stadium on right  
 CH 83247-D Night view with city lit-up, stadium and fireworks on right  
 CH 83248-D View from across river, stadium on right  
 CH 84745-D View of Johnny Bench swinging (striking out...I'm a Mets Fan)  
 CH 138068 Night, from across river, fireworks upper left  
 CH 138069 Air, from above river, city background

B&W No # Inside, from right field, full house  
 B&W No # Outside, ground level, fans  
 B&W No # Outside, fans crossing bridge on right

CCP 310A-HU Vertical, air from RF, White Bor, "Riverfront Stadium" on bottom  
 CCP 310A-HU Vertical, air from RF, Black Bor, "Riverfront Stadium" on bottom  
 CCP 312A-HU Air from home plate, "Riverfront Stadium" on top right corner  
 CCP 314A-HU Blue tinted view from across river, stadium on right, "Cincinnati" above sta  
 CCP 316A-HU Foggy, from up river, stadium in top left corner, black & white border  
 CCP 318A-HU Foggy, from across river, stadium top right corner, black & white border  
 CCP 322A-HU Night, from across river, stadium on left under bridge, black border  
 CCP 348A-HU Night, from across river, stadium in center, black border  
 CCP 55465-D From across river during twilight  
 CCP DT-87485-D Stadium in center, black and white border  
 CCP DT-87492-D Vertical, from across river, stadium in center, black border  
 CCP DT-87495-D Dusk, from across river, stadium far right, black and white border  
 CCP 83245-D View from down river, stadium in center, black and white border  
 CCP 87498-D Vertical w-nite views of sta, B&W Border, "Spectacular Cincinnati"  
 CCP L-92512-D View from across river, stadium in center, red and grey border  
 CCP 111066 Aerial view with stadium on far right, brown border  
 CCP 138031 From across river, fireworks  
 CCP 141461 From across river, green back  
 CCP 285016 Air, stadium and coliseum distant, skyline background, white bor, 5x7  
 CCP 285018 From across river, night, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 285019 From above bridge, stadium right, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 285039 From across river, night, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 285042 From river, boats, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 285046  
 CCP 285047 From freeway, looking at coliseum and stadium, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 285052  
 CCP 285053 From above stadium, partially filled, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 285054 From across river, white border, 5x7  
 CCP 811345 Air, from across river, stadium in center, "Cincinnati, Ohio" top right cor  
 CCP 811346 View from river, smoke in front of stadium on left  
 CCP 811347 Night, from across river, stadium on right under bridge  
 CCP 811349 Air, dusk, view of stadium with interior view insert in top right corner  
 CCP 811354 View from across river, stadium on right  
 CCP 931215 8 views of Cincinnati, stadium appears in 3 of them, black border  
 CCP 811353 Night from across river with reflections in water, stadium in center  
 CCP 811358 Cincinnati spelled out with stadium in "NAT", yellow border  
 CCP 811359 5 views of Cincinnati, stadium in 2 views, yellow border  
 CCP C86129,2US OH 40-B, View from across river, sta on left, coliseum on right, purple bor  
 CCP C86130,2US OH 41-B, View from across river, stadium on right, blue border

G 66410-C From across river, night, title in yellow in lower right corner

## PULL IT OUT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS

by Ron Menchine, Glen Arm, Maryland

The novelty postcard has long been sought by collectors and comes in many different forms. What is most surprising is how many novelty postcards there are.

Doug Alford is the proud owner of an unusual novelty card put out in Boston in the early 1900's. The card has a postcard back but the front has 3 small views including the Huntington Avenue Grounds and a paper baseball held in place by a metal clip. When you slide the clip aside, the entire Red Sox team, in individual poses, can be pulled out in accordian fashion.

In 1907, a company, probably based in New York, put out two Baseball Mail cards. One card has Hilltop Park on the front - the other, the Polo Grounds. When you open the card up, the inside-front cover has the complete league schedule and on folded paper, members of the two teams in individual action poses.

This idea must have appealed to Publisher H. E. Smith of St. Louis because he went one step further the following year.

In 1908 Smith published a series of novelty cards, one for each team in the majors. It was called, "Our Home Team". The brown and orange card has a raised tab with that title. Inside, when the tab is lifted, the accordian fold shows the team's home schedule and individual shots of the players on red and white pages. Since the publisher had access to all major league clubs coming into St. Louis to play the Browns and Cardinals, he probably shot the pictures himself. The bottom of the card has an artist-drawn generic ballpark.

For years, Buck Barker, the father of ballpark collecting, thought the artist used Robison Field, early home of the Cardinals as his model. He later told me it was probably wishful thinking on his part because he had never seen a postcard of the Cardinals home.

When Forbes Field opened in 1909 as one of the first of the modern stadiums - Shibe Park beat it for the honor by a few months - publishers were quick to jump on the bandwagon in issuing postcards of the Pirate showplace. Printer W.M. Dick of Pittsburgh published what he called an Extension Postcard in sepia. The front of the card shows a packed Forbes Field. The back has space for the address and a picture of manager and leftfielder Fred Clarke. Inside are pictured all members of the 1909 team in individual poses.

Would you believe there is a cereal box postcard of a ballpark? In the early 1940's, during World War II, Kellogg's ~~Corn~~ Flakes boxes had one. The card is red, white and green and shows Yankee Stadium. When you cut the card out of the box, it had a natural fold where you could write the message inside. The card contains this message, "Compliments of Kellogg's Cron Flakes, Product of a free society". The series depicts scenes throughout the U. S. including the Washington Monument but Yankee Stadium is the only ballpark used.

Believe it or not, a mechanical ballpark card exists of the Polo Grounds. Ironically, the card was made in Japan. The scene shows the Polo Grounds from home to center field and when a tab is pulled on the left side of the card, the bat moves back and forth. It was designed to make contact with a ball that comes out of the scoreboard and is only visable when the bat moves.

All of us are familiar with the 3-D cards that were popular about twenty years ago and which are still found from time-to-time. The only 3-D ballpark card known to exist is a regular size multi-view of California which includes Dodger Stadium done in an artist's rendering. Know of others? If so, drop me a line and I'll pass it on.



REMEMBERING EBBETS FIELD  
by George Tinker, Richmond, Virginia

Ebbets Field, home of the Brooklyn Dodgers from 1913-1957 was one of baseball's most popular parks and its compactness made it an excellent place to watch a ball game. Located between the Flatbush and Bedford sections of Brooklyn, the park was bounded by Sullivan Place (1B), McKeever Place (3B), Montgomery Street (LF) and Bedford Avenue (RF).

Ebbets Field was proudly opened April 5, 1913 by Dodger owners Charlie Ebbets and Ed McKeever. The Dodgers overcame the Yankees in an exhibition game that day by a score of 3-2. On April 9, 1913, at the official opening and first National League game there, the Phillies defeated the Dodgers 1-0 when the winning run scored from second base on a muffed pop fly by the Brooklyn catcher.

Originally having a capacity of 25,000, additional seats were later added in the outfield to bring it up to 32,000. Even so, it remained one of the smallest seating capacities in the league. Parking was also very limited so most fans used the subway to get to and from games.

The proximity of the stands to the field made Ebbets Field a place where the fans could see the players faces without binoculars and where they could be close enough to be heard when they hollered. Was it loud! The noise of the cheering (or jeering) faithful was amplified many times by the way the stands were positioned.

The place was a sea of bright colors. The navy blue seats were accented by red trim on the railings and silver of the girders and facades. Huge multi-colored signs on the fences advertising such products as Lifebuoy Soap, Esquire Boot Polish, Gem Blades, GGG Suits at Abe Stark's and Schaefer Beer added to the carnival atmosphere at Ebbets.

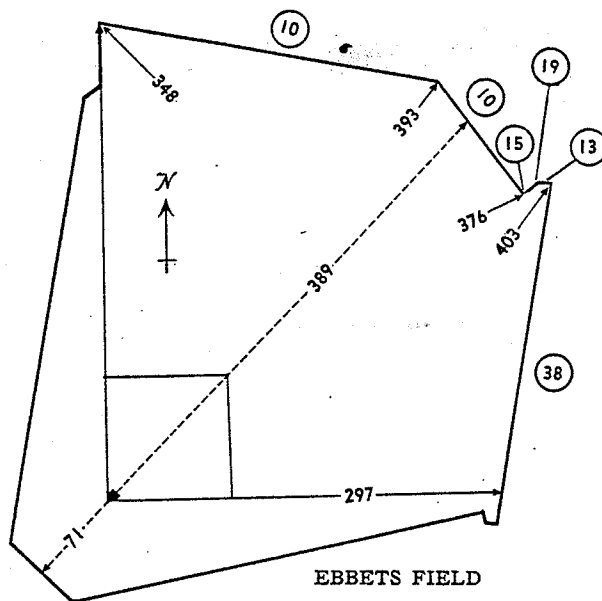
The grandstand was a double decked concrete and steel structure that surrounded the field on all sides except in right and right center field where there was a 40 foot high fence and scoreboard, which backed up to Bedford Avenue. A ball hitting the scoreboard was still in play. The right field fence itself was in two parts: the lower portion was about 20 feet high topped by a mesh screen of about the same height. Balls hitting the lower portion would take unusual caroms due to the slope of the wall and the foam rubber padding on its surface. Still different caroms would occur from the mesh screen and the wooden scoreboard, keeping outfielders alert.

The short power alleys led to a number of home runs and extra base hits; most games were exciting high scoring contests and no lead was considered safe.

The diagram above shows the exact dimensions of the field. The circled numbers show the various heights of the fences.

Next issue - more on Ebbets, its early history and its characters.

ANSWER TO A QUESTION ASKED IN THE MAY BULLETIN - How many clubs issued pocket schedules with pictures of the ballparks on them? Is there a checklist of these? No one knows of a checklist but Tony Lamonte, 8906 Jackwood, Houston, Texas 77036 is going to attempt to assemble one. Gordon Kramp started the ball rolling by submitting a list of schedules he has in his collection and now is your chance to jump in with your additions. If at all possible, send xerox copies of them but if you don't have access to a machine but have schedules...send data to Tony!



## FENWAY PARK THE FIRST TIME

by Jim Schneider, Carson, California

A raffle. A raffle at the local Texaco station is where my grandmother won those tickets. She was thrilled at winning but had no interest or desire in seeing the Red Sox so she gave the tickets to my father and I. It was now only June, a long time before the final game of the 1967 season. That's the game our tickets were for. I had a whole season to wait before my first trip into Fenway Park.

I spent the next couple of months fishing, playing little league ball and of course, listening to Ken Coleman and Ned Martin broadcasting Red Sox games live over radio and television from Boston. What a year for the Red Sox. The impossible dream of a pennant in Beantown was coming through during first July, then August, and more excitingly so down the stretch in September. The pennant was to be decided on the last day of the season.

The final game of the 1967 regular season was against the Twins. October 1, 1967 was the date. My father and I jumped into the Pontiac and headed south on I-95.

To get to Fenway, my father decided we should take the subway (the "T") from Everett to Park Square and then to Kenmore Square. Needless to say the "T" was packed with Red Sox rooters all prepared with caps, pennants, signs and anything else needed to cheer the Red Sox to victory. The "T" pulled into Kenmore Square. My father and I followed the flow of Sox rooters upstairs and out onto a busy sidewalk.

Kenmore Square had vendors on every corner selling fresh roasted peanuts in small brown bags for 25¢, hotdogs, souvenirs and tonic - that's soda pop for non-Bostonians. Naturally I wanted one of everything but my father, who never enjoyed crowds, was more interested in finding Fenway, the entrance and our seats. It was his first time too.

We followed the flow and headed toward a large red brick building. Nothing I'd yet seen looked like a ballpark. We got in line where an older man, dressed in a red and blue uniform, took our tickets. It wasn't until we actually passed through the turnstile that I realized we were in Fenway Park.

The rumble and yelling of thousands of fans entering the park echoed all around us. Vendors were hawking programs, Fenway Franks, beer and popcorn. The popcorn was served up in a megaphone with a Red Sox logo on it's side. My father found the ramp that would take us to our box seats.

Up the green-painted ramp we went and out into the sunshine and Fenway Park. Coming up the ramp just to the first base side of home plate you would think I'd first notice the Green Monster, Fenway's famous left field wall. Instead, my eyes immediately fell on the lush green grass of the infield. I did a quick comparison of this immaculate playing surface with the red clay infield of my little league park.

I spotted the green monster and thought it to be closer than I had imagined. It looked as if you could reach out and touch it, 315 feet down the line. Above the green wall was ten or so feet of netting with a few baseballs craddled in it. No doubt they had been launched there by "Boomer" or "The Hawk" during batting practice.

As I took quick glances around at everything, my father pulling me towards our seats, I noticed that everything, the seats, fences, railing, support posts, they were all green. Everything in the ballpark was green!

Once in our seats, almost behind homeplate itself, I took a good long look at the scoreboard in left field. I noticed a head sticking out of a hole in it. My father explained that the score was changed each inning by a couple of people inside the scoreboard. "Great job", I thought to myself.

I looked around the park then from the green monster in left to the center field bleachers some 420 feet away. Now that's a long way to hit a baseball. The park was starting to fill up now. The right field bleachers, just above the bullpens, were packed. The brightly painted Jimmy Fund sign lit up over the right field grandstand and looked so out of place - it wasn't green.

We were so close to the field, about fifteen rows. You could hear the "pop" of Lonborg's fastball in Elston Howard's mitt and the "crack" of Yaz's bat as he singled with the bases loaded in the sixth.

That's what I really enjoyed about Fenway Park - being on top of the action, hearing the players, the ball meeting glove and bat. No sky-high second, third or fourth decks here. No need to worry about nosebleeds, clouds or low flying aircraft. Maybe a low-flying pigeon.

It was a great day, watching the game in that fishbowl of a ballpark, cheering the Sox and razzing the invading Twins. Rico caught a pop up for the final out, the Sox won the pennant, and the fans poured on the field from all directions. They tore at the leftfield scoreboard, pulled sod from the outfields and infield and surrounded Lonborg and the rest of the Sox heroes.

I thought for sure that ballpark would be destroyed that day. But just as it has weathered many a New England winter storm, it weathered the storm of fans on that day, my first visit to Fenway Park.

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**MICKY MOUSE BASEBALL...** might be just around the corner if Walt Disney World has its way and convinces Orange County, Florida to build a major league stadium by the middle of the nineteen nineties. Officials with the amusement park believe that with a stadium in hand, they can lure a major league team to the sunshine state.

**ROCHESTER'S SILVER WING STADIUM...** will be renovated at a cost of \$5.6 million. The work is scheduled to begin after the last pitch of the International League season is thrown. The home clubhouse will be gutted and rebuilt, a new tunnel to the field installed, a new concourse area in the grandstand, ticket and office facilities, an umpire's room, larger concession stands, a restaurant, parking areas and rooftop, luxury boxes. Silver Wing Stadium is one of the old ones, going back to 1927.

**CANDLESTICK PARK WILL NOT BE ABANDONED...** at least not until 1988. The San Francisco Giants have announced that they plan to use the ballpark for one more season while they continue to press the city for a downtown facility.

**IN 1970 Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium** was completed at a cost of \$35 million by the city. Early in 1986, the city was considering the sale of the property for \$132 million.

**BASEBALL AMERICA'S TOP TWELVE MINOR LEAGUE PARKS...** begin with the 100-day wonder (100 days to build) Cheney Stadium in Tacoma. The next eleven are: The Diamond, Richmond; Point Stadium, Johnstown; Cashman Field, Las Vegas; F. Fred Johnson Park, Kingsport; Dunn Field, Elmira; Greenville Municipal Stadium, Greenville; Foothills Stadium, Calgary; Mile High Stadium, Denver; Joe W. Davis Stadium, Huntsville; Durham Athletic Park, Durham; and Nat Bailey Stadium, Vancouver.

**QUESTION LOOKING FOR AN ANSWER...** many calendars have been seen since the 1940's with major league ballparks on them. Often done in color, they were large and attractive, worthy of being framed and displayed. During the 1960's several of Dodger Stadium appeared in the Los Angeles area, ditto Anaheim Stadium. Ebbets Field and Sportsmans Park are known from the 1940's and early 50's. Were there some in the years before WWII? Is there a checklist? Tony Lamonte of Houston, Texas stepped forward to take on the project of developing a checklist of stadiums appearing on team schedules. Does someone want to take on the calendars?

# Ballparks on maps attractive, "off-beat" post card topic

By Vic Pallos

"Off-beat" stadium post cards--greetings from, large letters, riverfronts, city aerial views, etc.--can offer collectors some interesting adventures searching for the ballparks, however small. In particular, map cards can be fascinating because many of the views show stadium locations and surrounding areas. Even small town map cards may indicate ballpark sites, including some of the Florida spring training sites. There are lots of cards with baseball-related markings, but here are some I've discovered through the years on the major league level:

**ANAHEIM** -- Hello from So. Calif., map with stadium drawing, CCH C-545-A. (Continental Publishing)

**ATLANTA** -- Greetings from Georgia, state map with ballpark drawing, CH C18483. (Bes-semer)

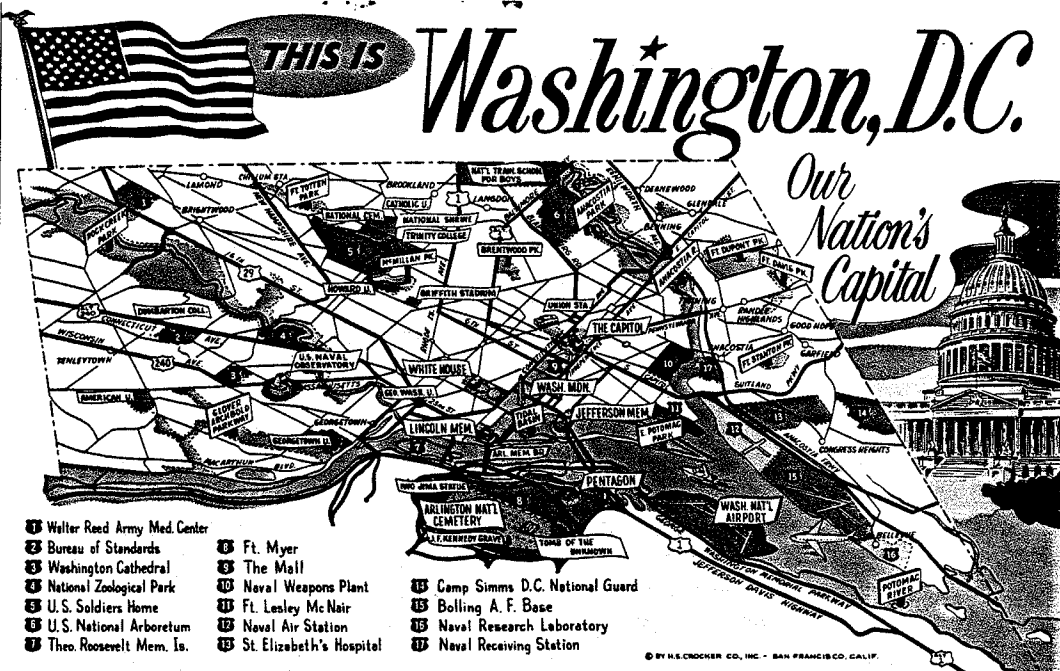
**CINCINNATI/CLEVELAND** -- Ohio State map with Municipal Stadium drawing, Reds batter, CH ODK-530. (Curteich); Ohio map with Indian feathers, Reds bat, CH K-4945. (Tichnor) two backs; Greetings from Ohio Turnpike, Indians caricature, CH SK 8459. (Howard Johnson); U.S. map and oversized Ohio, Municipal Stadium drawing, Reds batter, CH P25504. (Ohio Natural Color); Greetings from Ohio, Indians & Reds batters, CH 53999-B. (Nelson Jones); Greetings from Ohio, Indians & Reds batters, CH P63401. (Colour-picture); Greetings from Ohio, Indians and Reds batters, CCH 22-15, DT-66527-C. (Dexter Press).

**LOS ANGELES** -- L.A. Freeway map noting location of Dodger Stadium, CH J-65. (Western); Greater L.A. Freeway Guide noting locations of Dodger Stadium and Anaheim Stadium, CH HSC-1000. (Scott); 2 4½x6½ map reproductions--Downtown L.A. and Greater L.A. with ballpark drawings, No #'s. (Unique Media, Ontario); 5x7 map reproductions of So. Calif. for "Los Angeles 1984 Summer

--Continued on next page



PUBLISHED FOR  
L.A. CHINATOWN  
--Reduced sample  
of colorful 5x7 map  
post card available  
to visitors in China-  
town, Los Angeles.



COLORFUL CHROME -- Griffith Stadium -- noted on this card, S-207 published by Silberne Souvenir Sales. The ballpark was virtually ignored through the years on commercially-issued cards. Obviously, the other "D.C." attractions were more salable post card subjects than Griffith Stadium and its usually-lowly baseball Senators.

Continued from previous page

Games" with Dodger Stadium/Anaheim Stadium drawings, cards published with four different color borders, No. #'s. (Atlantic Richfield); 5x7 map, Los Angeles with Dodger Stadium drawing, No. #. (Forture Trading Co., Chinatown, L.A.)

**MILWAUKEE** -- Wisconsin map, Braves batter, CH 253 Y, 24328-B. (L.L. Cook); Greetings from Wisconsin, map, Braves batter, CH K-6826. (Tichnor); Wisconsin map, Braves batter, CH 22372-B. (Dexter); Wisconsin map, Braves batter, CH 59714-B. (Dexter).

**MINNEAPOLIS** -- Three cards with caricature of ballpark, all state maps--CH N.24, 4DK-1836 & CH 4DK-1836 (two boys fishing on front), and CH N.26, 4DK-1838 (trout on fishing line on front); state map with 12 views surrounding map, ballpark aerial lower left, CH J-5. (Northern Minnesota Novelty)

**NEW YORK** -- New York City map depicting Polo Grounds and Yankee Stadium, CH AM-777. (Mainzer); New York City map depicting Yankee Stadium (drawing actually Polo Grounds), CH MP180, P25259. (Manhattan).

**ST. LOUIS** -- Downtown map depicting Busch Memorial Stadium, Mark Twain Hotel, Arch, other riverfront area attractions, CH No # available.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** -- City map showing famous attractions, including location of Griffith Stadium, CH S-207. (Silberne).

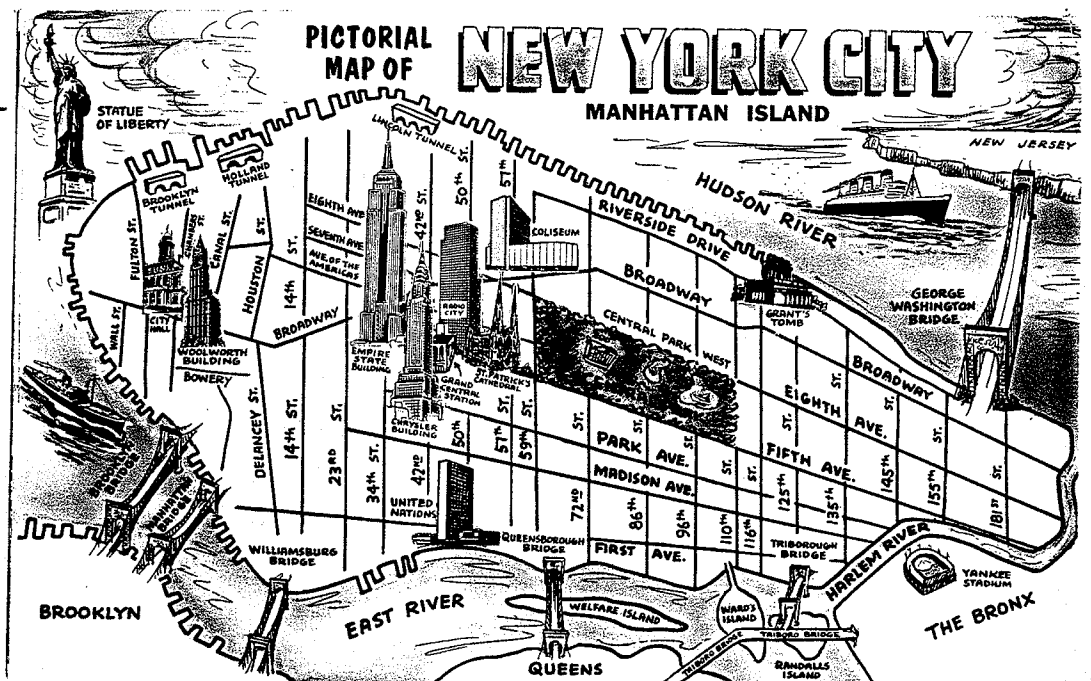
\* \* \*

Vic Pallos, collector and publisher of BB stadium post cards, may be contacted at 658 Arden Ave., Glendale, CA 91202.



GREETINGS FROM THE PEACH STATE -- A portion of Atlanta's Fulton County Stadium is shown on this chrome (C18483) outlined with light green border.

RIGHT PLACE, WRONG SHAPE -- An example of an "error" card, the Yankee Stadium drawing at lower right appears more like the former Polo Grounds. No doubt this chrome (MP180) was published after the Giants moved to San Francisco. But the memories of the Polo Grounds remained... at least on the drawing board of the publisher--Manhattan Post Card Co.



## THE HARDEST HIT

by Marty O'Connor, Woodbury, Connecticut

The hardest hit I ever saw occurred at the old Polo Grounds in New York City. On the occasion of my twentieth birthday, June 20, 1962, my father and I and our respective best friends journeyed to upper Manhattan for our first in-person look at the New York Metropolitan and the re-opened Polo Grounds.

The gray paint on the outfield walls seemed strange in contrast to the familiar dark green, and the ads on the walls were a new phenomenon to me. The wonderful "feel" of the park, however was still intact - the ghosts who lived there weren't going to give up that easily. In contrast to my "home" park - Yankee Stadium - the Polo Grounds had always seemed like a weird but lovable uncle who lived in a strange corner of upper Manhattan. Brooklyn, of course, as any Bronxite could tell you, was another country, where "strange beasties" lived. My one foray to Ebbets Field, the home park of these foreigners, had served merely to confirm the truth of this Bronx wisdom.

In the early innings of the first game of a doubleheader, Joe Adcock came to bat for Milwaukee against, I believe, Vinegar Bend Mizell. "Joe Willie" stepped into the batters box and took a few seconds to corkscrew himself down into the strange crouching stance he adopted in the middle of his career. The first and only pitch from Mizell was a fastball, right in Joe's wheelhouse. What followed was a rapid-fire sequence of sight and sound fragments which happened so fast that it was only later when I could re-play my mental movie in slow motion that I could realize all that had occurred.

The fragments were: Joe Willie swinging with his usual violence - the enormously loud, surrounding, Dolby-Stereo - like "CRACK/CRASH!!" as Joe's uppercutting swing made flush contact with Mizell's fastball - the incredibly flat trajectory of the ball rocketing towards the left field roof - the loud but ever-so-slightly muted "WHAM!!" as the ball collided with the wooden board facade of the roof two feet inside the foul pole - the arching flight of the ricocheting ball ending on the grass in front of the center fielder in a decrescendo of "THUMP-THUMP-THUMP-thump-thump"- - my eyes starting to track back to the diamond then stopping and returning to the outfield to note that the ball had indeed landed on the fly in center field in line with second base - my eyes then tracking to home plate where Joe Willie Adcock had not yet uncoiled himself from his swing!

This memory sends chills through me to this day.

The Ballparks Bulletin is published six times a year and mailed first class. Subscriptions are \$8.50. Single copies \$1.50. Back issues ...sold out. NOTE: many subscribers have requested back issues and indicated a willingness to accept xeroxed copies. I have a few xeroxed copies of Issue No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 for those who desire them and will send them via first class mail for \$1.50 each. Classified advertising is available at 10 cents a word. No display ads.

The next issue of The Ballparks Bulletin will appear in your mail box in November. If you have classified advertising or articles to submit, DEADLINE IS October 10th. If you submit articles for the Bulletin (printed or typed if at all possible), remember you are welcome to take a free forty-word classified for your contribution. Write or advertise anything...so long as it's about ballparks.  
Ray Medeiros, PO Box 10, Wauna, WA 98395, Telephone (206) 857-7331

## SEEK AND YE SHALL FIND

by Ron Menchine, Glen Arm, Maryland

The most disappointing thing so far in 1986 was being unable to accept Ray Medeiros's kind invitation for a west coast get-together. We were planning to meet in Los Angeles, see Mel Bailey, Gavin Riley and Vic Pallos and then venture north to Washington stopping at every postcard and antique shop along the way. Unfortunately circumstances beyond my control made it impossible to take the journey at this time but I've still been able to venture forth in the midwest in pursuit of postcards.

In May, I drove to Cleveland for the Western Reserve postcard show. This gave me an opportunity to visit with ballpark collector Gordon Kramp who probably has the finest Cleveland ballpark collection around. After a delightful visit which lasted well into the morning, we got a few hours sleep and then attended the show meeting up with fellow collector Elias Dudash along the way. All of us found a few goodies.

Around 1 PM Saturday I headed for Elkhart, Indiana and a visit with dealer/collector Dave Long. Dave specializes in modern cards and makes it a point to stock ballpark cards from all over the country. His service is outstanding and his prices are great. It's easy to see why he was named Dealer of the Year by Postcard Collector Magazine. Anyone looking for modern stadium views is foolish not to contact Dave because you can buy cards from virtually every major league city at prices no higher than you'd have to pay at stores in the various locale.

I'd made arrangements ahead of time to accompany Dave to a postcard show in Milwaukee on Sunday. A quick trip around the floor turned up very little but after spending the rest of the day going through dealers boxes I uncovered many gems including the Astrodome taken through the lobby doors of the Ramada Inn across the street. The card from the hotel was previously unknown to me and a most welcome addition to my collection. This brings up a point that I can't stress enough to beginning and even advanced collectors. Make it a point to look at all the state views dealers bring to shows. I usually make a quick trip around the floor checking baseball stadiums and sports categories. Then I relax, just going through state views and other categories like hotels and motels, advertising, maps, greetings-from, etc. all areas where ballpark cards are likely to turn up.

If I had gone to the two shows and just looked under the obvious categories, I might have been disappointed but as it was, I wound up with some real gems including 9 Astrodome cards I previously didn't have and a giant size card from Hotel Cleveland mailed in 1956 showing a fine view of the surrounding area including Municipal Stadium.

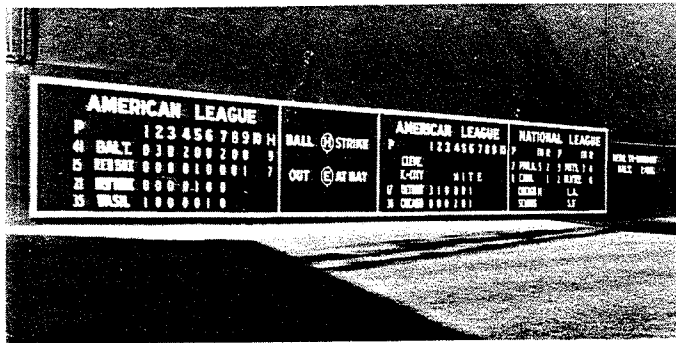
The great thing about our hobby is you can uncover fantastic material at very reasonable prices. In the last six months I have discovered the previously mentioned hotel cards, two real-photo cards of the original League Park in Cleveland, an error card of Comiskey Park labeled Cubs Park, a pennant card of Navin Field to mention just a few and none of which cost more than \$2.50. Believe me friends, they're out there - all you have to do is be patient and look for them. See you next issue.

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SOME MORE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ASKED RECENTLY...XMAS is the time for sending cards and the ballclubs do their thing at that time of the year in a special way by sending out superbly designed and printed cards and thus far, four ballparks are now known to have been featured on them...Comiskey, Wrigley, Candlestick and Riverfront. Any others?

Most who wrote in said they find most of their postcards of ballparks at PC shows. Next source is through swapping, then antique shows and shops. Baseball cards shows were last.

Dodger Stadium and the Kingdome are added to Cleveland Municipal Stadium sketches which appear on stationery. Not known is if it is issued by the clubs or privately printed. Any other parks on paper?



# The Scoreboard

Classified advertising:  
 Ten cents a word  
 No minimum  
 No maximum  
 Ballpark related only

SPITBALL - the Literary Baseball Magazine, announces a special issue devoted to BALLPARKS. All are invited to submit writing about ballparks, especially poems, fictional short stories, essays (including protests against demolitions), short histories (especially about singles ballparks or the various ballparks of single cities), reminiscences, and first-hand experiences. Also anything offbeat and/or humorous concerning ballparks. Surprise us! Our special ballpark issue will be published in early Dec. 1986. Deadline for submission of writing is Nov. 10, 1986. Sample copy of SPITBALL is \$2.00 (\$3.00 for the special issue on baseball parks). SASE please with all inquiries & submissions. SPITBALL, 6224 Collegevue Place, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224

REAL PHOTO STADIUM POSTCARDS FOR SALE - Forty cents each plus "something" for postage. Nat Bailey Sta. Vancouver, B.C.; Bellingham, WA; York, PA; Cashman Field, Las Vegas; Cheney Sta., Tacoma; Milwaukee County Sta.; Comiskey Park 1983; Olympic Sta., Montreal 1982; Tiger Sta. 1984; Three Rivers 1984; Cleveland Municipal 1984; Silver Sta., Rochester; Memorial Sta., Buffalo; Exhibition Stadium, Toronto 1984; Lucas County Sta., Toledo; Metrodome; Korakuen Sta., Tokyo; Kawasaki Sta., Kawasaki; Tokyo; Jingu Sta., Tokyo; Al Lang Field; Al Lang Stadium; Yankee Stadium, Ft. Lauderdale; Pompano Beach; Municipal Sta., W. Palm Beach; Jack Russell Sta., Clearwater; Al Lopez Field, Tampa; Payne Park, Sarasota; McKechnie Field, Bradenton; City Island Park, Daytona Beach 1973; Terry Park, Ft. Myers 1970 (later renamed); Park T. Pigott Memorial Park, Ft. Myers; Joker Marchant Sta., Lakeland; Payson Field (Mets complex), St. Pete; Huggins-Stengel Field, St. Pete; Pirate City, Bradenton; K. C. Royals Academy, Sarasota; Holman Field, Dodgertown, Vero Beach. Have many others. Send SASE for list. Mel Bailey, 2886 Sandberg Street, Riverside, California 92506

SON AND DAD NEED YOUR HELP - We're putting together a scrapbook of pictures of all the major league stadiums. The first need is to obtain GROUND LEVEL VIEWS taken outside of the stadium at street level of Dodger Stadium, Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium and Arlington Stadium. The second need is to obtain both ground level and interior views of Exhibition Stadium and The Kingdome. By interior we mean a picture of the stadium taken from the stands looking out at the playing field. Can you help? William Pepperell, P.O. Box 341, Hayward, California 94543

HAVE EBBETS FIELD CHROME E-12 - available for trade. Looking for Crosley Field chrome 7C-1341 or 7ck-1341. Please contact Joe Hammann, 8406 Towson Blvd., Miamisburg, OH 45342

COLLECTOR LOOKING TO PURCHASE OR TRADE STADIUM CARDS. Please send dupes and want lists to: Dan Palubniak, 530 Ryders, E. Brunswick, New Jersey 08816

WANTED TO BUY - Baseball stadium postcards. I've just begun to enjoy this special part of baseball and can use many. My favorite ballpark is Fenway but I like 'em all. Jim Schneider, 22539 Figueroa Street, #201, Carson, California 90745

WILL TRADE - Stadium Postcards. Jim Dadouris, 152 High Street, Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861



THE SCOREBOARD...

THE AMERICAN BALLPARK 15-MONTH CALENDAR - Great photographs of the most popular ballparks. Large, frameable, printed on heavy stock, in two different editions (1983-84 and 1984-85). Both for \$7.50 postpaid plus a bonus valued at \$3.50 ... Historical Chart of Champions. Scottsville Sports, 2608 Scottsville Road, Scottsville, NY 14546

WANTED - Photos, stadium postcards of Texas League ballparks. Anything on Houston Buffalo or Colt 45 Stadium. Tony Lamonte, 8906 Jackwood, Houston, Texas 77036

BALLPARKS BULLETIN SPECIAL OFFER - 3-set package, quality stadium postcards - "60 Years of West Coast Ballparks" featuring 30 cards of major and minor league stadiums, "Three Generations of San Diego Ballparks" containing 23 cards, "Memories of Gilmore Field/Gilmore Stadium," former homes of the PCL Hollywood Stars, all for \$15 ppd. Wealth of nostalgia for ballpark fans. Vic Pallos, 658 Arden Ave., Glendale, California 91202

PLANNING NEW POST CARD SET....BUT I NEED HELP! - Collector gathering photos, data for new comprehensive, current PCL ballpark nostalgia postcard set - potentially an historic set in the hobby. Quality of set will depend on available material. Many club owners are cooperating in this non-profit project, but need further photos from fans who have visited parks. All materials will be evaluated and returned in good order. If photos are used in set, appropriate credits will be provided. Contact: Vic Pallos, 658 Arden Avenue, Glendale, California 91202 (818) 242-9055

FOR SALE - "Great American Ballparks" postcards. Write for list. WANTED - K.C. Municipal 22261; 57838-B; 310428; KC-134; 31256 Colonial Motel. Royals Stadium KC162 60561-C; KC-212 031360; 10-661122. 1960 All-Star Game program at K.C.; K.C. ticket stubs for Muelebach, Blues, Ruppert and Municipal Stadiums. FOR TRADE - Muelebach 53; LINEN BALLPARK 53; K.C. Municipal SK8208; 17100; Washington Park - Indianapolis Federal League; Polo Grounds seat side with N.Y. logo. Gordon Tindall, 910 Maiden Lane, Decorah, Iowa 52101

SHIBE PARK - CONNIE MACK STADIUM - I have an extra copy of last game certificates and booklet given out to commemorate the closing of this great ballpark. I'll trade it. Drop me a line if you are interested. Mike Walsh, 11 Pinewood Drive, Levittown, PA 19054 (215) 547-2929

AVAILABLE NOW - Free list of stadium postcards. Many to choose from and new cards are continually being added. Reasonably priced, fast service and carefully packaged. Dave Long, P.O. Box 644, Elkhart, Indiana 46515

MAJOR LEAGUE STADIUM POSTCARDS FOR SALE - Set of 20 color postcards \$7.00 postpaid. Set of 10 black and white postcards \$3.50 postpaid. Both sets \$10.00 postpaid. Sets include many parks which are no longer standing such as Polo Grounds, Ebbets Field, Seals Stadium, Forbes Field and Baker Bowl. George Tinker, 2208 Bonnie Dale Road, Richmond, Virginia 23229

FOR SALE - Four new stadium postcards available featuring Richmond, Virginia ballparks: "Souvenir of Final Game at Parker Field" color #P17901; "Last Days of Parker Field" (during demolition) B&W #584; "Diamond in the Rough" (The Diamond during construction) B&W #584; "The Diamond" color exterior #587578. All 4 for only \$1.40 plus a SASE. George Tinker --- see address above.

WILL BUY - Baseball and college football stadium postcards. Beginning collector needs lots of common material. Send your duplicates list or approvals. I'll pay postage. Rick Brenner, 733 Keswick Drive, Iowa City, Iowa 52240

WANTED - Stadium postcards of Comiskey Park P13149 and Anaheim DT-9691-C. Will pay any reasonable price or will trade. John Misner, 112 Oak Dr, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

## THE SCOREBOARD...

I'M LOOKING FOR PRE-LINENS: Polo Grounds, New York 2647; "Out to the Long Green;" Shibe Park, Philadelphia, copyright 1909 by H.M. Rose, no #; vertical format photo above pennant of Navin Field. For any one of them I'll trade you your choice of (one) pre-linens: Section of Grand Stand, Fenway Park, Boston, Mass, 3077; American League Base Ball Park, New York, N.Y. 35893; West Side Ball Park-(Cubs) (title in upper left corner) 1784; Federal League Park, Chicago, R-50301; "Cubs" Ball Park, Chicago 301,113804; Los Angeles Baseball Park, "Wrigley Field" 150, 106685; American League Ball Park, Cleveland, Sixth City, R-51581; New Base Ball Park, Cleveland, O., no # (like A-10096 but gray walls); "A Home Run"; Braves Field, Largest Ball Grounds in the World, Boston, Mass., A-66104; Exterior of Braves Field, Home of "The Boston Nationals" Boston, Mass., no #. These are for swapping only. I have no sale, dupe or want list. Ray Medeiros, P.O. Box 10, Wauna, WA 98395

PRIME WANTS - Please help me find these Prime Wants: Cincinnati PL 1768, Opening Season 1907: Cleveland Municipal Stadium B&W 501; Philadelphia Shibe Park PL no# titled, "Players Bench Shibe Park". I'll buy or trade. Ron Menchine, 4301 Northcliff, Glen Arm, Maryland 21057 (NOTE MY NEW STREET ADDRESS)

GREEN CATHEDRALS - 160 pages crammed with 7 years of research on the details of the geographic history of baseball, including the vital statistics for every ballpark ever used for an official major league or Negro league game since the birth of the National Association on May 4, 1871 at Hamilton Field in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Also history of each franchise. \$7. Phil Lowry, 10650 Porto Court, San Diego, California 92124, Phone (619) 279-0719. A SABR publication.

SEATTLE KINGDOME CONTINENTALS - If anyone is interested in any recent releases (1985-86) listed in the May edition of TBB, they are available in trade and/or sale. They have a value of 50 cents each. If interested, please contact me at the following address: Rick Dadouris, 152 High Street, Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861. Telephone (201) 442-7970

ASSISTANCE REQUESTED - There is a search underway for items relating to Recreation Park, the first major league field in Detroit. It was the home park for the Detroit National League team which existed between 1881 and 1888, and which in 1887 won the NL pennant. The diamond disappeared in 1894, and the area is now a grassy space among the hospitals of the Detroit Medical Center. There are plans to erect a historical marker at the site in time for the centennial of the Pennant in 1987. Anybody with pictures, diagrams, or any information at all concerning Recreation Park please contact: Francis Helminski, Department of Legal Affairs, Harper-Grace Hospitals, 3990 John R. Street, Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, MI, 48201

SIX STADIUM POSTCARDS FOR SALE - About 12 years ago I produced a set of 6 black and white postcards, commercially printed by "Etchtone" consisting of Phoenix; Portsmouth, VA; Jarry Park (2); Tokyo Stadium and Turnpike Stadium. I have a few sets remaining for only \$1.75 plus a SASE. Mel Bailey, 2886 Sandberg Street, Riverside, California 92506

BEAUTIFUL COLOR POSTER 18x28, featuring an aerial view of the current 26 major league stadiums. Great for display in an office, den, rec-room, etc. Send \$4.95 to Aerial Perspective, P.O. Box 237, Lititz, PA 17543. Individual stadium pictures also available. Send business size SASE for prices.

WANTED: Memories! Right now, stop and think about walking around one of your favorite ballparks. What did you find along the way? At each corner? In the middle of the block? What did it sound like on each street? What did you smell? Remember the hot peanuts outside Wrigley Field? Remember the smell of Dawson and Narraganset Beer coming out of the bar across the street from the corner of Fenway? Remember how you could look up from that sidewalk entrance to the bar and see the screen hanging over and backwards from the left field wall? Remember sneaking through the bar, entering from the main entrance and walking through to the rear entrance and sneaking a peak at the photos on the wall? Remember?