



League Park, Cleveland - Cy Young on the mound. A nondescript wooden ballpark.

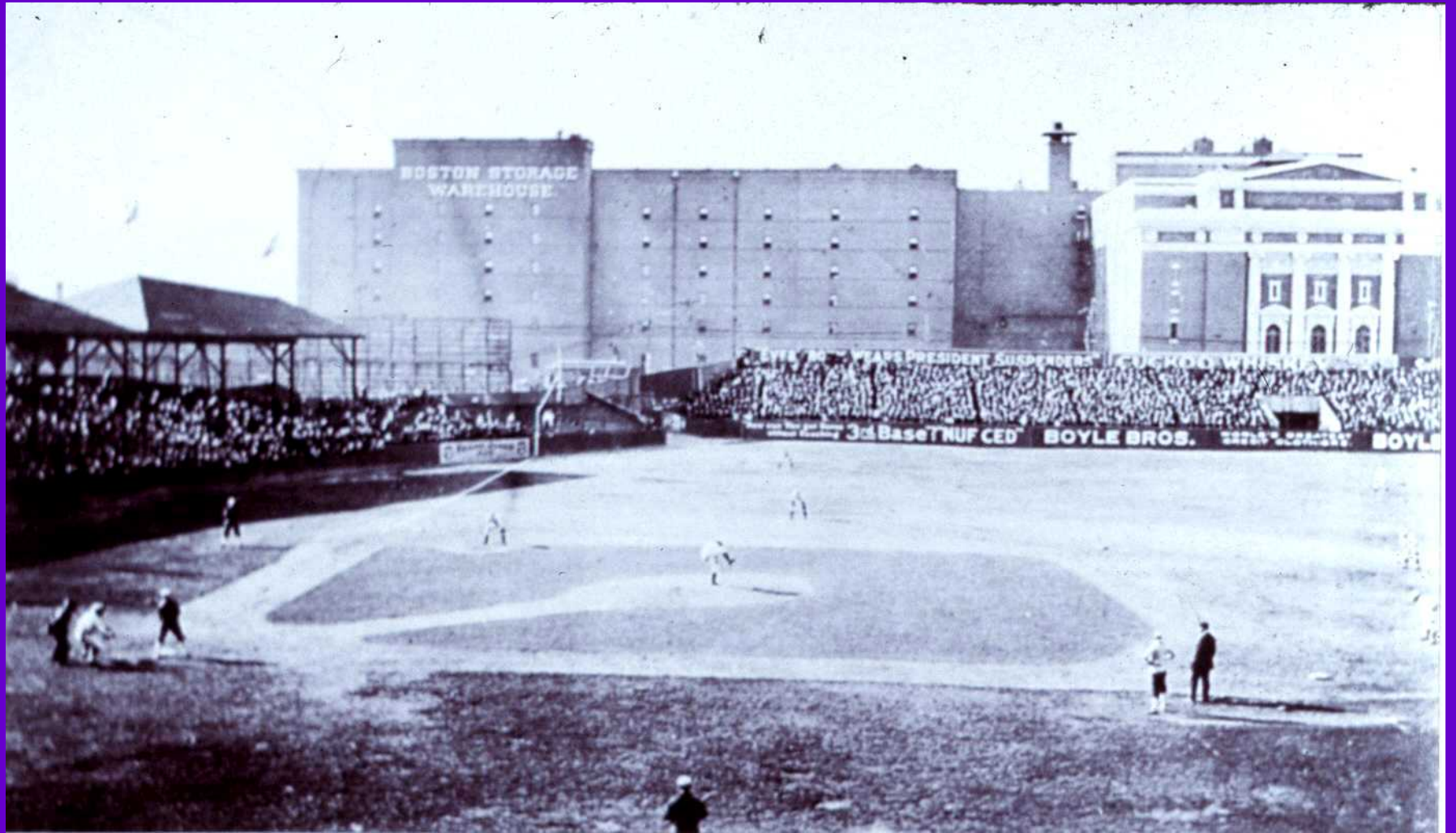
Capitol Grounds, also called Union Association Park, was the home of the Union Association Washington Nationals in 1884. This photo is one of the earliest to show advertising on the

outfield walls of a ballpark. In truth, Capitol Grounds wasn't much of a park, but it was hard to beat the view. Its site is now the Senate's underground parking garage.





Philadelphia's Columbia Park - to be supplanted by Shibe Park



Boston's Huntington Grounds (AL)

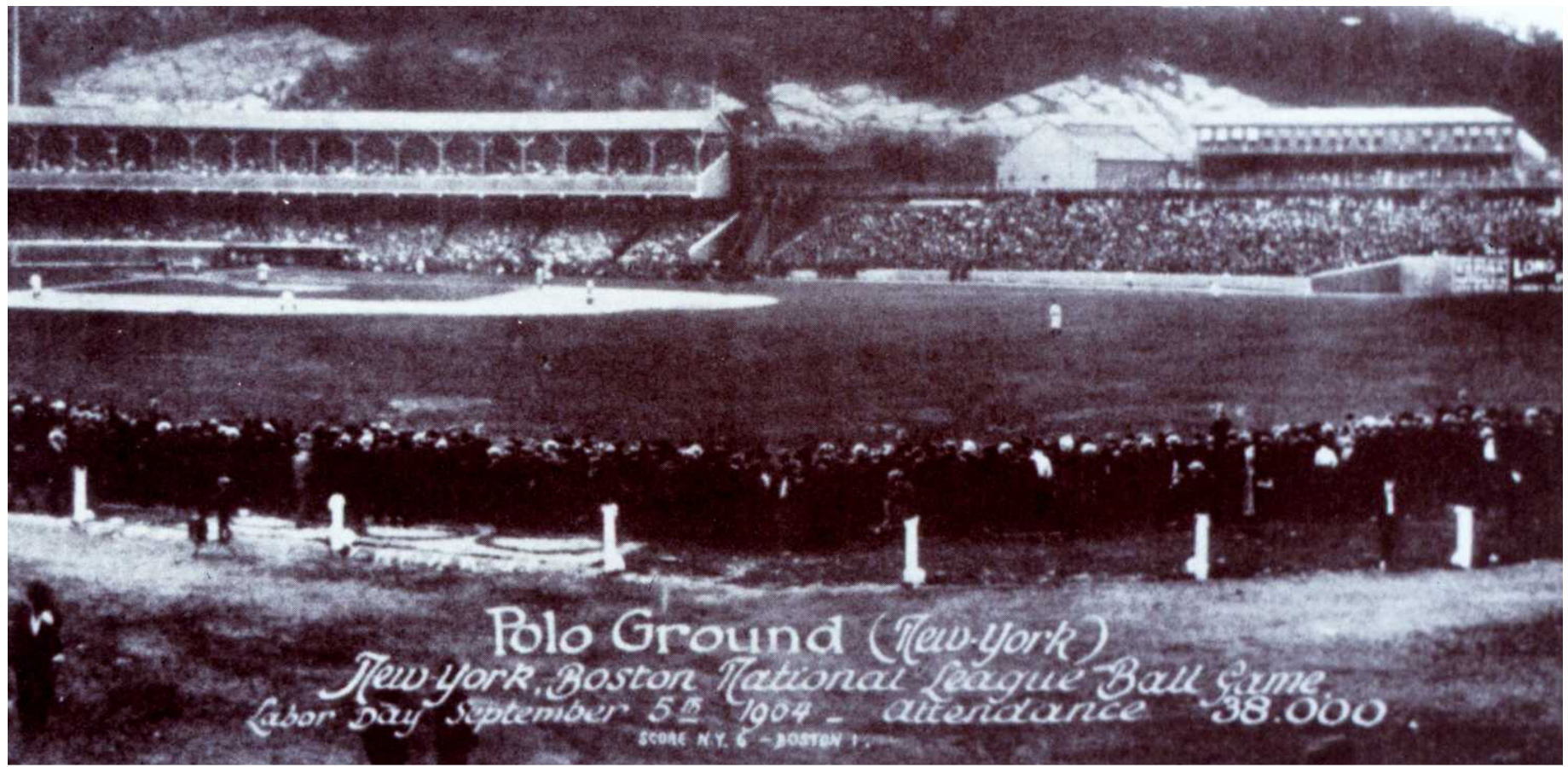


The original BANDBOX - Philadelphia's Baker Bowl



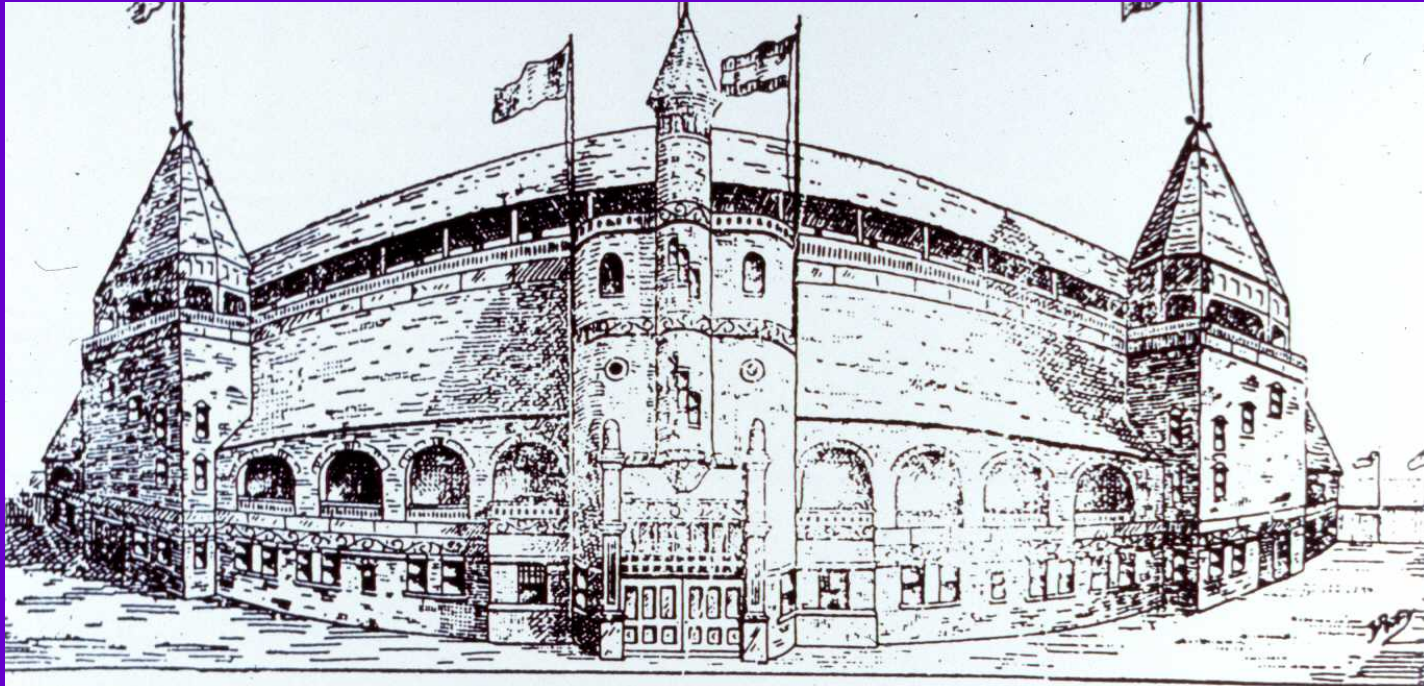


“...and they still stink” the saying was around the National League



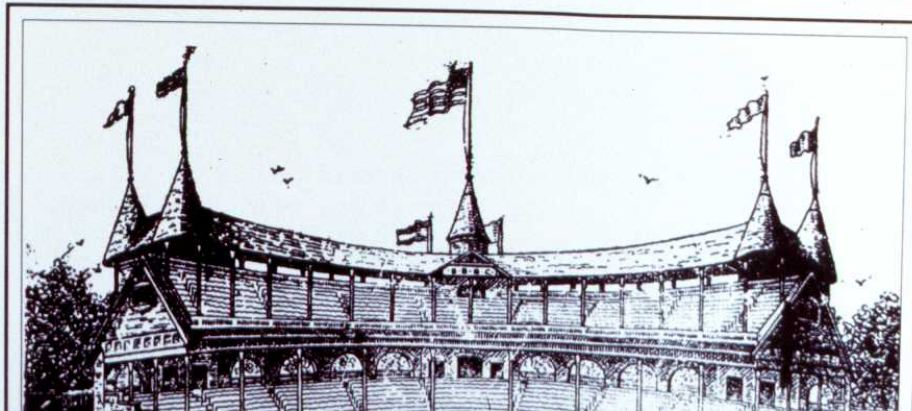
MORE MONEY TO BE MADE? 38,000 attended this early September game at the Polo Grounds in 1904 - despite the Giants' 15 game lead and their announced intention not to play the Boston AL "bushers" in the World Series

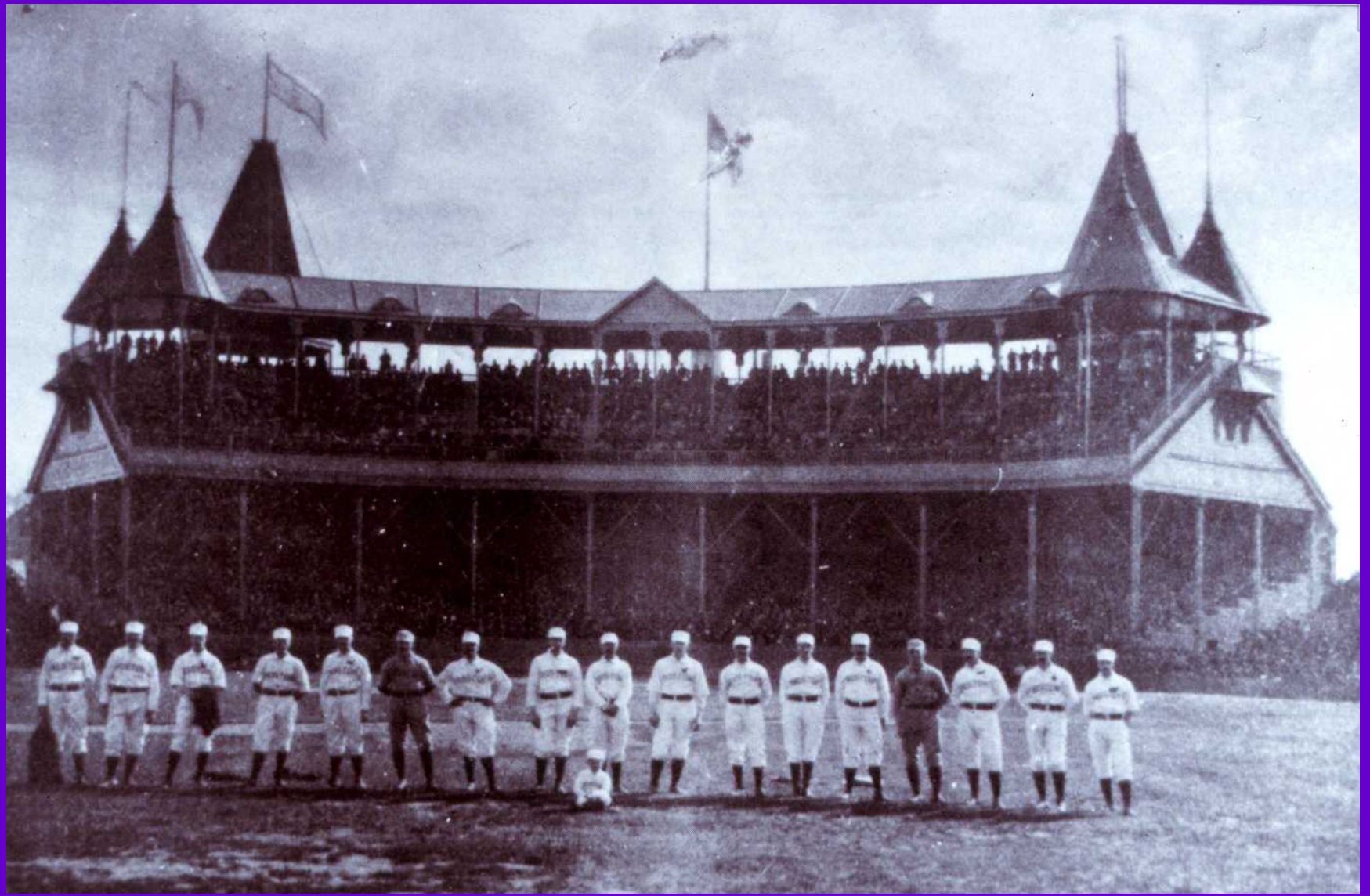
The Search for a Style



These sketches of Boston's South End grounds depict a setting where Sir Lancelot would have felt right at home. While we maintain the view of all players doing their best for the home team, the public view in the 1880s was that baseball was nearly on a par with jousting as a manly endeavor. Accordingly,

it deserved the pomp associated with pennants (retained even today). As many writers have noted, baseball's rise was hastened by piggybacking onto "Muscular Christianity," a Victorian belief that vigorous physical activity was not only healthful and religious but also approaching the heroic.





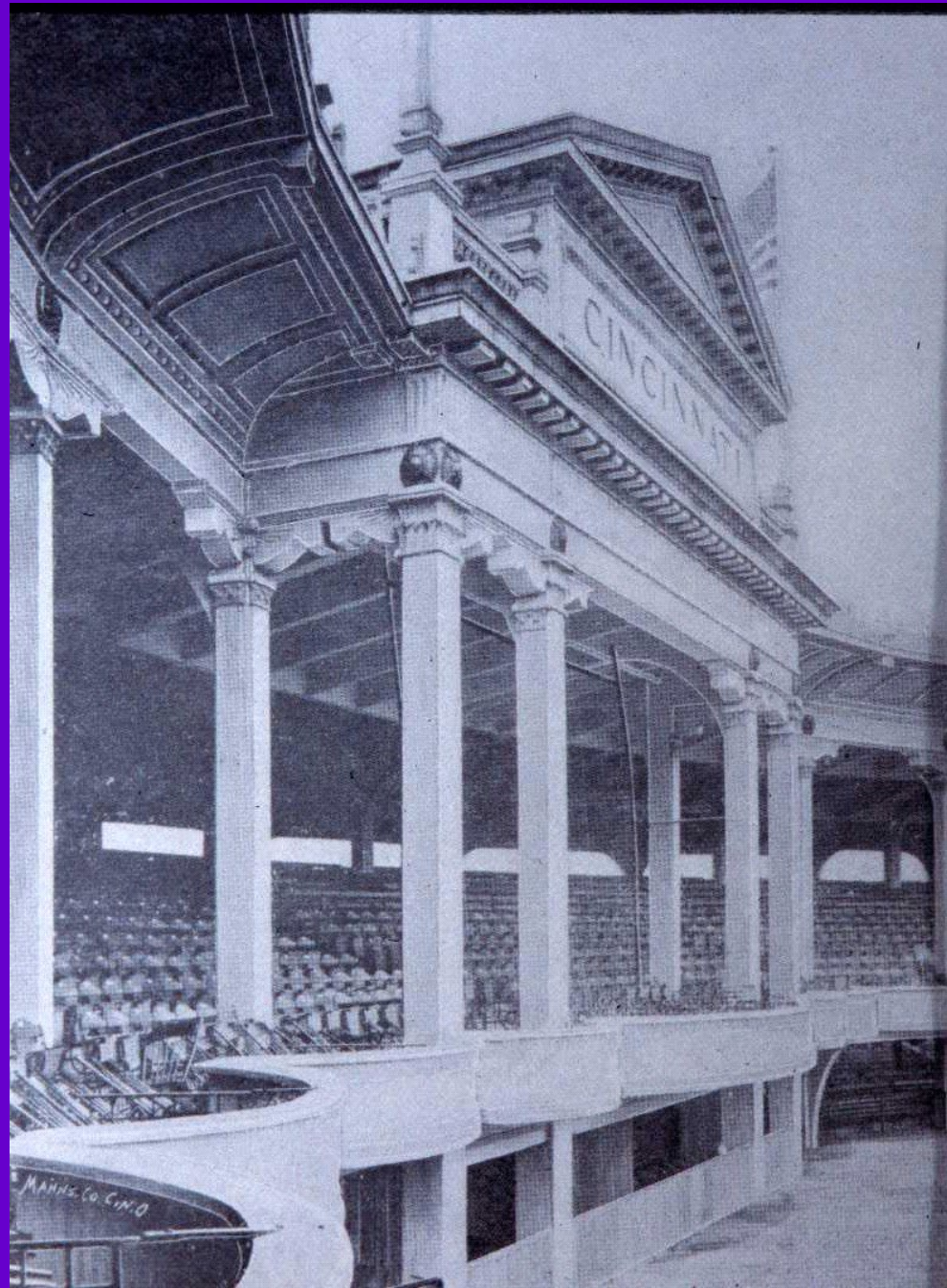




Chicago's 1893 World's Columbian Exposition had experimented with neo-classical architecture as a means of inspiring and disciplining the urban masses.



Cincinnati's Palace of the Fans

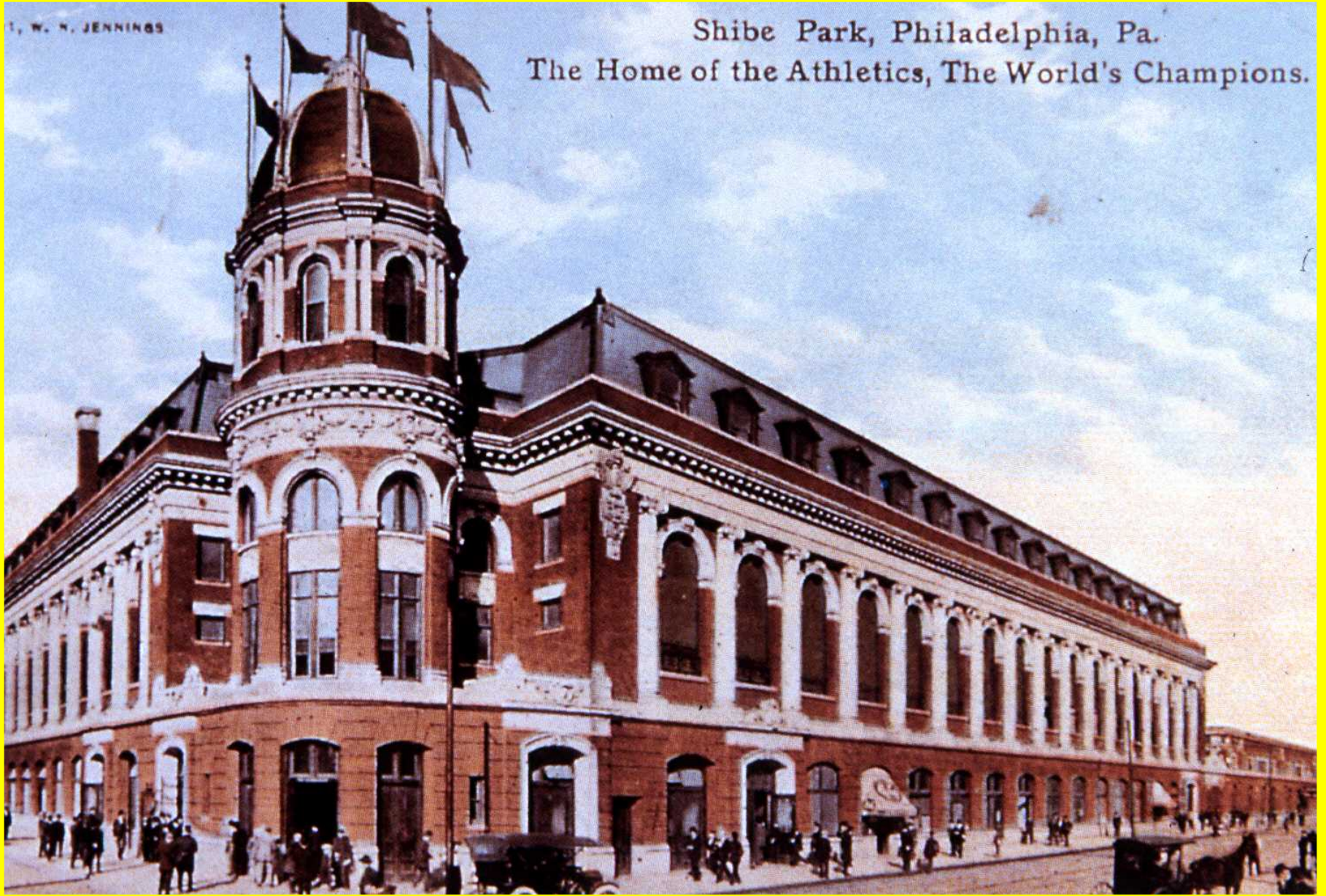




the new Polo Grounds. 1911: “Just as the monumental cathedrals which everywhere dot Europe are the expression of the ideals and aspirations of mankind,” the City Beautiful advocate Frederic Howe argued at the height of the Progressive era, “so in America, democracy is coming to demand and appreciate fitting monuments for the realization of its life, and splendid parks and structures as the embodiment of its ideals.

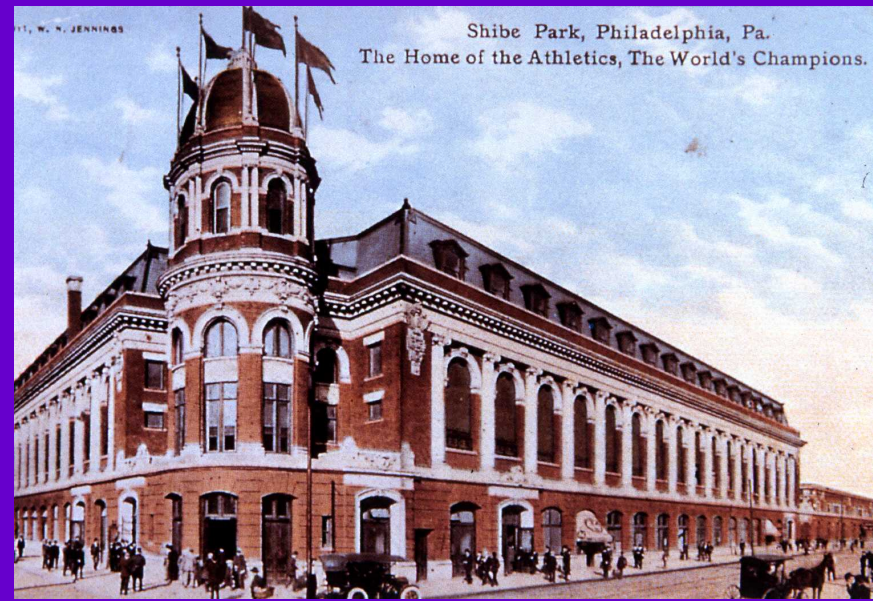
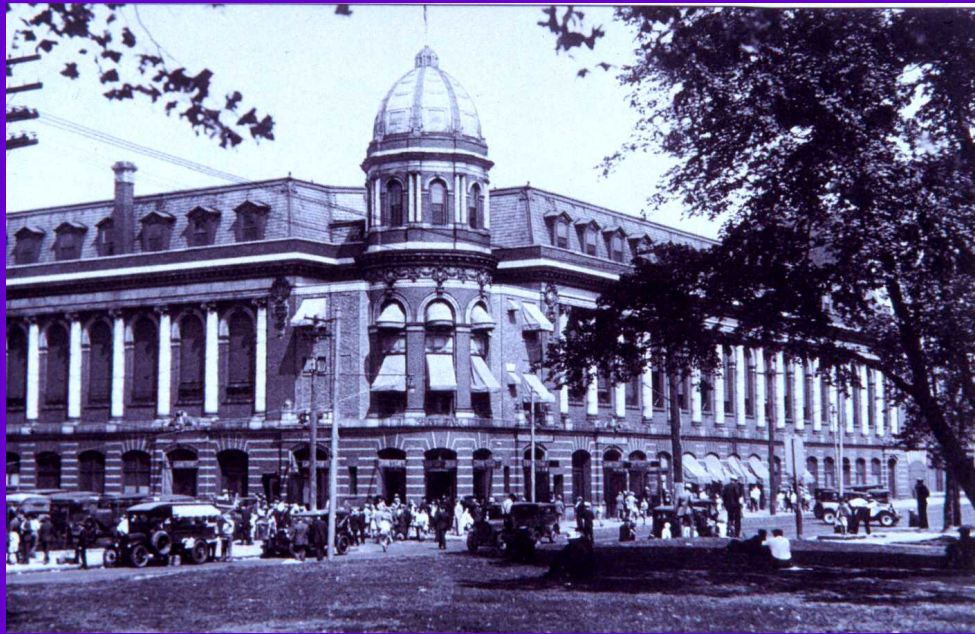
T. W. H. JENNINGS

Shibe Park, Philadelphia, Pa.
The Home of the Athletics, The World's Champions.





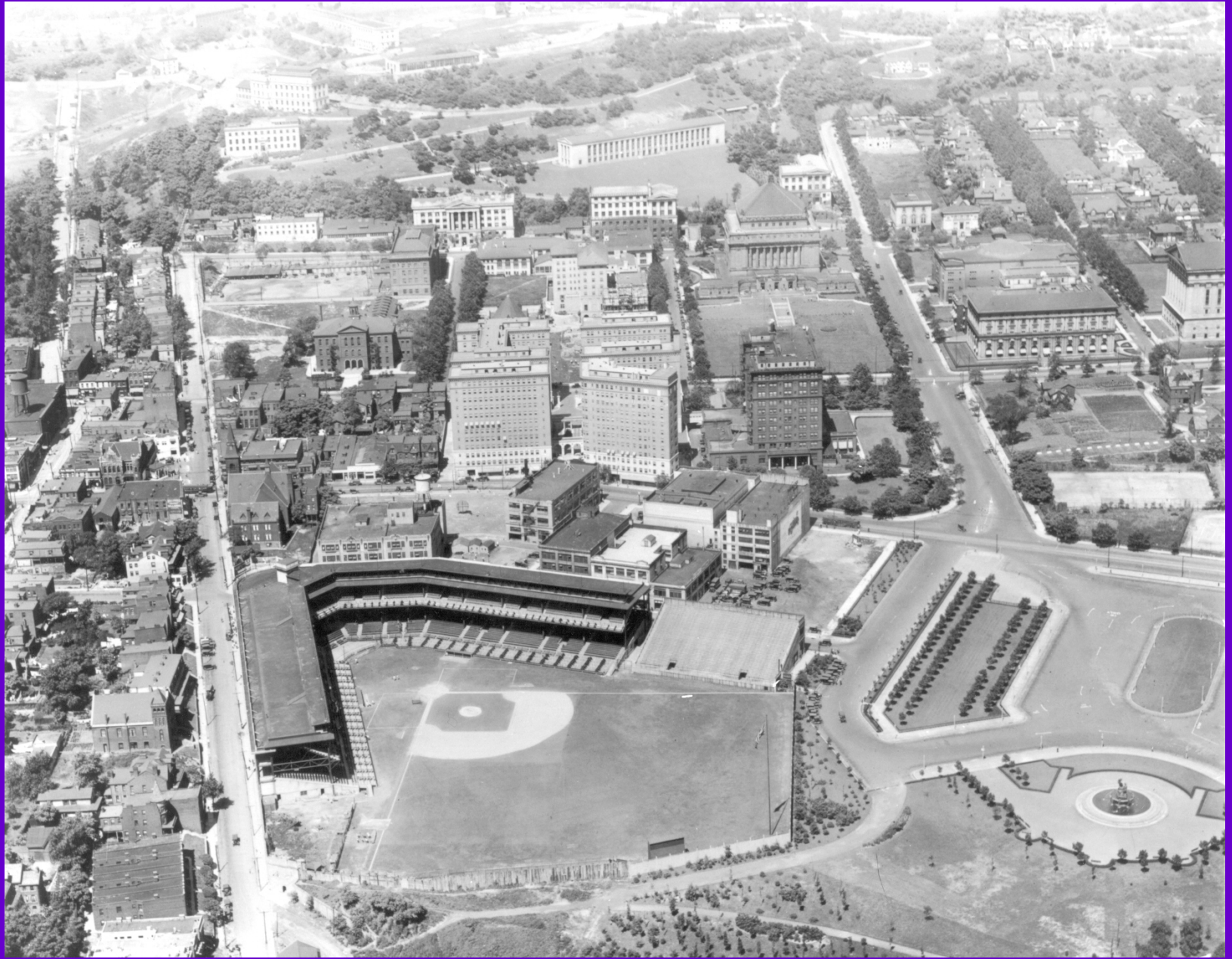




The classic ballparks acknowledged the key City Beautiful tenet. The “city cannot maintain a high commercial standing,” St. Louis’s City Beautiful plan put it, “unless it maintains, at the same time, a high civic life.” As Howe put it in his praise of the City Beautiful, a belief in the city “as an object of public-spirited endeavor” had tempered the “earlier commercial ideals that characterized our thought.” The key to linking commercial and civic success was integrating open space into the fabric of the city. Olmsted had explained that it was “a common error to regard a park as something to be produced complete in itself, as a picture on a canvas. It should rather be planned as one to be done in fresco, with constant consideration of exterior objects.” The best of the classic ballparks had exactly this quality. Privately-built, they were often located in run-down neighborhoods where cheap land could be found. Having made an investment in the location, the teams tried to repair and upgrade the area. Philadelphia’s Shibe Park supplanted a recently-closed hospital for smallpox victims as the focus of its reviving neighborhood. Philadelphia’s mayor commented in his opening day speech on the residential and commercial improvement of the Shibe Park neighborhood.



Pittsburgh's Forbes Field





Forbes Field

Dreyfus located Forbes Field in Pittsburgh's Oakland neighborhood, situated between a working-class residential area and the mansions of the city's elite. Already something of a cultural center, the area supported two colleges, a museum, library, concert hall, conservatory, and the city's largest public park. Dreyfus's landscape architect, Charles Leavitt, worked with a lot dominated by a deep gully requiring extensive backfilling. Since most of the site was unsuitable for building, a ballpark with a grandstand on one edge and an open field elsewhere was the perfect facility to repair and complete the urban fabric. The park complemented and set off the site, the green of the field echoing the hilly Schenley Park just behind the field. From the outside, the park was a combination of structural steel painted green, a white terra cotta exterior, and a copper-sheathed roof that produced an orange glow. The park contributed to the vitality of the neighborhood, where fans would stop in the Kunst Bakery before the game and linger for a beer after the game at Gustine's or other establishments within easy walking distance....*The park that replaced Forbes Field...*



Three Rivers Stadium, Pittsburgh

Forbes Autumn Classic © Bill Purdom 1991





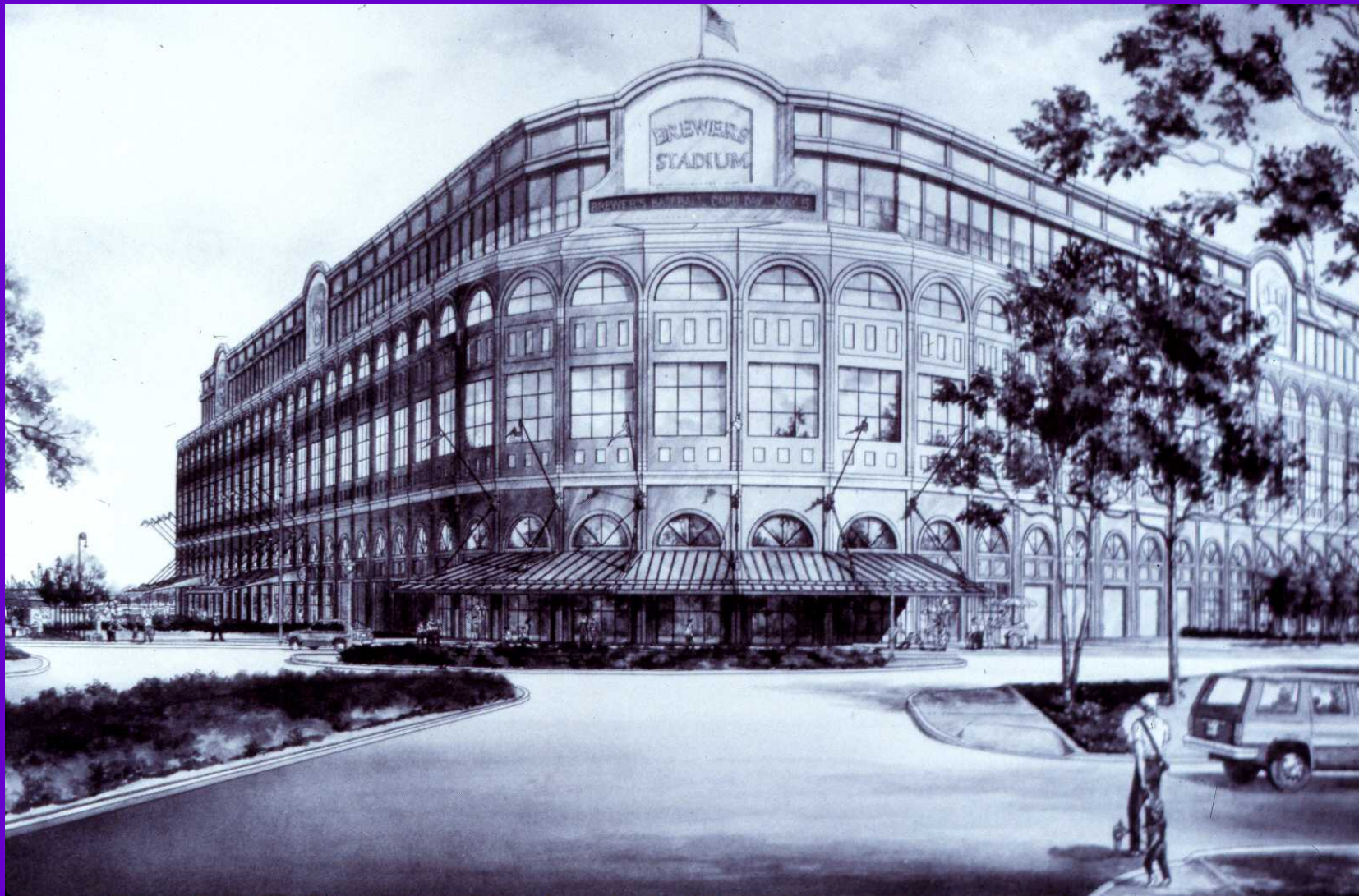






WORLD'S FAIR
Pittsburg, Pa.



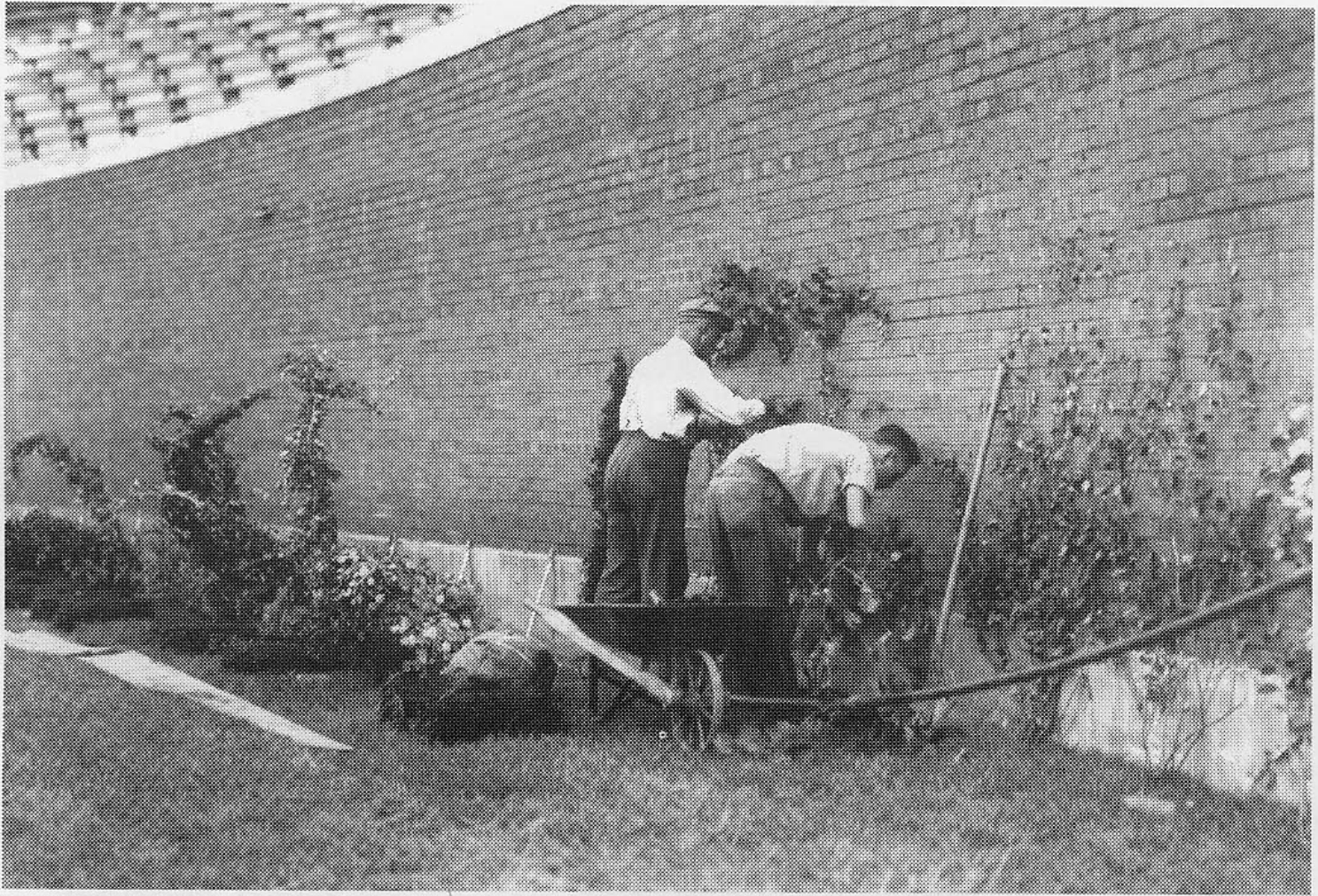


A drawing of the proposed Brewers' Miller Park





Home of the Chicago Whales - opening day with temporary bleachers and some really good seats in left.



A new tradition is installed on the outfield's brick wall. Two crew men complete the renovation process on 9/3/37 by planting the now famous ivy.
(C5)



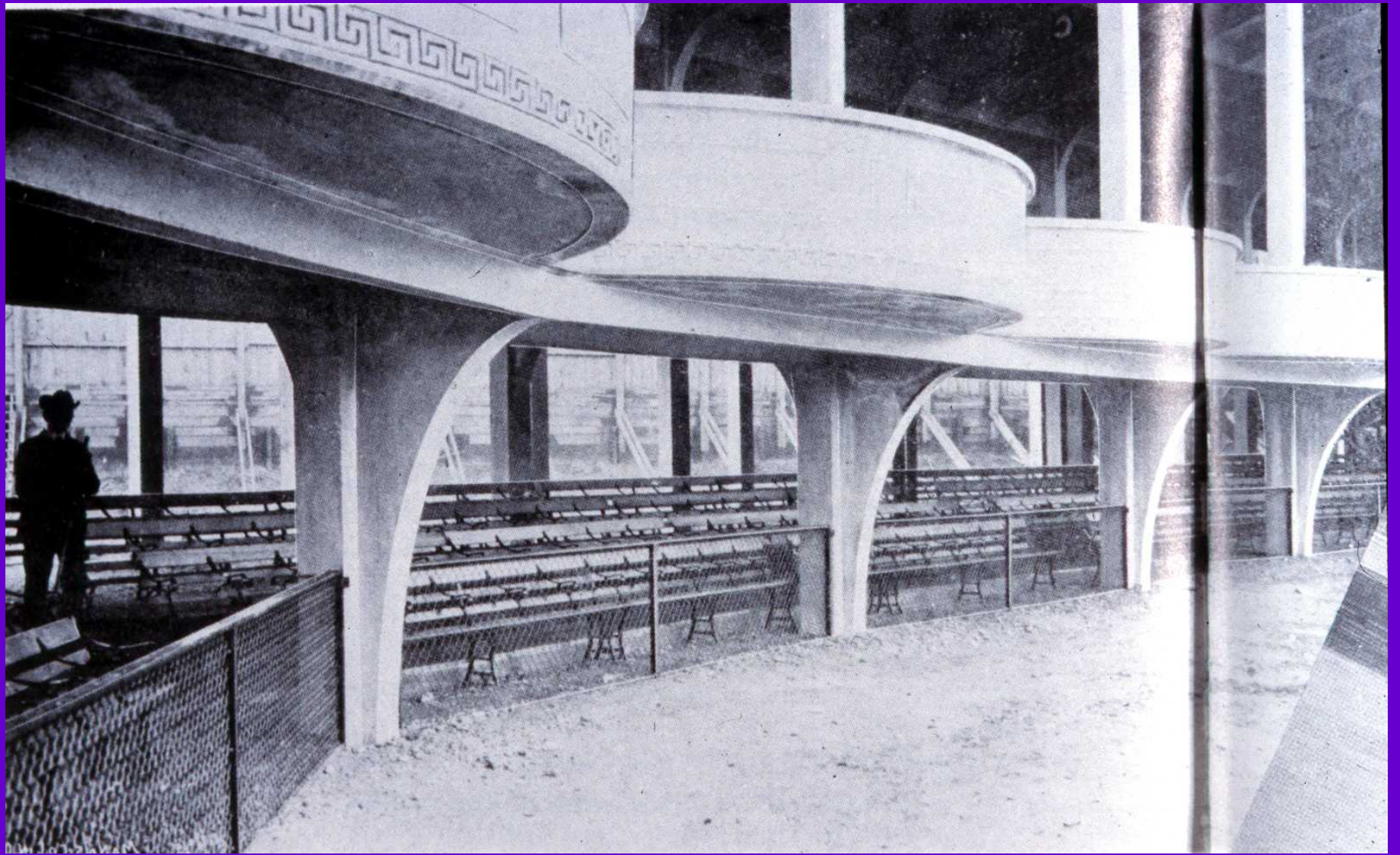
Cub President, Bill Veck, Sr., tried to get Chinese elm trees to grow beside the Cubs new scoreboard and bleachers. The planters remain to this day, however rough treatment from fans and the brutal winds off of Lake Michigan killed the trees and the idea. (C4)



Sportsman's Park in St. Louis

“They were akin to the great public buildings, skyscrapers, and railway terminals of the day; they were edifices that local residents proudly pointed to as evidence of their city’s size and achievements. They also served as retreats from the noise, dirt, and squalor of the industrial city...a nonurban universe of open vistas, green grass, and clean, white boundaries.” Rader, 86-7





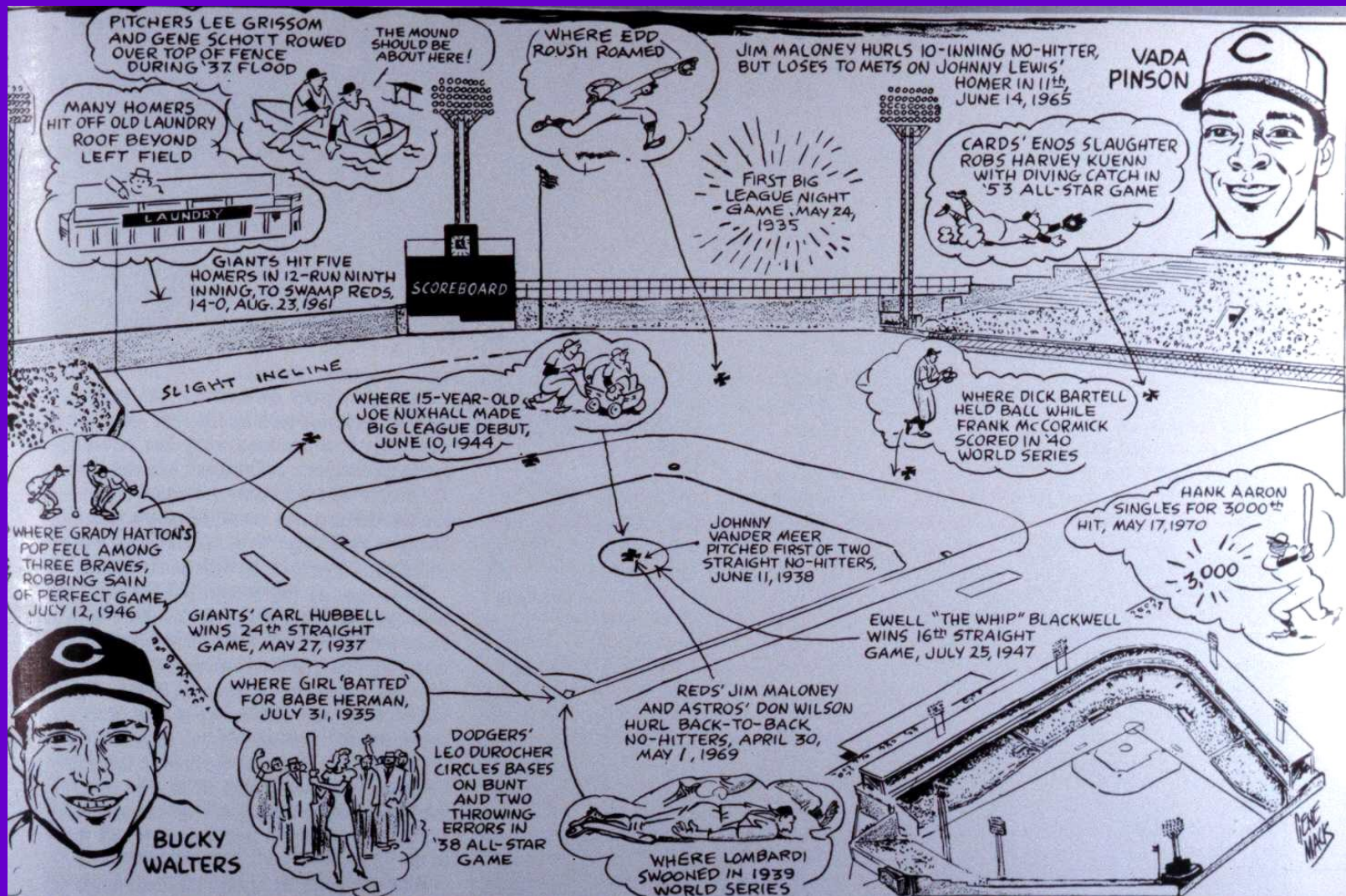


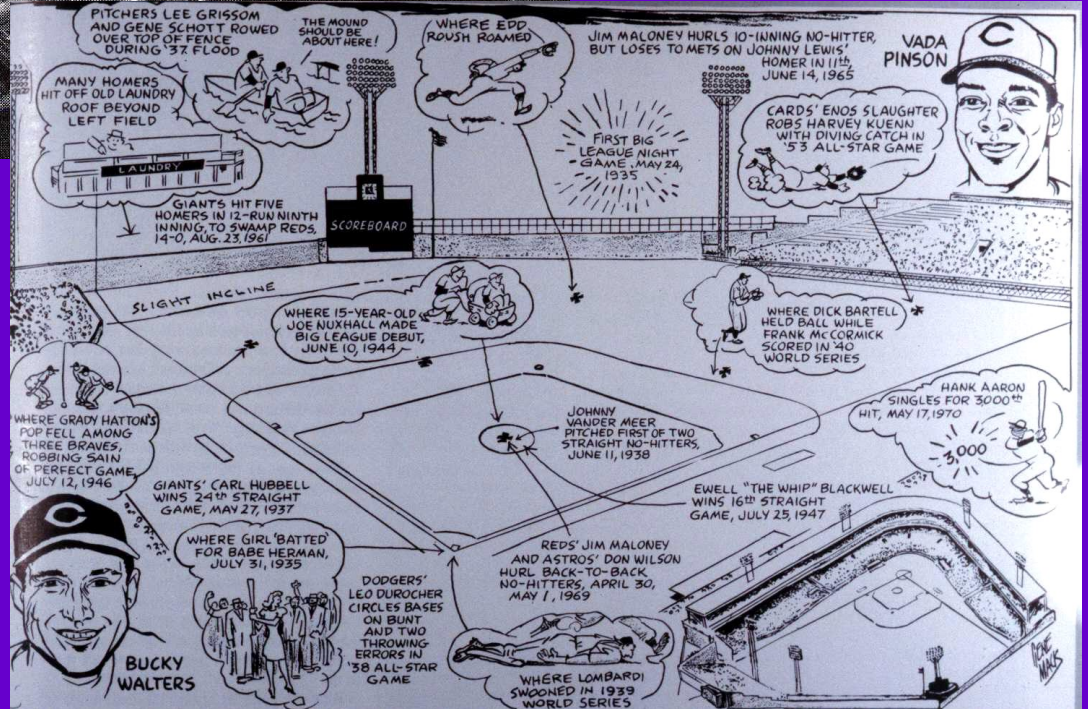
BALLPARKS

Aerial View of Crosley Field, Home of the Cincinnati Reds, Cincinnati, Ohio



“The parks were important depositories of collective memories; their presence evoked a shared past of heroic deeds and monumental blunders.” Rader, 86-7







Fenway Park, October 1914



Walter Briggs, the Tigers' owner in the 1930s, believed Detroit's autoworkers should have access to the games. His renovations of Tiger Stadium created two to three times the number of low-cost bleacher tickets than the average park and he started games at 3 P.M. to accommodate auto workers on the day shift. Briggs reportedly never took a cent out of the team, but reinvested it in park and team. The latest of the classic parks to disappear, Tiger Stadium hosted three-fourths of the members of the Hall of Fame.

Sportswriter Heywood Broun reported that fans gasped “at the vastness” of the “skyscraper among baseball parks.” Deep in the grandstand, the “height is Olympian and even the most rabid fan must feel neutrality clutch at his heart as he gazed down at the tiny bickering figures in white and grey.” Ruth supplied the one “vivid flash” when he “smashed a savage home run. All stood and shouted.” The roar made “the listener break a little and tremble.” Even from the distant grandstands “a home run by Babe Ruth remains a thing epic and colossal.”









CASEY STENDEL MANAGED 10 PENNANT WINNERS FROM '49 THROUGH '60



LOOK IT UP!

CASEY'S PENNANTS

- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57

"MR. OCTOBER" REGGIE JACKSON SMACKS THREE HOMERS IN GAME 6 OF '77 WORLD SERIES ALL ON FIRST PITCHES

THEY'RE FALLING LIKE LEAVES!

DODGERS' ANDY PAFKO AND CARL FURILLO ROB YANKS OF HOMERS WITH LEAPING GRABS IN GAME 5 OF '52 WORLD SERIES

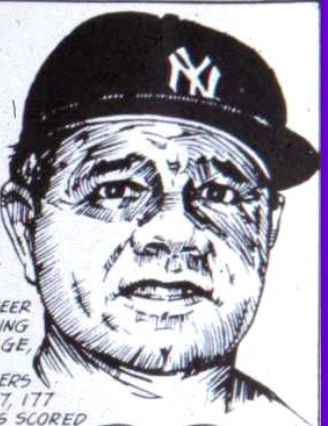


BABE RUTH

"SULTAN OF SWAT": 714 LIFETIME HOMERS, .690 CAREER SLUGGING AVERAGE, 60 HOMERS IN '27, 177 RUNS SCORED IN '21

WHERE ROGER MARIS HIT HIS 61ST HOMER, OCT. 13, 1961

MANTLE ADDED 54 THE SAME YEAR



JOLIN' JOE DiMAGGIO

DODGERS' AL GIONFRIDDO ROBS JOE DiMAGGIO IN GAME 6 OF '47 WORLD SERIES

STARTED HIS 56-GAME HITTING STREAK HERE, MAY 15, 1941



WHERE GROVER ALEXANDER LEFT BULLPEN TO FACE LAZZERI IN '26 SERIES

WHERE JOHNNY LINDELL'S SLIDE INTO WHITEY KUROWSKI WAS TURNING POINT IN '43 SERIES



MICKY MANTLE



MANTLE HITS 500th CAREER HOMER, MAY 14, 1967

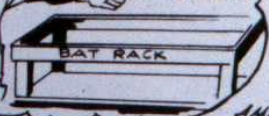


REMODELED STADIUM OPENED APRIL 15, 1976



LARSEN!

DON LARSEN PITCHES PERFECT GAME, '56 WORLD SERIES

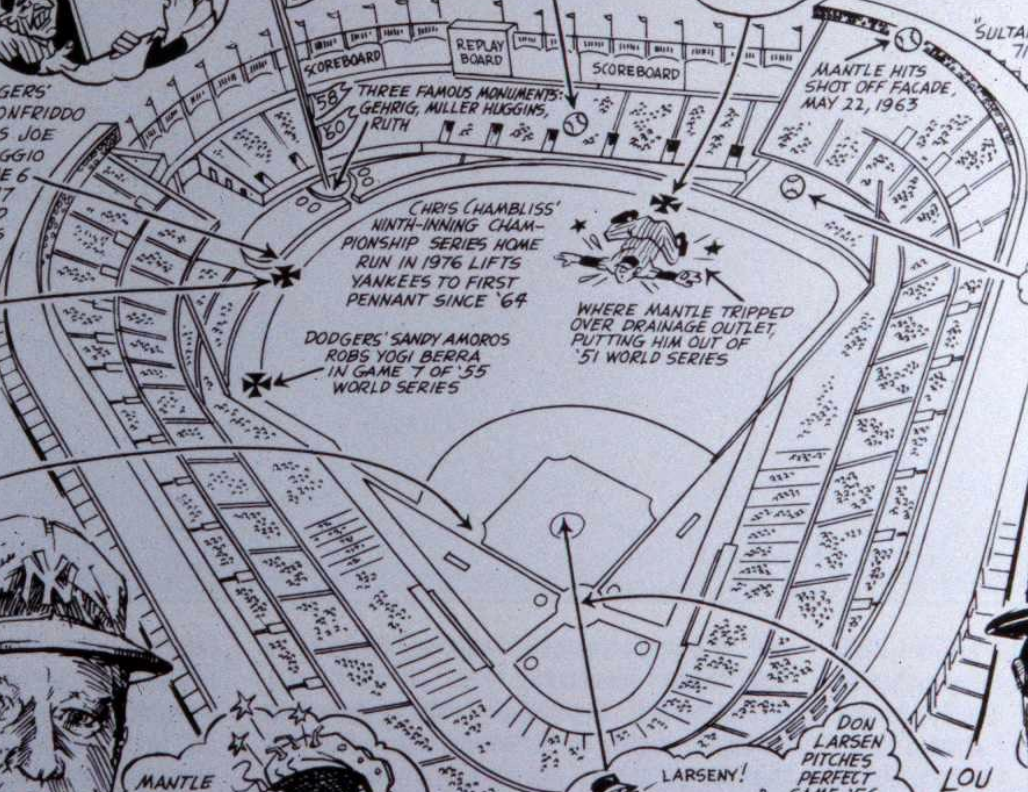


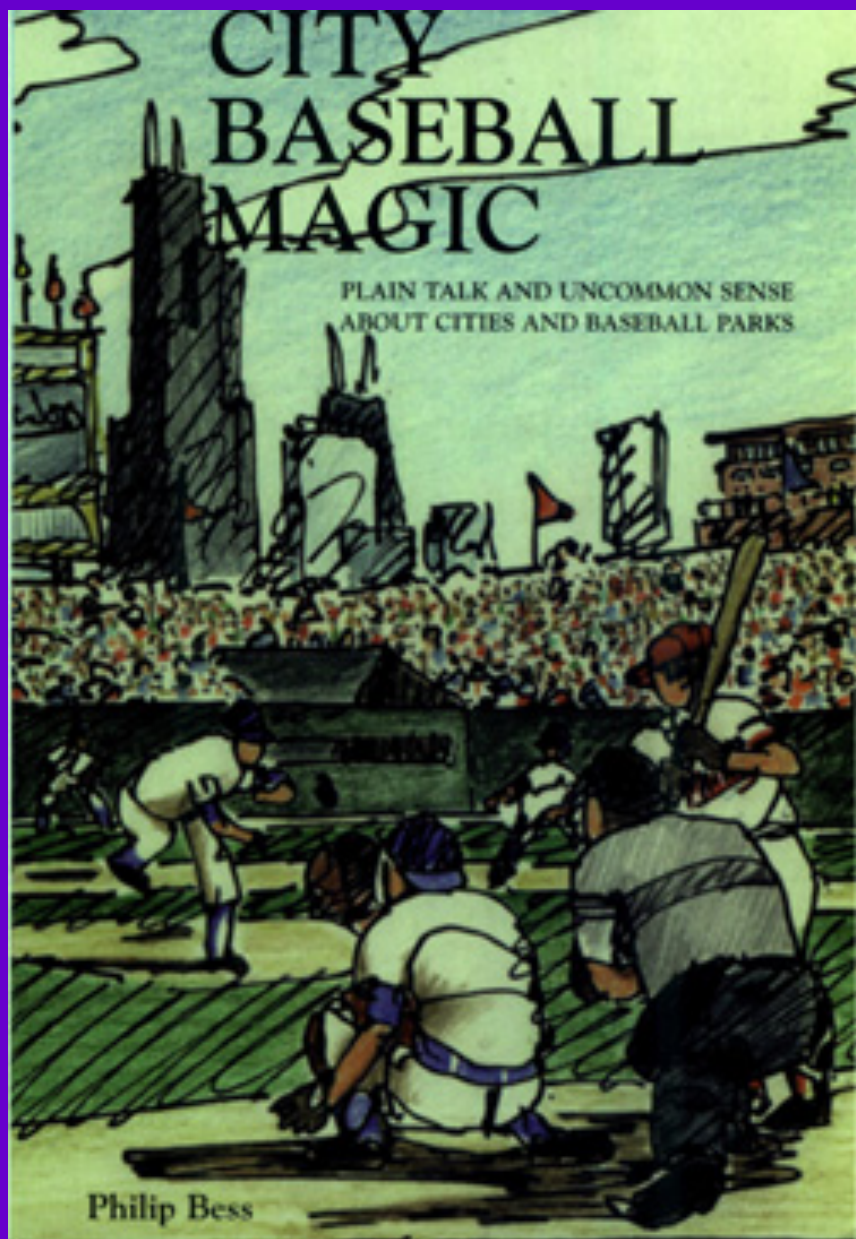
LOU GEHRIG

DAY, JULY 4, 1939

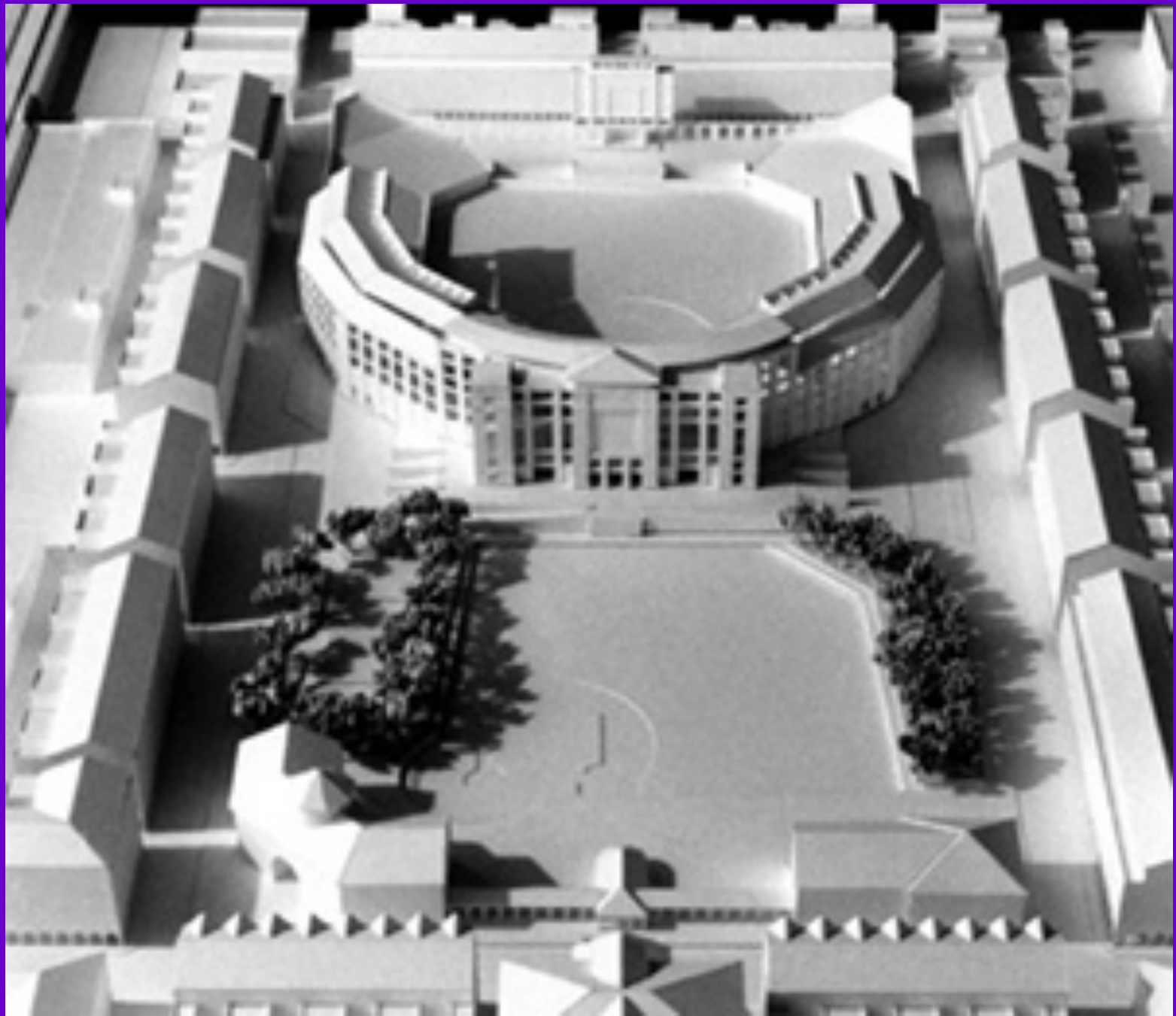


"... TODAY I CONSIDER MYSELF THE LUCKIEST MAN ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH"









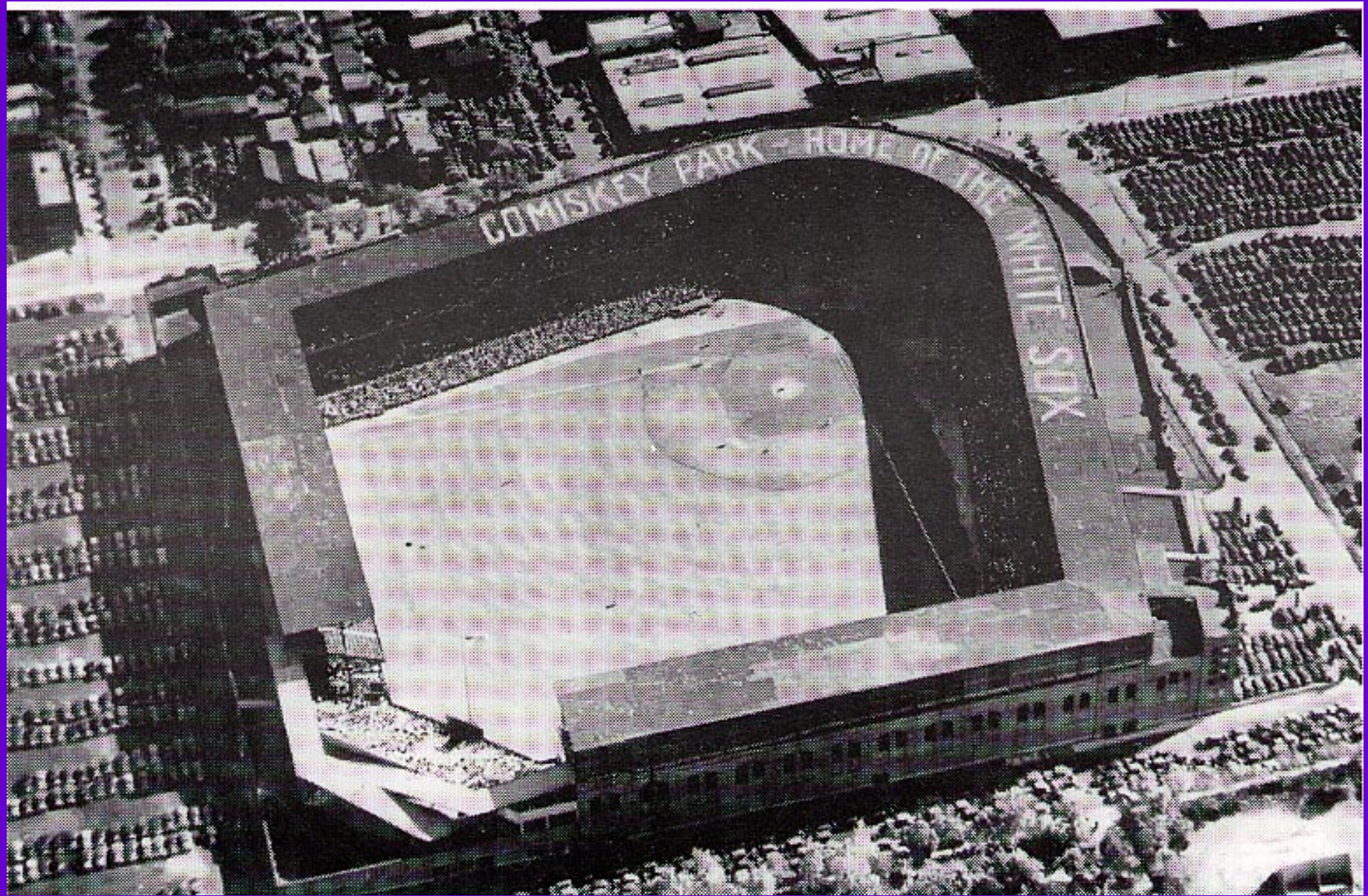




Armour Square, a neighborhood park, part of a living, working city

Not a suburban park, divorced from the city, or a downtown park where the city is conceived of as an entertainment zone where no one actually lives







Comiskey Park next to its replacement; the closest seat in the new upper deck is further from the field than the most distant seat in the old upper deck