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Description of document: National Parks Service (NPS) Historic designation

application for Wrigley Field becoming a National Historic

Landmark, 1987-2020

Requested date: 07-December-2020

Release date: 08-December-2020

Posted date: 28-December-2020

Source of document: NPS FOIA Officer

12795 W. Alameda Parkway

P.O. Box 25287 Denver, CO 80225

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Email: <a href="mailto:npsfoia@nps.gov">npsfoia@nps.gov</a>

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# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 12795 W. Alameda Parkway P.O. Box 25287 Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

December 8, 2020

A7221 (2550)

Reference: DOI-NPS-2021-001052

Subject: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated December 7, 2020, in which you requested a copy of the historic designation application and/or documents package for Wrigley Field to be named in November 2020 as a National Historic Landmark..

Upon review, your request is granted in full. We are providing one PDF file, containing 43 pages of responsive material.

Because the National Park Service creates and maintains law enforcement records, we are required by the Department of Justice to provide the following information, even though it may or may not apply to your specific request. Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that we are required to give all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Also as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) National Archives and Records Administration Room 2510 8601 Adelphi Road College Park, MD 20740-6001 E-mail: ogis@nara.gov Phone: 301-837-1996 Fax: 301-837-0348

Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Should you have any further questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me, as the person responsible for processing your request. I can be reached at the address above or by phone at 303-969-2959. My e-mail address is <a href="majorital">npsfoia@nps.gov</a>. Information regarding the NPS FOIA Liaison can be found at: <a href="https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters">https://www.doi.gov/foia/foiacenters</a>.

# Sincerely,

CHARIS Digitally signed by CHARIS WILSON
Date: 2020.12.08
15:56:50 -07'00'

Charis Wilson NPS FOIA Officer

# Re: Wrigley Field FOIA

Ernstein, Julie H < Julie\_Ernstein@nps.gov>

Mon 11/23/2020 6:11 PM

To: Henry, Patricia <Patty\_Henry@nps.gov>

Dear Pay,

Many thanks for this! I will get it off to James first thing in the morning.

Best,

Julie

Julie H. Ernstein, Ph.D., RPA
Supervisory Archeologist, Naonal R egister & Naonal His toric Landmarks Program
U.S. DOI - Naonal P ark Service
1849 C St., NW (MS 7228)
Washington, DC 20240
(w) 202.354.2217
(c) 202.440.2764

\*\*Effecv e 3/17/20 I am teleworking as part of the COVID-19 social distancing response, and can be reached at the cell number (above) during my work hours of 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Eastern).



**From:** Henry, Patricia <Pa y\_Henry@nps.gov> **Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2020 6:09 PM **To:** Ernstein, Julie H <Julie\_Ernstein@nps.gov>

Subject: Wrigley Field FOIA

Hi Julie!

I appreciate you helping me with this. I've a ached all the documents here that we have electronically for Wrigley Field.

They are in order above: 2020 NHL Designaon Memo

Briefing statement for Secretary of the Interior to accompany designaon

package

1985 Wrigley Field NHL nominaon (curr ent owners chose not to update the

nominaon)

1987 Determinaon of Eligibility memo signed by the Secretary of the Interior

2020 Current owners notarized statement of withdrawal of objecon to NHL

designaon

2020 Execuv e Summary for Wrigley Field

1987 correspondence on proposed Wrigley Field NHL designaon including

original owner's objecon

1985 photos of Wrigley Field (part of NHL nominaon)

1985 plans and drawings of Wrigley Field (part of NHL nominaon)

The three current photos are a ached to a following email.

These are all the materials that have been scanned from the paper file which is now at the FRC. There may be more items in that file but we don't have access to them at this me.

One thought I've had is that the requestor may come back and want material related to the tax credit project which was driving the designaon. As you know, we don't have that material in our NHL files.

Let me know if you or James need anything more at this me.

Thanks again!

Pay

Pay Henr y Naonal His toric Landmarks Program Naonal P ark Service - Washington, DC 202-354-2216

### **Briefing Statement**

Bureau: National Park Service, Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science

**Issue:** Designation of Wrigley Field as a National Historic Landmark

Site or Program Area: National Historic Landmarks Program

**Date:** July 9, 2020

# Background

• Wrigley Field has been the home of the Chicago Cubs since 1916. It is the second oldest ballpark in the major leagues and the oldest standing National League ballpark. Built in 1914, two years after Fenway Park, Wrigley Field is a ballfield of exceptional national significance.

- On February 27, 1987, Wrigley Field was determined eligible for designation as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) by the National Park System Advisory Board. However, its designation was not realized, because the owners of the property objected. In keeping with 36 CFR 65.5(f), Wrigley Field was determined eligible for NHL designation. Thus, it is neither designated an NHL nor listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (National Register listing automatically accompanies NHL designation.)
- In 2009, Wrigley Field was acquired by Wrigley Field Holdings, LLC. The new owners submitted a Part 1 application to the NPS in 2013, with the intent of using the federal historic preservation tax credits available for the rehabilitation of properties listed in the National Register. Technical Preservation Services (TPS) and National Register staff confirmed the eligibility of Wrigley Field, and the Part 1 evaluation was signed by Roger Reed of the National Register staff on March 29, 2013. Since then, the owners have worked with TPS staff to complete a thorough rehabilitation of the ballpark in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
- Although some changes have occurred since its determination of eligibility in 1987, Wrigley Field retains its essential historic character. The recent rehabilitation enhanced, rather than detracted from, its historic appearance.

### **Status**

- The rehabilitation project was completed and the Part 3 application, required to certify a completed project, was submitted to TPS. The owners were informed that the Part 3 application would not be approved until the objection to NHL designation is withdrawn. Federal regulations 36 CFR 67 specify that a project cannot be approved if a property is not listed in the National Register, which is the case if an owner's objection to National Register listing has not been withdrawn. TPS considers an objection to NHL designation comparable; thus, approval of the Part 3 application for Wrigley Field could not occur until the objection was withdrawn.
- The owners of Wrigley Field, Wrigley Field Holdings LLC, submitted a notarized statement dated May 29, 2020, withdrawing their objection to NHL designation.

### Recommendation

Due to the owner's compliance with the procedures and requirements described above, a package of
materials for action by the Secretary of the Interior has been prepared, with the recommendation that
he designate Wrigley Field as a National Historic Landmark via his signature on the designation
memo. The package consists of this briefing statement, designation memo, 1987 designation memo,
notarized owner statement withdrawing objection to designation, executive summary, and NHL
nomination and photographs.

# Re: Wrigley Field current photos

Ernstein, Julie H < Julie\_Ernstein@nps.gov>

Mon 11/23/2020 6:11 PM

To: Henry, Patricia <Patty\_Henry@nps.gov>

Dear Pay,

Yes, absolutely. I will include them in the materials relayed to James and the requester.

Best,

Julie

Julie H. Ernstein, Ph.D., RPA
Supervisory Archeologist, Naonal R egister & Naonal His toric Landmarks Program
U.S. DOI - Naonal P ark Service
1849 C St., NW (MS 7228)
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(w) 202.354.2217
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\*\*Effecv e 3/17/20 I am teleworking as part of the COVID-19 social distancing response, and can be reached at the cell number (above) during my work hours of 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Eastern).



**From:** Henry, Patricia <Pa y\_Henry@nps.gov> **Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2020 6:10 PM **To:** Ernstein, Julie H <Julie\_Ernstein@nps.gov>

Subject: Wrigley Field current photos

Hopefully these come through.

Pay

Pay Henr y Naonal His toric Landmarks Program Naonal P ark Service - Washington, DC 202-354-2216



# United States Department of the Interior

# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

Memorandum

JAN 3 0 1987

To:

The Secretary

Through:

FEB 11 1987 Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

From:

Acting Director, National Park Service

Subject Summary: Designations of National Historic Landmarks-Request for

Secretarial Action

DISCUSSION: The National Park System Advisory Board, at a meeting on September 17, 1986, recommended designation of the following properties as National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) The Rose Bowl, Pasadena, California
- (2) Yale Bowl, New Haven, Connecticut
- (3) Grant Park Stadium (Soldier Field), Chicago, Illinois
- (4) Harvard Stadium, Boston, Massachusetts
- (5) Butler Fieldhouse, Indianapolis, Indiana
- (6) Germantown (Manheim) Cricket Club, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- (7) Merion Cricket Club, Haverford, Pennsylvania
- (8) Newport Casino, Newport, Rhode Island
- (9) Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Speedway, Indiana
- (10) Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts
- (11) Boston Public Garden, Boston, Massachusetts
- (12) San Francisco Civic Center, San Francisco, California
- (13) Washington University Hilltop Campus Historic District, vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri
- (14) Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Building, Buffalo, New York
- (15) Mission Beach Roller Coaster, San Diego, California
- (16) Looff Carousel and Roller Coaster on the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz, California
- (17) Santa Monica Looff Hippodrome, Santa Monica, California
- (18) Philadelphia Toboggan Company Carousel #6, Burlington, Colorado
- (19) Broad Ripple Park (Children's Museum) Carousel, Indianapolis, Indiana
- (20) Spencer Park Dentzel Carousel, Logansport, Indiana
- (21) Lander Parker Carousel, Abilene, Kansas
- (22) Flying Horses Carousel, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts
- (23) Highland Park Dentzel Carousel, Meridian, Mississippi
- (24) Playland Amusement Park, Rye, New York

Prepared by: Laura Feller ext.: 343-8167

Green

(25) Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania

(26) Crescent Park Looff Carousel, East Providence, Rhode Island

(27) Flying Horse Carousel, Westerly, Rhode Island

(28) Wallace Circus Winter Headquarters, vicinity of Peru, Indiana

(29) Cincinnati Zoo Historic Structures, Cincinnati, Ohio

(30) Boat House Row, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

(31) Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, California

(32) West Baden Springs Hotel, West Baden Springs, Indiana

(33) Canfield Casino and Congress Park, Saratoga Springs, New York

(34) Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs, New York

- (35) Hotel Breakers, Sandusky, Ohio
- (36) Adler Planetarium, Chicago, Illinois
- (37) Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, Illinois

(38) Atlantic City Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey

(39) Adak Army Base and Adak Naval Operating Base, Aleutian Islands, Alaska

In accordance with National Historic Landmarks Program regulations, the Board reviewed the studies nominating the above properties for Landmark status, and found that they meet National Historic Landmarks Program criteria. None of the parties required to be notified of Landmark nomination proposals objected to the designation of the above properties as specified by regulations. Most of them heartily endorse the proposed designations.

The Board also reviewed other Landmark nominations on September 17. Private owners of the following properties objected to designation of these properties as National Historic Landmarks. Their objections are stated in attachments. Under Section 101.(a)(6) of the National Historic Preservation Act, you may not designate private properties over the objections of their owners. The Act does provide that, in the case of an objection by a private owner, you shall make a determination as to the nominated property's eligibility for National Historic Landmark designation. The Board has recommended that the following privately owned properties be determined eligible for designation as National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) Comiskey Park, Chicago, Illinois
- (2) Wrigley Field, Chicago, Illinois

In addition, the Board reviewed nomination studies of the following properties and, on the basis of the Landmarks Program criteria of historical significance and integrity, did not recommend that they be designated as National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) Cleveland Municipal Stadium, Cleveland, Ohio
- (2) League Park, Cleveland, Ohio

(3) University of Michigan Stadium, Ann Arbor, Michigan

- (4) St. Petersburg Lawn Bowling Club, vicinity of St. Petersburg, Florida
- (5) Administration Building, Golden Gate International Exposition, San Francisco, California

- (6) Pan-Pacific Auditorium, Los Angeles, California
- (7) Armitage-Herschell Carousel, Minden, Nebraska
- (8) Mapes Hotel and Casino, Reno, Nevada
- (9) Mill Grove, Audubon, Pennsylvania

The attached letters from the parties who have commented on the Landmark nominations are provided for your information. They are arranged in the order in which they are discussed in this memorandum.

I recommend that you approve each of the recommendations outlined above concerning National Historic Landmark designations and determinations of eligibility.

# s/ Denis P. Galvin

### Attachments

Approv	re <u>Donald Paul Hodel</u>	Disapprove _	
Date	FEB 2 7 1387	Date _	
bcc:	ES (8) FW (2) 001 Mott 190 Congressional Liaison 418 Levy 418 Feller 418 Charleton 001 Reading File		
	400 Reading File 418 DESIGNATIONS (NHL Genera 418 NHL Paris (X DEXED COP EACH Paris (X DEXED IN THIS er:sa:1(	Y OF SIGNED MEMO, SHOU MEMO)	JLD GO IN THE FILE OF



WRIGLEY FIELD

1000 West Addison Street

Chicago, Illinois 60613-1397

773 + 104 + CDRS

www.cubs.com

File No. H34(418)

# NOTARIZED STATEMENT OF SOLE OWNER LIFTING OBJECTION TO NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

The undersigned Wrigley Field Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, certifies as follows:

- 1. Wrigley Field Holdings, LLC, is the fee simple owner of the premises known as Wrigley Field, 1060 W. Addison Street, Chicago, Illinois.
- Wrigley Field Holdings, LLC, hereby states it no longer objects to National Register of
  Historic Places listing and National Historic Landmark designation for Wrigley Field, which
  objection was conveyed by Tribune Company, then owner of Wrigley Field, in its "Notarized
  Statement of Sole Owner Objecting to National Historic Landmark Designation" dated August
  18, 1986.

Executed this 29th day of May, 2020

WRIGLEX FIELD HOLDINGS LLC

By:

Notary Public:

MICHELE T DIETZ Official Seal Notary Public – State of Illinois My Commission Expires Oct 3, 2021

Michele





Wrigley Field in 1987 when the Secretary of the Interior determined it eligible for NHL designation because the owners objected to its designation.

Name of Property: Wrigley Field City, State: Chicago, Illinois

**Period of Significance:** 1914-1970 **NHL Criteria:** Criterion 1

NHL Theme: Recreation in the United States, NHL Theme Study (1986)

Previous Recognition: Determined Eligible for National Historic Landmark designation,

February 27, 1987, by the Secretary of the Interior City of Chicago Landmark, February 1, 2004

National Historic Context: Recreation in the United States

# **NHL Significance:**

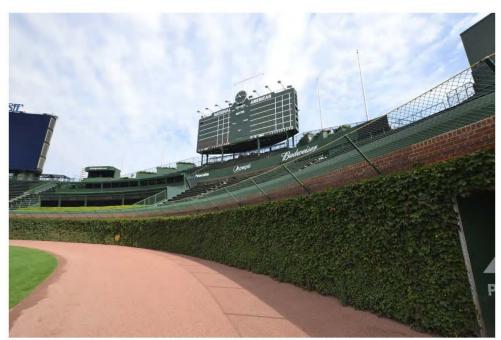
- Built in 1914, Wrigley Field has been the home of the Chicago Cubs since 1916. It is the second oldest ballpark in the major leagues and the oldest standing National League ballpark. Wrigley Field is a ballfield of exceptional national significance.
- In 1918, William Wrigley, owner of the Wrigley chewing gum company, acquired controlling interest of the Cubs. The field became known as Cubs Park in 1919 and was officially renamed Wrigley Field in December 1926.





Wrigley Field, Main entrance, 2020

- Wrigley Field is the home of several innovations in baseball history which continue to this day. In 1916, the original owner Weeghman originated the custom of permitting fans to keep balls fouled into the stands. He was also the first to place refreshment booths behind the stands. The Wrigley family arranged to broadcast the club's regular season games on radio beginning in 1925 and the team began broadcasting games on television in 1946. These broadcasts drew fans from across the globe and contributed to the club's popularity. In 1941, Wrigley Field became the first ballpark to use an organ on-site to entertain fans during games.
- Wrigley Field's ivy-covered, brick outfield wall and the equally well-known bleachers behind it were constructed in 1937 when the outfield area was renovated and the trademark ivy was planted. The 27-foot-high scoreboard was also added at this time. Other improvements made to Wrigley Field over the years include seating renovations, the addition of an upper deck, and the addition of lights for night games in 1988.
- The five-year rehabilitation project initiated in 2014, under the leadership of its current owners the Ricketts family, included upgrades intended to preserve the ballpark for another generation. The exterior of the ballpark has been restored to more closely approximate its 1938 appearance. Iconic elements of the ballpark, including the art deco marquee at the southwest corner entrance, the ivy-covered brick outfield wall, and the hand-operated scoreboard above the bleachers in center field, were retained and repaired. The project also included major structural and infrastructure repairs, which were essential to the building's viability. The entire project was undertaken under the close supervision of the National Park Service, which assured consistency with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and the ballpark's 1987 appearance.



Wrigley Field, ivy covered walls, 2020

• As a result of the Ricketts family's vision and investment, Wrigley Field will continue to serve baseball fans for generations to come.

# **Integrity:**

- Although some changes have occurred since its determination of eligibility in 1987,
   Wrigley Field retains its essential historic character.
- Recent photos, post-rehabilitation, confirm that the integrity of the ballfield is intact, despite the introduction of modern amenities.

Owner of Property: Wrigley Field Holdings, LLC

**Acreage of Property:** 10 Acres

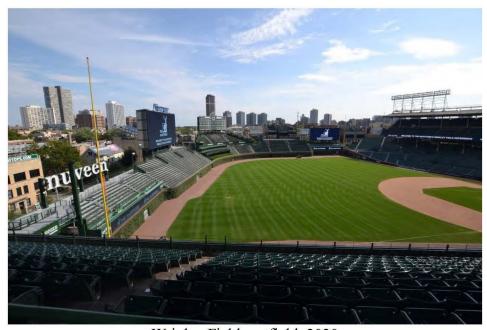
**Origins of Nomination:** Identified by the National Park Service as part of an NHL Theme Study on Recreation in the United States.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** High potential for positive public response and positive reflection on NHL Program

Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: None anticipated

# **Advisory Board Recommendation:**

The Advisory Board recommended that Wrigley Field be determined eligible for designation as a National Historic Landmark on 9-17-86



Wrigley Field, outfield, 2020

city, town

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

state

date entered

1. Nam	ie			
historic Wrig	ley Field (Weeghr	nan Field)		
and or common	Wrigley Field			
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	Clark Street and	l Addison Road		not for publication
city, town	Chicago	vicinity of		
state	Illinois	code county	Cook	code
3. Clas	sification	<del>_</del>		
Category  district building(s)X structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted unoccupied unoccupied	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation X other: Recreation
4. Own	er of Prop	erty		(baseball park
name Chic	ago Tribune Compa	any		
street & number	435 N. Michigan	Avenue		
city, town	Chicago	vicinity of	state	Illinois 60611
5. Loca	ation of Le	gal Description	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	Cook County Recorder o	f Deeds	
street & number	County Bui	lding		
city, town	Chicago		state	Illinois
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Existing S	Surveys	
title_	None	has this pro-	perty been determined e	ligible? yes no
date			federal sta	ite county local
<b></b>	irvey records			<u> </u>

# 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
X excellent	deteriorated	unaltered _X_ altered	_X. original s moved	ite date
good fair	unexposed	_A_ altered		0414

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance Summary

The principal portion of Wrigley Field is a double-decked "V"-shaped grandstand. The second deck is set back and covered, protecting patrons on that level from the elements. Single level bleachers close in the arms of the "V" to form a crude rectangle. Wrigley Field is roughly 580 feet on the arms of the "V," which are joined near the intersection of Addison Road and Clark Street. From a player's perspective, the distances to the fences are 355 to left, 353 to right, and 400 to center field.

The original portion of the park was constructed in 1914. As modified, principally with the addition of the second deck in 1926-27, its seating capacity is just over 37,000. When built in 1914 for Charles H. Weeghman's Chicago Whales of the Federal League, the park was single-deck and seated 14,000.

# Details of Changes

Other changes have occurred over time without fundamentally marring the field's basic configuration. In 1922-23, the stands were moved back several feet, increasing the seating capacity to 20,000. In 1926-27, when the stands were double-decked, the playing field was lowered several feet.

The construction of new bleachers and the installation of wider chairs in the boxes and grandstand, in 1937-38, reduced the park capacity by several thousand. About the same time, the tiers in the left-field stands were circled so that all its seats faced home plate. In 1950-51, a similar step was taken with the box seat tiers in right field. Later, a box seat deck extending from left field to first base was torn down and replaced with a new box seat deck of reinforced concrete.

The Wrigley scoreboard, 27 feet high and 75 feet long, is still hand-operated. It provides inning-by-inning scores of all major league games, as well as pitching changes. Situated atop the center-field bleachers, it was constructed in 1935-37 under the direction of a young Cub executive, Bill Veeck, Jr. Earlier the scoreboard was in the left-field corner. In 1982, an electronic message board was placed under the scoreboard.

Other recent changes have been made. In 1968-72, the upper decks were restructured. The dugouts were enlarged in 1977. In 1981-84, new offices were built and the old ones refurbished in the area behind home plate, a new ticket office was built directly behind home plate, and a new home clubhouse was finished under the third-base stands; the former home clubhouse now serves the grounds crew. As part of this refurbishing, the visitors' clubhouse has also been enlarged and the press box extended.

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Item number 7 Page

Wrigley is the only ball park in the major leagues that has no lights, and is therefore restricted to daytime games. This tradition would not be so firmly established, however, except for events in 1941. In that year, equipment had been purchased and light towers were about to be erected, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. The next day, Philip Wrigley, the owner, donated all the equipment and materials to the Government's war effort.<sup>2</sup> After the war, he chose never to install lights and appears to have expressed skepticism as to the desirability of their effect on the sport and the neighborhood.<sup>3</sup>

Other Wrigley traditions should also be noted, even in a brief summary. After a game, a flag is flown from a center-field pole. A Cubs win is denoted by a blue flag with a white "W," a white flag with a blue "L" denotes a loss. The ivy that adorns the walls was planted by Veeck in 1938.

Present Wrigley Field is a well-tended dowager among ball parks, although it has been suggested that there may be deterioration in the structural steel of its reinforced concrete. 4 No engineering studies are on hand to confirm or refute this assessment.

### Footnotes

1 This description and outline of changes to the park draws on the data in Lowell Reidenbaugh, Take Me Out to the Ball Park (St. Louis: The Sporting News, 1984), pp. 74-80, and Chicago Cubs, 1985 Chicago Cubs Media Guide (Chicago: Chicago National League Ball Club, Inc., 1985), pp. 6-7.

<sup>2</sup>Reidenbaugh, op. cit., p. 80.

<sup>3</sup>Robert Heuer, "Neighbors, the Cubs and the Community, Seven Decades of Love and Pain," Reader [Chicago] 14, 28 (Friday, April 12, 1985), p. 27, cites a 1963 letter from Philip Wrigley to a community group on the issue.

<sup>4</sup><u>Ibid.</u>, p. 32.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance-C	heck and justify below		
prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications		landscape architectur - law - literature - military music t philosophy politics-government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify)
Specific dates		Builder Architect	 Zacharv T. Davis	Recreation (baseball football

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

### Summary

This ivy-studded baseball park, the home of the Chicago Cubs since 1916, on Chicago's near North Side, is one of major league baseball's most venerable structures; it is the oldest extant National League ball park.

It is also highly significant in the history of professional football, as the longtime playing field for the Chicago Bears, a major league professional football team that first gained prominence in the 1920s. Professional football in that decade was just beginning to develop. Consequently, the clubs used whatever facilities that were available. Baseball parks were ideal because the playing seasons did not conflict in a major way.

Thus it is that Wrigley Field is associated not only with Dizzy Dean, "Gabby" Hartnett, "Babe" Ruth, and dozens of other significant baseball players, but was also the site of "Red" Grange's first professional football game, the "T" formation heroics of Sid Luckman, and other memorable events associated with the Bears' preeminent football teams.

### <u>Baseball</u>

The Chicago Cubs, the only charter National League team still playing in its original city, have been the primary tenants of Wrigley Field, at Clark and Addison Streets in Chicago, since 1916.1 It was not, however, built for the team, nor did it originally bear the name of Wrigley Field.

Wrigley Field was built as Weeghman Park in 1914, for Charles Weeghman and his Chicago Whales of the Federal League, a third and self-proclaimed major league that unsuccessfully contended with the established National (1876) and American (1900) Leagues. The so-called "Federal League War" of 1914-15 was settled partially by accommodations between the owners of the teams in the three leagues. As part of these negotiations, Weeghman was offered an option on the Cubs. He raised the necessary money and moved them to the Whales' park. To buy the club, he recruited investors, including William Wrigley, the magnate of the chewing gum company of the same name. In 1918, Weeghman, financially embarrassed, sold out his interest to Wrigley. (The ballpark was officially renamed for Wrigley in 1926.)

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

8

age

Between 1876 and 1916, the Cubs (known before 1900 in succession as the White Stockings, the Colts, and the Orphans, until they adopted their present name in about 1900) had played at no fewer than four other Chicago locations, none of which are extant. Their last stop before Wrigley Field, between 1893 and 1916, was the West Side Grounds, at present Polk and Wolcott Streets, where they had a double-decked 16,000-seat grandstand. At that site, they had won the National League pennants of 1906-08 and 1910 and brought home the World Series title in both 1907 and 1908.

In their new home, the Cubs, except in 1918, 2 did not win the National League championship again until 1929, and then lost the World Series to the Philadelphia Athletics. In the 1930s, the Cubs enjoyed better fortunes, winning the pennants in 1932, 1935, and 1938. In the latter year, Cubs fans in Wrigley witnessed Gabby Hartnett's renowned "Homer in the Gloamin'" that clinched the league lead for the Cubs on the next to last day of the season.

The club, however, lost the World Series in all three years. The third game of the 1932 Series, with the Cubs facing the New York Yankees at Wrigley, gave baseball one of its most immortal and vigorously debated episodes. Babe Ruth came to bat in the fifth inning, with the score tied 4-4. After each of two strikes off Cubs pitcher Charley Root, Ruth held up a finger -- perhaps -- the second time pointing to the center-field corner over the fence of which he then proceeded to hit a home run.<sup>3</sup>

After 1938 the Cubs, except for a National League pennant in 1945, enjoyed no pronounced success until 1984, when they won the National League East title. Their die-hard fans, however, have never abandoned them.

Wrigley Field is noted for several interesting innovations in baseball history. Weeghman, in 1916, originated the custom of permitting fans to keep balls fouled into the stands, now a universal practice. He also placed refreshment booths behind the stands, reducing the number of vendors who plied the crowds, an innovation likewise extensively copied.<sup>4</sup>

The Wrigleys, besides periodic improvements that kept the park in tip-top shape during their 60-odd years of ownership, arranged to broadcast the club's games, beginning in 1925; this was the first occasion on which the new medium was used for this purpose. Rather than causing people to stay home, the broadcasts drew fans from all over the Middle West and contributed vastly to the club's popularity. For example, although the team finished fourth in 1927, its paid attendance set a league record of 1.2 million.

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

The Cubs, although they have won few championships in recent years, have been blessed with gifted players, too numerous to honor in detail here. The following Wrigley-era players have been honored in the Baseball Hall of Fame:

Grover Cleveland Alexander (1918-26)
Louis Clark Brock (1961-64)
Jay Hanna ("Dizzy") Dean (1938-41)
Burleigh Grimes (1932-33)
Billy Herman (1931-41)
Monte Irvin (1956)
Ralph Kiner (1953-54)
Fred Lindstrom (1935)
Robin Roberts (1966)
Lewis ("Hack") Wilson (1926-31)

Ernie Banks (1953-71)
Hazen (Kiki) Cuyler (1928-35)
James ("Jimmie") Foxx (1942, 1944)
Charles ("Gabby") Hartnett (1922-40)
Roger Hornsby (1929-32)
George Kelly (1930)
Chuck Klein (1934-36)
Walter ("Rabbit") Maranville (1925)
Hoyt Wilhelm (1970)

Twelve others so honored played with the Cubs and their predecessor teams before they arived in Wrigley.6

It is also appropriate to note that the 1947 and 1962 All-Stars Games were held in Wrigley Field.

# Football

The Chicago Bears and George S. Halas, "Mr. Pro Football" -- whose name is synonymous with the Bears -- began their professional careers as the Decatur [Illinois] Staleys in 1920, the same year Halas helped found the National Football League. They played several games in Wrigley late that same year. (They became the Bears, based in Wrigley Field, the following year, because Halas thought that if Wrigley's baseball players were "cubs," then his football players should be "bears.") Halas was an active player until 1930, as well as an owner and coach. He continued to coach the club until 1967.

The following summary evaluation of the Bears' career, penned in 1972, for the Official Encyclopedia of Football, well summarizes the importance of their role in the history of professional football:

Halas and his Monsters of the Midway dominated football. They won the most championships, [1933, 1940, 1941, 1943, 1946, 1963]; they won the most games, over 400; they scored the most points, more than 11,000; they gained the most yards, nearly 25 miles; they scored the most touchdowns, nearly 1,600; played to most fans, nearly 15,000,000. They probably made the most money. And they were definitely penalized the most.

The list of Bear players shines brighter than all the rest in the honor rolls of football.8

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page 4

Halas also was responsible for invigorating the use of the T formation in professional football. Sidney ("Sid") Luckman, "Mr. Quarterback," helped Halas put his theories into practice during his 11 years with the team (1939-50).9

In addition to Halas and Luckman, the following players, who starred with the Bears in Wrigley Field before they moved to Soldier Field in the early 1970s, have been elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame:

Guy Chamberlain (1921)
Daniel Fortmann (1936-43)
Edward Healey (1922-27)
Walter Kiesling (1934)
William Roy ("Link") Lyman (1926-34)
Bronko Nagurski (1930-37, 1943)
Clyde ("Bulldog") Turner (1940-52)

John Driscoll (1926-29)
Harold "Red" Grange (1925, 1929-34)
William ("Big Bill") Hewitt (1932-36)
Robert ("Bobby") Layne (1948)
George McAfee (1940-41, 1945-50)
Joseph Stydahar (1936-42, 1945-46)

Several of these players, including Grange and Luckman, also contributed to the Bears' success by assisting Halas in coaching. $^{10}$ 

# Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> This account of Wrigley's baseball history is based on that appearing in Lowell Reidenbaugh, Take Me Out to the Ball Park (St. Louis: The Sporting News, 1984), pp. 74-80.

 $^2$  The Cubs requested and received the use of Comiskey Park, a larger field at the time, for the 1918 World Series.

<sup>3</sup>Jack Miley, "Babe Ruth's Greatest Moment," in Esquire's Great Men & Moments in Sports (New York: Harper & Row, 1962), pp. 78-80.

4 Michael Miner, "What Will Become of Wrigley Field?" Reader [Chicago] 14, 28 (Friday, April 12, 1985), p. 19.

<sup>5</sup>Robert Heuer, "Neighbors, the Cubs and the Community, Seven Decades of Love and Pain," Reader [Chicago] 14, 28 (Friday, April 12, 1985), p. 26.

6Chicago Cubs, 1985 Chicago Cubs Media Guide (Chicago: Chicago National League Ball Club, Inc., 1985), p. 137.

7George Halas, Halas by Halas (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1979), pp. 55-71.

<sup>8</sup>Roger Treat, Official Encyclopedia of Football (New York: A. S. Barnes, 1972), p. 599.

# 9Ibid.

10 Ibid., pp. 245-256.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geogra	phical Data		
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12. State Hi	istoric Pres	ervation Offic	er Certification
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665), I hereby nominate this according to the criteria and	property for inclusion in t procedures set forth by t	the National Register and certif	vation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– y that it has been evaluated
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For NPS use only i hereby certify that the	als property is included in	the National Register	
<del></del>			date
Keeper of the National	Hegister		
Attest:			date
Chief of Registration			

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

9

Page

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# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240

H34(2280)

Memorandum

To:	Secretary					
Through:	Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks	GEORGE WALLACE	Digitally signed by GEORGE WALLACE Date: 2020.08.24 13:14:53 -04'00'			
From:	Counselor to the Secretary Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director	MARGARET EVERSON	Digitally signed by MARGARET EVERSON Date: 2020.08.21 12:51:07 -04'00'			
Subject:	Subject: Designation of 1 Property as a National Historic Landmark: Director's Recommendation and Request for Secretarial Action					
	on September 17, 1986, the National Park System Adv of the following property as a National Historic Landma		nmended			
1,	Wrigley Field, Chicago, Illinois (Criteria 1)					
the study nor Historic Lan Company, of regulations p	e with National Historic Landmarks Program regulation minating this property for Landmark status and found the dmarks Program criteria. At the time the private owner ojected to the designation of this property as a National prohibit the Secretary from designating a property if a property determined the property eligible for NHL and the property	at the property me of the property, th Historic Landmar ivate owner objec	eets National e Tribune k. Because the ts to the			
notarized let Per National	2020, Wrigley Field Holdings, LLC, the current owner ter withdrawing their objection to the designation of the Historic Landmarks Program regulations, I hereby cert 6 CFR Part 65.5 have been met.	property as an NI	HL (copy attached).			
	s no longer an objection to the NHL designation of this rigley Field as a National Historic Landmark.	property, I recom	mend that you			

Attachments

DATE:

DISAPPROVE:



Mr. Stanton Cook, President Chicago Tribune Company 24th Floor 435 N. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Mr. Cook:

I am writing to inform you that the Secretary of the Interior has declared the property identified on the enclosed sheet eligible for National Historic Landmark designation.

This property, which was a candidate for National Historic Landmark designation, has been carefully studied by the National Park Service. The study and all comments received on the study and on the proposal for designation were reviewed by the National Park System Advisory Board. The Board found that the property meets the Landmarks Program criteria of national significance, which are stated in the enclosed program regulations.

As the private owner of the property, von have objected to its designation. The Secretary, by law and regulation, may not designate the property over this objection. The Secretary has, however, declared it eligible for designation. If you should, at some point, withdraw your objection to National Historic Landmark designation, the property can then be designated.

Eligibility for National Historic landmark designation carries with it the requirement that a Federal agency intending to fund or license a project that will affect the eligible property shall afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment with respect to the undertaking, in accordance with Section 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act.

A property's eligibility for National Historic Landmark designation can be revoked if it loses the qualities of historic significance and integrity for which the status was awarded.

If you have additional questions on this matter, please contact the individuals named on the enclosed sheet.

Sincerely,

### Edwin C. Bearss

Edwin C. Bearss Chief Historian

Enclosures

The Secretary of the Interior recently declared the following property eligible for designation as a National Historic Landmark:

Wrigley Field, Chicago, Illinois

If you wish further information on this action, please contact:

Mr. Jim Charleton or History Division (418) National Park Service Washington, DC 20013-7127 (202)343-8165 or FTS: 343-8165 Mr. Benjamin Levy History Division (418) National Park Service Washington, DC 20013-7127 (202)343-8164 or FTS: 343-8164

cc: Mr. Geoffrey A. Anderson Deputy General Counsel Chicago Tribune Company 24th Floor 435 N. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611

bce: RMRO [RD] ATTN: KENDRICK

001 RF 400 RF 418

418 WRIGLEY FIELD [NHL ELIGIBLE]

JHCharleton: 2/24/86



# United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

JAN 3 0 1987

Memorandum

The Secretary

ISBNI P. Daniel Samily Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

From:

To:

Noting Director, National Park Service

Subject Summary: Designations of National Historic Landmarks-Request for

Secretarial Action

DISCUSSION: The National Park System Advisory Board, at a meeting on September 17. 1986, recommended designation of the following properties as National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) The Rose Bowl, Pasadena, California
- (2) Yale Bowl, New Haven, Connecticut
- (3) Grant Park Stadium (Soldier Field), Chicago, Illinois
- (4) Harvard Stadium, Boston, Massachusetts
- (5) Butler Fieldhouse, Indianapolis, Indiana
- (6) Germantown (Manheim) Cricket Club, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- (7) Merion Cricket Club, Haverford, Pennsylvania
- (8) Newport Casino, Newport, Rhode Island
- (9) Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Speedway, Indiana
- (10) Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts
- (11) Boston Public Garden, Boston, Massachusetts
- (12) San Francisco Civic Center, San Francisco, California
- (13) Washington University Hilltop Campus Historic District, vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri
- (14) Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Building, Buffalo, New York
- (15) Mission Beach Roller Coaster, San Diego, California
- (16) Looff Carousel and Roller Coaster on the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz, California
- (17) Santa Monica Looff Hippodrome, Santa Monica, California
- (18) Philadelphia Toboggan Company Carousel #6, Burlington, Colorado
- (19) Broad Ripple Park (Children's Museum) Carousel, Indianapolis, Indiana
- (20) Spencer Park Dentzel Carousel, Logansport, Indiana
- (21) Lander Parker Carousel, Abilene, Kansas
- (22) Flying Horses Carousel, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts
- (23) Highland Park Dentzel Carousel, Meridian, Mississippi
- (24) Playland Amusement Park, Rye, New York

Prepared by: Laura Feller ext.: 343-8167

Green

- (25) Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania
- (26) Crescent Park Looff Carousel, East Providence, Rhode Island
- (27) Flying Horse Carousel, Westerly, Rhode Island
- (28) Wallace Circus Winter Headquarters, vicinity of Peru, Indiana
- (29) Cincinnati Zoo Historic Structures, Cincinnati, Ohio
- (30) Boat House Row, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- (31) Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, California
- (32) West Baden Springs Hotel, West Baden Springs, Indiana
- (33) Canfield Casino and Congress Park, Saratoga Springs, New York
- (34) Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs, New York
- (35) Hotel Breakers, Sandusky, Ohio
- (36) Adler Planetarium, Chicago, Illinois
- (37) Shedd Aquarium, Chicago, Illinois
- (38) Atlantic City Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey
- (39) Adak Army Base and Adak Naval Operating Base, Aleutian Islands, Alaska

In accordance with National Historic Landmarks Program regulations, the Board reviewed the studies nominating the above properties for Landmark status, and found that they meet National Historic Landmarks Program criteria. None of the parties required to be notified of Landmark nomination proposals objected to the designation of the above properties as specified by regulations. Most of them heartily endorse the proposed designations.

The Board also reviewed other Landmark nominations on September 17. Private owners of the following properties objected to designation of these properties as National Historic Landmarks. Their objections are stated in attachments. Under Section 101.(a)(6) of the National Historic Preservation Act, you may not designate private properties over the objections of their owners. The Act does provide that, in the case of an objection by a private owner, you shall make a determination as to the nominated property's eligibility for National Historic Landmark designation. The Board has recommended that the following privately owned properties be determined eligible for designation as National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) Comiskey Park, Chicago, Illinois
- (2) Wrigley Field, Chicago, Illinois

In addition, the Board reviewed nomination studies of the following properties and, on the basis of the Landmarks Program criteria of historical significance and integrity, did not recommend that they be designated as National Historic Landmarks:

- (1) Cleveland Municipal Stadium, Cleveland, Ohio
- (2) League Park, Cleveland, Ohio
- (3) University of Michigan Stadium, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- (4) St. Petersburg Lawn Bowling Club, vicinity of St. Petersburg, Florida
- (5) Administration Building, Golden Gate International Exposition, San Francisco, California

DOE

- (6) Pan-Pacific Auditorium, Los Angeles, California
- (7) Armitage Herschell Carousel, Minden, Nebraska
- (8) Mapes Hotel and Casino, Reno, Nevada
- (9) Mill Grove, Audubon, Pennsylvania

The attached letters from the parties who have commented on the Landmark nominations are provided for your information. They are arranged in the order in which they are discussed in this memorandum.

I recommend that you approve each of the recommendations outlined above concerning National Historic Landmark designations and determinations of eligibility.

# s/ Danis P. Galvin

### Attachments

Approv	ve Donald Paul Hodel	Disapprove _	
Date	FEB 0.7 1087	'Date	
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### TRIBUNE COMPANY

435 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611



GEOFFREY A. ANDERSON DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL TELEPHONE 312/222-4166

August 18, 1986

### BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Edwin C. Bearss Chief Historian National Park Service History Division (418) 1100 L Street, N.W. - Room 4209 Washington, D.C. 20005

> Re: Wrigley Field File H34(418)

Dear Sir:

Tribune Company submits herewith the enclosed Notarized Statement of Sole Owner Objecting to National Historic Landmark Designation in the above-referenced file. I trust you will keep Tribune Company informed as to the status of this matter.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Very truly yours,

GAA/dp Enclosure

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

IN RE:

WRIGLEY FIELD, Chicago, Illinois

File No. H34(418)

# NOTARIZED STATEMENT OF SOLE OWNER OBJECTING TO NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

The undersigned TRIBUNE COMPANY, a Delaware corporation, certifies as follows:

- 1. Tribune Company is the sole owner of record of the premises known as Wrigley Field, Clark and Addison Streets, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2. Tribune Company objects to any designation of Wrigley Field as a National Historic Landmark. Current expectations are that Wrigley Field will either be significantly altered or abandoned within the next five years, in either case resulting in circumstances which would likely justify dedesignation of the property. Thus, designation would appear to be inappropriate at this time.

Executed this 18th day of August, 1986.

TRIBUNE COMPANY

Geoffrey A. Anderson

Deputy General Counsel

STATE OF ILLINOIS )
) SS:
COUNTY OF C O O K )

I, Deborah Patton, a Notary Public, Do Hereby Certify that Geoffrey A. Anderson, personally known to me to be Deputy General Counsel of Tribune Company, a Delaware corporation, and the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he, being duly authorized, signed and delivered the said instrument as the free and voluntary act of Tribune Company and as his own free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal this 18th day of August, 1986.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

Commission expires: (1) 1177 ......



Wrigley Field, view from the north. (Chicago Cubs, 1985)



# HOME OF THE CHICAGO CUBS





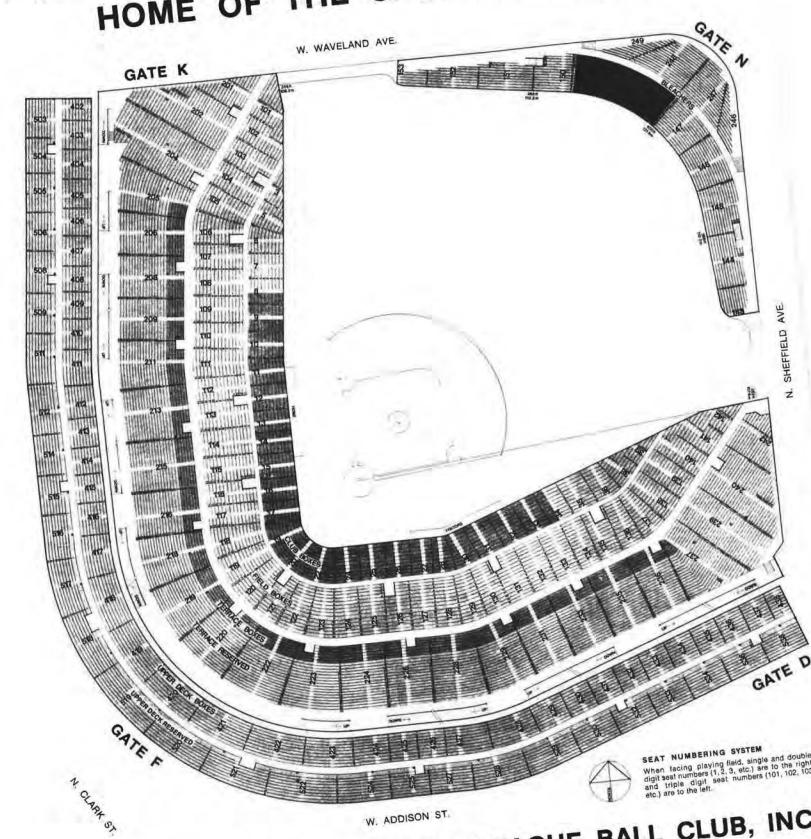


Wrigley Field, view from the southwest. (Chicago Cubs, 1985)



HOME OF THE CHICAGO CUBS

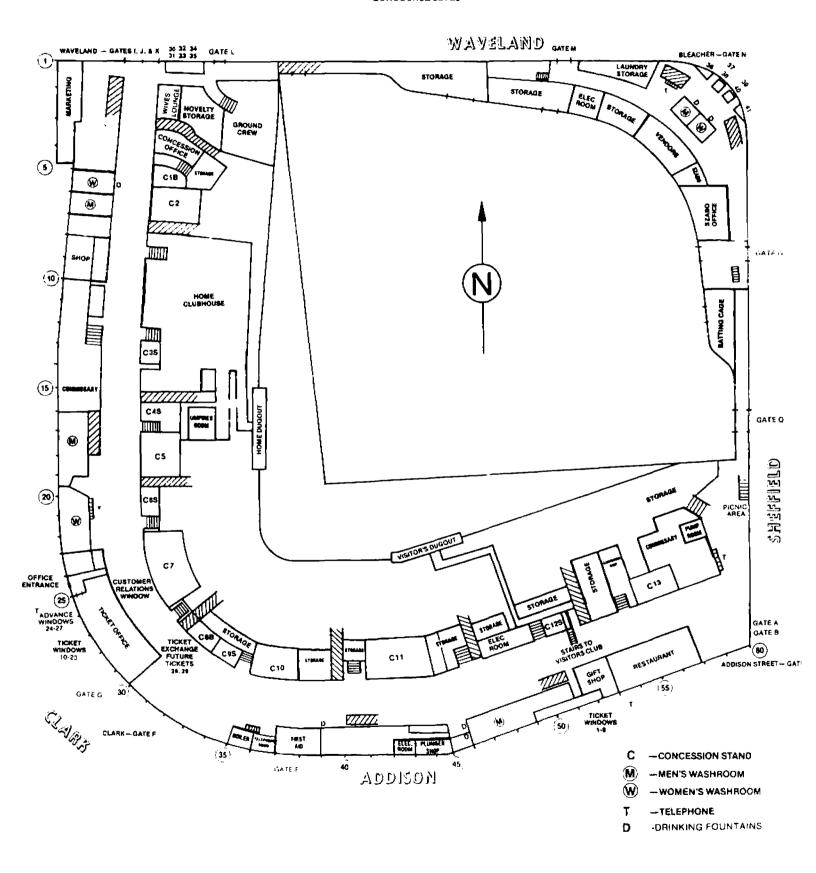
# WRIGLEY FIELD - SEATING CHART HOME OF THE CHICAGO CUBS



# CHICAGO NATIONAL LEAGUE BALL CLUB, INC

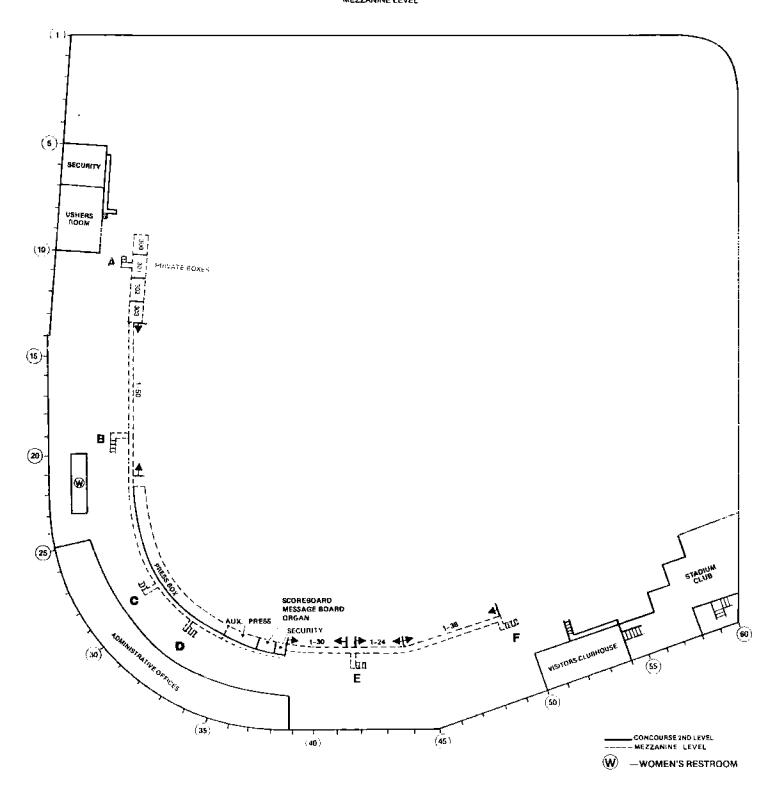
1060 W. ADDISON ST. AGO ILLINOIS 60613

# WRIGLEY FIELD CONCOURSE LEVEL



### WRIGLEY FIELD

### CONCOURSE 2ND LEVEL MEZZANINE LEVEL



# WRIGLEY FIELD GRANDSTAND/MEZZANINE LEVEL (TOP OF GRANDSTAND)

