1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Hinchliffe Stadium

Other Name/Site Number: City Stadium / ID#4234

Designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior February 25, 2013.

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: Maple and Liberty Streets Not for publication: N/A

City/Town: Paterson Vicinity: N/A

State: New Jersey County: Passaic Code: 031 Zip Code: 07512

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property	Category of Property
Private:	Building(s): X
Public-Local: X	District:
Public-State:	Site:
Public-Federal:	Structure:
	Object:

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing	
buildings	1	buildings	0
sites	0	sites	0
structures	1	structures	1
objects	0	objects	0
Total	2	Total	1

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 1

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: N/A

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ____ nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of Certifying Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ Entered in the National Register
___ Determined eligible for the National Register
___ Determined not eligible for the National Register
___ Removed from the National Register
___ Other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: Recreation and Culture Sub: sports facility

Current: Vacant/not in use Sub: N/A

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Art Deco

MATERIALS:
Foundation: Concrete
Walls: Concrete
Roof: Terra Cotta
Other: Asphalt

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

Hinchliffe Stadium, completed in 1931-32, stands on a hillside above steep bluffs along the west (northwest) bank of the Passaic River in Paterson, New Jersey (the river flows in a north and northeasterly direction at this location), on the southeast corner of Maple and Liberty Streets. (Photograph 1 and Figures 1-3) John Shaw, principal architect of the Paterson architectural firm Fanning & Shaw, designed the blended Spanish Colonial Revival and Art Deco/Moderne styled stadium, based on a 1931 plan by the Olmsted Brothers landscape engineering firm.[1] The period of national significance for this National Historic Landmark nomination is 1932 to 1944 covering the years when the stadium served as a venue for segregated Negro professional baseball.[2]

Setting:

Located on a prominent hill overlooking the city of Paterson, the concrete and tile Hinchliffe stadium building stands out against a background of nineteenth-century brick industrial mill buildings. The stadium commands a sweeping view of the historic mill development of east Paterson along the Passaic River and of the Great Falls of the Passaic to the south. This historic industrial area lies within The Great Falls of the Passaic/Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures (SUM) National Historic Landmark District. The SUM was organized in 1791 to create a new type of American community that would be devoted to industry and promote an end to the United States' dependence on imported goods. The SUM, the nation's first planned industrial city, purchased 700 acres above and below the falls of the Passaic and implemented a plan for the layout of the town and the raceway system to capture available water power. Perched on the high ground on the west (northwest) side of the Passaic River, Hinchliffe Stadium borders the existing SUM National Historic Landmark District. Fans seated in the stadium's bleachers looked out over this vista of the falls, river gorge and Paterson's industrial heart with hills in the distance.

Immediately northwest of the stadium on Liberty Street stands Public School #5, a large Art Deco institutional building also designed by Fanning & Shaw and built in 1939-40. (Photograph 12) The Hinchliffe Stadium building, with its corners on the points of the compass, fronts northwest along Liberty Street and southwest along Maple Street in the west-side Totowa section of Paterson. In addition to School #5 to the northwest of the stadium, there is a residential neighborhood to the west and industrial buildings to the north.

Constructed into a hillside, the stadium presents three exterior walls that accommodate interior stepped seating decks, forming a bowl open at the lower (southeast) end in a U shape. (Figure 4) The graceful arc of the rows of bleacher seating across the northwest end of the stadium follows the curve of the exterior walls at the north and west corners. The entire building is fabricated of reinforced poured concrete with an applied skim coat (noted as "brush-hammered" in 1932 newspaper accounts, quoted below). Hinchliffe is an open-air stadium with all bleacher seating, although canvas shades were used in early years of the stadium's history and a more permanent steel-framed cover over the northwest seating sections was added in 1936 (removed after 1964, since it appears in a historic photograph taken after the field was extended in that year). (Figures 5 and 6) Four elevated ticket booth towers and the 1934 addition of the northeast restroom building, each integral parts of the stadium structure, are or were roofed with clay tiles (the clay tile roof of the restroom addition was replaced with red asphalt shingles probably in the 1980s). The open southeast end of the stadium terminates near the

[1] This National Historic Landmark nomination description draws from and occasionally quotes the 2004 National Register nomination for Hinchliffe Stadium, prepared by Flavia Alaya for the Paterson Historic Preservation Commission.

[2] For the purposes of this nomination, the term "Negro professional baseball" refers to racially segregated professional baseball teams, whether within the Negro League framework or as independent non-league teams. During the period of racial segregation in professional baseball, Negro teams often moved in and out of official Negro League affiliation but were still considered professional baseball teams. Additionally, all Negro professional teams played non-league "barnstorming" or exhibition games throughout the baseball season (in addition to their league scheduled games if they were league-affiliated) in order to remain financially viable.

edge of the bluffs above the Passaic River. A chain link fence currently defines the end of the stadium. In 1963-1964 fill was added at the southeast end of the stadium tract, so that the track could be extended and lengthened from ⅕ mile to ¼ mile, resulting in removal of the original concrete southeast end wall.

Exterior Elevations:

The northwest exterior stadium wall along Liberty Street stands in stepped 10-foot sections, each approximately 7-10 feet tall, following the rise of the street toward the north entrance. (Photograph 2) Sections divide into three panels by two 3-foot-wide pilasters between a raised base band and a frieze band. Concrete coping caps the wall sections. Between the wall sections, gabled parapets rise above the top of the walls. Each parapet is capped with terra cotta tile coping. A total of seven 8-foot-wide parapets (described as “pylons” in a 1932 newspaper account, quoted below) have raised, incised edges to give the appearance of ashlar stone blocks or quoins. The street-facing surface has a recessed arch with raised blocks above forming a three-part voussoir with keystone. Within the arch of each parapet is an inset round terra cotta tile with a yellow molded relief tile featuring an Olympic athlete (relay, javelin, hammer, or discus). A metal flagpole is anchored to the back wall of each parapet. A tall chain link fence runs along the top of the entire length of the northwest wall. This chain link fence is not original to the construction of the stadium but does show in several 1940s photographs of midget car races in the stadium. However, exact dates for the photographs are not currently available so it is unclear if the fence was in place within this nomination’s period of significance ending in 1944. Chain link fencing was part of the original construction atop the tall southeast wall but was removed in 1963-64.

The southwest exterior wall along Maple Street follows the same pattern but with 36-foot-wide wall sections. Seven raised gabled parapets, each with an attached flag mast, separate the wall panels. (Photograph 3) The wall sections step down toward the south corner with the relatively steep fall of the street, reaching a height of approximately 30 feet on the final section. An added concrete ramp for handicapped access to the bleachers covers the third section from the south corner. A chain link fence tops the wall to approximately halfway down the length where the height of the wall precludes the need for protective fencing. Six paired windows pierce the lower four sections of the southwest wall (two windows per panel). The windows light the locker rooms located under the southwest side seating decks. The southern-most section marks the end of the southwest wall and the south end of the bleachers. A larger gabled parapet terminates the wall. This parapet is approximately 40 feet tall with raised corner bands incised to appear as ashlar quoins that edge a rectangular recessed center panel with a pointed top embellished with large dentils. This parapet wall panel has two windows. Its roof line is gabled with flat end extensions, capped with terra cotta tile coping. A poured concrete chimney with corbelled rim rises against the south corner of the parapet and seating deck, extending to approximately 4 feet above the parapet peak. An approximately 6-foot-high concrete wall segment with a door extends about 5 feet southeastward from the chimney stack. The door served as the athletic entrance. A two-part chain link fence spans the space from the wall to a concrete block maintenance building constructed about 1979 that stands along the south end of Maple Street. The vehicle access at the athletic entrance was altered when the maintenance building was constructed to the south of the main stadium. Currently the vehicle access to the field is between the maintenance building and the south end of the stadium.

The maintenance building is a one story elongated rectangular concrete block building with two garage door openings in its northwest end wall. The roof is flat and the exterior (Maple Street) wall is painted white, while the interior (field) walls are painted black. This building was constructed about 1979, since architectural plans for it, dated December 4, 1978, by John Evans Architects are filed with the Facilities Department, Paterson Board of Education.

The southeast end of the stadium property is defined by a chain link fence. Originally the stadium’s southeast end terminated with a concrete retaining wall. (Figure 7) This was removed in 1963-1964 when the track was

extended to accommodate a ¼-mile oval. Earth and rubble fill was used to create the extended area for the field and track.

Dense vegetation currently obscures the northeast wall of the stadium. It was never a principal elevation and consists of a plain poured concrete surface, without the gabled parapets, flag poles and decorative tile work. (Figure 7) The 1934 restroom addition marks the north end of this wall.

Entrance Area:

Two towers housing ticket booths define the spectators' entrances, at the west corner (W1 and W2), and two towers located at the north corner (N1 and N2) (Figure 2). These entrance towers form integral sections of the stadium wall. Each ticket booth occupies a rectangular 1 ½ story tower with a hipped roof covered with terra cotta barrel (Spanish) tiles. (Photographs 4 and 5) Surviving pieces of roofing tiles that have fallen to the ground are stamped "Imperial," produced in Chicago by the Ludowici-Celadon Corporation. The outer wall of each tower has cast stylized pilasters which extend from a base to a frieze. The pilasters are incised with parallel horizontal lines to resemble joints between stone quoins. A frieze band and ogee cornice molding top the pilasters. Between the pilasters is a shallow recessed arch decorated with a terra cotta bas relief sculpture featuring an Olympic figure located near the top of the arch. Beneath that are pairs of ticket windows with decorative vertical cast iron bars. Spanning the tops of the pair of windows is a terra cotta mosaic frieze with inlaid small square tiles and blue-glazed tiles with the word "Tickets" in yellow tile over each window and decorative molded yellow terra cotta tile in the middle. Gates adjoining each ticket booth consist of heavy iron/steel vertical spikes with diamond-interlocked wire panels behind. Concrete chamfered attached columns with flat capitals support the gates. Each entrance gate has an inset concrete panel above with incised block capital letters identifying "HINCHLIFFE STADIUM." Gates connect at each corner with a curved wall interrupted with vertical and horizontal bands defining rectangular recesses. Flat concrete coping caps the wall. Attached to the east side of the northeast wall ticket booth (N2) is a poured concrete hip roofed building that housed the men's and women's restrooms. The building, added in 1934, and designed by the architectural firm of Fanning and Shaw who did the original design of the stadium (Figure 8), forms a continuous section of the stadium's northeast wall. The restroom addition's hipped roof is covered with red asphalt shingles and has extensive fire damage that occurred after the stadium was closed in the 1990s. The original roof covering according to the 1934 architectural blueprints was terra cotta tile like the other roofing material used in the stadium.

Inside the Stadium:

The decorative pattern of the wall and parapets (except the molded decorative tiles) described for the exterior walls repeats on the stadium interior surfaces.

Ticket booth operators accessed the booths from inside the stadium at the upper deck (Liberty Street level) through a three-part center door with transom set within a recessed arch in the wall of the booth structure. The interior space of the two booths fronting onto Liberty Street (northwest wall – N1 and W1) are at ground level, while in the northeast (N2) and southwest (W2) booths ticket sellers used concrete steps to descend to the ticket windows at street level. (Photograph 6) Trap door openings in the ceilings provide access to the upper (attic) area of the booth buildings. Moderne style porcelain wall lamp fixtures are still intact in the north entrance Liberty Street booth (N1).

Upon entering the stadium from either the West or North entrances, patrons pass through metal pipe railings and proceed toward the seating decks along a curved wall leading to steps down to the upper deck level or by steps along the northwest wall down to the concession area. All steps throughout the stadium are concrete with metal edge strips incised with crosshatches to prevent slipping.

A cast stone relief sculpture, of a gladiator located near entrance tower N1 is the work of Italian-born sculptor Gaetano Federici who was regionally prominent and lived in Paterson. The relief sculpture was added in 1936. In addition, the interior wall near the concession stand was embellished with two bronze plaques, one honoring Eleanor Egg, a national champion runner, dedicated at the same time as the stadium in 1932. The other plaque was added in 1934 honoring Al Vande Weghe, a world champion swimmer and Olympic Silver Medalist. These bronze plaques were stolen from the stadium, but both missing plaques have been recovered and returned to the Paterson Board of Education and are currently in their storage facility, according to information provided by the New Jersey SHPO.[3]

The large, enclosed concession stand, added in 1934, according to a design by Fanning and Shaw Architects, spans the upper stadium deck recessed under the northwest stadium wall, with six service openings. (Photographs 15 and 16) An access door is located in the base of the gabled parapet on the north end of the concession area. The concession area extends southeastward into the seating space with a concrete terrace on block foundation surrounded with metal pipe railing. At the west and north ends of the concession stand are two rooms, each with a single high ventilation opening. Doors reinforced with woven vertical and horizontal iron straps provide access to each of the rooms. According to the architect's plans, each of these rooms had a sink against the back wall.

Just southeast of the north entrance stands the restroom addition, also a Fanning and Shaw design constructed in 1934. (Figure 8) Incised horizontal lines creating bands embellish the walls of the restroom building. A fire in the late 1990s or 2000s, after the stadium was closed in 1996, damaged the restroom section, leaving holes in the roof and charred rafters. Each room has a door and a high rectangular window in the southwest wall, three high windows in the northeast wall, and one high window in the end wall (southeast and northwest). Above each door is an opening covered with woven horizontal and vertical iron straps. Skim-coated concrete, painted white, forms the interior walls. Wall board over metal lath constitutes the ceiling. As described, the exterior architectural features have been damaged by weathering and vandalism but remain primarily intact; however, its interior and roof structure have been mostly lost due to the fire and weathering.

The curved, stepped concrete seating decks divide into sections through the use of low concrete walls and access stairs approximately 3 feet wide. Chain link gates open from the field approximately 2 feet above the track level. Originally steps led from the track to the gates but they were removed in 1934 because they obstructed racing motorcycles.[4] Other 1934 improvements noted in newspaper reports and in Fanning and Shaw's architectural drawings, included the extension of stadium seating along the "left field".[5] This added seating completed the arc of bleachers along the southeast side of the field. Prior to the construction of the additional bleacher seating at the southeast (left field) end of the stadium, the contour of the stadium continued to the southeast end with ramped packed earth, covered with sod. Portable wooden bench seating accommodated large crowds when needed at this end of the stadium. Currently, bleacher seats appear to be fiberglass on wood frames, installed in 1963-1964, replacing older wooden bench seats. Reports variously claimed the stadium could seat from 7,000 to 9,500 to as many as 12,000 spectators with temporary bleachers. All seating is presently uncovered. However, historic photographs show the northwest end sections of bleachers sheltered by a steel framed canopy added in 1936, according to an article in the *Paterson Evening News*.[6]

[3] Flavia Alaya, PhD, "Report on Viewing Two Frederici Plaques, Eleanor Egg and Albert Vande Weghe, on behalf of Hinchliffe Stadium and Paterson Public Schools, 31 July 2003," provides additional information about the plaques, their history, loss and recovery.

[4] *Paterson Evening News*, May 23, 1934, cited in Connolly & Hickey, "Hinchliffe Stadium, Paterson, New Jersey: A National Black Baseball Venue," (Trenton: New Jersey Department. of Environmental Protection/Natural and Historic Resources/Historic Preservation Office, March 2011), Annotated Black Baseball Inventory. All newspaper citations in this NHL documentation are taken from this Connolly & Hickey report unless otherwise indicated.

[5] *Paterson Evening News*, August 28, 1934.

[6] *Paterson Evening News*, April 11, 1935.

Although no longer present, the steel-framed canopy survived at least until 1963-1964, after the field and track were extended. The canopy appears in a photograph which shows the extended field without the post-1973 maintenance building/garage. A molded concrete block press box on a raised metal frame stands on the southwest wall interior above the upper southwest seating deck. (Photograph 11) The press box structure was added to the stadium probably in the 1960s but replaced an earlier wooden press box (probably dating from 1937) which shows clearly in a photograph taken before the field was extended in 1963. (Figure 9) The current press box is in the same location and configured similarly to the earlier one.

Teams played night games at Hinchliffe almost from the start using portable arc lights brought in by visiting teams. The date that permanent lighting was installed in the stadium is not known for certain, but newspaper stories suggest 1935. The Black Yankees played their first night game at Hinchliffe on August 15, 1935, according to the *Paterson Evening News.*[7] Photographs from the 1940s show poles with lights, which appear to be permanent. No stadium lighting fixtures are currently in place.

On the Maple Street side of the stadium locker rooms for home and visiting teams, showers, restrooms and a boiler room occupy the space below ground level and beneath the stadium's southwest seating deck. (Figure 10) A long corridor extends from the south entrance westward along the file of rooms to the end of the interior space. Access doors enter from the south end wall of the seating deck, opening to a passageway which runs along the interior side of the locker and shower rooms. Another access door leads to the locker area corridor directly from the track, just southeast of the track's curve at the west corner. The underside of the stepped deck forms the ceilings for the lower-level locker area. (Photograph 17) The rooms are variably sized and contain relatively open space with little equipment remaining other than urinals. Shower stalls are intact but no visible plumbing fixtures remain. (Photograph 18) Six-light windows in the interior wall between the locker rooms and the corridor provide borrowed light from the exterior windows along Maple Street to illuminate the corridor. The rooms on the interior side of the corridor, under the lower seating rows provided storage space.

A quarter-mile track encircles the field with the stadium seating decks wrapping around the upper (northwest) end and sides. The curved ends of the track are slightly flattened, giving the track and field a distinctive shape. A section of straight track at the south corner departs from the oval to create a 100-yard straightaway. The running track, originally a ⅕ mile cinder track and extended to ¼ mile in 1963-1964, is currently covered with degraded composite material. The track was widened in 1934 and improved with new surfaces at various times over the course of its history.

The stadium appears never to have had true below-ground recessed dugouts. Instead, players from each team sat along the edge of the track in shelters with a roof and side walls, open to the track. They show clearly and in use during a football game in a photograph from 1932, shortly after the stadium was completed. (Figure 7) The dugouts, as they were referred to in numerous newspaper stories, survived at least into the late 1940s or early 1950s, where they appear behind safety padding in photographs of midget car racing from that era. Currently, the dugout structures are gone, but their locations are marked by a raised stepped parapet section of the wall separating the track from the stadium seating in the curve of the north and west corners.

Coarse asphalt currently covers the field oval inside the track, laid prior to the 1980s application of Astroturf (most of which is now removed). Originally grass covered the field. The baseball infield occupies the north corner of the field since 1964, consisting of a round pitcher's mound, hexagonal home plate area, and three triangular areas for first, second, and third base, all of which are open ground exposed through the asphalt and held within wood frames. The original design placed the ball diamond symmetrically within the upper (northwest) curve of the stadium. Pits for long jump and pole vault remain in the surface of the southeast end of

[7] *Paterson Evening News,* August 16, 1935.

the field, as does a scoreboard. The open southeast end of the field terminates with a chain link fence, now extensively overgrown with trees that block the once open vista of east Paterson from the stadium seats. In the original 1932 construction a continuous concrete wall enclosed the southeast end of the field. Other renovations were made to the stadium in 1983, including the application of Astroturf to the field and cleaning and repair of spalled and damaged concrete of the stadium building.

When the stadium was completed in the summer of 1932, the *Paterson Evening News* on Thursday, July 7, 1932 reported on its appearance, quoted in full: [note that the article refers to the sides of the field as north, south, east and west rather than actual compass points which correlate to the corners of the stadium and field]

> Extending along the entire frontage of Maple and Liberty Streets and forming a part of the stands is a concrete wall averaging from seven to ten feet high above grade, cast in sections with recessed brush-hammered panels and surmounted by a concrete coping. Interspersed between these sections are concrete pylons, seven on each street, four feet wide and running up about three feet six inches higher than the wall and surmounted with a red terra cotta coping. In the face of each pylon is a circular colored tile plaque, two feet in diameter, illustrating different 'sports.' At the back of each pylon and extending twenty-five feet above the top is a steel flag pole surmounted with a gilded ball.
>
> Along the east and south sides, a plain reinforced concrete wall over seven feet high serves to enclose the balance of the Stadium.
>
> For the speedy sale of tickets and the rapid handling of [a] large number of people, ample provision has been made at the northeast and northwest corners of the structure by enclosing an area of approximately sixteen hundred square feet at each corner and erecting in each two concrete ticket booths, each ten feet by sixteen feet, and having a red Spanish tile roof. The sides have brush-hammered panels and colored tile plaques over the windows. From these areas access to the stands is gained by ample ramps and steps.
>
> The stands are made up of twenty-two sections designated as upper and lower stands. The lower stands have sixteen sections of fourteen rows each and the upper stands six sections of fourteen rows each. All stands are reinforced concrete construction surmounted by wood rails for seats, and, with the exception of five sections over the west, or Maple Street, side are built on solid ground. Under the five sections on Maple Street, provision is made for dressing rooms, locker rooms for local and visiting teams, shower and toilet rooms for players, public toilet room for men and women, and boiler room.
>
> The arena, or playing field, has been laid out to give the widest possible range for football and track activity. Generally, it is bounded on the west, north and part of the east sides by a concrete wall about four feet high, this wall acting as the front wall of the stands. The balance of the east side is formulated by a sloped sodded bank [in 1934 this sodded slope was filled with concrete seating to match the rest of the stands] and the south end of the field is limited by the fence wall and backstops.
>
> A cinder track, twenty feet wide, one-fifth mile in length, circles the field, the outer edge being five feet from the field wall. The westerly side of the track has been extended southerly about seventy feet beyond the southerly wall to give a straightaway course for 100-yard dash and hurdle events.

> The baseball diamond is laid out on the long axis of the field, second base being about fifteen feet north of the short axis. The home plate is about sixty feet south of the north field wall, and the right field foul line measures 330 feet from the home plate to the field wall. The distance from the home plate to the backstop on the south wall is 335 feet.
>
> The football field is also laid out on the long axis of the field, the goal posts at the north end being fourteen feet north of the home plate as shown on the baseball diamond, or forty-six feet south of the north fence. The south goal post will be approximately the same distance north from the south wall. The sideline will be approximately eighty feet east and west of westerly and easterly field walls respectively.
>
> The entire field has been graded to fourteen catch basins located at intervals along the inside edge of the track to insure [*sic*] proper drainage and with the exception of the base runners' lines, the pitchers' and catchers' boxes, which are of clay, has been sodded and seeded.[8]

Assessment of Integrity:

Although the stadium is in deteriorated condition, it clearly still portrays the description of its as-built condition as written and photographed in 1932, and throughout its historic association with Negro professional baseball. Major character-defining alterations came early, in the 1930s, and predominantly in 1934 with the addition of the restroom building, the concession stand, the remaining seating along the southeast wall, and widening of the track. The changes reflect the use of the stadium as an entertainment venue that was subject to the needs of shifting business models. The stadium retains its setting on the banks of the Passaic River, overlooking the Great Falls and the industrial heart of Paterson, the same commanding view that stadium patrons would have seen historically. It retains most of its original materials, including its reinforced poured concrete structural composition, clay tile roofing (except for the restroom building), and ornamental tile mosaics. Its distinctive form is intact, a unique design that fit the stadium into a tight piece of urban land. Thus, Hinchliffe readily evokes the feeling of and association with the events that occurred there throughout its historic role in the larger nationally significant story of racial segregation as expressed through Negro professional baseball. Moreover, Hinchliffe Stadium retains integrity of location and setting since its surroundings remain largely unchanged. The Stadium's design, materials and workmanship survive intact and clearly impart the original and historic appearance and construction of the building. Although years of vacancy and vandalism have damaged the building, it remains as one of the most intact, if not *the* most intact of the few remaining stadiums that retain important historical integrity, associated with Negro baseball. Hinchliffe is distinctive, not only because of its unique design, but because it retains its entire physical plant, rather than just a field or lot where games were played. The ultimate test for integrity for Hinchliffe Stadium is whether members of the New York Black Yankees, or Newark Eagles, Cuban Stars, Bacharach Giants, Pittsburgh Crawfords, or any of the other teams that played there, or the spectators, or participants in the other sporting events of the 1930s would recognize the place if they were able to return. Undoubtedly, they would. Standing high in the stadium, near the concession stand, looking out over the empty seats and field, and beyond to the vista of East Paterson, one can imagine hearing the crack of the bat and cheers in the stands; feel the bustle of activity around the concession stand, and the excitement and drama taking place on the field against the scenic vista backdrop.

To be sure, Hinchliffe Stadium hosted many sports and entertainment attractions in addition to Negro baseball. These other activities have their own stories not told here (see 2004 National Register nomination). Some of these other sporting events such as automobile, midget car, and motorcycle racing necessitated some of the

[8] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation: Report Evaluating the National Significance and Integrity of Hinchliffe Stadium," (Trenton: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection/Natural and Historic Resources/Historic Preservation Office, March 2011), citing an article by John J. O'Rourke, *Paterson Evening News*, July 7, 1932, p. 14.

changes to the stadium either during the period of significance, or in more recent times. Keeping the stadium active and profitable was a business that was usually successful for the City of Paterson, thus accommodations were made as needed throughout the history of the stadium so that it would remain successful. Most of the major additions and changes occurred during the period that Hinchliffe Stadium was nationally significant for its role as a host to high quality Negro professional baseball play.

Resource Count:

1 contributing building (stadium with attached historic and non-historic additions, including the concession stand, restroom addition, added seating, all from 1934, and the current press box from the 1960s)

1 contributing structure (track and field, including widened track from 1934 and extended track from the 1960s)

1 non-contributing building (garage/storage building, added about 1979)[9]

Not counted—small-scale elements such as fences and the scoreboard. The current scoreboard appears to date from the 1960s, when the field and track were extended. Some of the fencing associated with the entrance areas and along the tops of the stadium walls dates from the 1930s and ‘40s. The fence along the southeast end of the field was installed at the time of the extension of the track and field.

[9] The 2004 National Register nomination for Hinchliffe Stadium notes 1 contributing building and 3 non-contributing structures. The non-contributing resources are not described, so it is unclear what they are and whether they are still present. One of the non-contributing properties may have been the garage/storage building, which is noted as a non-contributing building in this document. Another resource may have been the press box, which is not counted as an individual resource in this document as it is attached to and thus part of the main stadium building.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Nationally: X Statewide: __ Locally: __

Applicable National Register Criteria:	A X B X C__ D__
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):	A__ B__ C__ D__ E__ F__ G__
NHL Criteria:	Criterion 1
NHL Theme(s):	II. Creating Social Institutions and Movements 4. recreational activities
Areas of Significance:	Entertainment/Recreation; Ethnic Heritage – Black
Period(s) of Significance:	1932-1944
Significant Dates:	1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937
Significant Person(s):	N/A
Cultural Affiliation:	N/A
Architect/Builder:	John Shaw (Fanning & Shaw); Olmsted Brothers
Historic Contexts:	*Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations* XXX. American Ways of Life E. Ethnic Communities XXXIV. Recreation A. Sports 2. Baseball

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

Statement of Significance

Hinchliffe Stadium in Paterson, New Jersey, is nationally significant under National Historic Landmark Criterion 1 for its role in the history of Negro professional baseball in twentieth-century segregated America.[10] The national significance of Hinchliffe Stadium is developed through National Historic Landmark Theme II: Creating Social Institutions and Movements, Subtheme 4: recreational activities. Built in 1931-32 as the Great Depression deepened and used during the era of "Jim Crow" segregation, Hinchliffe Stadium is an outstanding example of an athletic facility that served as a Negro professional baseball venue and home field for an extended period of time. Additionally, Hinchliffe Stadium hosted numerous Negro National League (NNL) games, considered by baseball scholars to be the premier Negro major league from the second half of the 1930s through the 1940s, including NNL season opening games in 1936 and 1937. It is through the strong association of Hinchliffe Stadium with Negro professional baseball as it operated within the context of institutionalized segregation of African Americans in the United States by which the stadium gains national significance.

After Congress dismantled the post-Civil War Reconstruction programs in the 1870s, institutionalized segregation of African Americans in accommodations, transportation, education, and entertainment was codified into law—known as "Jim Crow" laws—in the South and in many cases as unwritten law in the North. Upheld as constitutional by Federal courts and with Congress unwilling to step in, segregation of blacks in American society became the generally accepted norm. The establishment of primarily black-owned businesses and institutions, like Negro professional baseball teams and leagues, provided needed services and entertainment to the segregated African American community and were for many a source of race pride. Negro professional baseball developed in response to the segregation of blacks, by "gentlemen's agreement," from major and minor league professional baseball in the 1890s and grew to include both independent professional teams and Negro league affiliated teams. By the late 1930s, most professional black baseball was played within the league framework, although exhibition or "barnstorming" games, played outside the league game schedule, remained a financial necessity for all black teams.

While the bulk of Negro professional baseball games were played "on the road," few teams owned their own ball field or even called any one stadium "home," largely due to the high cost of ownership and lease agreements. The New York Black Yankees, whose name at least associated them with Yankee Stadium (demolished 2009), aspired to play at the major league stadium because of its potential to attract larger crowds and yield higher receipts. But the high rent charged at Yankee Stadium limited its use prior to 1939 to occasional high-profile exhibition games and forced Black Yankees owner James Semler to seek a more reasonably-priced home field. The Black Yankees played as the Hinchliffe Stadium Saturday home team from 1933-1935 while still an independent (non-league affiliated) team and as a Negro National League (NNL) franchise in 1937 and 1942. The NNL New York Cubans (Cuban Stars) were the Saturday home team at Hinchliffe in 1936, while the Dyckman Oval in Brooklyn served as their weekday home field. In 1941 the NNL Newark Eagles played as the Hinchliffe Saturday home team and shared the home field with the Black Yankees in 1937 and 1942. Hinchliffe Stadium hosted numerous Negro professional baseball games from its opening season in 1932 through 1944 and was a venue for regularly scheduled Negro National League games featuring league-affiliated teams beginning in 1935. While the U.S. involvement in World War II (1942-1945)

[10] For the purposes of this nomination, the term "Negro professional baseball" refers to racially segregated professional baseball teams, whether within the Negro League framework or as independent non-league teams. During the period of racial segregation in professional baseball, Negro teams often moved in and out of official Negro League affiliation but were still considered professional baseball teams. Additionally, all Negro professional teams played non-league "barnstorming" or exhibition games throughout the baseball season (in addition to their league scheduled games if they were league-affiliated) in order to remain financially viable.

significantly impacted team rosters, war-time industrial employment served to boost Negro baseball profits. In the New York/New Jersey area, teams like the Black Yankees shifted to play more games at Yankee Stadium, reducing the number of appearances at smaller venues like Hinchliffe Stadium. In October of 1945, the signing of Jackie Robinson to the Brooklyn Dodgers initiated the integration of professional baseball and brought the era of segregated Negro professional baseball to a close. No black professional baseball teams played at Hinchliffe Stadium after 1944 and most teams had disbanded after 1948.

Initially called City Stadium, Hinchliffe Stadium was constructed as a municipal stadium by the City of Paterson, an industrial city largely populated by European immigrant laborers. Like the larger northern industrial cities of New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Detroit, and many other smaller cities, Paterson also included a small, but growing population of African Americans, the result of several waves of the "great migration" from the South beginning about 1915 through the 1940s. In addition to Negro professional baseball games, Hinchliffe Stadium also hosted local (integrated) high school football and baseball games, track and field meets, minor league and semi-pro baseball and football, boxing, motorcycle and midget car racing, as well as entertainment and rallies.

Current research has identified 188 venues historically associated with Negro professional baseball during the era of racial segregation in the United States. Of those, only 31 venues are still extant. Based upon the currently available research, nine of the extant venues (including Hinchliffe Stadium) are considered potentially significant within this thematic context because of a documented association with Negro professional baseball and historical integrity to the period of use. The documentation of Hinchliffe Stadium through this NHL nomination demonstrates that Hinchliffe Stadium is an exceptional example of a Negro professional baseball venue for its relatively long association with Negro professional baseball, particularly at its highest level of play within the Negro National League, and for its historical integrity to that period of use. Because there were regional differences within the United States in the character of racial segregation as it applied to recreational venues—for example, segregated seating in the South—and in team and Negro League associations—Negro National League and Negro American League in the North and Midwest, Negro Southern League in the South—within the Comparative Sites category Hinchliffe Stadium represents a Northern venue with significant high quality of play associated with the Negro National League.[11]

The period of national significance for Hinchliffe Stadium covers the years the stadium served as a venue for segregated Negro professional baseball, 1932-1944. The period begins in 1932 with the first game of Negro professional baseball at the stadium, featuring future National Baseball Hall of Fame inductee John Henry "Pop" Lloyd and the independent Bacharach Giants, continues through the 1930s with its use as a home field by three NNL teams and increasing frequency of games including NNL scheduled games, through the declining years of the late 1930s and early 1940s, and ending with the 1944 season when the recently integrated Paterson semi-pro team, the Uncle Sams, played at least ten games against NNL and NAL teams.[12]

[11] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," p. 54, citing Neil Lanctot and Lawrence Hogan: "Negro League scholars such as Neil Lanctot, in *Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution*, and Lawrence Hogan, in *Shades of Glory*, state that the NNL and NAL were considered the "Major" Negro leagues. As Lanctot notes, "Although cities such as Birmingham and Memphis had been occasionally profitable, the urban centers of the north, midwest, and upper south had always been the backbone of the industry…" Hogan notes… "From 1933 through 1948 the strength of Negro League baseball was in the east in the Negro National League and on a similar although in the judgment of most historians of the Negro league game, slightly less high quality of play, in the west in the Negro American League after 1937."

[12] Connolly & Hickey, "Hinchliffe Stadium…A National Black Baseball Venue," p. 7-15.

NHL Theme II: Creating Social Institutions and Movements

> The rise and fall of black professional baseball provides a window into several major themes in modern African American history, illustrating the initial response to segregation, the subsequent struggle to establish successful separate enterprises, and the later movement toward integration.[13]

Separate African American enterprises such as Negro professional baseball began as a response to the post-Reconstruction establishment of strict social segregation of blacks, primarily in the southern states in legal terms, but tacitly sanctioned in the northern states. Congressional action—and inaction—and state and Federal courts reinforced racial segregation. Among the most pivotal was the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896) on a Louisiana law that required separate railroad cars for blacks and whites. This ruling effectively legitimized the "separate but equal" foundation of the "Jim Crow" era. As the first wave of the "great migration" of blacks from the South to northern industrial cities began about 1915 and successive waves followed in the 1920s through the 1940s, increased segregation in the North followed as well. Segregation in education, transportation, commercial services, and entertainment venues became the accepted norm throughout much of the United States, thus black-owned businesses catering primarily to black consumers were seen as the way toward "economic advancement, self-help, and racial solidarity."[14] Following this trend, the previously semi-integrated professional baseball world shifted to segregated teams beginning in the 1890s and was completely segregated, by "gentlemen's agreement," by the turn of the century.[15]

Historically there were differing views within the African American community about developing a separate black America parallel to white American society, expressed primarily in the writings and activities of Booker T. Washington and W. E. B. Du Bois. Washington suggested that blacks would prove their worthiness through education, thrift and industry, and success within the segregated community. Du Bois' more activist approach to segregation, through the establishment of the Niagra Movement in 1905 and later the NAACP (1909), espoused a more direct goal of integration via Federal and judicial intervention. But by the early 1930s, Du Bois too was suggesting that high-quality separate black business and social institutions were necessary to advance the African American people until integration could be achieved.[16]

The dramatic increases in African American populations in northern industrial cities beginning around 1915 and continuing through the 1920s and 30s facilitated development of Negro professional baseball. Though most black teams marketed primarily to their urban black fan base, there was a significant reliance on exhibition games featuring white semi-professional and sometimes professional team opponents for their ability to attract larger mixed audiences.[17] Still, the early Negro leagues that organized in 1920 and 1922, which by definition featured all-black teams (including some Cuban and Puerto Rican blacks), were initially successful. Their success was short-lived, however, as the Great Depression of the early 1930s impacted large segments of the nation's laboring population, hitting African American workers hardest. The resultant loss of the core fan base, as well as the economic disaster of the depression, caused the collapse of these early Negro leagues and Negro

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[13] Neil Lanctot, *Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution*, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004), p. viii.

[14] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), p. 23.

[15] In the North, Midwest, and California in particular, some amateur and semi-professional baseball teams/leagues remained integrated to some degree. However, professional baseball—both the major and minor leagues—was fully segregated by "gentlemen's agreement."

[16] Du Bois advocated African American cultural identity but believed that it could be maintained within an integrated American society. See National Research Council, *A Common Destiny: Blacks and American Society*, (Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1989), pp. 194-195.

[17] Lanctot, p. 4.

professional baseball returned to its pre-league structure of unaffiliated teams playing exhibition games against both black and white opposing teams.[18]

Like other northern industrial cities, the City of Paterson, New Jersey was hit hard by the Great Depression. Using bonds and some New Deal funds, Paterson built its City Stadium, later known as Hinchliffe Stadium, in 1931-32 to bring hope and relief in the form of sports and entertainment to the city's struggling, largely immigrant population as well as the growing black community. Beginning with its initial short season in 1932, the stadium was leased out to baseball teams, or to promoters who booked the teams, both black and white, as well as other sports, in order to make it a "paying proposition." By 1934 the unaffiliated New York Black Yankees were considered, according to local newspaper sources, an important draw of crowds to the stadium.[19] Hinchliffe Stadium served as a home field variously for the New York Black Yankees, who joined the second Negro National League (NNL) in 1936, and NNL teams the New York Cubans and the Newark Eagles, and as a venue for regularly scheduled NNL games and exhibition or barnstorming games. The home teams and their various opponents brought with them to the Hinchliffe field Negro professional baseball star players including John Henry "Pop" Lloyd, Josh Gibson, Raleigh "Biz" Mackey, Oscar Charleston, Raymond Emmet Dandridge, Martin Dihigo, Buck Leonard, Willie Wells, George "Mule" Suttles, Leon Day, and James "Cool Papa" Bell, all of whom were later inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Local future Hall of Famers, Larry Doby and Monte Irvin, were said to have been scouted by the NNL Newark Eagles at Hinchliffe Stadium.[20]

Negro professional baseball, particularly within the framework of the Negro National League (1933) and Negro American League (1936), reached its zenith during World War II as war-time employment boosted incomes in the African American workforce. But the 1945 signing of Jackie Robinson by the Brooklyn Dodgers and his April 1947 debut in major league baseball inaugurated the rapid decline of Negro professional baseball as "the fans wanted to see black players in the majors."[21] Robinson's entry into the previously all-white National League sent shockwaves along the "color line" that had been drawn by racial segregation in America more than 50 years earlier. Three months after Robinson's 1947 debut with the Dodgers, Larry Doby, a former Paterson resident who played high school football and baseball as well as semi-pro and professional baseball at Hinchliffe Stadium, broke the color barrier in the American League. Though Robinson and Doby's entrance into the white major leagues was not the first breakthrough in the deconstruction of institutionalized segregation, the integration of baseball, "America's pastime," was a dramatic turning point in American history.

History and Context—Segregation, Baseball, and Hinchliffe Stadium

The American Negro Confronts Racial Segregation

African American social historian John Hope Franklin, much of whose research was contemporary with the last decades of segregation in America, wrote: "The forces that have operated on the Negro population during the last three centuries have been of such nature as to create a distinctly separate Negro world within the American community."[22] That separateness began with the institution of slavery "with its basic assumption of an inherent

[18] Ibid., p. 9.

[19] Alfred M. Martin and Alfred T. Martin, *The Negro Leagues in New Jersey*, (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., 2008), p. 23.

[20] Several sources reported that Larry Doby claimed he was scouted at Hinchliffe in his 1998 Hall of Fame speech. This appears not to be the case since the claim does not appear in the transcript of Doby's speech. Dr. Lawrence Hogan, after an interview with Monte Irvin, notes that "Monte Irvin personally confirms that his tryout for the Newark Eagles took place at Hinchliffe where he met for the first time two players who were to be lifelong friends, Josh Gibson and Buck Leonard. Monte states that Larry Doby's try out took place at Eastside Park, Paterson's other professional baseball field." (Connolly & Hickey, "Hinchliffe Stadium…A National Black Baseball Venue," pp. 22-23.)

[21] Lawrence D. Hogan, *Shades of Glory*, (Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 2006), p. 345.

[22] John Hope Franklin, *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of Negro Americans*, (New York, NY: Vintage Books Edition, 1969), p. 559.

difference between the white and Negro population."[23] There was little respite following emancipation through the post-Civil War period of Reconstruction, particularly in the southern states, despite two Constitutional amendments and the Civil Rights Acts of 1866 and 1875. After 1877, with the dismantling of Federal Reconstruction policies, "Jim Crow" segregation laws began to take hold in the South.

> "Separate but equal" became the basic framework of Jim Crow legislation. Between 1887 and 1892, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Maryland, North Carolina, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia all enacted new segregation and discrimination laws. The Jim Crow laws differed in small particulars, but maintained a consistency in requiring separate accommodations for blacks and whites in transportation and most other public accommodations including hospitals, hotels, insane asylums, restaurants, saloons, prisons, theaters, and cemeteries.[24]

The 1896 U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the case of *Plessy v. Ferguson*, in favor of a Louisiana law requiring "equal but separate" railroad accommodations for blacks, served to legitimize racial segregation in the United States for the next fifty-odd years. In his majority opinion Justice Henry Billings Brown wrote that "if one race be inferior to the other socially, the Constitution of the United States cannot put them on the same plane…" and thus did not require the "enforced commingling of the two races."[25]

Baseball, considered "America's pastime" from as early as 1860, was also affected by the growing racial divide. While most teams, from amateur to professional, typically fielded all-white or all-black players, there were a few black players recruited onto white professional teams as late as the 1890s, and all were in Northern or Midwestern states. In 1878 John "Bud" Fowler played minor league ball for a Massachusetts team in the International Association, in 1884 for a Minnesota team in the Northwest League, and in 1895 in the Michigan State League. Moses Fleetwood Walker played in the major league American Association in 1884 for a Toledo, Ohio team and in 1886 George Stovey, star pitcher for the black Cuban Giants of Trenton, New Jersey, was recruited by the white Jersey City minor league team playing in the Eastern League.[26] In 1887 there were seven black professional baseball players in the International League. But 1887 appears to have been the high water mark for integrated professional baseball.[27] Sol White, who was among the last black players to play on a white team in 1895, published his chronicle of black baseball in 1907, coming then to the conclusion that "in no other profession has the color line been drawn more rigidly than in baseball."[28]

In the South, Jim Crow laws touched on all aspects of social interaction and effectively created two separate worlds. In addition to separation of the races in public accommodations, including recreation and entertainment venues, the separate and generally unequal access to education led to educational institutions primarily supported by black churches rather than local governments.[29] The glimmer of equality and integration experienced by some American blacks in the North, men like W. E. B. Du Bois who was born in Massachusetts and earned advanced degrees from Harvard University, was not experienced by the vast majority of the African American population. And even integrated and educated men like Du Bois felt the duality of being African American in the United States at the turn of the twentieth century. In a 1903 essay Du Bois described it as a feeling of "two-ness, - an American, a Negro…in one dark body."[30]

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[23] Ibid.
[24] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), pp. 15-16.
[25] NHL Theme Study, "Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the U.S.," (NPS, 2000), p. 18.
[26] Hogan, pp. 43-44.
[27] Ibid., p. 56.
[28] *Sol White's Official Baseball Guide*, as cited in Hogan, p. 47.
[29] NHL Theme Study, "Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the U.S.," (NPS, 2000), p. 29.
[30] In *A Common Destiny: Blacks and American Society*, (Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1989), pp. 195-195.

Separate African American institutions and enterprises such as churches, schools, hospitals, and businesses, as well as Negro professional baseball, developed as a response to the strict social segregation of blacks from established white institutions and businesses. However, African Americans were not of one mind concerning the creation of a separate black America parallel to white American society. Writing in 1908, Ray Stannard Baker noted "there are almost innumerable points of view and suggested modes of conduct, but they all group themselves into two great parties which are growing more distinct in outline and purpose every day."[31] The two schools of thought were represented primarily by the writings and activities of Booker T. Washington and W. E. B. Du Bois.

Booker T. Washington, who was born a slave in the South and educated at the all-black Hampton Institute in Virginia, was hailed among whites and many blacks for his belief that African American advancement would be achieved through practical education, self-help, and accommodation to segregation. His Tuskegee Institute provided industrial and agricultural vocational training for blacks, believing that if "the Negro learned to produce what other people wanted and must have, in the same proportion would he be respected."[32] Washington did not believe in "agitating the questions of political rights or racial equality" suggesting instead that blacks would prove their worthiness for equality and eventual integration through education and success within the segregated community.[33] Baker wrote on Washington's conciliatory school of thought: "He teaches that if the Negro wins by real worth a strong economic position in the country, other rights and privileges will come to him naturally. He should get his rights, not by gift of the white man, but by earning them himself."[34]

W. E. B. Du Bois, though born and raised in Massachusetts, completed his undergraduate studies at Fisk University in Louisiana where he experienced first-hand the Jim Crow segregation of the South. Du Bois took a more activist approach to segregation with a more direct goal of integration via Federal and judicial intervention. His belief that African Americans should actively pursue equality was laid out in the Niagra Movement Declaration of Principles, a group organized by Du Bois and others in 1905:

> We refuse to allow the impression to remain that the Negro-American assents to inferiority, is submissive under oppression and apologetic before insults…Persistent manly agitation is the way to liberty…[35]

Du Bois went on to help establish the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909, which carried on the principles of the Niagra Movement. On this activist school of thought Ray Stannard Baker observed: "Everything that tends to set the Negro off as a Negro, whether the white man does it or the Negro does it, is bitterly opposed by this party of coloured people," adding for illustration a comment made by an African American man in Boston, "The coloured man must not draw the line himself if he doesn't want the white man to do it."[36]

While the NAACP and other smaller regional groups continued the work toward full integration and equality for African Americans in the United States, others agitated for more dramatic alternatives. Beginning in 1914 Marcus Garvey led a separatist movement, promoting "black social and moral independence within white society."[37] AME Bishop Henry McNeal Turner supported emigration to Africa rather than capitulation to

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[31] Baker, "An Ostracised [*sic*] Race in Ferment," in Henry Louis Gates, Jr. & Gene Andrew Jarrett, eds., *The New Negro: Readings on Race, Representation, and African American Culture, 1892-1938*, (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2007), p. 70.

[32] NHL Theme Study, "Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the U.S.," (NPS, 2000), p. 30.

[33] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), p. 17.

[34] Baker, in Gates & Jarrett, p. 72.

[35] Ibid., pp. 73-74.

[36] Ibid., p. 75.

[37] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), p. 26.

segregation.[38] Though more extreme than the approach of Booker T. Washington, these groups likewise espoused some form of separation rather than integration. And after decades of activism, by the early 1930s, even Du Bois suggested that high-quality separate black business and social institutions were necessary to advance the African American people until integration could be achieved: "Think of the splendid moral appeal that you can make to a million children tomorrow, if once you can get them to see the possibilities of the American Negro today and now, whether he is segregated or not, or in spite of all possible segregation…"[39] Thus in the segregated America of the twentieth century that grew out of slavery, Reconstruction, and Jim Crow laws, African Americans necessarily nurtured a culture of duality.

The Birth and Growth of Negro Baseball

Within this context, the game and business of Negro professional baseball was a prime example of both the American culture of segregation on the one hand and African American cultural distinction on the other. Despite the underlying racial insult of segregated baseball, Negro professional baseball became a point of pride within the African American community. As the previously marginally integrated professional baseball world shifted to fully segregated teams in the late 1890s, ball-play became a field in which African Americans could prominently display their equal, if not superior abilities.[40]

In the South, the racial divide between black and white was clearly drawn long before it was codified into law beginning in the 1880s. There, amateur to professional all-black baseball teams played much as they had during the middle of the nineteenth century. The large southern black population was for the most part rural, and as a result, according to baseball historian Lawrence Hogan, black team baseball in the South was generally a local game with "little evidence of traveling intercity touring teams."[41] The relatively small black populations in the northern cities and towns of the late nineteenth century deterred the growth of black professional teams, lacking the fans to support them. Despite this, the first all-black professional team, known as the Cuban Giants, was fielded out of Trenton, New Jersey in 1885.[42] In April 1888, *The Age*, an African American newspaper, reported on the Cuban Giants, who were in fact not Cuban but black Americans:

> [T]he Cuban Giants have done the race good service. They are helping to destroy the objection to meeting colored men on an equal footing, which is the most pronounced feature of the race problem with which we have to contend.[43]

The Cuban Giants were reportedly "the only colored professional baseball nine in the country" in 1888.[44] Although they called Trenton home, the Cuban Giants were primarily a traveling team. They played exhibition games, often against white teams from the major and minor leagues in order to find opponents of equal skill, as well as local amateur and semi-pro teams, both black and white.[45]

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[38] Ibid., p. 18.

[39] Du Bois, "Councils of Despair," in Kai Wright, ed., *The African-American Experience*, (New York, NY: Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, 2009), p. 463-465.

[40] Hogan, pp. 2, 43-65; Lanctot, p. 4; Timothy M. Gay, *Satch, Dizzy & Rapid Robert: The Wild Saga of Interracial Baseball before Jackie Robinson*, (New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2010), p. 19.

[41] Hogan, p. 18.

[42] Ibid., p. 21.

[43] *The Age*, April 14, 1888, as cited in James E. Brunson III, *The Early Image of Black Baseball l: Race and Representation in the Popular Press, 1871-1890*, (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., Inc., 2009), p. 115.

[44] *The Gazette*, July 21, 1888, as cited in Brunson, p. 115.

[45] Hogan, p. 27. Throughout the history of baseball, most amateur or semi-pro teams were sponsored by industries whose employees played on the team and took their team name from the sponsoring company.

The Cuban Giants, and the Negro professional teams that followed, drew their players from the ranks of the amateur and semi-professional club teams and "industrial" teams. The industrial teams were the historic backbone of baseball, typically a company formed the team, recruiting players from the company's employees, to boost morale—and perhaps advertise their company name.[46] For Negro baseball such teams served, much like the white minor leagues, as a "farm" system preparing young players for recruitment onto professional teams.

While a few black players, including Cuban Giants' pitcher George Stovey, did play on white professional teams as late as 1895, by the turn of the twentieth century professional baseball throughout the country was fully segregated. Though never an "official" policy, African Americans, along with African-heritage players from the Caribbean islands, were excluded from organized professional baseball by "gentleman's agreement."[47] As with other African American institutions created in the wake of segregation, if black players wanted to play professional baseball, it would have to be on an all-black professional team. In the vein of Booker T. Washington's self-help vision, Moses Walker, among the last black ball players to play in the white professional leagues, wrote in 1908: "…the Creator had endowed His people with every power and means to attend to their own physical needs, and if they fail in the use of these faculties they may sit until the end of time waiting for outside help."[48] Several black entrepreneurs, including former player Bud Fowler, established professional Negro ball clubs in the Midwest in the 1890s, and by 1906 there was "a virtual explosion of black independent clubs within a hundred-mile radius of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania."[49]

Like the earlier Cuban Giants, the all-black teams formed in the first decades of the twentieth century traveled continuously from city to city and to smaller towns. They played exhibition games against each other, but also against white semi-pro teams and sometimes professional minor and major league teams. Interracial play assured greater attendance and financial stability by widening the audience to include white fans.[50] This practice, known as "barnstorming," also brought professional baseball to rural locations, where residents otherwise would never see their baseball heroes, both black and white. The sheer volume of games played on the barnstorming circuit ensured the survival of black teams and their poorly-paid players, and it remained an integral part of Negro professional baseball even after organized Negro league play began in the 1920s.[51] And it wasn't just the black players who relied on the financial gain from these barnstorming games, according to baseball historian Timothy Gay:

> Until the 1940s, paychecks for white big-leaguers arrived only during the season. Barnstorming, then, became an important way to fatten money clips during the fall and winter.[52]

Early segregated Negro professional baseball's heavy reliance on games catering primarily to white fans was partly a symptom of the still largely rural, largely southern black population at the time. In addition to the lack of a concentrated black fan base, early black teams were hampered by their reliance on white financial backers

[46] Allen Barra, *Rickwood Field*, (New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 2010), p. 24.

[47] According to Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Landis' statement in 1942: "Negroes are not barred from organized baseball by the commissioner and never have been during the 21 years I have served as commissioner…. That is the business of the managers and the club owners." As cited in Lanctot, p. 233. Hogan writes of the 1920s Cuban player Cristobal Torriente: "Torriente occupied an ambiguous racial position. His nationality along with his skin color could have possibly gotten him into the majors. Kansas City Monarchs pitcher Chet Brewer described the Cuban outfielder as 'Indian' color, which, in some instances during the 1920s, would have garnered a talented player a tryout from a major league club." (Hogan, p. 147)

[48] Moses Walker, "Our Home Colony: A Treatise on the Past, Present, and Future of the Negro Race in America," as cited in Hogan, pp. 67-68. Walker was in fact advocating for an African colony, however his view of self-help in response to segregation applies.

[49] Hogan, p. 104.

[50] Lanctot, p. 4; Gay, p. 19.

[51] Gay, p. 20.

[52] Ibid.

and white promoters like Nat Strong in New York, who controlled the bookings of teams and venues.[53] It took a greater influx of black migrants from the South into the Northeast and Midwest to provide a stronger foundation for the business of Negro professional baseball and organized Negro leagues.

The Great Migration of rural southern blacks northward into urban areas began as a trickle in the 1890s and grew into the first wave around 1915. In 1910 the black population of Detroit, Michigan stood at just under 5,000, but by 1920 there were 35,000 additional black residents in the city and by 1930 the total black population stood at 149,000. New York City had over 300,000 African Americans living there by 1930, more than three times the 91,000 counted in 1910. In Newark, New Jersey the black population also tripled from 9,400 in 1910 to 38,880 in 1930. The number of African Americans living in Paterson, New Jersey in 1920 was relatively small by comparison at just over 1,500, yet by 1930 it had nearly doubled to 2,952 people.[54] The successive waves of black migration into northern cities were followed by increasing racial segregation in the North, though less often legally sanctioned by laws as in the South:

> In the decades following the Civil War, most northern states prohibited school segregation by statute. This was largely a matter of political and economic expediency, and did not necessarily reflect a deep commitment to racial integration. …During the years of the Great Migration, as the numbers of African Americans concentrated in northern urban areas multiplied, the limited commitment to racially integrated schools in the north eroded.[55]

In New Jersey, segregation in education was outlawed in 1881, yet as the African American population increased overall by more than 132 percent between 1910 and 1930 segregated schools, mostly in the southern counties, persisted despite the law.[56] Northern acceptance, and in many cases embrace, of an increasingly segregated society ensured a place for Negro professional baseball in the region and the burgeoning urban black populations ensured a core fan base.

The concentration of African American populations into industrial cities like Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New York, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Newark (NJ), as well as southern industrial cities such as Birmingham, St. Louis, and Baltimore, facilitated the development of many more professional Negro baseball teams. Fueled in part by the post-World War I expansion of jobs in industrial areas in the Midwest, along the East Coast, and in the South, the increasing number of black fans began demanding more intra-racial games.[57] Several black entrepreneurs, some still backed by white investors, heeded the call and established a number of strong black teams:

> Rube Foster's Chicago American Giants, whose home field was "old White Sox Park," at 39th and Shields in Chicago, owned by white partner John M. Schorling.
>
> C. I. Taylor's Indianapolis ABCs, who played at Washington Park, lease owned by partner Ted Bowser, bought out by Taylor in 1915.

[53] Hogan, p. 101.

[54] Campbell Gibson and Kay Jung, "Historical Census Statistics on Population Totals By Race, 1790 to 1990, and by Hispanic Origin, 1970 to 1990, For Large Cities and Other Urban Places in the United States," Population Division, Working Paper No. 76, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C., February 2005 (https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2005/demo/POP-twps0076.html).

[55] NHL Theme Study, "Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the U.S.," pp. 54-55.

[56] L.A. Greene, "A History of Afro-Americans in New Jersey," *The Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries*, Vol. LVI, No. 1, June 1994, pp. 34-36 and p. 42. Schools in Camden and Trenton remained segregated at least until 1948.

[57] Hogan, p. 134.

Ed Bolden's Hilldales outside Philadelphia—played at Hilldale Park.

Birmingham Black Barons—Co-owned by black businessman Oscar W. Adams and white entrepreneur Frank M. Perdue, who was also part owner of the Birmingham Barons at Rickwood Field.

Alex Pompez's New York Cuban Stars whose ballpark bookings were controlled by white promoter Nat Strong.

Atlantic City Bacharach Giants—played in the city-owned Bacharach Park.[58]

The strength of these teams rested on quality players and a solid local black fan base, as well as owner support— "black businessmen who believed in race advancement" —and access, in most cases, to a home field.[59] By 1920 black professional baseball had evolved into a viable, largely black-owned business and the Negro National League [I] was formed by Midwestern club owner Rube Foster. Then in 1922, Philadelphia team-owner Ed Bolden organized the Eastern Colored League.[60] League play, in which affiliated teams played each other in regularly scheduled games arranged by the league, represented a step forward for black professional baseball. Inevitably compared to the white major and minor leagues, black baseball played within the Negro league structure was perceived as a more visible platform upon which to demonstrate the players' league-level skills. Writing in the 1920s as sports editor for the African American newspaper the *Kansas City Call*, Charles Starkes proposed that the quality of play in the Negro leagues might eventually cause the American public to "question the results of a world series championship between two white teams as conclusive when perhaps there are one of several colored teams in the country better than the contender."[61] Starkes believed in the power of baseball, to serve as a showcase of black talent and to reach across the race divide: "Here in Kansas City we see baseball as a wonderful contributor to the solution of an ancient race problem."[62]

Perhaps not the "uplift" envisioned by Booker T. Washington, or the "moral appeal" espoused by W. E. B. Du Bois, but in its own special way, as an integral part of the national pastime, Negro professional baseball continuously reminded Americans of the "possibilities of the Negro American." The importance of Negro baseball in the era of the "New Negro," largely viewed as an arts and literary renaissance (see Alain Locke's 1925 essay "The New Negro"), was that baseball reached across the spectrum of the 1920s African American population. Historian Clement Price summarized this view: "Negro baseball surfaces as an important symbol of black accomplishment in the cities, black accomplishment on the playing field, and black business development."[63]

Negro Baseball and the Great Depression

The economic boom of the early 1920s buoyed the success of the Negro National League [I] and the Eastern Colored League (1922), until the failure of the U.S. economy that began with the stock market crash in October 1929 crushed the leagues and many teams. As the United States entered into the Great Depression of the 1930s, the prospect for professional Negro baseball appeared bleak. The effects of the Great Depression impacted large

[58] Ibid., pp. 129-148; Birmingham Black Barons, Barra, p. 66. Another important early team, the Kansas City All Nations, later called the Monarchs, was run by white owner J. L. Wilkinson.

[59] Hogan, p. 151.

[60] Lanctot, p. 5. This is the first [I] Negro National League. A later Negro National League was formed in 1932 after the 1931 demise of the Negro National League [I]. Unlike the white major and minor leagues, Negro league teams rarely controlled their players with written contracts and were continuously hampered by players who would "jump" teams.

[61] As cited in Hogan, p. 160.

[62] Ibid., p. 157.

[63] Ibid., p. 156.

segments of the nation's laboring population but hit African American workers hardest. The core of Negro baseball, fan—and owner—support, could ill-afford to pay. By 1932, both Negro leagues had collapsed. The surviving independent teams, many necessarily financed by white businessmen, fell back on the barnstorming circuit playing primarily semi-pro white teams in order to attract larger audiences.[64]

The New York Black Yankees, formed from the Harlem Stars and the New York Lincoln Giants, began play as an independent team in 1931 backed by white businessmen John Powers and Marty Forkins with their silent partner, black entertainer Bill "Bojangles" Robinson.[65] Powers and Forkins planned to rent Yankee Stadium as well as the New York City Polo Grounds for their team's home games:

> After Forkins and Powers soon abandoned the investment following financial setbacks, M. E. Goodson, a black cabaret owner and barber, and his associate James Semler assumed control and operated the team through 1932. Costly park rentals, however, limited the home appearances of the Black Yankees…[66]

By 1933, James "Soldier Boy" Semler was sole owner but had given control of the team to white New York booking agent Nat Strong explaining, "we needed cash and couldn't get it from any colored business men so we borrowed it from Strong."[67] That same year a new Negro National League (NNL) formed with Pittsburgh Crawfords owner Gus Greenlee at its helm and six initial affiliate teams, however, the Black Yankees remained outside the league. Strong opposed the NNL on the grounds that scheduled league games would interfere with his lucrative barnstorming bookings, a view shared by Semler who believed that Strong would "keep the team working and I know the league can not."[68]

Semler's commitment of the Black Yankees to the independent bookings that Strong controlled reflected the continued financial struggle faced by black teams, even in a high population area such as New York City. Professional teams, even those now affiliated with the Negro National League, continued to rely on exhibition play on the barnstorming circuit:

> Barnstorming and Negro baseball were practically synonymous in the minds of fans, and with good reason. Clubs in the organized Negro leagues were not, strictly speaking, barnstormers, since they played a formal schedule with several series a year against other teams in the league. But more than half their 200-odd games a year (sometimes two-thirds) were outside the league; Negro clubs kept promoters around big cities busy booking them for their days off from league play, usually with white semipro teams in towns within driving distance of the city where they happened to be stopping a day or two.[69]

Faced with limited finances and limited access to home fields, black teams played most of their games on the road. Few teams enjoyed the benefits of a field they could call "home" in the sense that most white major and minor league teams could. Rick Woodward's minor league team the Birmingham Barons played all of their home games at Rickwood Field. Woodward rented the field to the Birmingham Black Barons to use "when, of course, the white Barons were on the road."[70] But often the expense of such arrangements was prohibitive. Large parks like Yankee Stadium and Comiskey Park (Chicago) were more commonly rented for promotions such as the highly profitable East-West games at Comiskey, which annually drew crowds of over twenty to

[64] Lanctot, p. 9.
[65] Martin and Martin, p. 12; Lanctot, p. 15.
[66] Lanctot, p. 15.
[67] Ibid.
[68] As cited in Lanctot, p. 27.
[69] Robert Peterson, *Only the Ball Was White*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992), p. 146.
[70] Barra, p. 58.

thirty thousand.[71] The Negro National League (NNL) mitigated the exorbitant rental fee at Yankee Stadium, $2,500 for a single date, by booking hugely successful double-headers, splitting the cost over two games in one day, featuring four NNL teams.[72] The rental of white league stadiums was in fact an important source of revenue for both major and minor league teams, but was a barrier to financial stability for many black professional teams:

> The chronic problem of obtaining suitable home grounds proved a major stumbling block to the NNL in 1933. With the exception of the Crawfords' Greenlee Field, no league team had unlimited access to its own home park, instead turning to facilities used by white Organized Baseball teams. In Nashville, Tom Wilson's Elite Giants planned to use Sulphur Dell, a Southern Association park, while the Indianapolis ABCs rented Perry Stadium, the home of the local American Association franchise. Meanwhile, the Columbus Blue Birds leased Neil Park, formerly used by the American Association… The Homestead Grays, however, temporarily abandoned Forbes Field in favor of occasional home games at Greenlee Field, a decision necessitated by fans "antagonistic" to the Grays renting a white major league park instead of a largely black-sponsored local enterprise.
>
> The situation in Chicago and Detroit…was particularly disheartening. The now homeless American Giants [formerly at the park at 39th and Shields Streets] were unable to secure a replacement park in Chicago and faced the possibility of becoming a road team as the start of the season dawned. Prospects in Detroit were equally discouraging, as Hamtramck Stadium, built in 1930 and the major venue for black teams, not only was inconvenient for black fans because of its Hamtramck location but was also controlled by John Roesink, an unpopular white promoter and pants store owner.[73]

As a result many games took place in smaller parks or on "sandlot" fields where costs were low, but receipts were lower too.

The advantage of a black-owned stadium was clear but the enormous financial commitment required was beyond the means of most African American team owners. Gus Greenlee's Pittsburgh Crawfords were indeed the exception within the nascent NNL. The Memphis Red Sox were another exception. A franchise in the first (1920) Negro National League, they occupied Lewis Park in Memphis built by black owner Robert Lewis in the mid-1920s. After 1929 the park was renamed Martin Park under the Martin brothers' ownership of the team and ball field. In 1937 the Memphis Red Sox, with Martin Park as their home field, joined the newly-formed Negro American League.[74] Another exception came in 1935 when New York Cuban Stars owner Alejandro "Alex" Pompez paid thousands of dollars to remodel the Dyckman Oval for his team's home park under a three-year lease with the New York City Parks Department, the same year Pompez entered the Cuban Stars into the

[71] Hogan, p. 258. The East-West All-Star promotions pitted the most popular NNL (east) players vs. the most popular NAL (west) players, chosen by fans. The games proved to be more popular than the official league-sponsored Negro World Series.

[72] Lanctot, p. 85.

[73] Ibid., p. 19. Of this particular group of stadiums, as of December 2010, only Perry Stadium (Owen J. Bush Stadium) in Indianapolis and the Hamtramck/Roesink Stadium in Detroit appear to be still standing. The Homestead Grays, according to former Grays "batboy" Elijah Miller, used West Field in Munhall outside of Pittsburgh as their weekday home field and Forbes Field on weekends when the Pittsburgh Pirates were on the road (*Post-Gazette*.com, "Rebuilding the Grays homefield," August 11, 2006). For a discussion of extant stadiums associated with Negro professional baseball (as of March 2011) see Comparative Sites section below.

[74] "The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture: Negro Leagues Baseball," (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1998; online edition, Knoxville: University of TN, 2002) http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net. Martin Park or Stadium was demolished in 1961. The Negro American League (NAL) included teams from Kansas City, Chicago, Birmingham, Memphis, and Cleveland (in 1939) who remained NAL affiliates through 1948, as well as teams from Cincinnati, Detroit, Indianapolis, and St. Louis (Hogan, p. 284).

NNL.[75] But by 1936 Pompez was on the run from the law and in 1938 Dyckman Oval was demolished. Greenlee Field met a similar fate in late 1938.[76]

Building Hinchliffe Stadium

Born of this matrix of economic depression and a need for affordable sports venues was Hinchliffe Stadium in Paterson, New Jersey. Using funds from a bond issue and later, New Deal program funds, the Paterson City Stadium, later known as Hinchliffe Stadium, was built in 1931-32 to bring hope and relief in the form of sports and entertainment to the city's struggling population.[77] Paterson was established as an industrial mill city in 1791 by the Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufactures (SUM). By 1920 more than half of the city's workers were employed in silk mills, mills that produced 50% of the nation's silk and rayon textiles in 1925. The Great Depression devastated Paterson's textile industry, reduced to 6% of national production by 1939.[78] Largely populated by European immigrant laborers and more recently a small but growing population of African Americans, unemployment in Paterson reached 14% by 1932.[79]

The "stadium movement" in Paterson actually began in 1921 when then-mayor Frank Van Noort proposed the construction of a municipal stadium.[80] Although public enthusiasm at the time was high, no stadium was constructed. In 1928 the issue was again raised when Mayor Raymond Newman promised in his campaign to appoint a stadium planning committee. When Mayor Newman unexpectedly died shortly after taking office, his successor, Mayor John V. Hinchliffe, followed through on the promise and appointed the Paterson Stadium Association to study a number of possible locations, sizes, costs, and configurations.[81] The committee, however, could not agree on an appropriate site for a stadium and in early 1930 the committee dissolved. But by October of 1930 a site known as Monument Heights, located on the west side of the Passaic River near the Great Falls that were the city's historic source of industrial power, was chosen for the new stadium site. The noted landscape architecture firm, Olmsted Brothers, who worked on several previous projects for Passaic County, was hired by the Passaic County Parks Commission in October 1930 to prepare the plans.[82]

By mid-May 1931, Olmsted Brothers had formulated a plan for the stadium but noted in a letter to Paterson's Director of Recreation Alfred Cappio:

> The area is so cramped that some compromises must be made, and it is the relative importance of the different activities that we would like you to determine. So far we have provided for:
>
> A full size football field (soccer in the same area)

[75] Lanctot, p. 42.

[76] Ibid., pp. 59 and 81.

[77] "Hinchliffe Stadium" National Register documentation, 2004. The 1930 bond issue was reported to be $200,000+. Construction cost at the end of 1932 was set at $217,000. Repairs and additions were funded by CWA and ERA programs between 1932 and 1934, employing 2,046 men at the height of the Great Depression. Final cost of the stadium in 1934 was said to be $244,000. By 1936, a roof over the northwest bleacher section was installed using a grant from the Public Works Administration (*Paterson Morning Call*, April 11, 1935).

[78] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," pp. 8-9.

[79] Ibid, p. 9. In 1920, Passaic County, of which Paterson was the population center, included 2,522 African Americans. By 1930 that figure had risen to 5,518, representing a more than 50% increase since 1920 (U.S. Population Census figures, "Historical Census Browser"). In 1934, African Americans made up 2.1% of Paterson's total population of 138,513 (Connolly & Hickey, p. 10).

[80] "Hinchliffe Stadium" National Register documentation, 2004.

[81] Ibid.

[82] Olmsted Associates Records, Box B485, Reel 441, File No. 9163, "Paterson Stadium and Recreation field," Loede to Olmsted, Oct. 10, 1930, Library of Congress (LOC).

> A fifth mile track having somewhat flattened but satisfactory ends, and a 100 yd. straightway.
>
> A ball diamond with correct orientation but with only a 250 foot outfield without obstructions. This is rather tight, but is probably the best that can be done.[83]

In his response to the Olmsted Brothers' query, Mr. Cappio indicated his view that baseball would perhaps be the most significant use of the stadium: "I hope that there will be some way of increasing the size of the baseball diamond. Baseball is very popular here and the field will undoubtedly be in constant demand for baseball."[84] The Olmsted Brothers answered this request by producing two alternate plans for the stadium (Figures 11 and 12) accompanied by a chart comparing the two plans (A—the "diagonal scheme" and B—the "normal scheme") which Cappio presented to the City of Paterson on May 28, 1931. Within days both plans were published in the local newspaper for public review, although the accompanying story noted, "The architects on the stadium are already at work on specifications and plans."[85]

The city hired the local architectural firm of Fanning & Shaw to finalize the stadium design. The firm previously designed several Paterson school complexes. William T. Fanning passed away in 1925 so it was partner John Shaw who prepared the design. The stadium design was at-once elegant and practical, blending Spanish Colonial Revival and Art Deco/Moderne architectural and decorative features on an all-concrete, cost-saving construction. In the end Shaw's composition melded the two Olmsted plans into one (Figure 4), featuring the continuous curve of the seating found in Olmsted plan A and the symmetrical placement of the stadium within the street grid found in Olmsted plan B. The baseball diamond took center stage with its placement at the center of the seating curve, allowing for a larger outfield (see Description section for a complete as-built description of the stadium from a 1932 newspaper report).

Construction of the new stadium began in November 1931 and was completed in June 1932. The first major event, a celebration of George Washington's 200th birthday, was scheduled over three days in early July. Although the official opening of the stadium—featuring the State Championship track-and-field meet—did not occur until September 1932, the first baseball game was played on the field on July 24th pitting the local Paterson Professionals against the Michigan barnstorming team called the House of David. On August 14th, the first Negro professional baseball was played on the new field with the appearance of the Atlantic City independent black baseball team the Bacharach Giants, featuring future Hall of Famer John Henry "Pop" Lloyd in his final season. They were followed the next day by a double-header played by the New York Cuban Stars against the Paterson Truckers, another local semi-pro team.[86] At the official opening ceremony held in September, the stadium was renamed "Hinchliffe City Stadium" in recognition of the invaluable efforts of current Mayor John V. Hinchliffe in getting the stadium built and, reportedly, in memory of his father, former Mayor John Hinchliffe.[87] The year closed out with the annual Thanksgiving Day football game between the city's two high schools, Eastside and Central, said to have been attended by 11,000 spectators.[88]

In his January 1933 annual address to the people of the city of Paterson, Mayor Hinchliffe reviewed what he called "one of the major accomplishments of the administration":

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[83] Ibid., Olmsted to Cappio, May 16, 1931, LOC.
[84] Ibid., Cappio to Olmsted, May 21, 1931, LOC.
[85] Ibid., copy of newspaper article sent to Olmsted Bros. by Loede June 5, 1931, LOC.
[86] "Hinchliffe Stadium" National Register documentation, 2004. Stadium management officially passed from the City to the Board of Education on June 9, 1932.
[87] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," p. 25.
[88] "History: The Stadium is Dedicated (1932)," Friends of Hinchliffe Stadium, 2009, http://www.friendsofhinchliffestadium.net/FriendsII/FOOTBALL.html.

> …I appreciate far more the completion under my administration of a permanent and modern play-field for the physical advancement of our young men and young women and for the entertainment of all who take an interest in athletic sports and physical training.[89]

Hinchliffe continued: "The total cost of the stadium…was approximately $217,000, which will be met by a bond issue to be redeemed from the proceeds of the track and field events and other public entertainments…The arena has been laid out so as to give the widest possible range for football, baseball and field and track activities." It was rental fees brought in by these activities that planners hoped would make the stadium a "paying proposition." Under the administration of the Paterson Board of Education, the Stadium Commission managed the scheduling and fees. With the Stadium Commission setting the baseball rate at $100 per game plus 25% of the gate receipts, Chairman Richard O'Dea "firmly maintained that the present rate schedule must be applied uniformly to all baseball games."[90] Judging by the newspaper accounts of stadium activities, baseball—both white and black—maintained the scheduling priority, particularly on Saturdays and Sundays through much of the season, however track and field meets and boxing made occasional appearances. In late August semi-pro football shared the field as well.

Negro Baseball at Hinchliffe Stadium—1933-1940

Continuing the precedent set in the truncated 1932 season, the stadium played host to regularly scheduled independent (barnstorming) baseball games. Initially the scheduling focus appears to have been on the white semi-professional home team, the Paterson City Club described as stadium "tenant" in the local newspaper, playing outside team "attractions" including a game in May 1933 against the major league Pittsburgh Pirates, which drew a crowd of 4,000 fans.[91] The team likewise hosted novelty teams such as the bearded players of the House of David, Jim Thorpe's Oklahoma Indians, and the Panama All-Stars.

Paterson's proximity to New York City ensured a local fan base for New York teams and in particular, it appears, Paterson fans both black and white were eager to see the New York Cuban Stars and the New York Black Yankees. It is likely that Negro baseball at Hinchliffe Stadium drew mixed crowds, given the size of the crowds—up to 5,500—and the size of the African American population in Paterson in 1930 – just under 3,000.[92] The surrounding Passaic County likewise numbered only 5,518 black residents.[93] Heavy and consistent coverage, including box scores, in the two white-owned Paterson daily newspapers, the *Paterson Morning Call* and the *Paterson Evening News*, implies that local white fans as well as black followed Negro professional baseball. While Paterson connected by bus and trolley lines to nearby New Jersey cities with large African American populations such as Newark, Montclair, and East Orange, and to New York City via the George Washington Bridge by 1931, no documentation has been found to date that indicates whether Negro baseball fans at Hinchliffe Stadium were local or from out-of-town.

Hinchliffe City Stadium's first full baseball season opened in April 1933 with a game featuring the Cuban Stars—also called the "Puerto Rican Stars" or the "Colored Crew" in the newspaper accounts—versus the Paterson City Club.[94] Throughout May and June of 1933 the Paterson City Club played both white and black teams at Hinchliffe Stadium. In July it was announced the Gavins—formed to replace the defunct Paterson City Club—would play the New York Black Yankees.[95] The *Paterson Evening News* sportswriter wrote just a few

[89] *Paterson Evening News* (*PEN*), January 3, 1933, "City's Financial Condition Best in State, Mayor Reports."
[90] *PEN*, August 17, 1932.
[91] *PEN*, May 8, 1933.
[92] Gibson and Jung, Population Division, Working Paper No. 76.
[93] Passaic County, New Jersey, black male and female total, 1930 U.S. Population Census, UVA, "Historical Census Browser."
[94] *PEN*, April 3, 1933.
[95] *PEN*, July 11, 1933.

days earlier: "The Black Yankees are well-known to the baseball fans of this section, as second to none in colored pro-ball, outside of the major leagues."[96] By August 30th the Black Yankees played and won four games at Hinchliffe Stadium and "proved to be the best attraction to play here except for the Pittsburgh Pirates," when it was announced they would play the Pittsburgh Crawfords at the stadium on September 5th.[97] In an arc-lighted night game in front of a record crowd of 4,800 people, the Black Yankees defeated the Crawfords 6-3 despite the Crawfords' all-star line-up including Oscar Charleston at first base.[98] The Black Yankees played three more games at Hinchliffe in the 1933 season, including a final match-up on September 20th with the Crawfords "in the final game of their series to decide the world championship in colored baseball."[99] The Black Yankees won the game 9 to 3 over the Crawfords "before a crowd of more than 5,500 fans."[100] In all, the stadium hosted eight games featuring professional black baseball teams through the 1933 season.

The 1934 stadium season brought with it a new sport at Hinchliffe City Stadium:

> Races to Be Presented by Motorcycles and Midget Cars…
>
> Ed Otto…appeared before the Stadium Commissioners at the City Hall last night to apply for permission to stage motorcycle meets on twenty Mondays starting at the end of May, and midget car races every Wednesday for about ten dates. He offered $150 a night for the guaranteed rental.[101]

At the same time the commissioners considered applications for football and baseball schedules. The final stadium schedule for 1934 placed the motorcycle races on Tuesdays—after adjustments to the cinder track and removal of the concrete steps that protruded into the track, and soon installation of a permanent lighting system.[102] Midget car racing was scheduled on Fridays beginning in August, although these were cancelled for the 1934 season.[103] The local white semi-pro baseball team would take up the Sunday game slot beginning in July. But real excitement accompanied the *Paterson Morning Call* announcement on May 25th, "Black Yankees To Represent Paterson Every Saturday Afternoon For Five Week Period At Least Starting On June 2," calling it "Big Time Baseball." The arrangement required a contract between the team's booking agent Nat Strong and several local unnamed businessmen who served as promoters who would book the opponent teams. On the same day the *Paterson Evening News* reported "the Black Yankees will act as the home team playing opponents requested by the fans."[104] By the end of June the Black Yankees had won every game played in the stadium and the contract was extended through the season, "the Yankees have proved both a financial and artistic success…"[105] A testament to the popularity of the Black Yankees and of Negro baseball in Paterson was the regular publication of player's box scores in the local newspapers after each game, a practice reportedly not consistently followed in other cities where Negro baseball was played.[106]

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[96] *PEN*, June 26, 1933.

[97] *Paterson Morning Call* (*PMC*), August 30, 1933 and September 5, 1933.

[98] *PEN*, September 6, 1933; *PMC* reported "more than 5,000 fans." It appears Satchel Paige did not play in this game.

[99] *PEN*, September 20, 1933. The newspaper called this a "world championship" game, and indeed the Crawfords and the Black Yankees were among the most powerful teams of the 1933 season, however this was not an official Negro league game since the Black Yankees were still an independent team.

[100] *PEN*, September 21, 1933.

[101] *PEN*, May 10, 1934.

[102] *PEN*, May 16, 1934; *PEN*, June 26, 1934.

[103] *PEN*, August 10 and 13, 1934.

[104] *PMC* and *PEN*, May 25, 1932. The unnamed businessmen were Tommy Rose, promoter, and George Brooks, reportedly the contractor who built the stadium. Brooks was later described as a "sponsor," then "stadium manager," and in 1935 replaced Rose as baseball promoter.

[105] *PMC*, June 27, 1934.

[106] Hogan, p. 380.

During their 1934 contract season at Hinchliffe Stadium the New York Black Yankees, still an independent team, hosted the House of David, Cuban Stars, Newark Meadowbrooks (white semi-pro), Bacharach Giants, Brooklyn Farmers (white semi-pro), Philadelphia Stars, Bridgeport Bears (white semi-pro), Elite Giants (billed as an NNL team), Pittsburgh Crawfords (1933 NNL Champs), and the Crescent Stars (New Orleans team). In the final game of the season on October 19th, the Black Yankees faced the Brooklyn Farmers with "the barnstorming Deans, Dizzy and Daffy, pitching sensations of the National league and later the world series..."[107] This appearance was part of a remarkable multi-city barnstorming tour in the fall of 1934, featuring the white major league players Dizzy and Paul "Daffy" Dean against an all-star Negro team headlined by pitching sensation Satchel Paige, although Paige did not join the tour until Cleveland. Sponsored by Kansas City Monarchs owner J. L. Wilkerson and promoter Raymond L. Doan, the inter-racial games were featured in Oklahoma City, Wichita, Kansas City, Chicago, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Paterson, Cleveland, Columbus, and Pittsburgh.[108] The 1934 season at Hinchliffe Stadium also featured a white semi-pro Sunday home team, the Paterson Base Ball Club (BBC), hosting Negro clubs including the Detroit Clowns, Washington Potomacs, Bacharach Giants, Newark Dodgers (billed as 2nd place NNL team), and the Baltimore Black Sox, and white semi-pro clubs the Bridgeport Bears, Birmingham Crackers (probably Atlanta), and the Philadelphia Hebrews. The Paterson newspapers reported on eighteen games played at Hinchliffe Stadium featuring black professional teams in 1934.

The successful draw of Negro professional baseball at Hinchliffe Stadium and in particular the popularity of the New York Black Yankees in Paterson was emphatically confirmed in April 1935 with the new season's stadium schedule. Bob Whiting, sports journalist for the *Paterson Morning Call* reported on the schedule in his weekly column "Time Out for Bob Whiting":

> The stadium committee of the Board of Education will meet this evening prior to the regular stated meeting of the board, and it is expected that before the meeting is adjourned the Hinchliffe Stadium will have been rented for at least six days a week from May through September.
>
> One date has already been made certain of, the Black Yankees through their local promoter George Brooks, having been granted the use of the Falls bowl for Saturday afternoon baseball. More than four bids have been entered for Sunday afternoon baseball, and this date will be disposed of tonight in order to permit the successful team to take over its franchise by the end of the month.[109]

Whiting noted that Tuesdays would likely again host the motorcycle races and Thursdays would be "fight night" with the possibility of both amateur and professional boxing matches.

With their Hinchliffe Stadium opponents arranged by promoter George Brooks the Black Yankees faced many of the same teams from the previous year, but new to the scene was "Buck Lia's Hawaiian All Stars," and independent Negro teams the Camden Colored Giants, the Penn Red Caps, and the Texas Steers. "Baseball Under Lights" began at the stadium in August of the 1935 season when the Black Yankees played as the home team in a series of Thursday night games.[110] The night series brought in the best white semi-pro team opponents from around the region. However, the Thursday night game on August 29th featured a new attraction for the stadium—an officially scheduled Negro National League matchup between the Nashville Elite Giants and the New York Cubans (formerly the Cuban Stars). Hinchliffe Stadium was a new venue for the NNL, leading to

[107] *PEN*, October 19, 1934.
[108] Gay, p. 79.
[109] *PMC*, April 11, 1935.
[110] *PEN*, August 14-26, 1935.

speculation that the NNL was testing Paterson as a potential league team city.[111] Within days of that game an NNL double-header was scheduled at Hinchliffe Stadium.[112] It seems the success of these games spurred promoter Brooks to schedule one more league game at the stadium—this time in the Saturday game slot, at the expense of his still-independent home team the Black Yankees:

> Promoter George Brooks has announced that after a long conference he has signed the Pittsburgh Crawfords, winners of the first half of the National Negro league, to meet the New York Cubans here next Saturday. The Cubans are leading the Negro league in the second half and need to win but one game in their remaining four to get into the playoffs of the Colored World series. The Yankees, who are giving up the afternoon to allow this game, will be back September 14 with another strong opponent.[113]

The Cubans won the game in front of a crowd of more than 4,000 spectators.[114] Though the Black Yankees returned to the stadium for their regular Saturday games through the month of September 1935, it would be their last as the Paterson home team for at least a year, possibly because of their non-league status. Bob Whiting noted in his September 7 column, "At the beginning of the season Promoter George Brooks found it impossible to bring any of the Negro National League teams to the Stadium. Now he is presenting two at a time."[115] By the end of the 1935 baseball season, a total of twenty-two games featuring Negro professional teams were played at Hinchliffe Stadium.

On March 25th, 1936, the *Paterson Evening News* scooped the announcement that 1935 NNL champions, the New York Cubans, would make the Paterson stadium their Saturday home for the 1936 season:

> George Brooks Lands Champions to Play in Baseball Attractions Here Every Saturday – Opening Game April 25th Against Farmers.
>
> The New York Cubans, winner of the Negro Baseball League last year, will represent Paterson at the Hinchliffe City stadium on Saturday afternoons this year, it was exclusively learned by the News yesterday afternoon. George Brooks, who sponsored the weekly appearance of the New York Black Yankees here for the past two seasons, will continue to promote these Saturday games.
>
> The replacement of the much-weakened Black Yanks by the powerful Cubans definitely assures this city of the finest professional baseball in the country, the New York Cubans being regarded as potentially on a par with big league clubs.[116]

The Cubans' weekday home games were still being played at the Dyckman Oval in New York, refurbished in 1935 by team owner Alex Pompez. But at Hinchliffe Stadium the NNL opened its official 1936 season on May 9th with a game between the Cubans and the Pittsburgh Crawfords. Mayor Hinchliffe threw out the first pitch, and then was followed on the mound by Cubans star pitcher Martin Dihigo.[117] In all, the Cubans played ten NNL games at the stadium during the 1936 season in addition to several exhibition games against both white and black teams.

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[111] *PMC*, August 27, 1935.
[112] *PMC*, August 31, 1935.
[113] *PMC*, September 2, 1935.
[114] *PMC*, September 9, 1935.
[115] *PMC*, September 7, 1935.
[116] *PEN*, March 25, 1936.
[117] *PEN*, May 8, 1936. Martin Dihigo was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1977 (Martin and Martin, p. 180).

Hinchliffe Stadium hosted twenty-four Negro professional baseball games through the 1936 season. Fans watched the games in greater comfort with the addition of the permanent steel-framed grandstand cover erected over 2,800 seats on the northwest end, an important improvement for the Saturday afternoon baseball schedule.[118] Improvements were made to the ball field as well, making the infield "the exact replica of the Yankee Stadium," according to the local newspaper, and the perennial sink holes in the outfield were "filled in to make the entire playing surface almost as smooth as a billiard table top."[119]

The New York Black Yankees were admitted into the Negro National League during the second half of the 1936 season.[120] Now competing within the NNL circuit, in the 1937 season the popular Black Yankees returned to the Paterson stadium as the Saturday home team, despite the relative success of the New York Cubans the previous year. There was a caveat however. The Black Yankees would share the Saturday home team slot with another NNL team, the Newark Eagles, whose Sunday home field was the minor league Ruppert Stadium in nearby Newark:

> The Black Yankees, members of the powerful Negro National League, will alternate with the Newark Eagles of the same circuit in playing as the host team at the local ball park every Saturday afternoon during the baseball season…
>
> Long favorites with the Paterson fans, the Black Yankees are returning with most of the players who helped to create a big following in this city during their past campaigns here.[121]

The Black Yankees' lineup included notable pitcher Bill Holland, but the Newark Eagles brought with them future National Baseball Hall of Famers George "Mule" Suttles and Leon Day. It was again at Hinchliffe Stadium that the NNL opened its official season with a game pitting the Newark Eagles against the Homestead Grays featuring the Grays' star hitter Josh Gibson.[122] Despite the all-star lineup, cold weather kept the opening day crowd down to 1,000 people. Just a few days later, the first motorcycle race of the year drew a crowd of 10,000 to the stadium. But neither could compare to the 13,000 fans expected to attend the annual Thanksgiving Day football contest between the Paterson Eastside and Central high schools.[123]

The 1937 Negro professional baseball season at Hinchliffe consisted almost exclusively of regularly scheduled Negro National League play, seventeen games in all with fourteen of them league games. Several games pitted the two home teams, the Black Yankees and the Newark Eagles, against each other.[124] But by the mid-season break, the *Paterson Morning Call* sports column "Around THE SPORT CYCLE with THE DEAN" commented on the significant decline in fan attendance:

> Local baseball fans who trot up to Hinchliffe Stadium on Saturday afternoons to witness the Negro National League games see some real baseball, but we are sorry to say that these fans are very small in number as compared to turnouts in other cities represented in the league. If there were 1000 fans out on Saturday, George Brooks, who runs these games, would be delighted. However, in Pittsburgh there are never less than 10,000 at a game. The Homestead Greys [*sic*]

[118] *PEN*, May 29, 1936.
[119] *PMC*, April 25, 1936.
[120] Martin and Martin, p. 127.
[121] *PEN*, April 30, 1937.
[122] *PEN*, May 14, 1937. Josh Gibson was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1972, Leon Day in 1995, and Mule Suttles in 2006 (Martin and Martin, pp. 234, 236 and 237).
[123] *PEN*, May 19, 1937; *PEN*, November 24, 1937.
[124] *PEN*, June 1, 1937; July 1, 1937; August 2, 1937; August 23, 1937.

> and Pittsburgh Crawfords who represent the Smoky City, draw almost as well as the Pirates of the National League."[125]

Although "The Dean" (Willie Harvey) indicated that the two NNL teams in Pittsburgh continued to draw large crowds, the 1937 season was not a financial success for Negro league baseball in general.

NNL officials, owners, and sportswriters held differing views on the causes of their league's troubles, all of which were compounded by the "Roosevelt Depression" of 1937:

> League officials such as New York Black Yankees owner James Semler linked the difficulties to declining patronage and increasing expenses such as player salaries, equipment, lodging, and park rentals…Outlining the discouraging conditions affecting his club's stability, Semler noted that "in New York there are over 300,000 colored people but the best we can hope for at any time is about 5,000 customers...Like other black entrepreneurs, Semler also cited the problem of white competition, complaining that "every time the Yankees or Giants play, you can find at least 5,000 of our people in the stands, paying twice as much and more."[126]

Baseball fans, in a time of economic hardship, were perhaps not inclined to buy tickets based on "race pride" alone, observed *Philadelphia Tribune* writer Marcus Cooke, "when they pay their 75c to see a ball game; they want a ball game."[127] Throughout the 1930s Negro professional baseball was a hit or miss proposition for fans with games suddenly cancelled and star players apt to jump teams. In 1937, eighteen NNL players jumped to a Dominican Republic team for better pay, among them were nine players from the Pittsburgh Crawfords including Satchel Paige.[128] Lack of cooperation between league team owners often led to scheduling problems—on June 26th, 1937 the Black Yankees and Newark Eagles were scheduled to play an NNL scheduled game at Hinchliffe Stadium but "a mixup in dates" forced a postponement.[129] Finally, many believed the ongoing Negro league financial problems were simply due to the bad business practices of the owners, wrote Chappy Gardner, journalist for the *Baltimore Afro-American*, "…as fine as these owners are, personally they lack business training."[130]

In Paterson, where the previous years' larger crowd numbers at Hinchliffe Stadium likely included a significant percentage of white working class fans, the 1937 decline in turnouts at Negro baseball games was more likely an economic issue as the textile industry continued to struggle. Whatever the cause, it appears that diminishing attendance at Hinchliffe Stadium games impacted the baseball schedule there in the 1938 season. In April 1938, baseball promoter George Brooks announced that Saturday games would feature "outstanding white and colored teams outside the big leagues…"[131] The plan, according to the newspaper account, was "to keep shuffling the attractions so that different clubs fill the home team niche from week to week, thus providing new attractions for the fans."[132] The Black Yankees won the season opener against the Brooklyn Farmers, but "with a small crowd on hand."[133] As a result of the small crowd Brooks cancelled the following Saturday game then reinstated the schedule in May "after working out a more advantageous arrangement with the teams he brings here from the metropolitan section."[134] After hosting eight NNL and non-league exhibition games through June

[125] *PMC*, July 19, 1937.
[126] Lanctot, p. 67.
[127] As cited in Lanctot, p. 69.
[128] Lanctot, p. 62.
[129] *PEN*, June 25, 1937.
[130] As cited in Lanctot, p. 68.
[131] *PEN*, April 5, 1938.
[132] *PEN*, April 5, 1938.
[133] *PEN*, April 25, 1938.
[134] *PEN*, May 11, 1938.

and into July, Brooks again cancelled the Saturday games. The newspaper headline announced, "Poor Attendance Causes Sponsor to Throw Up Sponge." The reporter noted that Brooks was "on the verge of quitting several times last season but managed to stick it out" and after cancelling several games in the current season, this time he was done: "The failure of the turnouts to exceed a thousand fans and dipping below that figure many times made it a losing proposition."[135] Even the motorcycle races suffered declining attendance at Hinchliffe Stadium and the 1938 racing season was cancelled as well. It appears likely that the continuing economic depression of the 1930s was the primary culprit.

The 1939 stadium schedule reflected the attendance downturn of the previous two years. When the Stadium Board finally announced the schedule on June 1st midget car racing was "in" for two nights a week and "Motorcycles Out"; the Paterson Panthers football team snagged the usual fall weekly spot; and the NNL games were out – the baseball slots featured four local semi-pro teams, including at least one black team called the Furrey Smart Sets, playing weekend day games and Monday evenings.[136] The Smart Sets baseball team was sponsored by local businessman William P. Furrey, a real estate developer. Like other black semi-pro teams, typically sponsored by manufacturing companies who drew players from their employee ranks, the Smart Sets were part of the unofficial "farm" system from which young players were recruited onto professional teams, and where older players could wind down their careers. The Smart Sets of Paterson featured two former NNL players Clyde Spearman and Hub Crawford, according to the *Paterson Evening News*, as well as several young players including "'Spooks' Smith, Morgan College ace" and Larry Doby, a rising sophomore at Paterson's Eastside High School.[137] The switch in emphasis from motorcycles to auto racing prompted significant changes to the track, apparently funded by the Works Progress Administration (WPA)—the track was widened and a "new composition spread over the racing surface" along with banking in the turns.[138]

The Negro National League returned to Hinchliffe Stadium in the 1940 season in a "program of weekly twilight baseball games." Paterson agent Joe Mingin, who handled the bookings for the House of David baseball team, promoted the twilight series. The Friday evening games were scheduled early according to Mingin, "because of inadequate light facilities here."[139] No home team was contracted by the promoter, but the opening game on June 14th featured the Black Yankees against the Philadelphia All-Stars. Mingin explained, "The team which emerges will meet Josh Gibson's Homestead Greys [sic] in the follow-up battle."[140] The Friday evening NNL team game schedule failed, however, when the second game was cancelled because the Grays "were unable to appear."[141] Instead it was the semi-pro Smart Sets, occupying the Sunday afternoon game slot, who headlined the Paterson sports pages through the Hinchliffe Stadium baseball season. The Smart Sets' roster during the 1940 season again included the young power hitter Larry Doby.[142] Doby was still a student at Paterson's Eastside High School but ineligible for play on the Eastside team, according to a 1941 newspaper story, which described his 1940 season:

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[135] *PEN*, July 14, 1938.

[136] *PEN*, June 1, 1938. One game in July featured two NNL teams, the Pittsburgh Crawfords vs. the New York Black Yankees. Also in July, the semi-pro Smart Sets played one game against the Black Yankees and one against the Bacharach Giants. After that, all baseball play was by semi-pro teams.

[137] *PEN*, June 10, 1939; *PMC*, July 1, 1939.

[138] *PEN*, June 1 and June 9, 1939. The track was again resurfaced in the last week of June (*PEN*, August 8, 1939).

[139] *PEN*, May 29, 1940.

[140] *PEN*, June 12, 1940.

[141] *PEN*, June 19, 1940. These games were likely not part of the official NNL game schedule given the set up in which the winner would play the Grays the next week.

[142] *PEN*, April 24, 1940. The story indicates that Doby played for the Smart Sets during the 1939 season as well, "Expected to appear in the line-up are the great power hitters of last year— 'Clown' Thompson, Larry Doby, Ollie Wright, and Al Fenner." Fellow Paterson resident Monte Irvin played for the Smart Sets from 1937 until 1939 when he joined the Newark Eagles (Martin and Martin, p. 38).

> Larry was floored by ineligibility last season [1940] but when he went to work with the Smart Sets during the semi-pro campaign his bat spoke a thundering tone all year. He wound up slugging at better than a 400 clip…[143]

By August the Smart Sets occupied the Friday twilight game slot as the home team with "leading metropolitan semi pro teams" as the visiting opponents, "provided the crowds are large enough to warrant the Sets management hiring the stronger clubs."[144] Their opponents included the Texas Rangers, the Pennsylvania Red Sox, the Havana Cuban Stars, the West Point Colored Cavalry, and a team from San Juan, Puerto Rico.[145]

The Hinchliffe baseball field, which had been reduced in size by the expansion of the track for midget car racing the previous year, was perhaps in a better condition during the 1940 season following the removal of the hard surface laid for auto racing. Motorcycle racing replaced the midget cars for the 1940 stadium season "and a new track will be laid down, made of clay and cinder composition."[146] Weekly professional boxing matches were also planned for the stadium through the summer/fall season.[147] The improved 1940 stadium season was an indicator of the expanding national economy as U.S. industries began producing military supplies for European allies in the war with Germany—a war that soon engulfed the United States as well.

Stirrings of Discontent

From its opening in 1932 through the 1940 season, the sports scheduling successes and failures at Hinchliffe Stadium reflected the economic ups and downs experienced throughout the United States as the country passed through the Great Depression. As a venue for Negro professional baseball, semi-pro baseball, and high school team ball, games at the stadium were played within the racial confines of the times. Significantly, Hinchliffe was located in northern New Jersey and thus reflected the Northern approach to segregation. While the professional teams were segregated, the high school teams were not.[148] Larry Doby played on the integrated Eastside High School baseball and football teams, though he was reportedly the only African American on the team.[149] No segregation ordinance regulated the seating arrangements of the fans attending games at Hinchliffe Stadium and given the crowd numbers at the baseball games, it appears the audiences were integrated to some degree. In the South, Jim Crow laws made this arrangement impossible. At Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama, a city ordinance required that black fans be seated in a fenced-off section separate from white fans. When the Birmingham Black Barons played there every other Sunday, the seating arrangements were reversed, though still segregated.[150] In 1938, at a meeting in Birmingham, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt "defied the city's segregation ordinance and its police chief, Eugene "Bull" Connor who threatened to arrest anyone who crossed racial lines, by placing her chair directly on the line dividing whites and blacks."[151]

Mrs. Roosevelt's defiance in Birmingham did not signal a change in the Federal stand on segregation in the United States. Though the economic hardships of the Great Depression faced by both white and black

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[143] *PEN*, April 5, 1941. This story did not explain why Doby was ineligible for high school baseball in 1940, but he did return to the Eastside team during the 1941 season.

[144] *PMC*, August 23, 1940.

[145] Connolly & Hickey, "Hinchliffe Stadium…A National Black Baseball Venue," p. 13.

[146] *PEN*, April 27, 1940.

[147] *PEN*, May 4, 1940.

[148] Typically, the semi-pro teams were either composed of all-white players or all-black players, but it is not clear whether this arrangement was official segregation (by the team sponsors) or segregation by an unwritten understanding. By 1944 the Paterson semi-pro team called the Uncle Sams included a black player.

[149] Martin and Martin, p. 136; Larry Doby is quoted in reference to the Eastside football team: "We won the state championship and got invited to a bowl game in Florida. I was the only black on the team and they said I couldn't go, so the team voted to stay home."

[150] Barra, pp. 48 and 58.

[151] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), p. 28.

Americans were mitigated by President Roosevelt's New Deal programs, Jim Crow segregation remained intact:

> The Civilian Conservation Corps remained segregated in the South, but during its existence, about 200,000 blacks worked in camps the agency created. U.S. Housing Authority subsidies (later the Federal Public Housing Authority) funded segregated housing projects in the South, while some projects in the North were integrated. Nevertheless, some New Deal era legislation did provide a basis for challenges to Jim Crow. The 1935 Motor Carrier Act (also known as the Motor Vehicle Act), for example, prohibited discrimination on interstate buses. However, it was not until 1953 before a challenge under the act reached the ICC.[152]

Change was underway however, as a few individuals succeeded in challenging—if not ending—racial discrimination in public accommodations. Perhaps the most visible and vocal of these was Marian Anderson, a world-renowned singer who was denied the stage at Washington, D.C.'s Constitution Hall in 1939. Eleanor Roosevelt and Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes arranged for Anderson to sing instead in front of the Lincoln Memorial. The concert was held on Easter Sunday 1939, attended by "an interracial crowd of seventy-five thousand persons…and dealt a symbolic blow to Jim Crow."[153] Also in 1939, Samuel W. Tucker led a sit-in challenge to segregation in the Alexandria, Virginia public library. In Paterson, New Jersey, the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell presided at "an unusual interdenominational and inter-racial religious service," held at the First Baptist Church and "sponsored by the Paterson Inter-Racial Commission."[154] Two years earlier, Congressman Arthur L. Mitchell initiated a lawsuit against a railroad company that led to a 1941 Supreme Court ruling ending discrimination in first-class rail accommodations.[155] At the same time, the NAACP was concentrating its efforts on equalizing, if not integrating, public education through court challenges.[156]

There were stirrings of discontent on the baseball field as well and in particular among the black sportswriters who waged a determined campaign for the integration of black baseball players into the white major leagues:

> In 1937 sports editor Ches Washington telegraphed [Pittsburgh] Pirate manager Pie Traynor at the winter baseball meetings that he knew how to help the club. "HAVE ANSWER TO YOUR PRAYERS RIGHT HERE IN PITTSBURGH [STOP] JOSH GIBSON CATCHER BUCK LEONARD FIRST BASEMAN AND RAY BROWN PITCHER OF HOMESTEAD GRAYS AND SATCHELL [sic] PAIGE PITCHER AND COOL PAPA BELL OUTFIELDER OF PITTSBURGH CRAWFORDS ALL AVAILABLE AT REASONABLE FIGURES [STOP] WOULD MAKE PIRATES FORMIDABLE PENNANT CONTENDERS [STOP] WHAT IS YOUR ATTITUDE?"[157]

Though Pirates owner, William Benswanger, reportedly admitted in 1938 that some Negro league players were major league material, no move toward integration was forthcoming.[158] That same year, in November 1938, Adolf Hitler unleashed his racially-charged ideology on *Kristallnacht*, attacking Jewish German citizens. In the face of American and European rejection of Hitler's actions, sportswriter Wendell Smith pointed out the irony of continuing racial segregation at home: "They [the major leagues] discriminate, segregate and hold down a

[152] Ibid.
[153] Ibid.
[154] *The Messenger*, February 2, 1939.
[155] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), pp. 29-30.
[156] NHL Theme Study, "Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the U.S.," (NPS, 2000), pp. 61-64.
[157] Hogan, p. 328.
[158] Ibid.

minor race, just as he does. While Hitler cripples the Jews, the great leaders of our national pastime refuse to recognize our black players."[159]

World War II Era: 1941-1945

The 1940s ushered in significant changes both in the world at large as World War II unfolded and in the world of racial segregation in the United States as barriers were further challenged and began to fall. The earlier stirrings of protest got a substantial boost in June 1941 from A. Philip Randolph. Representing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Randolph threatened a 100,000-man march on Washington, D.C. protesting employment discrimination and segregation in the military. Not prepared to integrate the military on the eve of war, President Roosevelt averted the threatened march with Executive Order 8802, "there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or Government because of race, creed, color, or national origin…," and established the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FECP) to ensure compliance.[160] The country was gearing up for war and this was a significant, though imperfect, boost for black employment opportunities particularly in the industrial cities.

By 1941, the increasing industrial production in the United States associated with the war in Europe appears to have improved the economic outlook for the Negro leagues.[161] In Paterson, manufacturing jobs at the Wright Aeronautical Corporation, which produced engines for training and combat airplanes, likely helped to bring about a renewed interest in sports entertainment. The Newark Eagles returned to Hinchliffe Stadium as the Saturday home team in the second half of the 1941 NNL season. Touting a line-up of players "drawn from all corners of the country," the Eagles opened with a July 12th game against the Baltimore Elite Giants:

> Baseball of big-league variety will return to Paterson on Saturday afternoon July 12 when the Newark Eagles make their first appearance of a home stand here, featuring clubs from the National Negro League in Saturday afternoon games at the Hinchliffe Stadium.[162]
>
> It will mark the first appearance of the Newark Eagles here this season, but it won't be their last. Abe Manley, manager of the club and Effa Manley, his wife who serves as business manager, have arranged for five games at the Stadium, featuring teams from the strong league roster.[163]

The additional NNL scheduled games at Hinchliffe pitted the Eagles against the Black Yankees (August 2), the Black Yankees against the New York Cubans (July 26, cancelled), the Eagles vs. the New York Cubans (August 9), and a final matchup between the Eagles and the Black Yankees on August 23rd and were reportedly a great success.[164] Effa Manley said after the 1941 season, "the baseball business…is just beginning to grow. It will not only supply many jobs, but is something the colored group can feel proud of."[165]

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941 the United States entered World War II. As in World War I, African Americans answered the call to arms in 1942 as the United States joined the war

[159] As cited in Hogan, p. 327.

[160] Franklin, p. 579. The FEPC was not entirely successful in assuring non-discrimination in defense contract employment, but it was a significant step forward.

[161] Lanctot, p. 104.

[162] *PEN*, June 30, 1941.

[163] *PEN*, July 8, 1941. In 2006 Effa Manley was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame along with two Newark Eagles players Biz Mackey and Mule Suttles (who played for the New York Black Yankees in 1941), and Ben Taylor who played for the New York Cubans (among others) (Martin and Martin, p. 182).

[164] *PEN*, June 30, 1941; "The Negro National league teams playing Saturday afternoon games at the Stadium late last season did so well they looked forward to this year, confidant that their financial gains here would be something to anticipate with delight." (*PEN*, June 9, 1942)

[165] As cited in Lanctot, p. 111.

against the Germans and the Japanese. But this time was different. While still serving in segregated units, in addition to their previous service roles in the Army new service opportunities were opening. Blacks were trained as pilots at Tuskegee, although their skills were not fully utilized until late in the war. In the spring and summer of 1942, first the Navy and then the Marines opened their ranks to black servicemen. And by mid-1942, by order of the Secretary of War, officer candidate schools were graduating blacks at an unprecedented rate. Black women served in the WAC and WAVES as well.[166]

Emboldened by their military status, African American servicemen added weight to the rising tide of protests at home against race-based discrimination, particularly in transportation and eating establishments.[167] For many black soldiers from the northern and western states stationed at southern military posts, it was their first brush with Jim Crow:

> One of the most noteworthy examples of pervasive discrimination involved Jackie Robinson, an All-American athlete from California and a commissioned officer in the army stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas. On January 6, 1944, Lieutenant Robinson boarded a bus leaving camp and refused to heed the driver's warning to "get to the back of the bus where the colored people belong." Like other non-southerners who had not experienced segregation in public transportation back home, Robinson stood his ground. Arrested by the military police, the future Hall of Fame baseball player faced a court martial but was acquitted.[168]

For Robinson, it was a foretaste of the dramatic role he would play on the baseball field just a few years in the future. For the nation, the protests of an increasingly vocal minority at home coupled with the fight against fascism abroad engendered a growing awareness of the injustices of segregation. By the end of the war in 1945 eighteen northern and western states including Connecticut, California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wisconsin, had enacted anti-discrimination laws in public accommodations.[169]

Professional league baseball continued throughout the war years, though players entering military service negatively impacted team rosters both black and white. Still, the industrial job boom at home created by the war boosted attendance at most baseball games and the profits of team owners. In 1942, citing the "success last year" of NNL games at Hinchliffe Stadium, managers contracted the Newark Eagles and the New York Black Yankees to once again share the Saturday home team slot for six league games in May and June.[170] The May 2nd edition of the *Paterson Evening News* sports page featured a photo of Monte Irvin with the caption: "Former Orange High School all-around athlete sensation will be in an outfield berth for the Newark Eagles when that team opens its season at Hinchliffe Stadium next Saturday opposing the Cuban Stars in a National Negro league game." On May 25th the Homestead Grays pummeled the Black Yankees in a game, prompting the headline "Josh Gibson's Mighty Blast Big Factor in 7-Run Fourth Inning":

> The Homestead Greys [sic], yearly one of the powers in professional colored baseball, stopped off at Hinchliffe Stadium for couple of hours Saturday afternoon, just long enough to hand the N.Y. Black Yankees a decisive 10-2 drubbing in a regularly scheduled Negro National League encounter.[171]

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[166] Franklin, pp. 583-585. Again, these successes were incomplete but a positive step forward.
[167] NHL Theme Study, "Civil Rights in America: Racial Desegregation of Public Accommodations," (NPS, 2009), p. 35-36.
[168] Ibid.
[169] Ibid.
[170] *PEN*, April 2, 1942.
[171] *PEN*, May 25, 1942.

After these two games and one probable rain-out, however, the NNL teams withdrew from their Hinchliffe contracts after disappointing crowd numbers. And it wasn't just the professional teams having difficulty drawing in the fans. *Paterson Evening News* sports columnist Joe Gooter wrote:

> The playoff came Thursday night when the Wright Aero and Curtiss Propeller teams met at the Stadium in a Passaic-Bergen League game. They played to a total of 42 admissions.
>
> It's been like that since the start of the season. Managers of the semi pro teams can't explain it since the teams have never had any trouble in shutting the door in the wolf's face in the past. Right now, they are so lonesome when they play, they would welcome even the wolf if he paid his way in.[172]

Gooter speculated on the reason for the decline, "The chances are it's a combination of factors: war, many more people hard at work, a falling of interest, and perhaps a few intangibles."

A similar outcome occurred in the 1943 stadium season. The Newark Eagles again planned to use Hinchliffe Stadium for their Saturday home games, including an NNL game on May 22, with at least two other league games scheduled. Rain cancelled the opening game and the next game, featuring the Newark Eagles vs. the Black Yankees, netted only slightly over 200 spectators. The Eagles, whose roster now included local star Larry Doby, were scheduled to play the semi-pro Wright Aeros for the stadium promotion "Larry Doby Day," but backed out to play elsewhere. The July 12 game featured the Wright Aeros against the Paterson Colored All-Stars, though the main star, Larry Doby was unable to attend, committed instead to playing with the Newark Eagles in Trenton. The Larry Doby Day promotion attracted a crowd of 400+ and appears to have been the last baseball game of the 1943 season played at Hinchliffe Stadium. Amateur Diamond Gloves boxing, motorcycle and midget auto-racing, and even a staging of the 1943 Water Follies featuring Gloria Callen and Buster Crabbe, filled the stadium schedule through August and September.

The 1944 baseball season at Hinchliffe Stadium featured the semi-pro team known as the Uncle Sams as the regular home team. The Uncle Sams, formerly the Doherty Silk Sox, appear to have been an amalgamation of local defense industry employees. They were an integrated team, featuring a number of "former major and minor league stars who are now engaged in defense plants," and one black player, Jimmy Thompson.[173] Thompson was a starting outfielder who more than once clinched a win for the team with his power hitting and "fleet-footed" fielding.[174] Local sports columnist Joe Gooter, who described Thompson as a "former performer in Negro National League competition," noted that Thompson too left professional baseball for defense work:

> That's quite a ball player, that Jimmy Thompson who plays left field for the Uncle Sams. He has been offered a chance to play for such teams as the Newark Eagles, Black Yankees, Kansas City Monarchs, and Homestead Greys [sic] but has thumbed them down to remain on his war plant foundry job (as a metal pourer).[175]

The Uncle Sams hosted approximately fourteen games at the stadium through the 1944 season, with ten games against professional black teams—three of those against NNL teams indicating Negro league teams were still dependent on barnstorming revenues.[176] Two of the games featured opponent teams drawn from military ranks,

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[172] *PEN*, June 9, 1942.

[173] *PMC*, May 19, 1944. The team included "Frank McDonald, former slugging first baseman for the Philadelphia Phillies, of the National League…Bob Contini, who last year was the starting second baseman for the Jersey City Giants, and Jack Orlando, former leading batter of the Southern Association and then a catcher for a year with the New York Giants."

[174] *PMC*, July 4, 1944.

[175] *PEN*, July 5, 1944.

[176] Connolly & Hickey, "Hinchliffe Stadium…A National Black Baseball Venue," p. 15.

the Camp Shanks (Army) team and the Mitchell Field (Air Force) team. Though the Uncle Sams' season began as weekday twilight games, in July they shifted to Sunday afternoons and noted a "marked increase in attendance."[177] The Uncle Sams' last game against the Homestead Grays was scheduled for August 11, however the newspaper never reported on the game which was likely a rain-out.

Negro professional baseball never returned to Hinchliffe Stadium after the 1944 season. Certainly, a primary reason for this was the stadium's inability to draw significant crowds after 1941. The reason for the small spectator turnouts for professional black baseball at Hinchliffe Stadium was never clear, however, it may be that rental policy changes at New York's Yankee Stadium were the key. In 1939, negative publicity following racist remarks made by Yankee outfielder Jake Powell the previous year, prompted Yankees general manager Ed Barrow to offer the Negro National League a new per-date rental fee of $1,000, a $1,500 reduction in price. The NNL leased Yankee Stadium for five double-headers—ten games total for the rental price of five dates—that attracted a total of 60,000 fans over the course of the series of games. It is possible that Paterson fans of Negro professional baseball eschewed their local stadium in favor of watching their favorite teams amid the glamour of Yankee Stadium. Adding to the glamour, Barrow donated the Ruppert Memorial Cup, named for the late Yankees owner Jacob Ruppert, to be awarded at the end of the series.[178] The New York Black Yankees played in at least four of the ten games, presumably as the "home" team, while the New York Cubans played in three (one against the Black Yankees), and the Newark Eagles in one.[179] In 1940, at least four NNL double-headers were scheduled at Yankee Stadium featuring the Black Yankees in three of the games, the series again billed as the Ruppert Memorial Cup.[180] Eight NNL promotions were slated in 1941, with the Black Yankees in at least four games, including one against the Newark Eagles that drew a crowd of 23,000.[181] This more-regular use of Yankee Stadium, particularly by the "home" teams, the Black Yankees and the New York Cubans, continued through the 1940s and likely had some negative impact on Negro professional baseball at Hinchliffe Stadium.

With little professional baseball to report on locally by July 1942, the *Paterson Evening News* turned some of its sports reporting to the dramatic events unfolding around rumors of possible integration of major league baseball. Faced with dwindling rosters in 1942, two major league teams toyed with the idea of hiring black players, the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Philadelphia Phillies, though neither followed through with the rumored tryouts.[182] On July 17th the sports page posted the headline "Landis Says No Ban on Negros," referring to Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Landis' statement that "there was no rule against major league clubs hiring Negro baseball players."[183] Though technically true, the now-decades old "gentlemen's agreement" to keep baseball segregated was still honored throughout the major and minor leagues.

The continuing call for integrating baseball was growing louder, however, buoyed by the recent anti-discrimination successes and by the obvious need for players in the major leagues fairly decimated by the war. Though many players and some owners, including Newark Eagles' owner Effa Manley, viewed the prospect positively, that outlook was not necessarily shared by all Negro baseball team owners and players. Fearing that Negro baseball would become obsolete, some non-star players worried they would lose their chance to play professional baseball. Team owners also feared that integration would at least damage, if not kill Negro baseball, and thus their now-profitable investments.[184] New York Black Yankees owner James Semler put it

[177] *PMC*, July 4, 1944.
[178] Lanctot, p. 85.
[179] *New York Times*, June 3, 1939; *New York Times*, June 4, 1939; *New York Times*, July 24, 1939; *New York Times*, August 14, 1939; *New York Times*, August 28, 1939; *New York Times*, September 25, 1939.
[180] *New York Times*, May 19, 1940; *New York Times*, June 17, 1940; *New York Times*, August 5, 1940; *New York Times*, September 9, 1940.
[181] Lanctot, p. 110; *New York Times*, May 31, 1941.
[182] *PEN*, July 27, 1942; Lanctot, pp. 235-236.
[183] *PEN*, July 17, 1942.
[184] Lanctot, pp. 237-240.

bluntly, "we are built on segregation….If there was no segregation, we wouldn't have had colored ball clubs; we wouldn't make money, and we'd all probably be out of business."[185]

Opportunity for change again arose in 1943 when a delegation of black newspaper publishers, sportswriters Dan Burley and Wendell Smith, *Afro-American* business manager Howard Murphy, and actor Paul Robeson, met with major league officials to press their case for baseball integration.[186] Again, no commitment to change followed. Stanley Frank of the *New York Post* wrote about the prevailing attitude among major league officials:

> [They] privately resent that their business has been made the focal point of agitation for elimination of racial prejudice. They want to know why the problem is not solved first in more important fields such as medicine and education. The Army and Navy and industry are not meeting the issue squarely; why should baseball?[187]

Though efforts to combat discrimination in the military and industry were indeed struggling against the prevailing prejudice of the day, a sense of the inevitability of change was in the air. As the nation fought and won against the fascism of Nazi Germany, the cry for equality at home became a moral imperative.

Integration and the Death of Negro Baseball

At the end of the 1945 season, the growing pressure to integrate baseball culminated with a startling announcement following an October exhibition series. The games, played primarily at Ebbet's Field in New York, featured a team of white major league players, including several Brooklyn Dodgers, and a lineup of the Negro leagues' best players, including Jackie Robinson. Newark Eagles owner Effa Manley and Brooklyn Dodgers general manager Branch Rickey jointly promoted the series. Rickey had been involved in several developments in major league baseball that pointed toward integration, among them allowing (under pressure) three black players to workout with white hopefuls in a pseudo-tryout, and serving on a sub-committee of New York City Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia's Committee on Unity to study major league baseball integration. It was these associations and a reputation for innovation that gave observers of the October game series hope for a breakthrough. On October 23rd, Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson to play with Dodgers affiliate the Montreal Royals.[188]

Branch Rickey's 1945 integration of the Dodgers' minor league affiliate team sent shock waves through black and white baseball as well as American society at large. Roy Wilkins declared in his *Michigan Chronicle* column:

> …in a new and dramatic fashion the fact that the Negro is a citizen with talents and rights is being heralded to the nation. The people who go to baseball games do not, in the main, go to lectures on race relations, nor do they read pamphlets about goodwill. The millions who read box scores very likely have never heard of George Washington Carver. But Jackie Robinson, if he makes the grade, will be doing a missionary work with these people that Carver could never do. He will be saying to them that his people should have their rights, should have jobs, decent homes and education, freedom from insult, and equality of opportunity to achieve.[189]

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[185] Ibid., p. 247.
[186] Ibid., p. 245.
[187] Ibid., p. 246.
[188] Ibid., pp. 254, 276 and 278.
[189] *Michigan Chronicle*, November 3, 1945, as cited in Bill Weaver, "The Black Press and the Assault on Professional Baseball's 'Color Line,' October 1945-April 1947," *Phylon*, Vol. XL, No. 4, Winter 1979, p. 306. Roy Wilkins was editor of the NAACP publication *The Crisis*.

Within months both professional football leagues and many college football teams began integrating black players.[190] These encouraging signs however did not reflect any major changes in the still-entrenched Jim Crow laws throughout the Southern states and likewise did not produce an avalanche of change within the sport of baseball. In 1946, it was again only Rickey who signed an additional four players, including Don Newcombe from the Newark Eagles. Effa Manley reacted to the loss with a shrewd prediction of the impending demise of her team, and eventually Negro baseball, complaining, "…we have so many boys who are Major League material we may wake up any morning and not have a ball club, if this keeps on."[191]

In July 1947, the Cleveland Indians signed Newark Eagles' power hitter Larry Doby, just three months after Jackie Robinson played his first game in the majors with the Dodgers. Negro league team owners complained bitterly of the loss of fan support as black spectators flocked to competing major league games featuring Robinson or Doby. By the end of the 1947 season, Negro teams were posting large financial losses due to dramatic drops in attendance:

> Despite developing a championship club, Alex Pompez claimed losses of $20,000 following a disastrous World Series with the Cleveland Buckeyes that attracted only marginal interest and press attention. At Yankee Stadium, only 63,402 fans turned out for black baseball promotions, a drop of nearly 95,000 from 1946, and attendance at Newark fell from 120,293 to 57,119. In Philadelphia, fewer than 64,000 attended the eleven scheduled dates at Shibe Park in 1947, a nearly 28,000 aggregate drop from 1946 despite two additional promotions. Meanwhile, the powerful Homestead Grays reported season losses as high as $35,000.[192]

Most Negro teams still lacked their own permanent home field, continuing instead to rent space—typically paying a percentage of ticket sales—a practice that left them vulnerable to any change in fan support. Through the 1946-47 season the Black Yankees held on, paying the rental price at Yankee Stadium, but the following season moved to Rochester, New York and quit the NNL after the 1948 season.[193] The Homestead Grays, who won the 1948 Negro League World Championship, followed. Then the 1946 World Champions the Newark Eagles disbanded in 1948.[194] In 1949 the NNL's remaining teams merged with the NAL and continued to schedule games—often with only four competing franchises—through the 1961 season.[195] A few other teams, including the Kansas City Monarchs, Birmingham Black Barons, Detroit Stars, Cincinnati Tigers, and the Indianapolis Clowns continued to play exhibition games as late as 1963.[196] Ultimately, the 1947 integration of major league baseball spelled the end of the all-black Negro leagues and independent teams.

The United States began to make gestures toward the deconstruction of institutionalized segregation prior to 1947, but the integration of baseball, with all of its symbolism as "America's pastime," proved to be a dramatic turning point in American history. The U.S. Supreme Court ruling which outlawed restrictive covenants in housing followed in 1948, and then President Harry S Truman ordered the elimination of discrimination in Federal employment and the desegregation of the armed forces. In 1950 he ordered the integration of public housing. In 1954 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* which initiated the desegregation of public education.[197] Transportation, accommodations, education, housing, employment, the military, sports and entertainment—the many victories, large and small, which broke down the walls of racial

[190] Lanctot, p. 293.
[191] Ibid., p. 288.
[192] Ibid., p. 317.
[193] Ibid., pp. 328, 338.
[194] Hogan, p. 346.
[195] Ibid., p. 371.
[196] Ibid., p. 374.
[197] Franklin, pp. 609-610.

segregation from the 1930s through the 1950s and into the 1960s culminated in the Civil Rights Act of 1964.[198] There was still a long hill to climb against underlying prejudice and overt discrimination, but in 1964 the foundations on which Jim Crow stood for nearly 100 years collapsed.

Negro professional baseball, as an institution created within the confines of racial segregation in nineteenth and twentieth century America, served a purpose that transcended mere entertainment. It was a place of business and employment, it provided opportunities for young athletes to excel, and it was an important source of African American community pride:

> Although black baseball ultimately disappeared, its accomplishments still resonate today. Along with other shadow institutions such as black hospitals, the industry facilitated eventual integration by providing invaluable experience and training otherwise elusive in a still highly segregated nation….As [Philadelphia Stars pitcher] Tom Johnson later observed, "in the absence of the opportunity, the blacks created that opportunity, created…a baseball world for themselves, so they could demonstrate their abilities. And so many of them were ready when the doors were opened, so from that vantage point I felt that we were winners."[199]

Hinchliffe Stadium Through the Second Half of the Twentieth Century

While a few other ballparks continued to host Negro teams as late as the 1960s, Negro baseball disappeared from the field at Hinchliffe Stadium after the 1944 season. As Negro baseball was waning, managers of the Paterson stadium turned their attention to midget car racing and boxing through the late 1940s and continued to hold high school athletic events. As with other entertainment venues, the growth in popularity of television and automobiles, as well as changing population demographics, spelled disaster for Hinchliffe Stadium through the 1950s.[200]

In 1963, the City of Paterson Board of Education gained full ownership of the stadium and began a series of improvements. Local newspapers reported that the track was lengthened to ¼ mile (at the same time lengthening the southeast end of the stadium), bleachers repaired, and the field re-sodded. The baseball field was reoriented from its central location to the northeast corner of the field (current location), which increased "the distance to the outfield fence [to]…340 feet down the left-field line and 360 to center" and placing right field 270 feet from home plate.[201] Eventually, probably in the 1970s, the steel-frame grandstand cover was removed and in 1979 a maintenance garage was constructed at the athletic entrance. In 1983, the City of Paterson, led by Mayor Frank X. Graves, made additional "improvements" to the stadium by covering the field with Astroturf and the track with a urethane surface. From 1988 to 1989, the New Jersey Eagles, a professional soccer team, made Hinchliffe their home. But by 1992, the Paterson public school system had failed and fallen into receivership with the State of New Jersey. No longer able to maintain the facility, the stadium was closed in 1996.[202]

Nationally Significant Site Comparisons

Comparative Sites Context

Negro professional baseball is nationally significant as a powerful and very public story of the era of racial segregation in the United States. It is also a story of baseball, of outstanding, high-quality play that took place

[198] Ibid., p. 635.
[199] Lanctot, p. 397.
[200] "Hinchliffe Stadium" National Register documentation, 2004.
[201] Ibid.; quote as cited on page 8, Section 8.
[202] "Hinchliffe Stadium" National Register documentation, 2004.

on the fields and in the stadiums of American cities and towns. Baseball venues, the physical arena within which this history played out, are an important tangible link to the past, but one that has proven to be ephemeral. Few historic baseball venues remain standing today; nearly all of the historic major league stadiums have been demolished and replaced by larger stadiums with modern amenities. Of the ball parks that still stand, the minor league and municipal stadiums in smaller cities and towns have typically been renovated with new seating, sky boxes, restaurants, and other additions. The loss or alteration of so many historic baseball venues has a significant impact on our ability to relate baseball history, particularly Negro professional baseball, to its historic physical environment.

Perhaps the most salient aspect of identifying sporting venues historically associated with Negro professional baseball is that few black teams owned their own field. The financial burden imposed by the construction and maintenance of a stadium was beyond the limited resources of most black-owned teams. Of the three known examples, none is still standing. Pittsburgh Crawfords (NNL) owner Gus Greenlee built Greenlee Field in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1932, but within six years the stadium was demolished. Martin Park in Memphis, Tennessee, owned by Memphis Red Sox (NAL) owner Dr. William Martin, was built in the 1920s and survived intact and in use until 1961 when it too was demolished. New York Cuban Stars owner "Alex" Pompez financed the remodeling of the Dyckman Oval for his team's home park under a three-year lease with the New York City Parks Department, but by 1938 the deal had collapsed and the stadium was demolished.[203] The majority of Negro professional baseball teams leased fields owned by white major or minor league teams, leased municipal stadiums, or played on "sandlot" fields.

While their white counterparts in the major and minor baseball leagues called their hometown field or stadium "home" and played all of their home games there, black professional teams who shared the field by lease agreements typically were limited in their use of the field for home games. Often the limiting factor was the sheer expense of renting a field, particularly major league fields such as Yankee Stadium or Comisky Park. In 1938, the Yankees ball club charged a rent of $2,500-$3,500 per game, plus 20-25% of ticket sales.[204] Though the stadium could seat thousands of fans, the economic reality of the 1930s was that black baseball fans simply could not support more than a few games at such expensive venues. Smaller venues in the form of minor league fields and municipal stadiums proved to be more affordable. For example, Hinchliffe Stadium charged just $100 per game, plus a 25% gate charge.[205] Sharing a white team's home stadium had its drawbacks. At Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama, where Rick Woodward's minor league team the Birmingham Barons played all of their home games, the Birmingham Black Barons' lease agreement allowed use of the field only when "the white Barons were on the road."[206] From 1938 through the early 1940s the Homestead Grays reportedly used West Field in Munhall outside of Pittsburgh as their weekday home field and Forbes Field on weekends when the Pittsburgh Pirates were on the road.[207] And while the New York Black Yankees called Yankee Stadium "home," in reality they called several ball parks home, including the New York Polo Grounds and Hinchliffe Stadium.

Given the limitations on home games for black baseball teams, most of their 200-plus games per year were played "on the road." Financial necessity dictated that the teams play far more games than the official league schedules could supply. Barnstorming or exhibition games were a mainstay of Negro professional baseball.[208] Many of these games took place on "sandlot" fields, that is, ball fields on grass or dirt lots, sometimes with a chain link backstop and possibly a small row of bleacher seats. Such fields were typically found in local public

[203] Lanctot, p. 42.
[204] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," p. 38.
[205] Ibid.
[206] Barra, p. 58.
[207] Post-Gazette.com, "Rebuilding the Grays homefield," August 11, 2006.
[208] Robert Peterson, *Only the Ball Was White,* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992), p. 146.

parks and fairgrounds, however documentation of historical association with Negro professional baseball is difficult to come by and historical integrity nearly impossible to assess.

Throughout the period of racial segregation in America, Negro professional baseball was played across the country, with the highest concentration of active teams and league play in the North (Northeast/Mid-Atlantic), the Midwest, and in the Southeast. A large number of sports venues saw play over the years—as many as 188 venues according to the most recent survey.[209] However, not all saw the same quantity of play. Though further research on specific sites may reveal additional play, from the currently available documentation it is clear that while some sites were used repeatedly through the season over a number of years, others served only as an occasional venue for Negro baseball. For example, Hinchliffe Stadium saw use by Negro professional teams every season over a 12-year span (1932 through 1944) with as many as 24 games played in the 1936 season, while sites such as Clemens Field in Hannibal, Missouri and Cardines Field in Newport, Rhode Island reportedly served as occasional barnstorming venues.[210]

Additionally, when considering the national significance of a site, not all venues hosted the same quality of play. Specifically, this refers to independent versus league play and the status of the Negro National League (NNL) and Negro American League (NAL) as major leagues and the Negro Southern League as a minor league within the Negro league framework. Based on their review of venues and scholarly works on the history of Negro professional baseball, site survey coordinator Connolly & Hickey concluded:

> Within the larger context of segregation throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as institutionalized by Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896 to treat African Americans as "separate but equal," segregated baseball was an integral part of the black response to formalized segregation. Black independent teams who played exhibition games and barnstorming games were a significant part of this story. Many important black baseball games, including those featuring star players like Satchel Paige, were played in non-league exhibition games. Some teams moved in and out of the NNL and NAL, and many played non-league exhibition games even while they were part of the Negro major leagues. Venues hosting black baseball in other Negro leagues such as the Southern [League], are important for the same reason. Though for the sake of a comprehensive study all identifiable venues at which black professional baseball was played have been included in this inventory.
>
> In establishing varying levels of significance, though, a distinction must be made. Negro League scholars such as Neil Lanctot, in *Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution*, and Lawrence Hogan, in *Shades of Glory*, state that the NNL and NAL were considered the "Major" Negro leagues. As Lanctot notes, "Although cities such as Birmingham and Memphis had been occasionally profitable, the urban centers of the north, midwest, and upper south had always been the backbone of the industry…" Hogan notes in his 2011 report "Hinchliffe Stadium: A National Black Baseball Venue" that "From 1933 through 1948 the strength of Negro League baseball was in the east in the Negro National League and on a similar although in the judgment of most historians of the Negro league game, slightly less high quality of play, in the west in the Negro American League after 1937." Further, the NNL and NAL in particular were a significant achievement in the formation of race institutions and business…[211]

While consideration of the relative quality of play may enhance a venue's national significance, it is important to note also the significance of regional differences. First, all regions included high-level players many of whom

[209] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," completed as a supplement to this NHL documentation.
[210] Ibid, pp. 65 and 63.
[211] Ibid., pp. 38-40.

were eventually inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. But racial segregation took on different forms in the North and South. Southern venues, while perhaps considered by baseball scholars to have hosted lower-quality league play, might derive national significance through their ability to tell the story of Negro professional baseball in the rigidly segregated society of the American South. This might be presented through segregated seating and perhaps extended years of play (into the 1960s) due to the slower pace of integration. Segregated seating does not appear to have been officially sanctioned in the Northern and Midwestern venues. However, these venues might derive national significance from the major league-quality play that dominated their association with segregated baseball and their ability to better tell the story of black entrepreneurship during that period.

Comparative Sites

Research completed by the New Jersey historical architecture firm Connolly & Hickey for their 2011 report "Historical Significance Investigation Report Evaluating the National Significance and Integrity of Hinchliffe Stadium" identified 188 venues used by professional black baseball teams during the era of segregation in America. In compiling this comprehensive inventory of black baseball venues, three scholarly sources were consulted: Neil Lanctot's *Negro League Baseball: The Rise and Ruin of a Black Institution*, Lawrence Hogan's *Shades of Glory: The Negro Leagues and the Story of African-American Baseball*, and Philip Lowry's *Green Cathedrals: the Ultimate Celebration of All Major League Ballparks*. Additionally, various Internet resources, online newspaper searches, and correspondence with State Historic Preservation Offices served as the most valuable, up-to-date resources. The 188 venues were broken down into three primary categories or property types: Black-Owned or Leased Venues, Major League Baseball Venues, and "Other" Baseball Venues. None of the identified Black-Owned or Leased Venues or the Major League Baseball Venues remain standing today. These sites will therefore not be discussed in this section. The report identified 165 "Other" Baseball Venues (minor league parks, municipal stadiums, sandlot fields) of which 134 are no longer standing.[212] Thus, of the 188 venues identified with some known association with Negro professional baseball, there are 31 venues still standing in the United States today (2011), all of them "Other" Baseball Venue property types. A list of all of the 188 identified venues, subdivided by property type, is attached to this documentation.

Based on the available documentation on the remaining 31 extant baseball venues there are 22 venues that do not currently appear to rise to the level of national significance, either by lacking sufficient documentation of significant historical associations with Negro professional baseball or retaining insufficient historical integrity. Further research in the future may alter this conclusion, however for the purposes of this comparative analysis, these 22 venues will not be considered.

The national significance of venues associated with Negro professional baseball is gained through several historical factors, as previously discussed. The final factor for consideration is the historical integrity of the venue, that is, its "ability to convey its historical associations or attributes."[213] The Connolly & Hickey survey team concluded:

> The property type within which these games were played would appear to be the last consideration, as the significance stems from the historical events held within the venue, rather than whether or not the venue was a designed stadium or featured only a simple grandstand and bleachers. The main architectural consideration would be if the venue continues to maintain its ability to convey its character at the time of black professional and Negro League play, and if it retains integrity of the essential physical characteristics marking it as a site for play. As such,

[212] The report called these venues "Neutral Baseball Venues" to differentiate them from the Black-owned and Major League Venues. However, we found the use of the term "Neutral" too ambiguous and have therefore changed it to "Other."

[213] NPS Bulletin, "How to Prepare National Historic Landmark Nominations," 1999, p. 36.

> physical elements from its period of significance must remain intact, specifically those that make it identifiable as a site of play. These features would include, for example, the field itself, bleachers and other seating, a grandstand, locker rooms, a press box and so on.[214]

This NHL documentation identifies Hinchliffe Stadium as retaining a high degree of historical integrity:

> Although the stadium is in deteriorated condition, it clearly still portrays the description of its as-built condition as written and photographed in 1932, and throughout its historic association with Negro professional baseball. Major character-defining alterations came early, in the 1930s, and predominantly in 1934 with the addition of the restroom building, the concession stand, the remaining seating along the southeast wall, and widening of the track. The changes reflect the use of the stadium as an entertainment venue that was subject to the needs of shifting business models. The stadium retains its setting on the banks of the Passaic River, overlooking the Great Falls and the industrial heart of Paterson, the same commanding view that stadium patrons would have seen historically. It retains most of its original materials, including its reinforced poured concrete structural composition, clay tile roofing (except for the restroom building), and ornamental tile mosaics. Its distinctive form is intact, a unique design that fit the stadium into a tight piece of urban land. Thus, Hinchliffe readily evokes the feeling of and association with the events that occurred there throughout its historic role in the larger nationally significant story of racial segregation as expressed through Negro professional baseball. Moreover, Hinchliffe Stadium retains integrity of location and setting since its surroundings remain largely unchanged. The Stadium's design, materials and workmanship survive intact and clearly impart the original and historic appearance and construction of the building. Although years of vacancy and vandalism have damaged the building, it remains as one of the most intact, if not *the* most intact of the few remaining stadiums that retain important historical integrity, associated with Negro baseball. Hinchliffe is distinctive, not only because of its unique design, but because it retains its entire physical plant, rather than just a field or lot where games were played. The ultimate test for integrity for Hinchliffe Stadium is whether members of the New York Black Yankees, or Newark Eagles, Cuban Stars, Bacharach Giants, Pittsburgh Crawfords, or any of the other teams that played there, or the spectators, or participants in the other sporting events of the 1930s would recognize the place if they were able to return. Undoubtedly they would. Standing high in the stadium, near the concession stand, looking out over the empty seats and field, and beyond to the vista of East Paterson, one can imagine hearing the crack of the bat and cheers in the stands; feel the bustle of activity around the concession stand, and the excitement and drama taking place on the field against the scenic vista backdrop.[215]

Based upon the above-cited considerations, Hinchliffe Stadium meets the criteria for national significance for its important association with the period of segregated Negro professional baseball between the years 1932 and 1944. During this time Hinchliffe Stadium served as a home field for the New York Black Yankees, both as an independent team and as a Negro National League-affiliated team, the New York Cuban Stars (NNL), and the Newark Eagles (NNL). The stadium played host to the high-quality play of Negro National League and Negro American League scheduled games, including the NNL season opening games in 1936 and 1937, as well as independent exhibition games. All of the games featured some of the highest-quality players in Negro professional baseball, many who were later inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. The teams and leagues represented at Hinchliffe Stadium demonstrate the development of black-owned businesses during the

[214] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," pp. 53-55.
[215] See "Assessment of Integrity," page 10 of this document.

period of racial segregation in the United States. Hinchliffe Stadium retains a high degree of historical integrity to its period of national significance.

For comparative purposes, eight of the remaining extant "Other" Baseball Venues (exclusive of Hinchliffe Stadium) are discussed below, separated by region—four Northern/Midwestern and four Southern. It should be noted that, with the possible exception of Rickwood Stadium, none of the venues discussed below have the detailed documentation required for a full determination of their national significance and it was not within the scope of this project to produce such documentation. This comparative list should serve as a list of potential sites that might add to the nationally significant story revealed at Hinchliffe Stadium.

Northern and Midwestern Venues with Potential National Significance

West Field (currently William Knight Field; sometimes called Grays Field)
Munhall, Pennsylvania

West Field (later renamed William Knight Field; occasionally called Grays Field) is a municipal ball park in Munhall, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Pittsburgh. It was constructed about 1930. The concrete bleacher deck runs the length of a hill along the first base line, then curves around home plate and continues a short distance up the third base line. It includes recessed dugouts and locker rooms are said to be located under the shorter section of bleachers. West Field reportedly served as a home field for the Homestead Grays in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Former Grays "back-up batboy" Elijah Miller recalled in a 2006 interview that the team played at West Field during the week and at Forbes Field on weekends when the Pittsburgh Pirates were out-of-town.[216]

West Field, though reported to be in rough condition by a visitor in 2009, appears to retain significant historical integrity to its period of use as a home field by the Homestead Grays.[217] Its historical association with the exceptional NNL team the Homestead Grays is significant and it is suggested that additional documentation should be completed to establish the national significance of this venue.

Roesink Stadium (sometimes called Hamtramck Stadium)
Detroit, Michigan

Roesink Stadium was built in 1929-30 by John Roesink, then-owner of the Detroit Stars, an affiliate of the first Negro National League (NNL [I]). Roesink, a white Detroit businessman, intended the stadium to be the home field for his all-black team. The opening game at the stadium was a Negro National League [I] game between the Detroit Stars and the Cuban Stars on May 11, 1930.[218] The stadium served as a home field for the NNL [I] Detroit Stars from 1930-31, hosted the Detroit Wolves in 1932, and the NNL [II] Detroit Stars in 1933 and 1937. It also hosted various neutral-site games for other teams.

Constructed of concrete, steel, and wood framing, in 1941 the grandstand was renovated and expanded by the Wayne County Road Commission using WPA funds. Sometime in the 1970s, the grandstand was cut back to its current, greatly reduced footprint. The stadium was in use for baseball until sometime in the 1990s, but while it remains as part of Veterans Park, it is not currently in use for baseball. Located in the Hamtramck section of

[216] "Rebuilding the Grays homefield," Kevin Kirkland, August 11, 2006, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, www.post-gazette.com. The Grays used Greenlee Field as their alternate home field from 1935 until 1938. Greenlee Field was demolished in 1938 and they likely moved that year to West Field.

[217] https://www.alltheballparks.com/2009/06/day-35-west-field.html (last accessed July 9, 2012). The "rough" condition of West Field appears comparable to the current condition of Hinchliffe Stadium. The conditions of these two stadiums, both closely associated with Negro professional baseball, underscores the importance of their preservation in order to help preserve and tell the history of segregated baseball in the United States.

[218] http://detroit1701.org/Roesink.html.

Detroit, this small ball park is sometimes confused with the nearby Keyworth Stadium, a football stadium also sometimes called Hamtramck Stadium. Thus, the Roesink Stadium name is preferred.

Roesink Stadium should be subjected to further research to discover its potential for national significance for its historical association with Negro professional baseball. However, the historical integrity of the stadium may reduce its potential as a nationally significant site.

Perry Stadium (currently Owen J. Bush Stadium)
Indianapolis, Indiana
National Register of Historic Places, 1992

Designed by the architectural firm Pierre & Wright and constructed in 1931, the stadium was originally called Perry Stadium and renamed Owen J. Bush Stadium in 1967. The concrete and brick building features an Art Deco style entry pavilion, seats 12,000, and was said to have the appearance of Wrigley Field with an ivy-covered red-brick outfield wall. Owen J. Bush Stadium was the home field of the minor league Indianapolis Indians until 1996. The stadium was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992.

Perry (Bush) Stadium appears to have a relatively strong association with Negro professional baseball, particularly within the Midwestern-based Negro American League (NAL). The stadium hosted several local NAL teams between 1937 and 1954: the Indianapolis Athletics in 1937, the Indianapolis ABCs in 1938-1939, the Indianapolis Crawfords in 1940, and the Indianapolis Clowns from 1943-1954. Significant games played there include: game 5 of the 1943 Negro World Series, the 1952 and 1954 Negro American League Pennants, and the 1950 and 1951 Negro American League East Division Pennants.[219] The stadium's long association with the Indianapolis Clowns presents another important aspect of the era of segregated baseball. While the team attracted strong attendance records, it is said that "the success of the Clowns…lay in their strong appeal among whites who found the blend of comedy and athleticism irresistible."[220] Their success was controversial in that they catered primarily to a white audience and were seen by some blacks as detrimental to racial equality. Negro League baseball historian Neil Lanctot observed: "While perhaps prolonging the league's survival, the comedy of the Clowns ultimately moved black professional baseball away from its original purpose and offered little to African Americans, who instead turned to the exploits of a growing number of black major leaguers as a source of racial pride."[221]

[Editor's Note: Portions of Perry (Bush) Stadium were demolished in 2012 as part of a project to convert the stadium into condominiums and apartments. It no longer retains a high degree of integrity.]

Red Bird Stadium (currently known as Cooper Stadium)
Columbus, Ohio

Built in 1931, Red Bird Stadium operated as the minor league home park for the Columbus Red Birds. The stadium hosted games by the NNL Columbus Bluebirds in 1933 and the NNL Columbus Elite Giants in 1935.[222] Additional research may reveal more consistent play. Significantly Red Bird Stadium hosted the 1943 Negro World Series game between the Homestead Grays and the Birmingham Black Barons as a neutral site.

In 1977, the concrete and steel stadium were renovated. Skyboxes were added to the roof over the grandstand and the field was covered with Astroturf. The field was returned to real turf in 1999. After reopening in 1977,

[219] http://projectballpark.org/history/nal/bush.html.
[220] Lanctot, p. 283.
[221] Ibid., p. 284.
[222] http://www.projectballpark.org/history/nnl2.html.

the stadium was renamed Franklin County Stadium. In 1984 it was again renamed Cooper Stadium. The last game at the Stadium was played in 2008.

The fate of Cooper Stadium has been under debate since that time, but in February 2011, members of the Columbus city development commission gave unanimous approval for a plan to convert the field to an automobile racetrack and build an automotive research center on the site. The city council voted to approve the required rezoning in June 2011, allowing the redevelopment plan to move forward. The group which plans to redevelop the stadium state that some elements of the historic stadium will be preserved, including the more than 8,000 grandstand seats, the luxury boxes, and the former "Captain's Club."

Though Red Bird Stadium (Cooper Stadium) may have significant historic associations with Negro professional baseball that rises to the level of national significance, it appears its historical integrity is destined to be significantly eroded by the planned redevelopment.

Southern Venues with Potential National Significance

Rickwood Field
Birmingham, Alabama
National Register of Historic Places, 1993

Rickwood Field was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1993 with national significance as the "oldest baseball grandstand on the same site in the United States."[223] Built in 1910 by Birmingham Barons owner Rick Woodward, the steel and concrete construction today includes a covered grandstand, seating for more than 9,000 fans, a front office, concessions, restrooms, and locker rooms located under the grandstand. The Spanish Mission style exterior detailing was added in the 1920s. Rickwood Field served as the home field of the minor league team the Birmingham Barons.

Rickwood Field also potentially gains national significance as a venue for Negro professional baseball play. The field served as the home field for the Birmingham Black Barons, affiliates of the Negro Southern League in the 1920s and 1930s and of the Negro American League from 1936 through the 1950s. Though some scholars argue that the quality of play was of a lower caliber than that found in Negro National League venues, the NAL Birmingham Black Barons played several times in World Series games against the NNL Homestead Grays, and four future Hall-of-Famers played for the Black Barons: Willie Mays, Satchel Paige, Bill Foster, and Mule Suttles.

Rickwood Field, where racially segregated seating in the stands was enforced by a city segregation ordinance, is potentially nationally significant for its ability to tell the story of Negro professional baseball in the rigidly segregated society of the American South. The restored stadium retains a high degree of historical integrity to that period of use although it is unknown if evidence of the segregated seating remains in place.

Durkee Field (currently J. P. Small Memorial Stadium)
Jacksonville, Florida

Durkee Field was constructed as the Jacksonville municipal stadium in 1912 and reconstructed in 1936 after the original was destroyed by fire. The stadium features a concrete and brick grandstand covered with a steel canopy, said to have been constructed to include a separate section to seat African Americans. There appears to be no evidence of the segregated seating today (2011). In 1985, the venue underwent renovations including new

[223] Damle, Hemant S. "Rickwood Field." HABS No. AL-897, Historic American Buildings Survey, 1993. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

aluminum seats, new sod, and improved dugouts and was renamed J. P. Small Memorial Stadium. A second renovation in 2005 included reopening of the arched openings, repointing the masonry, a new ADA ramp, replacement doors, installation of a safety railing atop the grandstand, and the addition of a small museum.

The stadium served as the home field for the Jacksonville Red Caps, who played within the Negro Southern League, considered a minor league, and in 1938 and 1941-42 while they were affiliated with the Negro American League. Significantly, it was at Durkee Field that the Jersey City Giants held their spring training in 1946 when the Giants were scheduled to play the Montreal Royals, a team that included Jackie Robinson and John Wright. Integrated play was prohibited by the Jacksonville Playground and Recreation Board, which "pledged to bar Robinson and Wright from the park."[224] The Royals, a minor league farm team for the Brooklyn Dodgers, canceled the game rather than play without Robinson and Wright. In 1953, Durkee Field was again at the center of baseball's integration story when it "became the location of the first games played by the newly integrated Jacksonville Braves that included a 19-year-old Hank Aaron."[225] They were the first team in the Class A-South Atlantic League to break the color line in minor league baseball.

Durkee Field has a significant association with Negro professional baseball as it unfolded in the American South and appears to retain a high degree of integrity to its historic appearance. Further research should be done to determine the extent of play that took place on the field.

Travelers Field (renamed Ray Winder Field in 1966)
Little Rock, Arkansas

Built in 1931, Travelers Field was the home of white minor league team the Little Rock Travelers. The Field sat approximately 7,000 fans and featured a large-covered grandstand with permanent seating and a refreshment area provided beneath. The city-owned stadium was still standing in May 2011 when the wood and iron grandstand seats were given away prior to the stadium's anticipated demolition.

Travelers Field hosted the Little Rock Grays, most often an independent team, but in 1932, an affiliate of the Negro Southern League. In the 1940s the Birmingham Black Barons played at Travelers Field and the Kansas City Monarchs played there between 1957 and 1961.[226]

Although Travelers Field appears to have a relatively strong association with Negro professional baseball, it was generally outside of the major leagues of Negro League baseball. The stadium retained a high degree of historical integrity until the seats were removed and its demolition appears imminent.

[Editor's Note: Demolition of Travelers (Ray Winder) Field was underway in July 2012.]

Engel Stadium
Chattanooga, Tennessee
National Register of Historic Places, 2009

Engel Stadium was constructed in 1929-30 as the home field of the minor league team the Chattanooga Lookouts, an affiliate of the Washington Senators. Renovations occurred in 1988, including an exterior renovation, a two-story front office built on the first base line, a new press box on the roof, and a restaurant built

[224] "Royals' Game Off at Jacksonville." *New York Times*. 1946-03-23, as cited on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._P._Small_Memorial_Stadium.
[225] https://www.jaxhistory.org/portfolio-items/j-p-small-memorial-stadium/.
[226] Connolly & Hickey, "Historical Significance Investigation…," p. 63.

in the concourse. Despite these renovations, Engel Stadium retains a high degree of historical integrity with its steel canopy over the grandstand intact and much of the original iron and wood seating still in place.

The stadium hosted the Negro Southern League's Chattanooga Choo-Choos from 1940 through 1946, when the team folded. During the 1945 and 1946 seasons, the team's roster included 16-year-old Willie Mays, who played while he completed his ninth and tenth grades in high school.[227] Other teams said to have played at Engel Stadium include the Nashville Elite Giants (probably NNL [I]) in the early 1930s and the Raleigh Tigers in 1959.

Plans for the restoration of Engel Stadium by the Engel Foundation bode well for the continued preservation of the building's historical integrity. Though most closely associated with the Negro minor league team the Chattanooga Choo-Choos, additional research may build a case for the national significance of Engel Stadium for its role in the era of segregated Negro professional baseball, particularly as it played out in the South.

Complete List (to date) of Venues Associated with Negro Professional Baseball

Extant – "Other" Baseball Venues with Documented Association with Negro Professional Baseball and Historical Integrity (listed alphabetically)

1. Durkee Field (James P. Small Stadium), Jacksonville, Florida
2. Engel Stadium, Chattanooga, Tennessee
3. Hinchliffe Stadium, Paterson, New Jersey
4. Perry Stadium (Owen J. Bush Stadium), Indianapolis, Indiana [Note: Loss of integrity in 2012]
5. Red Bird Stadium (Cooper Stadium), Columbus, Ohio
6. Rickwood Field, Birmingham, Alabama
7. Roesink Stadium (Hamtramck Stadium), Detroit, Michigan
8. Travelers Field (Ray Winder Field), Little Rock, Arkansas [Note: Demolished in 2012]
9. West Field (William Knight Field; Grays Field), Munhall, Pennsylvania

Extant – "Other" Baseball Venues with Insufficient Documentation of Nationally Significant Historical Associations with Negro Professional Baseball and/or Historical Integrity (listed alphabetically)

10. Ainsworth Field, Erie, Pennsylvania
11. Brewer H.S. Field, Greenwood, South Carolina
12. C.W. Marsh Field, Muskegon, Michigan
13. Cardines Field, Newport, Rhode Island
14. Chavis Park, Raleigh, North Carolina
15. Clemens Field, Hannibal, Missouri
16. Cramton Bowl, Montgomery, Alabama
17. Golden Park, Columbus, Georgia
18. Grayson Stadium, Savannah, Georgia
19. Grove Street Oval (Monte Irvin Field), East Orange, New Jersey
20. Hicks Field, Edenton, North Carolina
21. Lanphier Park, Springfield, Illinois
22. League Park IV, Cleveland, Ohio
23. Legion Field, Lake Charles, Louisiana
24. Luther Williams Stadium, Macon, Georgia
25. Municipal Stadium, Hagerstown, Maryland

[227] http://www.engelfoundation.com/Historical-Importance/Chattanooga-Choo-Choos/.

26. Parkway Field, Louisville, Kentucky
27. Riley Park, Sumter, South Carolina
28. Shrewbridge Park, Chicago, Illinois
29. Talbert Park, Rocky Mount, North Carolina
30. Valley Field, Grand Rapids, Michigan
31. War Memorial Stadium, Greensboro, North Carolina

No Longer Extant –Black-Owned or Leased Venues (listed alphabetically)

32. 44th and Parkside, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (demolished, 1949)
33. Bugle Field, Baltimore, Maryland (demolished 1949)
34. Central Park, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (demolished 1925)
35. Dyckman Oval, Manhattan, NYC, New York (demolished 1938)
36. Greenlee Field, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (demolished 1938)
37. Martin's Stadium (Lewis Park; Martin Park), Memphis, Tennessee (demolished 1961)
38. Peters' Park, Danville, Virginia (demolished n.d.)
39. Schorling Park (South Side Park III), Chicago, Illinois (destroyed by fire 1940)
40. Stars Park, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
41. Wilson Park, Nashville, Tennessee (demolished 1946)

No Longer Extant – Major League Baseball Venues (listed alphabetically)

42. Briggs Stadium (Tiger Stadium), Detroit, Michigan (demolished, n.d.)
43. Comiskey Park, Chicago, Illinois (demolished 1991)
44. Ebbets Field, Brooklyn, NYC, New York (demolished 1960)
45. Forbes Field, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (demolished 1971)
46. Griffith Stadium, Washington, D.C. (demolished 1965)
47. Huntingdon Grounds I, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (demolished 1894)
48. Polo Grounds, New York City, New York (demolished 1964)
49. Recreation Park, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (demolished n.d.)
50. Shibe Park (Connie Mack Stadium), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (demolished 1976)
51. South End Grounds (I), Boston, Massachusetts (demolished 1887)
52. Sportsman's Park, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
53. Terrapin Park (Oriole Field V), Baltimore, Maryland (demolished 1944)
54. Yankee Stadium, Bronx, NYC, New York (demolished 2009)

No Longer Extant – "Other" Baseball Venues (listed alphabetically)

55. 13th and Anne Streets Park, Wilmington, North Carolina (demolished n.d.)
56. 37th and Butler, Chicago, Illinois (demolished n.d.)
57. 59th Street Bridge sandlot, New York, New York (demolished n.d.)
58. 67th and Langley, Chicago, Illinois (demolished n.d.)
59. ABC's Field, Indianapolis, Indiana (demolished, n.d.)
60. American Legion Field, Wallace, North Carolina (demolished, n.d.)
61. American Legion Park, Newton, North Carolina (demolished, n.d.)
62. American Legion Stadium, Wilmington, NC (demolished, n.d.)
63. Ammon Field, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
64. Asbury Ball Park, Chicago, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
65. Association Park II, Kansas City, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)

66. Bacharach Park, Atlantic City, New Jersey (demolished, n.d.)
67. Belleville H.S. Athletic Field, Belleville, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
68. Bellview Park, Memphis, Tennessee (demolished, n.d.)
69. Beyerle's Park (Hooper Field; Tate Field), Cleveland, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
70. Bigler Field, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
71. Borchert Field, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (demolished 1954)
72. Bronx Oval, New York, New York (demolished n.d.)
73. Buff Stadium, Houston, Texas (demolished n.d.)
74. Bugle Triple A Stadium, Indianapolis, Indiana (demolished, n.d.)
75. Butler Field, Butler, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
76. Casino Park, Monroe, Louisiana (demolished 1941)
77. Catholic Protectory Oval, Bronx, NYC, New York (demolished 1939)
78. Centennial Field, Tallahassee, Florida (demolished 1974)
79. Chessline Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
80. Clark Field, Austin, Texas (demolished 1975)
81. Clarksville Stadium, Clarksville, Virginia (demolished, n.d.)
82. College Hill Park, Montgomery, Alabama (demolished, n.d.)
83. Crosley Field (Redland Field), Cincinnati, Ohio (demolished 1972)
84. Crump Park, Little Rock, Arkansas (demolished n.d.)
85. Cubs Stadium, Cleveland, Ohio (demolished n.d.)
86. Cycler Park, McKeesport, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
87. Dean Park, Crawfordsville, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
88. DeQuindre Park (Linton Field; Cubs Park), Detroit, Michigan (demolished, n.d.)
89. Devereaux Meadow, Raleigh, North Carolina (demolished 1979)
90. Dexter (Bushwicks) Park, Brooklyn, NYC, New York (demolished 1955)
91. Druid Hill (ball field), Baltimore, MD (demolished, n.d.)
92. Ducks Park, Dayton, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
93. Dunn Field, Trenton, New Jersey (demolished n.d.)
94. Easton Street Park, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
95. Eastside Park, Paterson, New Jersey (demolished n.d.)
96. Eclipse Park (I), Louisville, Kentucky (demolished 1892)
97. Giants Park (Tiger Park; Metropolitan Park), St. Louis, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
98. Gordy Park, Salisbury, Maryland (demolished, n.d.)
99. Griffith Park, Charlotte, North Carolina (demolished 1985)
100. Halloran Park, Lima, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
101. Hampton Institute Field, Hampton, Virginia (demolished, n.d.)
102. Handlan's Park, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished n.d.)
103. Hardware Field (Kinsman Hardware Field), Cleveland, Ohio (demolished n.d.)
104. Hartwell Field, Mobile, Alabama (demolished 1983)
105. Hawkins Stadium, Albany, New York (demolished 1960)
106. Hebrew Orphan Asylum Oval, New York, New York (demolished ca. 1971)
107. Highland Park Stadium, Kokomo, Indiana (demolished 1985)
108. Hilldale Park, Darby/Yeadon, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
109. Hilton Park, Wilmington, North Carolina (demolished, n.d.)
110. Island Stadium, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (demolished 1952)
111. Lakeside Park, Decatur, Alabama (demolished, n.d.)
112. League Park II, Akron, Ohio, (demolished 1923)
113. Lebanon Memorial Park, Lebanon, Indiana (demolished, n.d.)
114. Legion Field, Decatur, Alabama (demolished n.d.)

115. Legion Field, Whiteville, NC (demolished, n.d.)
116. Leland Giants Park, Chicago, Illinois (demolished n.d.)
117. Luna Bowl, Cleveland, Ohio (demolished 1938)
118. MacArthur Stadium, Syracuse, New York (demolished 1997)
119. Mack Park, Detroit (Hamtramck), Michigan (destroyed by fire 1929)
120. Mahaffey Park, Canton, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
121. Mark Grey Athletic Park (Mark Park, Zanesville, Ohio (demolished 1939)
122. Market Street Park, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
123. Maryland Baseball Park, Baltimore, Maryland (demolished, n.d.)
124. McCormick Field, Asheville, North Carolina (completely rebuilt 1992)
125. Meadowbrook Oval, Newark, New Jersey (demolished, n.d.)
126. Mills Stadium, Chicago, Illinois (demolished n.d.)
127. Mounds Ballfield, Mounds, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
128. Municipal Field, Homestead, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
129. Municipal Park, Springfield, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
130. Municipal Stadium (Muehlebach or Ruppert Stadium), Kansas City, Missouri (demolished 1976)
131. Municipal Stadium, Greenville, South Carolina (demolished, n.d.)
132. Municipal Stadium, Rocky Mount, North Carolina (demolished 1987)
133. Neil Park, Columbus, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
134. Newark Schools Stadium, Newark, New Jersey (demolished, n.d.)
135. Normal Park, Chicago, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
136. Northside Park, Cincinnati, Ohio (demolished, n.d.)
137. Northwestern Avenue Grounds, Indianapolis, Indiana (demolished n.d.)
138. Offermann Stadium, Buffalo, New York (demolished 1960)
139. Old Armory Field, Lumberton, North Carolina (demolished n.d.)
140. Olemar Field, Irvington, New Jersey (demolished, n.d.)
141. Olympic Field, New York, New York (demolished ca. 1947)
142. Oriole Park I, Baltimore, Maryland (demolished, n.d.)
143. Page Park, Monessen, Pennsylvania (demolished n.d.)
144. Paradeway Park, Kansas City, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
145. Parkside Field, Chicago, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
146. Passon Field (Philadelphia)
147. Pelican's Stadium, New Orleans, Louisiana (demolished 1957)
148. Penncoyd Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
149. Pennsylvania Railroad Park, Altoona, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
150. Piqua Park, Piqua, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
151. Playstead at Franklin Park, Medford, Massachusetts (demolished, n.d.)
152. Point Stadium, Johnstown, Pennsylvania (demolished 2005)
153. Ponce De Leon Park, Atlanta, Georgia (demolished 1967)
154. Pyott's Park, Chicago, Illinois (demolished 1941)
155. Queens Park, New York, New York (demolished 1951)
156. Razzberry Park, Camden, New Jersey (demolished n.d.)
157. Recreation Park III, New York, New York (demolished 1938)
158. Red Wing Stadium, Rochester, New York (demolished 1999)
159. Riverside Park, Indianapolis, Indiana (demolished, n.d.)
160. Rockingham Stadium, Rockingham, North Carolina (demolished, n.d.)
161. Roosevelt Stadium, Jersey City, New Jersey (demolished 1984-85)
162. Rossmere Park, Lancaster, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
163. Ruppert Stadium, Newark, New Jersey (demolished 1967)

164. Russell Field, Warren, Pennsylvania (demolished, n.d.)
165. Russwood Park, Memphis, Tennessee (destroyed by fire 1960)
166. Sicks Stadium, Seattle, Washington (demolished 1979)
167. Smithfield Stadium, Smithfield, North Carolina (demolished, n.d.)
168. Soldier Field, Chicago, Illinois (demolished 2003)
169. South End Park, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished, n.d.)
170. Speedway Park, Indianapolis, Indiana (demolished, n.d.)
171. Spencer Field, Chicago, Illinois (demolished, n.d.)
172. Sprague Field, Bloomfield, New Jersey (demolished, n.d.)
173. Standpipe Park, Washington, D.C. (demolished n.d.)
174. Stars Field, New Orleans, Louisiana (demolished, n.d.)
175. Sulphur Dell (I), Nashville, Tennessee (demolished 1926)
176. Sulphur Dell (II), Nashville, Tennessee (demolished 1960s)
177. Swayne Field, Toledo, Ohio (demolished 1955)
178. Triborough Stadium, New York City, New York (demolished, n.d.)
179. Turner Field, Hammond, Indiana (demolished, n.d.)
180. Vandeventer Lot II, St. Louis, Missouri (demolished n.d.)
181. Venable Stadium, Baltimore, Maryland (demolished, n.d.)
182. Walnut Park, Muncie, Indiana (demolished n.d.)
183. Washington Park, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (demolished n.d.)
184. West End Grounds, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (demolished n.d.)
185. Westport Stadium, Baltimore, Maryland (demolished, n.d.)
186. Whittemore Athletic Field, Conway, South Carolina (demolished n.d.)
187. Wilmington Park, Wilmington, Delaware (demolished 1963)
188. Wivchar Stadium, Riverhead, New York (demolished n.d.)

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

__ Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_X_ Previously Listed in the National Register.
__ Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
__ Designated a National Historic Landmark.
__ Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: #
__ Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
__ Other State Agency
__ Federal Agency
__ Local Government
__ University
__ Other (Specify Repository):

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: 5.7 acres

UTM References:

Zone	Easting	Northing
18	568900	4529820

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Hinchliffe Stadium boundary includes the stadium building and associated field encompassed within Block B0128, Lot 2, Parcel 3, Tracts 1, 2, 3, part of Tract 4 to include the stadium restroom building, and the south corner lot on which the maintenance building stands (apparently never conveyed), as referenced on the attached 2004 Boundary Survey completed by Mercator Land Surveying, Inc. for Mega Engineering, Inc. (photo copy, not to scale). Deed reference to Board of Education of the City of Paterson, Passaic County, NJ, DB 877, Page 535.

Boundary Justification:

The Hinchliffe Stadium boundary encompasses the historic stadium building and its associated field.

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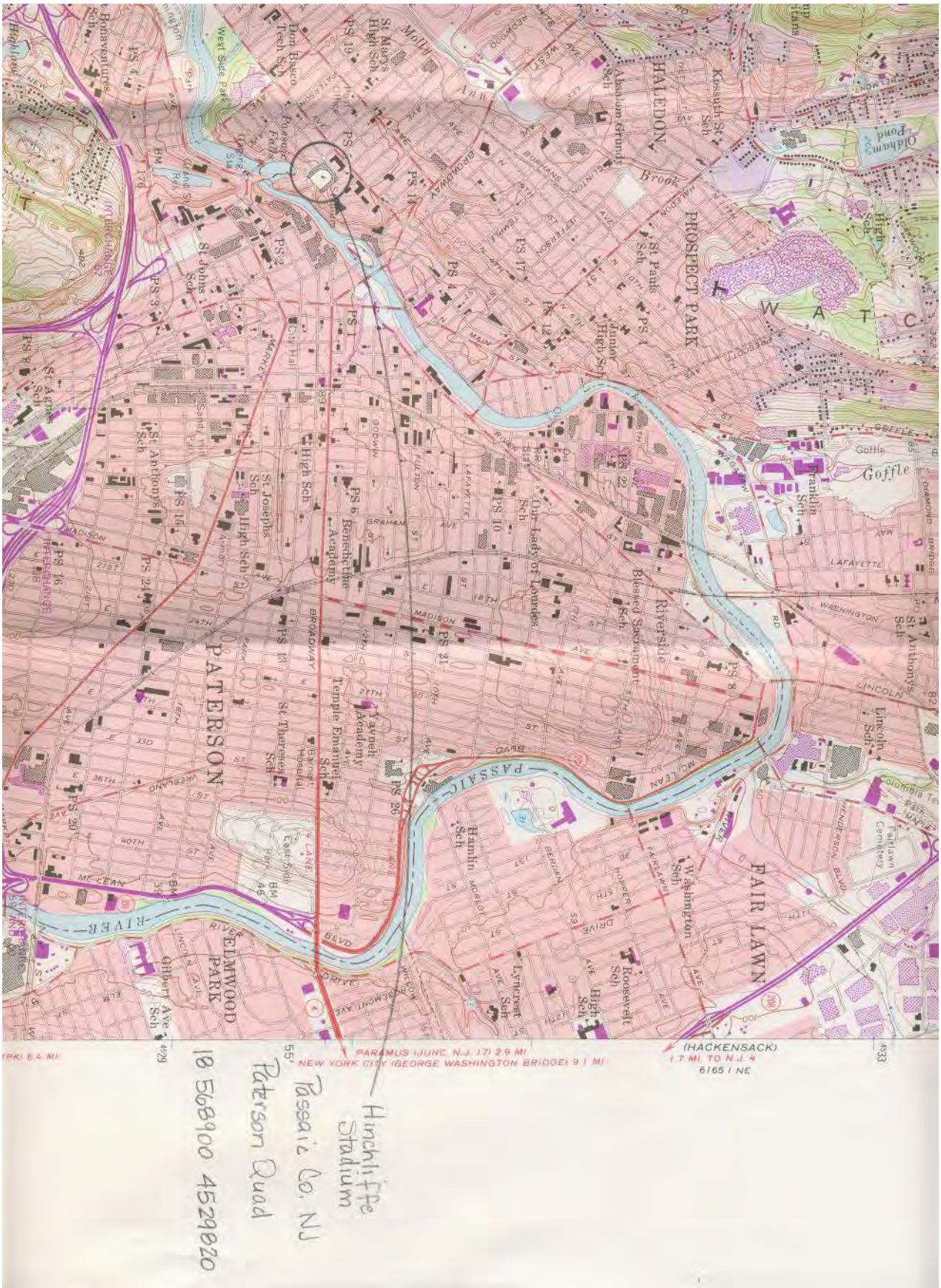
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Date: August 2012

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National Historic Landmarks Program
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NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS PROGRAM


PATERSON
HALEDON
PROSPECT PARK
FAIR LAWN
ELMWOOD PARK
RIVER
PASSAIC
Hinchliffe Stadium
Passaic Co., NJ
Paterson Quad
18 568900 4529020

Map 1

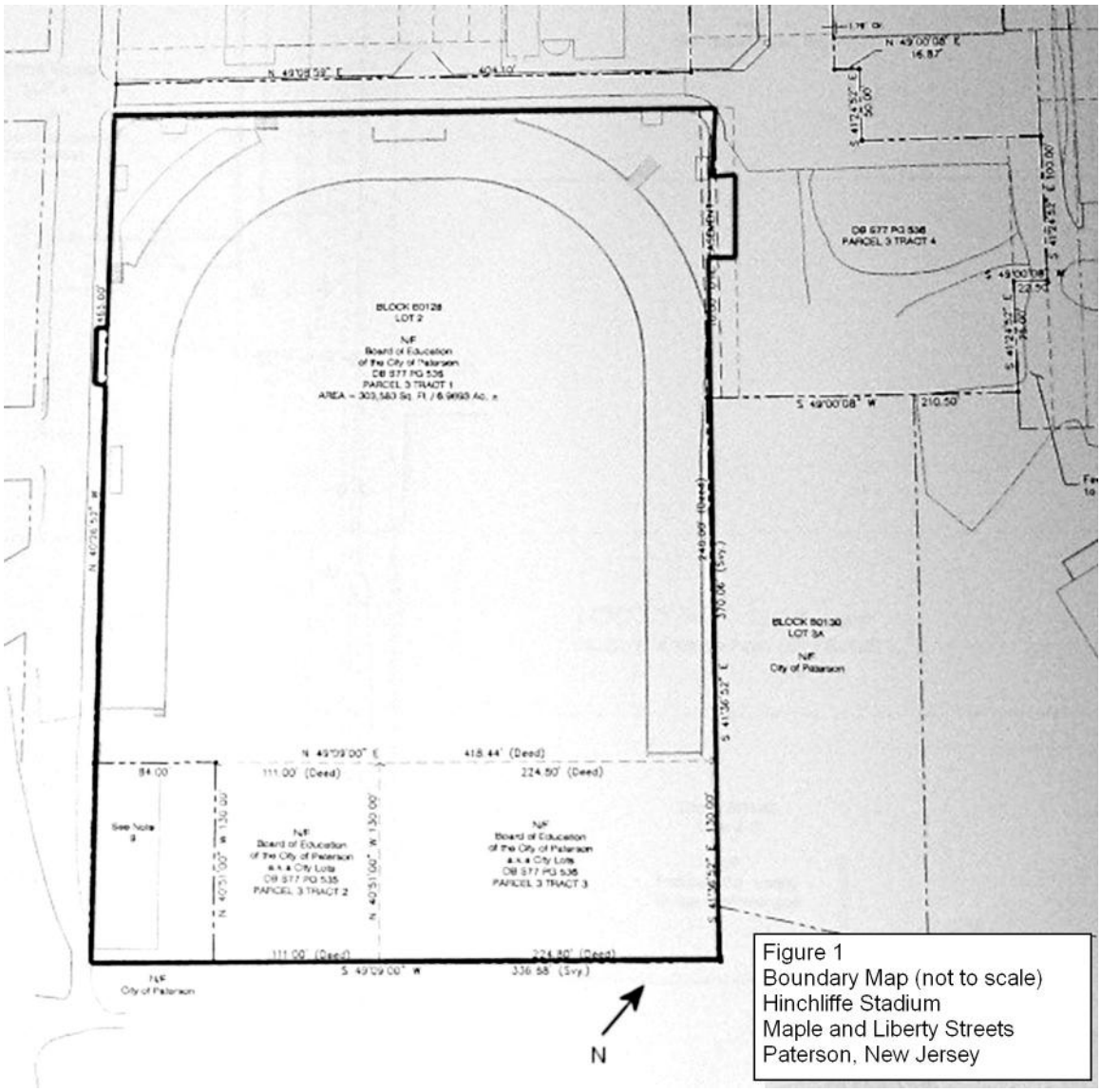

BLOCK 80128
LOT 2
N/F
Board of Education
of the City of Paterson
DB 577 PG 536
PARCEL 3 TRACT 1
DB 577 PG 536
PARCEL 3 TRACT 4
BLOCK 80130
LOT 3A
N/F
City of Paterson
N 49°09'00" E
416.44' (Deed)
84.00
111.00' (Deed)
224.50' (Deed)
See Note 9
N/F
Board of Education
of the City of Paterson
a.k.a City Lots
DB 577 PG 535
PARCEL 3 TRACT 2
N/F
Board of Education
of the City of Paterson
a.k.a City Lots
DB 577 PG 536
PARCEL 3 TRACT 3
S 49°09'00" W
336.88' (Svy.)
N/F
City of Paterson
N
Figure 1
Boundary Map (not to scale)
Hinchliffe Stadium
Maple and Liberty Streets
Paterson, New Jersey

Figure 1

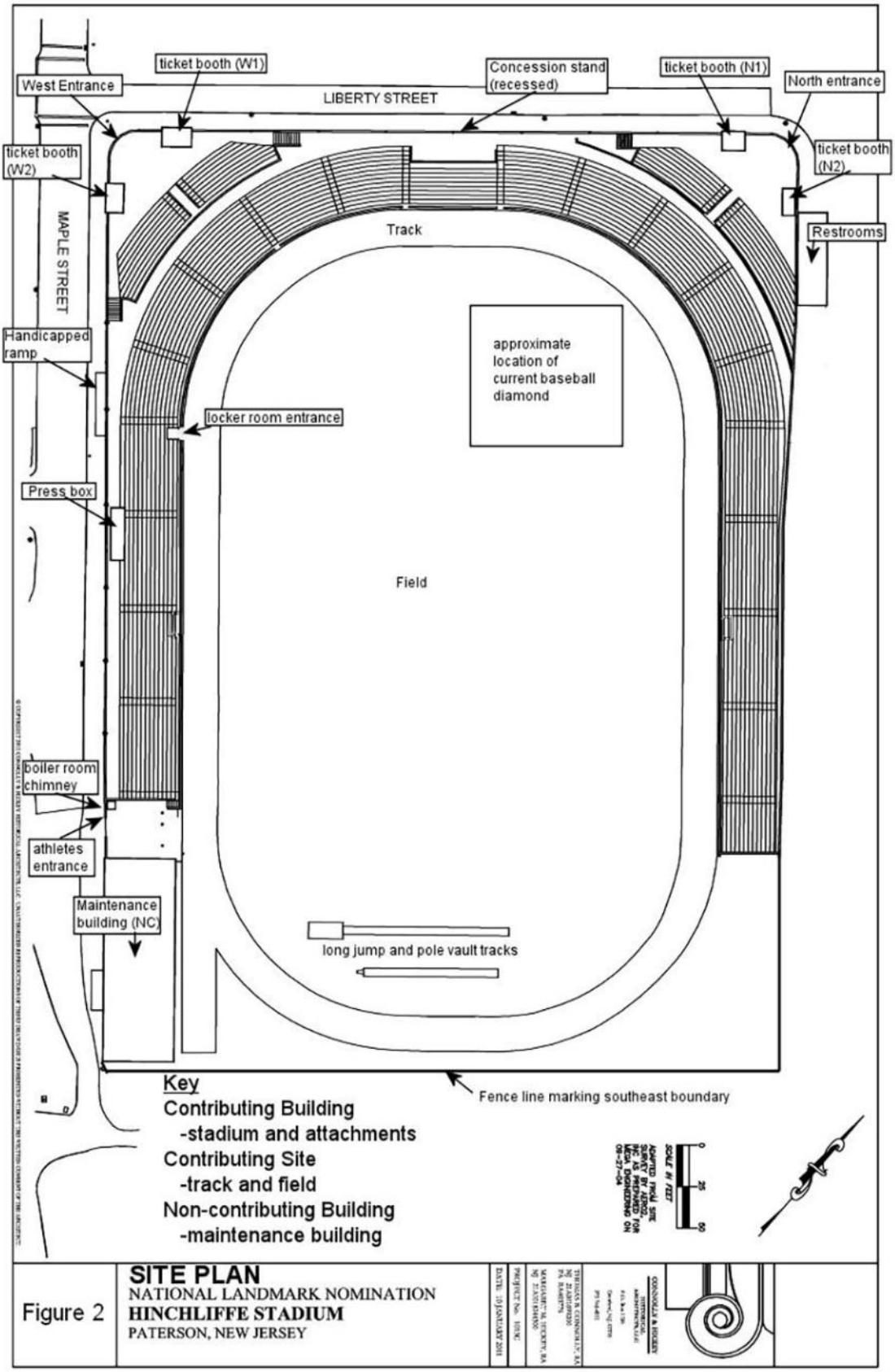

West Entrance
ticket booth (W1)
LIBERTY STREET
Concession stand (recessed)
ticket booth (N1)
North entrance
ticket booth (W2)
ticket booth (N2)
MAPLE STREET
Track
Restrooms
Handicapped ramp
approximate location of current baseball diamond
locker room entrance
Press box
Field
boiler room chimney
athletes entrance
Maintenance building (NC)
long jump and pole vault tracks
Fence line marking southeast boundary
Key
Contributing Building
-stadium and attachments
Contributing Site
-track and field
Non-contributing Building
-maintenance building
SCALE IN FEET
Figure 2
SITE PLAN
NATIONAL LANDMARK NOMINATION
HINCHLIFFE STADIUM
PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

Figure 2



Figure 3

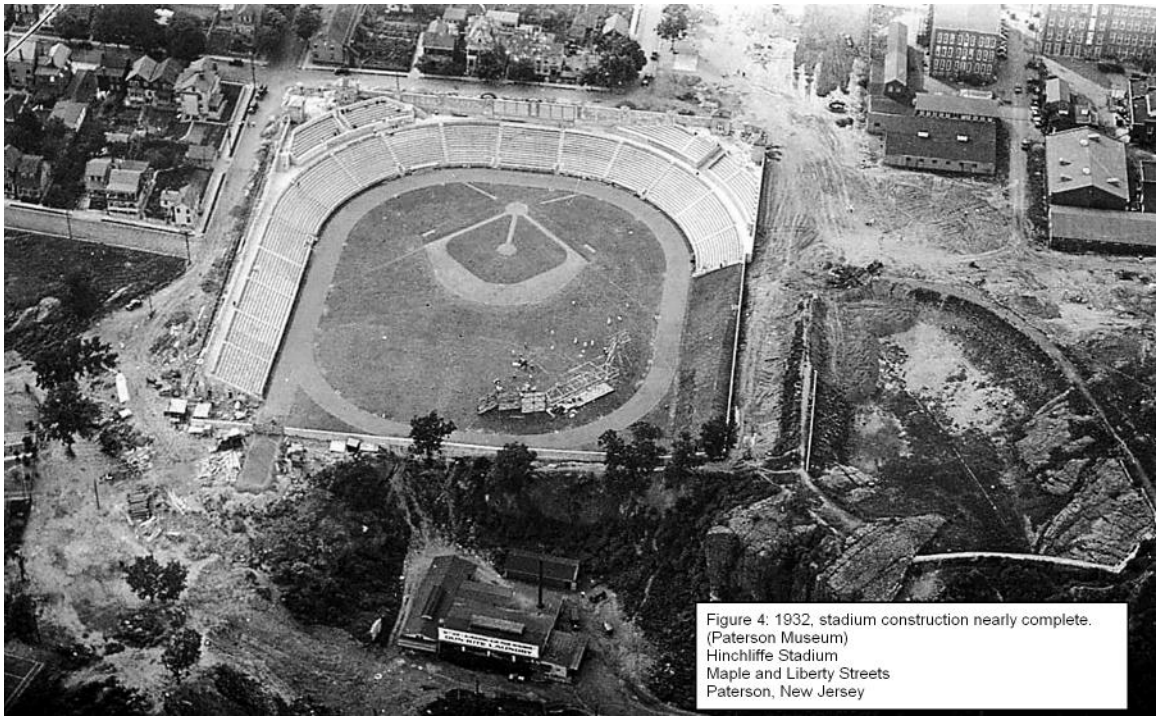


Figure 4



Figure 5

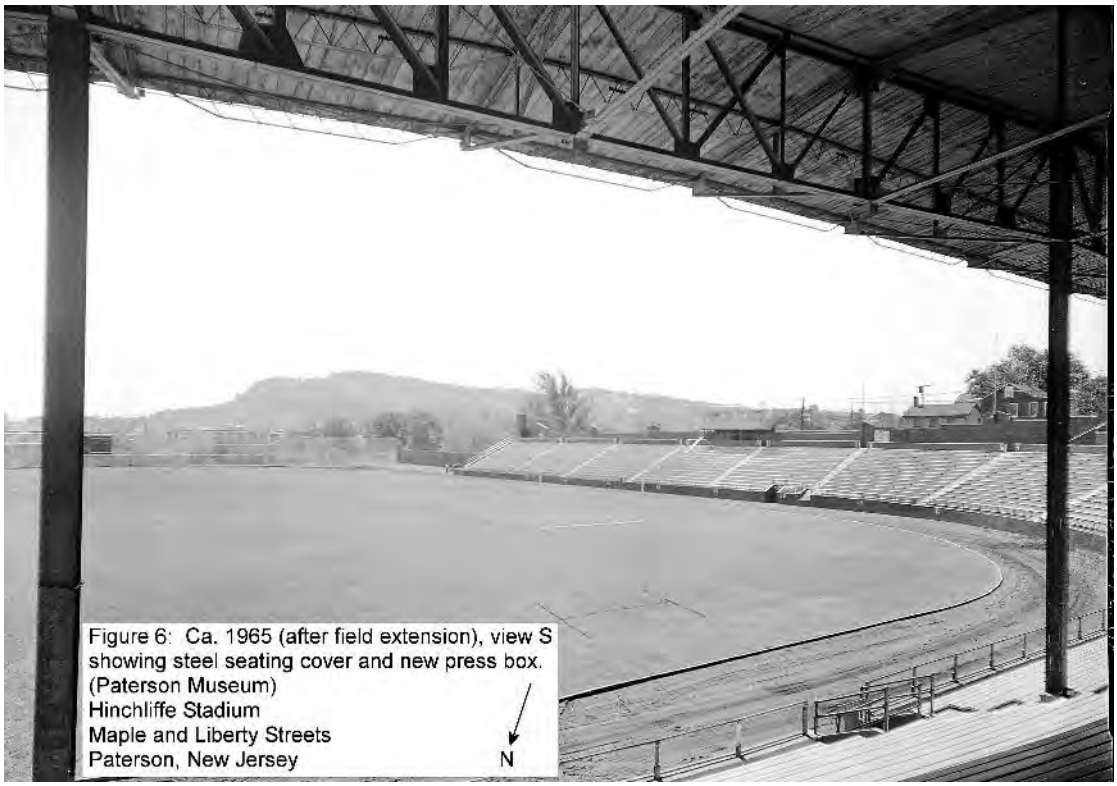


Figure 6


Figure 7: Ca.1932, stadium complete, view W.
(Paterson Museum)
Hinchliffe Stadium
Maple and Liberty Streets
Paterson, New Jersey
N

Figure 7

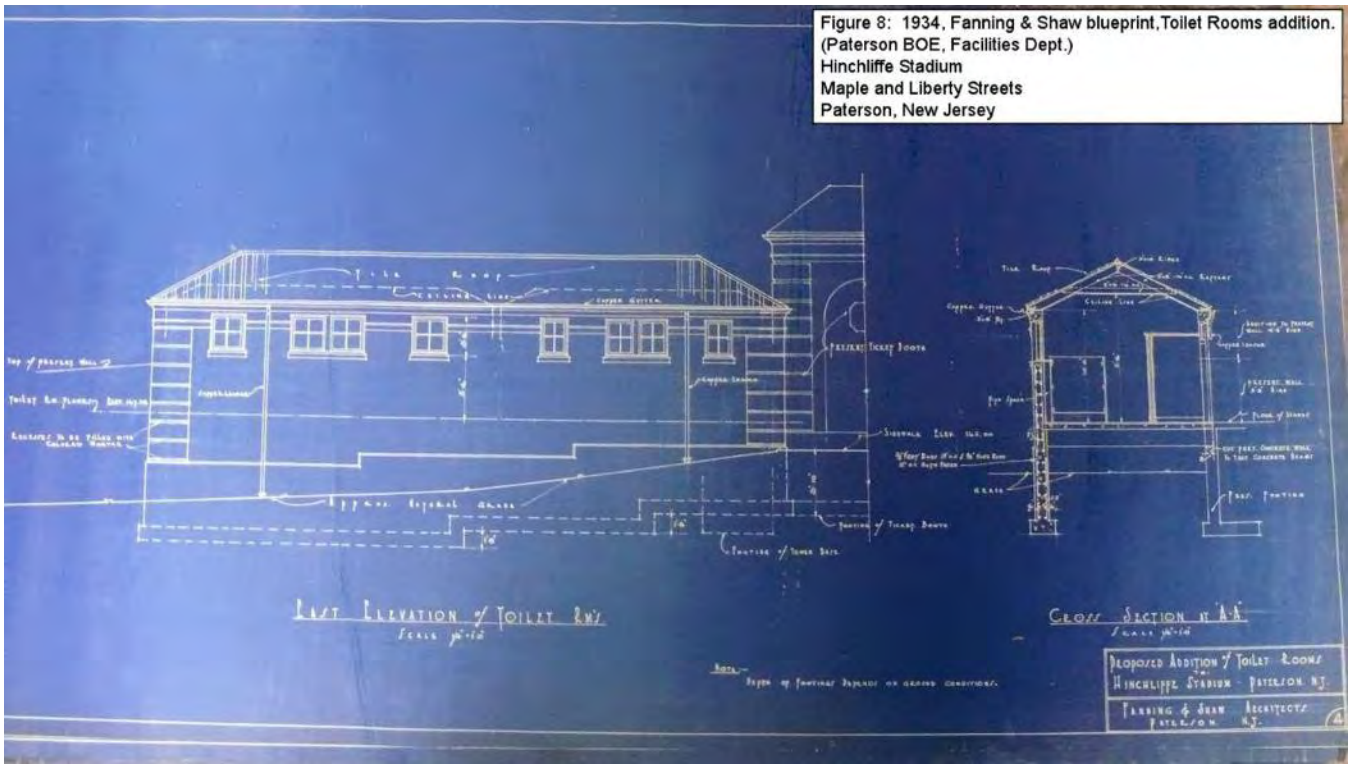


Figure 8



Figure 9

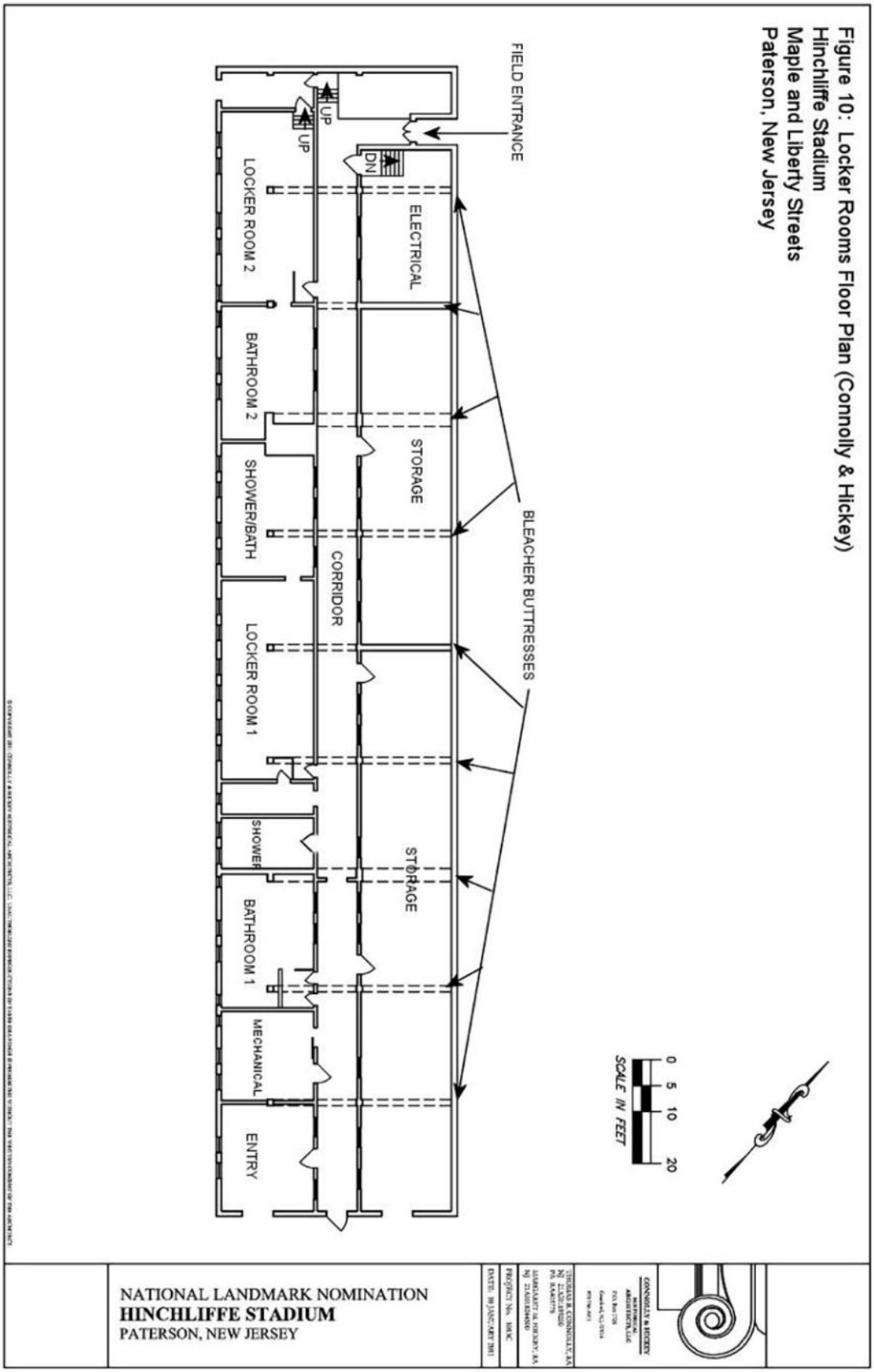

Figure 10: Locker Rooms Floor Plan (Connolly & Hickey)
Hinchliffe Stadium
Maple and Liberty Streets
Paterson, New Jersey
FIELD ENTRANCE
UP
UP
DN
LOCKER ROOM 2
ELECTRICAL
BATHROOM 2
STORAGE
SHOWER/BATH
CORRIDOR
BLEACHER BUTTRESSES
LOCKER ROOM 1
SHOWER
STORAGE
BATHROOM 1
MECHANICAL
ENTRY
SCALE IN FEET
0 5 10 20
NATIONAL LANDMARK NOMINATION
HINCHLIFFE STADIUM
PATERSON, NEW JERSEY

Figure 10

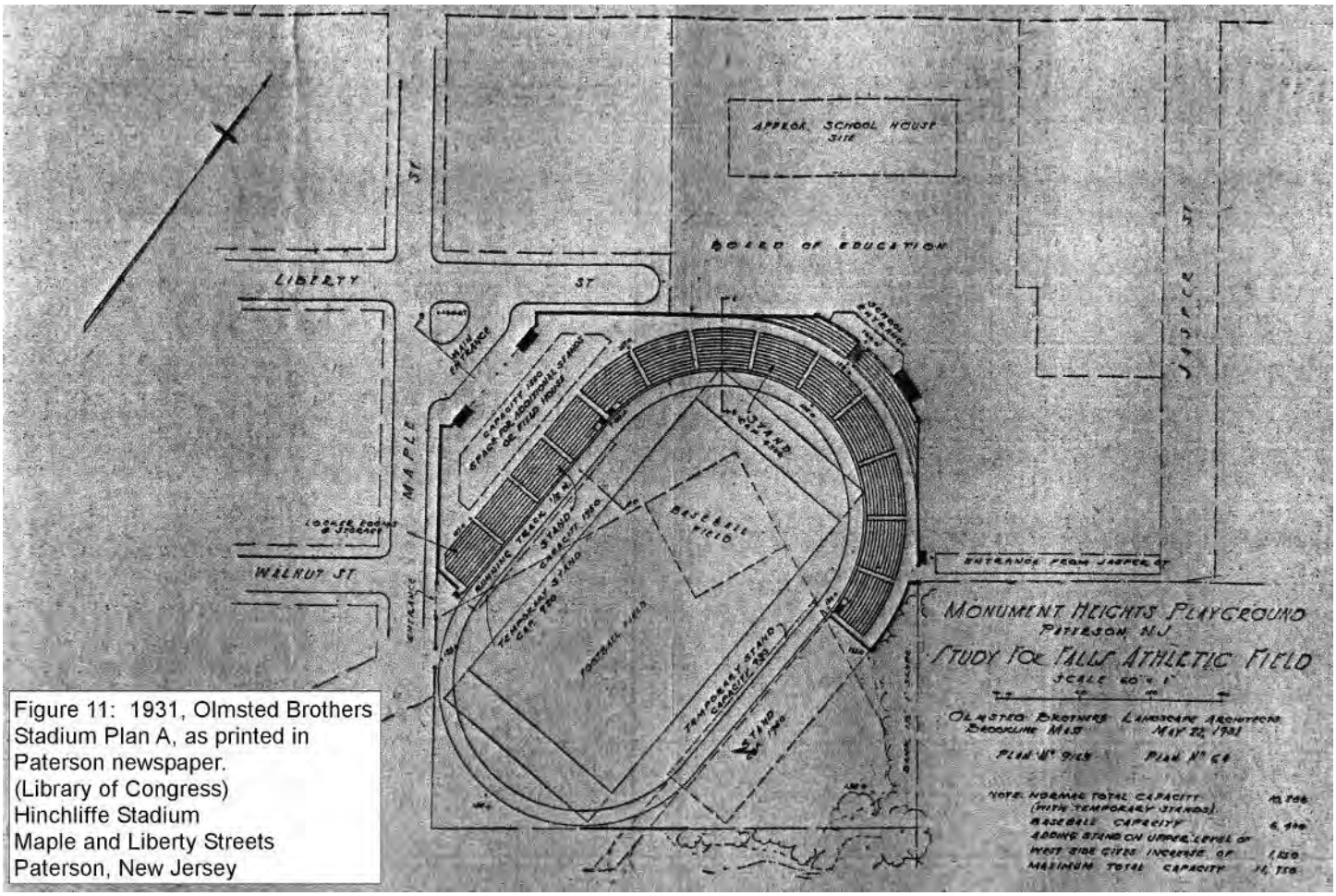


Figure 11: 1931, Olmsted Brothers Stadium Plan A, as printed in Paterson newspaper. (Library of Congress) Hinchliffe Stadium Maple and Liberty Streets Paterson, New Jersey

Figure 11

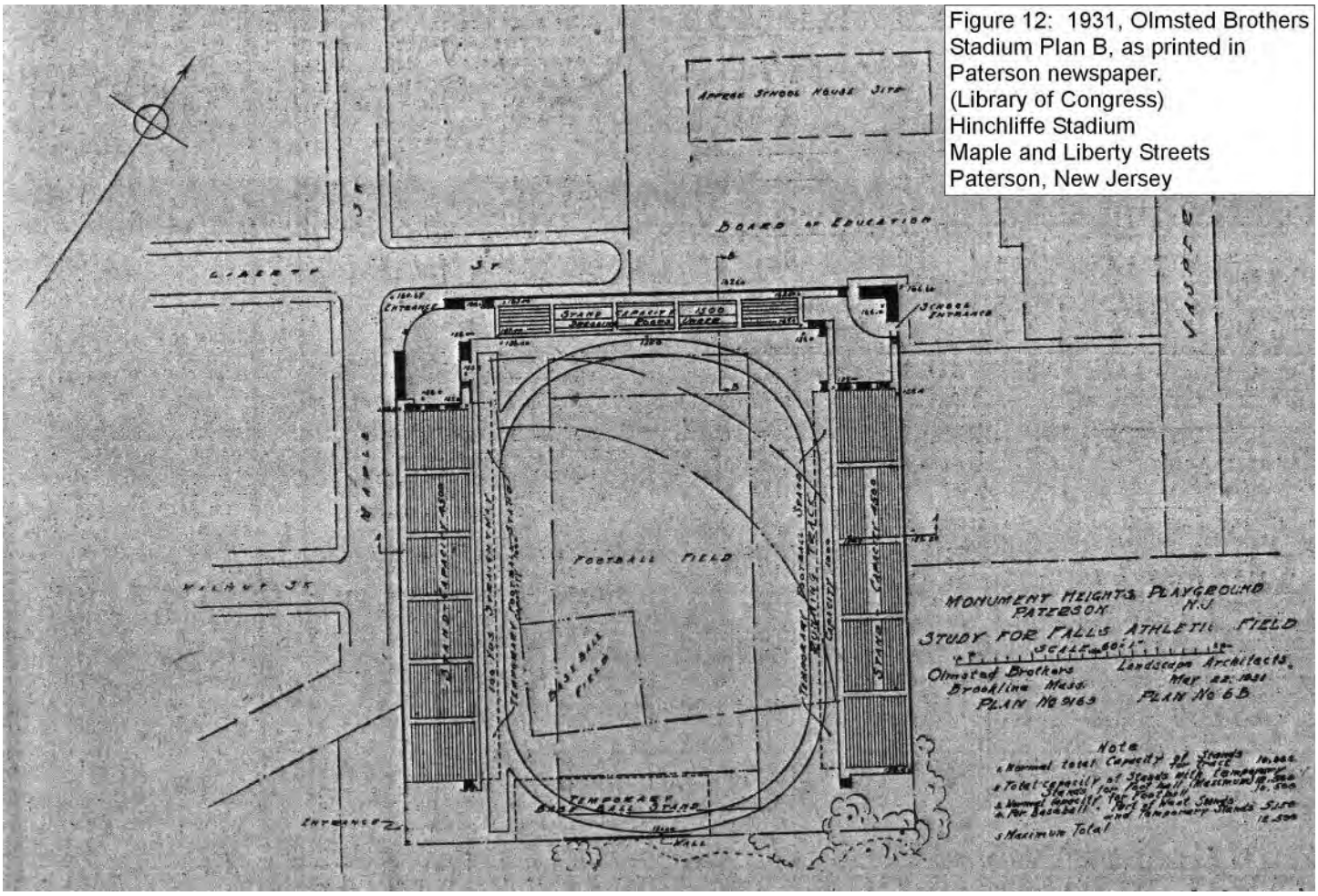

Figure 12: 1931, Olmsted Brothers Stadium Plan B, as printed in Paterson newspaper. (Library of Congress) Hinchliffe Stadium Maple and Liberty Streets Paterson, New Jersey
BOARD OF EDUCATION
LIBERTY ST
MAPLE ST
WALNUT ST
FOOTBALL FIELD
BASE BALL FIELD
TEMPORARY BASE BALL STAND
MONUMENT HEIGHTS PLAYGROUND PATERSON N.J.
STUDY FOR FALLS ATHLETIC FIELD
Olmsted Brothers Brookline Mass.
Landscape Architects
PLAN No 9169
PLAN No 6B
Note

Figure 12



Photograph #1
West entrance area (Maple and Liberty Streets), facing east.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #2
Northwest elevation (Liberty Street), facing north.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #3
Southwest elevation (Maple Street), facing north.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #4
Entrance W.2 on the west entrance (Liberty Street), facing east.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #5
Ticket booth N.2, and the restroom building, facing north.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #6
Interior of ticket booth W.1, facing west.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #7
Field view, facing southwest.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #8
View of the field and the southwest portion of the stadium, facing south.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #9
View of the field and the north and northeast portions of the stadium, facing east.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #10
North end of the stadium, facing west.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #11
Southwest side of the stadium, showing the press box, facing south.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #12
Field view of the north end of the stadium, facing northwest.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #13
Field view of the north end of the stadium, facing north.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #14
Field view of the western portion of the stadium, facing northwest.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #15
The central portion of the stadium, with the concession area at center, facing northwest.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #16
The service area behind the concession stand, facing northeast.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, October 2010



Photograph #17
Interior of locker room #1, facing south.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, November 2010



Photograph #18
Interior of shower room, facing east.
Photographer: Paula S. Reed, November 2010