



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sandra B. Mortham
Secretary of State

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Director's Office
(904) 488-1480

Telecopier Number (FAX)
(904) 488-3353

July 19, 1995

Lee County
P.O. Box 398
Fort Myers, Fl. 33902

Re: Terry Park Ballfield, Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers, Fl.

Dear Property Owner:

It is a pleasure to advise you that the above referenced property has been officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places as of June 20, 1995.

On behalf of Secretary of State Sandra B. Mortham and our historic preservation staff, I congratulate you on achieving this formal recognition of the historic significance of this property. We appreciate your interest in preserving this important element of Florida's cultural resources.

With every good wish and warm regards,

Sincerely,

Balena E. Mattie

for George W. Percy
State Historic Preservation Officer

GWP:sp

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Mindy Collier
Grants and Contracts Coordinator
Lee County Parks and Recreation
3410 Palm Beach Boulevard
Fort Myers, Florida 33916

Dear Mindy:

Thank you for contacting the Hall of Fame research center with your inquiry about the history of Terry Park in Fort Myers. I have completed my research into the history of Hall of Famers playing at Terry Park, and came up with a list of 81 players. That is truly a prodigious number, and few ballparks outside of the major leagues can claim to have hosted so many of the game's best players. In addition to two stints with minor league teams in the Florida State League (1926-27 and 1978-87), Fort Myers and Terry Park were home to several major league teams during spring training. The Philadelphia Athletics trained there from 1925-36, the Cleveland Indians in 1940-41, the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1955-68, and the Kansas City Royals from 1969-87. The majority of players on this list performed at Terry Park during the tenures of the Athletics and Pirates.

My list is necessarily incomplete because I only included those players I identified from box scores published in "The Sporting News". For most of the years covered, TSN published box scores from half to two-thirds of the exhibition games played, so there may well have been other Hall of Famers who played at Terry Park during those years. Research in local newspapers would no doubt add some names to this list. In addition, TSN stopped publishing spring training box scores altogether after the mid-1970s, and we have no other source here which gives spring training box scores for more recent years. I think the actual number of Hall of Famers who played at Terry Park is most likely between 90 and 100.

The list of 81 I have compiled includes 78 men who were elected to the Hall of Fame as players and 3 who were elected as managers. Of the 191 players elected to the Hall of Fame through 2003, 50 had careers which ended before 1925, meaning they could not have played at Terry Park. Of the remaining 141, at least the 78 I have found played there, or more than 55%. More than 40% of all Hall of Fame players played at Terry Park. That represents a significant achievement for any ballpark, as the list includes many of the biggest names in baseball history, such as Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Hank Aaron, Mickey Mantle, Jackie Robinson, Stan Musial, Lefty Grove, Rogers Hornsby, Tris Speaker, Bob Feller, and the oldest living Hall of Famer, Tampa's Al Lopez.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



I hope this information is helpful to you in your worthy effort to help restore Terry Park.
If there is anything more I can do, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gabriel Schechter".

Gabriel Schechter

Research Associate, A. Bartlett Giamatti Research Center

TERRY PARK and HALL OF FAMERS

The following list includes all Hall of Famers who played at least one game at Terry Park in Fort Myers, Florida. For each year, every player who made his first appearance at Terry Park is listed. Many players played there for numerous years, such as Jimmie Foxx and Roberto Clemente, who played more than ten years at Terry Park during spring training. Only those players who can be documented from box scores printed in "The Sporting News" are listed; there were probably others who played there who could be documented using local box scores. "The Sporting News" stopped printing spring training box scores after 1976, so for the last decade or so of the Royals' tenure at Terry Park, local sources will have to be used to add to this list.

1925: Al Simmons, Lefty Grove, Jimmie Foxx, Mickey Cochrane, Babe Ruth*, Frankie Frisch, Bill Terry, Hack Wilson, Travis Jackson, Fred Lindstrom
1926: George Kelly
1927: Ty Cobb, Eddie Collins, Zach Wheat, Rogers Hornsby, Jim Bottomley, Dave Bancroft
1928: Tris Speaker, Edd Roush, Rabbit Maranville, Mel Ott
1929: Grover Cleveland Alexander, Chuck Klein
1930: George Sisler, Leo Durocher**
1931: Ernie Lombardi, Al Lopez***
1933: Dizzy Dean, Joe Medwick
1934: Hank Greenberg, Charlie Gehringer, Goose Goslin, Chick Hafey
1936: Joe Cronin
1940: Lou Boudreau, Early Wynn
1941: Carl Hubbell, Gabby Hartnett, Johnny Mize, Enos Slaughter, Bob Feller
1955: Roberto Clemente, Stan Musial, Hank Aaron, Richie Ashburn, George Kell, Eddie Mathews, Red Schoendienst
1956: Jackie Robinson, Frank Robinson, Pee Wee Reese, Duke Snider, Harmon Killebrew, Tommy Lasorda**
1957: Bill Mazerowski, Al Kaline, Roy Campanella, Luis Aparicio, Nellie Fox
1958: Robin Roberts
1959: Jim Bunning
1960: Brooks Robinson
1962: Willie Stargell
1964: Mickey Mantle, Tony Perez
1965: Lou Brock, Phil Niekro, Joe Morgan, Don Drysdale
1966: Carl Yastrzemski, Johnny Bench, Don Sutton
1967: Catfish Hunter
1968: Hoyt Wilhelm, Reggie Jackson
1969: Rod Carew
1972: Steve Carlton
1973: Mike Schmidt
1974: Jim Palmer
1975: George Brett

- * Borrowed from Yankees for one game, played for Athletics
- ** Played at Terry Park but elected to Hall of Fame as a manager
- *** Also played at Terry Park as a minor leaguer in 1926