

Yankee Stadium

What three people are honored with large monuments in Monument Park behind the leftfield wall in Yankee Stadium?

1. Babe Ruth
2. Lou Gehrig
3. Miller Huggins

Where were the monuments located before the Yankee Stadium remodeling in 1974-75?

4. In front of the centerfield fence, where they were in play.

Lou Gehrig's "luckiest man" farewell occurred in 1939. The second-most famous speech at Yankee Stadium took place 11 years earlier. What is the most memorable line from that speech, and who made it?

5. "Win one for the Gipper"
6. (Notre Dame coach) Knute Rockne

Yankee Stadium's announcer Bob Sheppard acquired the nickname "The Voice of God." Who was the first player he introduced on the stadium's public address system?

7. (Red Sox centerfielder) Dom DiMaggio. (Road team bats first!)

The Yankees have 17 retired numbers in Monument Park. But only 2 players of these people played EXCLUSIVELY for the Yankees, AND wore that number in EVERY game they played for them. Name them:

8. Phil Rizzuto (#10)
9. Thurman Munson (#15) (Notes: Billy Martin, Babe Ruth, Yogi Berra, Roger Maris, Elston Howard and Reggie Jackson all played for other teams. Casey Stengel and Jackie Robinson never played a game for the Yankees. Lou Gehrig only started wearing #4 in 1929 when uniform numbers were added. Joe DiMaggio wore #9 when he first came up. Bill Dickey wore #10 when he first came up. Mickey Mantle wore #6 briefly when first came up. Whitey Ford wore #18 and #19 when he first came up. Ron Guidry briefly wore #54 when he came up for the second time in 1975. Don Mattingly wore #46 when he first came up.)

Only two Yankees with a retired number also played for the Red Sox. Of course the Babe is one, but who was the other?

10. Elston Howard

No one ever hit a fair ball out of Yankee Stadium...irrefutably, that is. But two non-Yankee sluggers are believed to have either done so or come extremely close.

11. Josh Gibson (Negro League game)
12. Frank Howard (just foul)

On October 9, 1996 at Yankee Stadium, who was sitting in Section 31, Box 325, Row A, Seat 3, and why was that significant?

13. Jeffrey Maier, age 12.
14. He illegally reached over and saved a Derek Jeter homer (and thereby the game), and the umpire failed to overturn the play.

That same person became the all-time hit leader at what college?

15. Wesleyan

What was the original famous Yankee Stadium façade made of?

16. Copper

The Death Valley fence was moved in 5 times, and never moved out. What was its original distance?

17. Exactly 500 feet.

The total time of play on August 18, 1983 was just 12 minutes. Why?

18. It was the continuation of the famous Pine Tar Game from July

And for those 12 minutes, who was the Yankee centerfielder? Who was the second baseman?

19. Centerfield – Ron Guidry
20. Second base – Don Mattingly (Billy Martin was expressing his objection to the overturning of his initial protest, putting Guidry and Mattingly out of position to demonstrate the travesty this game had become, in his view)

This Yankee Stadium event was even shorter, lasting just 124 seconds in June 1938. What?

21. The second Louis-Schmeling heavyweight title fight.

The Yankees routinely packed the house for October baseball, and the Stadium was full again on October 4, 1965. But wait...the Yankees dynasty was over, with the team tumbling to 6th place in the American League, and the season ended for the Yankees on October 3rd. So why was Yankee Stadium full on October 4th?

22. Pope Paul VI performed a service there.

To some, they described the deep, palpable feeling that surrounds Yankee Stadium; but to one Red Sox player, they (famously) sounded simply like the names of two "nightclub dancers"? Who were they...and who was the player?

- 23/24. "Mystique & Aura"
25. Curt Shilling

Fenway Park

Fenway Park opened on April 20, 1912, but that was not front page news...not even in Boston. What else happened that day?

26. The sinking of the Titanic (of interest, but worth no points, also opening that day was Detroit's Nevin Field, later known as Tiger Stadium)

Actually, the first game at Fenway was a few weeks earlier...who was the Red Sox opponent in this exhibition game?

27. Harvard University (the Red Sox won 2-0)

What was left field called in the early years of Fenway Park?

28. "Duffy's Cliff" (left field was built on a 10-foot incline from the foul pole to center, so Red Sox left fielder Duffy Lewis had to play it often running back uphill)

And the centerfield bleacher area was once known for an unfortunate Red Sox hero...who?

29. Tony Conigliaro (known as "Conig's Corner", since Tony C. said that he had trouble seeing out there when he returned to action following his traumatic eye injury)

And the right field fences were moved in in 1940, to make room for new bullpens. What were the bullpens quickly nicknamed?

30. "Williamsburg" (in honor of power hitting newcomer Ted Williams. Though why didn't they call them "Williamstown"?)

The Green Monster underwent a major change in 1947? What was it?

31. It was painted green. (Before that, it was covered with ads.)

What is the official nickname of the Fenway right field foul pole?

32. The Pesky Pole.
33. Red Sox shortstop Johnny Pesky hit only 6 homers at Fenway in his long Red Sox career, and most of them were alleged (this was never confirmed) by wrapping dinky homers just inside the right field foul pole which is only 302 feet from home plate. (It is confirmed that none of Pesky's six homers hit the pole.)

"Gods do not answer letters." Who wrote that, and about what Fenway Park event?

34. John Updike
35. Ted Williams' home run in his last career at-bat (when he wouldn't acknowledge the fans' cheers).

When Carlton Fisk hit his famous homer in the 1975 World Series, his even more famous reaction was often credited to the revolutionary thinking of Harry Coyle, the producer of the game for NBC. But Coyle actually directed the cameraman to follow the ball. Why did cameraman Lou Gerard disobey Coyle...thereby creating sports' first (and arguably still most famous) "reaction shot"?

36. Because he noticed a rat moving ominously toward him and decided to simply follow Fisk rather than swing the camera.

Off whom did Bucky Dent hit his famous homer into the screen over the Green Monster in the 1978 American League East playoff? And who's bat did he borrow to hit it with?

37. Mike Torrez
38. Mickey Rivers

Seven numbers are retired at Fenway Park...name the honored players and those numbers (credit only for both):

39. Bobby Doerr (#1)
40. Joe Cronin (#4)
41. Johnny Pesky (#6)
42. Carl Yazstremski (#8)
43. Ted Williams (#9)
44. Carlton Fisk (#27)
45. Jackie Robinson (#42)

After the 4th of these numbers was retired, the sequence of the first four numbers was quite problematic for Red Sox fans. What was the sequence, and what was the problem?

46. 9 4 1 8
47. The date that is created by those numbers in that order – September 4, 1918 – was the date before Game 1 of the 1918 World Series, the last one the Red Sox won until 86 years went by and they finally won it again.

Who's initials appear in morse code on the famed manual scoreboard? (Two answers)

48. Red Sox owner Tom Yawkey (TAY)
49. And his wife Jean Yawkey (JRY)

Why is that seat in the right field bleachers painted red?

50. To recognize the longest home run ever hit at Fenway (a 502-foot blast by Ted Williams on June 9, 1946)