

# Local Landmark Designation Application

Type of property nominated (for staff use only)				
	building structure	site object		
	historic district	multiple resource		

#### 1. NAME AND LOCATION OF PROPERTY

historic name Huggins-Stengel Field						
other names/site number Crescent Lake Field, Miller Huggins Field, Casey Stengel Field / Site No. P106892						
address 1320 5th St N, Saint Petersburg, FI 33701						
historic address same						
2. PROPERTY OWNER(S) NAME AND ADDRESS						
name City of St. Petersburg						
street and number PO Box 2842						
city or town Saint Petersburg state FL	zip code <u>33701</u>					
phone number (h) (w) _72	7-893-7111 e-mail					
3. NOMINATION PREPARED BY						
name/title Lisset G. Hanewicz, President						
organization Crescent Lake Neighborhood Association						
street and number PO Box 7243						
city or town Saint Petersburg state FL	zip code <u>33734</u>					
phone number (h) (w) <u>727-914-4070</u>	e-mail info@clnastpete.org					
date prepared 04-22-18 signal	ure Lisset G. Hanewicz					
date prepared 04-22-10 Signal						

#### 4. BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Describe boundary line encompassing all man-made and natural resources to be included in designation (general legal description or survey). Attach map delimiting proposed boundary. (Use continuation sheet if necessary)

Huggins-Stengel Field as shown on attached aerial map delimiting proposed boundary. Also see continuation sheet for boundary description.

#### 5. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

acreage of property more than 1 acre

property identification number 183117188640010000

Huggins-Stengel Field

Name of Property

#### 6. FUNCTION OR USE

**Historic Functions** 

Recreation & Culture/Sports Facility

#### **Current Functions**

**Materials** 

Recreation & Culture/Sports Facility

#### 7. DESCRIPTION

#### Architectural Classification

(See Appendix A for list)

Other

Narrative Description

On one or more continuation sheets describe the historic and existing condition of the property use conveying the following information: original location and setting; natural features; pre-historic man-made features; subdivision design; description of surrounding buildings; major alterations and present appearance; interior appearance;

#### 8. NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	Resource Type	Contributing resources previously listed on the National Register or Local Register
		Buildings	n/a
1		Sites	
2		Structures	
		Objects	Number of multiple property listings
3		Total	n/a

#### Name of Property

#### 9. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### Criteria for Significance

(mark one or more boxes for the appropriate criteria)

- X Its value is a significant reminder of the cultural or archaeological heritage of the City, state, or nation.
  - Its location is the site of a significant local, state, or national event.
- X It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the City, state, or nation.
  - It is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose work has influenced the development of the City, state, or nation.
  - Its value as a building is recognized for the quality of its architecture, and it retains sufficient elements showing its architectural significance.
  - It has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials.
  - Its character is a geographically definable area possessing a significant concentration, or continuity or sites, buildings, objects or structures united in past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development.
- Its character is an established and geographically definable neighborhood, united in culture, architectural style or physical plan and development.
- It has contributed, or is likely to contribute, information important to the prehistory or history of the City, state, or nation.

#### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

#### Areas of Significance

(see Attachment B for detailed list of categories)

Entertainment/Recreation

Social History

Period of Significance

1925-1995

Significant Dates (date constructed & altered)

1925

Significant Person(s)

Al Lang, Miller Huggins, Casey Stengel

Cultural Affiliation/Historic Period

Builder

Architect

(Explain the significance of the property as it relates to the above criterial and information on one or more continuation sheets. Include biographical data on significant person(s), builder and architect, if known.)

#### **10. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

## BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

## **Boundary Description**

The portion of Crescent Lake Park on which the Huggins-Stengel Field rests, as recorded in Plat Book 19, Page 80, Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida, described as follows:

Crescent Lake Park, Block A, and an unsubdivided area described as from the southeast corner of Block A running west 796.6 feet for Point of Beginning thence westerly 101.04 feet to the east right-of-way of 7<sup>th</sup> Street North thence northerly along right-of-way 360 feet (S) thence East 132 feet (S) thence south 330 feet to point of beginning and vacation of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue North adjacent

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary consists of the portion of the Park historically associated with Huggins-Stengel Field f/k/a Crescent Lake Field and Miller Huggins Field.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

## Summary

Huggins-Stengel Field located within Crescent Lake Park at 1320 5<sup>th</sup> Street North was constructed in 1925 as a baseball practice field for the New York Yankees. It was originally named Crescent Lake Field, was renamed Miller Huggins Field in 1931, and eventually Huggins-Stengel Field. It was used by the New York Yankees from 1925 to 1961, followed by the New York Mets from 1962-1987, and the Baltimore Orioles from 1992-1995.

## Setting

Huggins-Stengel Field is located north of downtown St. Petersburg at 1320 5<sup>th</sup> Street North. It is part of Crescent Lake Park and is situated in the southeastern corner of the park immediately northwest of the historic Crescent Lake Water Tower. The field was constructed in 1925, one year before the local landmark, Crescent Lake Water Tower, which was built in 1926. Huggins-Stengel Field, Crescent Lake Water Tower, and Crescent Lake Park lie within a residential neighborhood, Crescent Lake Neighborhood. Crescent Lake Neighborhood is one of St. Petersburg's traditional neighborhoods.

## **Physical Description**

## **Huggins-Stengel Field**

Huggins-Stengel Field located in Crescent Lake Park at 1320 5<sup>th</sup> Street North was completed in 1925 as a baseball practice field for the New York Yankees. The field consists of the playing surface, two dugouts, and two bullpens. The playing field is encompassed between the outfield fence and the Crescent Lake Water Tower on the southeast corner. The field is oriented to the northwest. The infield of Huggins-Stengel Field is set to the specifics regulated by Major League Baseball, which states that the infield is to be ninety feet square with a base, a white canvas or rubber bag, set at every ninety feet along that square, with second base being located 127 feet, 3 3/8" from home plate, a five-sided slab of whitened rubber. The first, second, and third base bags are fifteen inches square, and not more than five inches thick. Located around home plate is a dirt area, measured at a 26' foot circle, allowing for the home plate, right-handed and left-handed batter's boxes and a catcher's box.

There are also two dugouts located on the field, one on the first base side and one on the third base side. The dugouts are constructed of concrete blocks. Seating inside of the dugouts is constructed using metal flat seat planking. Both dugouts are roofed with corrugated metal. There is a flag pole to the west side of the dugout by the third base side. A baseball backstop fence is located between the dugouts with a wood bench behind the backstop fence. The Crescent Lake Water Tower stands surrounded by fencing behind the baseball backstop.

The outfield is designated between two foul lines extending two sides of the square, often associated with the first and third base lines. The distance from home plate to the left field pole is 340 feet; 400 feet to left center field; 409 to center; and 437 feet to right field. These distances are the actual distances, although the signs on the fence state the distances as Left field - 340, Center - 400, and Right field - 430. A dirt strip is located along the outfield fence forming what is known as a "warning track," which runs along the entire outfield fence. There are also two bullpens located in foul territory. One bullpen is situated in the foul territory by first base and the other bullpen is in the foul territory by third base. Each of these bullpens contains two pitcher's mounds.

The original 1920's Yankees clubhouse, which was adjacent to the field, was torn down and replaced by the current clubhouse built in 1960. Some original lockers were moved to the new clubhouse. In 2003, the clubhouse underwent renovations to house the City of St. Petersburg's Teen Arts, Sports, and Cultural Opportunities (TASCO) offices.

#### Integrity

Huggins-Stengel Field retains the integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association. Originally, there was no fence enclosing the field. Eventually, Australian pine trees were densely planted on the border of Crescent Lake by Huggins-Stengel

Field after batters complained of the reflection from the lake. Around 1954, an outfield chain-link fence was erected between the field and the trees to prevent shorter drives from rolling into Crescent Lake. At one point, a second practice field oriented to the northwest was added in the northeastern end of Huggins-Stengel Field, which is no longer there. Since being built, the baseball field has never been raised or lowered.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Summary

Huggins-Stengel Field is significant at the local level in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation and Social History and meets the following criteria for designation of a historic property found in Section 16.30.070.2.5.D of the City of St. Petersburg Code:

(a) Its value is a significant reminder of the cultural or archaeological heritage of the City, state, or nation.

(c) It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the development of the City, state, or nation

(i) It has contributed, or is likely to contribute, information important to the prehistory or history of the City, state, or nation.

Al F. Lang, former St. Petersburg Mayor from 1916 to 1920, is best known for bringing baseball to St. Petersburg. The tradition of spring training in St. Petersburg began in 1914. In 1924, Al Lang convinced the New York Yankees to train in St. Petersburg. Crescent Lake Field was built in 1925 as the training field for the Yankees. A decade after spring training's arrival in St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg became the epicenter for major league training and a tourist destination.

An era of spring training at Crescent Lake Field (n/k/a Huggins-Stengel Field) would continue for 70 years. The New York Yankees trained at Huggins-Stengel Field from 1925-1942, 1946-1950, 1952-1961. In 1951, the New York Giants trained at Huggins-Stengel Field due to an agreement with the Yankees to swap training sites. After the New York Yankees left St. Petersburg, the New York Mets (1962-1987) and the Baltimore Orioles (1992-1995) held their spring training at Huggins-Stengel Field. Baseball greats such as Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Bill Dickey, Joe DiMaggio, Yogi Berra, Whitey Ford, Mickey Mantle, Cal Ripken Jr., Roger Maris, Tom Seaver, Daryl Strawberry, Dwight Gooden, Nolan Ryan, and Willie Mays played at Huggins-Stengel Field. The field has not been raised or lowered and is virtually the same field baseball legends played on since 1925.

#### **Historical Context**

The history of major league baseball spring training in St. Petersburg dates back to 1914. In the spring of 1914, major league baseball arrived in the City of St. Petersburg due to the efforts of a local baseball association, St. Petersburg Baseball and Amusement Co., courting the St. Louis Browns to hold their spring training in St. Petersburg. The St. Louis Browns only trained in St. Petersburg one year because the team decided to go elsewhere in 1915. In October 1914, the local baseball association, represented by Al Lang, underwent efforts to find another big-league club to train in St. Petersburg. By November 1914, Al Lang had successfully arranged for the Philadelphia Phillies to hold their 1915 spring training in St. Petersburg. In 1916, Pat Moran, Phillies Manager, remarked that all the credit was to be given to Al Lang that the Phillies were in St. Petersburg.

In 1916, AI Lang successfully ran for Mayor of St. Petersburg. He was re-elected in 1918 and served until 1920. His involvement in bringing national league baseball to the city and being the head of the local baseball association were some of his achievements when running for mayor establishing him as a local hero. Hosting major league baseball spring training games not only brought visitors to St Petersburg, but also ensured national exposure for the city for years to come.

The Phillies trained at Sunshine Park, a ballpark adjacent to Coffee Pot Bayou. Sunshine Park, also known as Coffee Pot Bayou Park, was the first ballpark in St. Petersburg used for major league spring training. Its location remains unclear – some believe it was located somewhere in Granada Terrace while others believe it was on North Shore Drive. The Phillies trained in St. Petersburg through 1918 and notified Al Lang late in 1918 they would not return for 1919 season.

Mayor Al Lang immediately began efforts to secure a major league team to train in St. Petersburg. Al Lang's efforts to sign a big-league club to train in St. Petersburg continued after he finished his term as Mayor. Not until late 1921, after three years of working towards his goal of bringing spring training back to St. Petersburg, did Al Lang sign a major league team - the Boston Braves. Improvements on Waterfront Park, which was located a block south of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, began within 24 hours of the news of the acceptance. Waterfront Park was an aviation field that was turned into a ball field when Sunshine Park, Lang's original ball park, had been cut into building lots a few years earlier. The Boston Braves began their spring training in St. Petersburg in 1922 and continued until 1937.

In 1924, it was announced that St. Petersburg would have two major league ball clubs training in St. Petersburg – the Championship New York Yankees and the Boston Braves. The New York Yankees would hold spring training in St. Petersburg beginning in 1925. At the time, the Yankees were the 1923 World Series champions and had one of the most famous baseball players, Babe Ruth. Al Lang, who became known as St. Petersburg's "Ambassador of Baseball," was responsible for negotiating the deal.

Pursuant to the terms of the contract, the Yankees would train in St. Petersburg for six years. St. Petersburg would be the only city in the United States to have two major league teams training in the same city. The deal would bring the total of major league teams training in Florida to ten.



*Figure 1* "Al Lang Closes Big Deal New York Scribes Happy." *St. Petersburg Times*, 8 July 1924

Crescent Lake Park, one of the largest park reservations in the area, was the chosen site for the New York Yankees' training field. In 1919, C. Perry Snell, who owned Crescent Lake Park and 56 acres around the lake, sold it to the City of St. Petersburg for \$30,000 to turn it into a park. The \$30,000 price was much less than the property's value at the time of the sale. Mr. Snell, a huge benefactor of public parks, sold it to the city on easy terms so that the city could use money from its budget for the purchase price. In 1920, the city identified Crescent Lake Park as a location for a new athletic field for big-league training, although it would not come to fruition until Al Lang made the deal with the New York Yankees in 1924.

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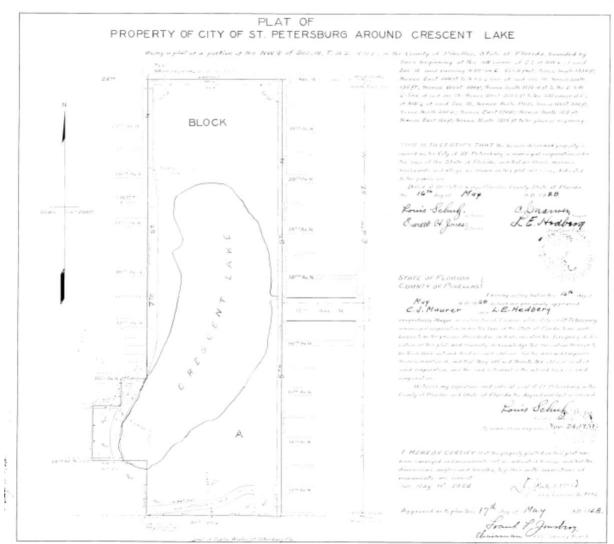


Figure 2 Plat of Property of City of St. Petersburg Around Crescent Lake, May 1928. Plat Book 19, Page 80.

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By June 1924, work had begun to prepare the Crescent Lake park grounds for the New York Yankees. Al Lang was the authorized representative of the Chamber of Commerce to transact all business in connection with preparing Crescent Lake baseball field for the Yankees. All the training was to take place at Crescent Lake field with exhibition games played at Waterfront Park. It only took a couple of months after AI Lang announced the New York Yankees were going to hold spring training in St. Petersburg to complete the training field at Crescent Lake Park with the exception of planting the grass and clearing scrub oaks from the adjoining land.

The training field would occupy about six acres in the extreme southeast corner of Crescent Lake Park. The ground was built up more than seven feet about



*Figure 3* "New Park Formed at Crescent Lake." *St. Petersburg Times.* 12 October 1924.

the level of the lake. This was done by cutting away the high ground on the eastern half of the field and grading it toward the lake. A dredge was used to fill in sand from the bottom of the lake into the depression around the lake.

The Yankees training field would be accessible from Fourth Street. The clearing of the scrub oaks and underbrush from the south section of the property would provide parking spaces for more than 500 automobiles. Temporary bleachers would be erected since all games would be played at Waterfront Park. At the time, the city planned to build a huge concrete stadium on the site, which along with an athletic field for the schools would make Crescent Lake Park a center of sports.

Phil Schenck, the groundkeeper of Yankee Stadium, supervised the field's construction and wanted a deep right field. A deep right field would ensure that less baseballs would end up in the lake. The field was "made to measure" for Babe Ruth who was the home

run king at the time. As a result, they filled in and sodded the field for a distance of 390 feet from home plate to the outer rim of right field.

A permit was issued on January 26, 1925 to build the clubhouse building for the Yankees. It was to be situated on the high ground at the right of the first base line in front of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue N. The building was 70 feet long and provided space for 52 lockers. In the front part of the structure there would be three separate rooms: one for manager Miller J. Huggins, a supply room, and another room used as a rubbing room.

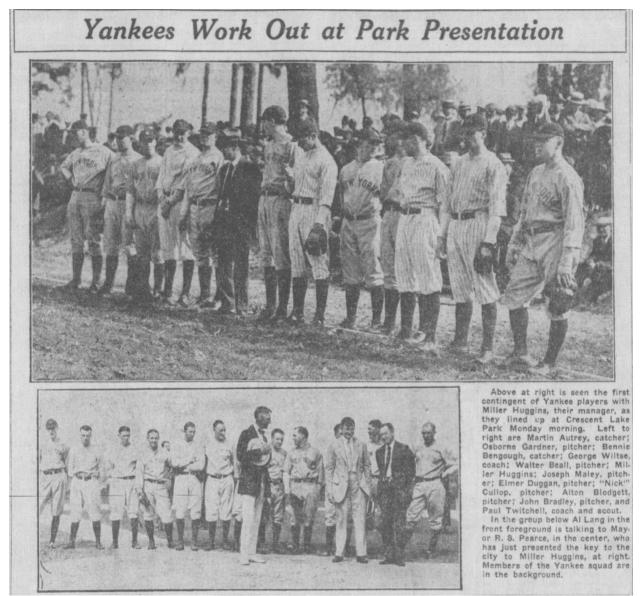


Figure 4 "Miller Huggins Presented with Training Field." St. Petersburg Times. 24 February 1925.

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On February 23, 1925, 5,000 fans witnessed Al Lang officially turn over Crescent Lake baseball field over to the New York Yankees. Al Lang pitched the ball to Miller Huggins symbolizing the official transfer of the park. Within a decade, St. Petersburg had become the epicenter for major league training and developed into a major tourist location. The day before Al Lang handed Crescent Lake Park to Yankees manager Miller J. Huggins, reporter Stoney McLinn wrote that it "will do well to go back a matter of 10 years and recall that it was baseball, the nation's pastime, that started to put the Sunshine City on the map." The Yankees won the World Series in 1927 and 1928. During the months of February and March, fans would fill the stands at Crescent Lake Park to watch the Yankees, especially Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, and Tony Lazzeri.

In 1930, Crescent Lake Field was dedicated to Yankees manager Miller Huggins who had passed away in 1929. A ceremony was held at Crescent Lake Park with more than 2,000 persons in attendance and a granite block with a bronze tablet was unveiled at the ceremony. The granite block weighed approximately 1,500 pounds. The monument was to be an exact counterpart of the Eddie Grant memorial at the Polo grounds in New York. The monument currently stands outside the former clubhouse. The bronze tablet honoring Miller Huggins reads:

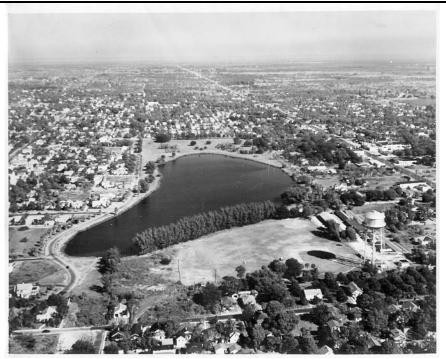
"As a memorial and tribute to an outstanding sportsman and splendid character, who as a



*Figure* 5 "Huggins Field Dedicated to Late Manager." *St. Petersburg Times.* 14 March 1931.

Manager of the New York Yankees and resident of this city contributed to its fame and the betterment of baseball, the citizens of St. Petersburg dedicate this ground, which forever shall be known as Miller Huggins Field."

In 1946, the City of St. Petersburg constructed a replacement for the aging Waterfront Park. The new ballpark was named in honor of Al Lang. Al Lang Field opened in March 1947. The Yankees would hold their home spring training games to Al Lang Field, but continue their practice sessions at Huggins-Stengel Field. The Yankees shared Al Lang Field with the St. Louis Cardinals, the other team in St. Petersburg at the time.



*Figure 6* Aerial CL looking north 1940's. St. Petersburg Museum of History, Photo P02752. This photograph was taken prior to tennis courts being built on the southwest corner of the park.

Since 1925, there were only a few years that the Yankees did not train at Huggins-Stengel Field. The Yankees did not train in St. Petersburg from 1943-1945 due to war-time travel restrictions. Then in 1951, the New York Yankees and the New York Giants swapped training sites with the Yankees going to Phoenix and the Giants training at Huggins-Stengel Field. The Giants became the first team other than the Yankees to train at Huggins-Stengel Field.



*Figure 7* CL Baseball Park, 1940's. St. Petersburg Museum of History, Photo P01570.

In 1959, a new \$29,300 clubhouse (100'x49') was slated to be built and completed by the beginning of spring training in 1960. The clubhouse would replace the original clubhouse, which at the time of construction was still standing at the entrance to the field situated at 5th St. N. and 13th Ave. N. The new clubhouse was located opposite of right field.

Al Lang passed away in 1960. Before Al Lang moved to Florida in 1910, there were no major league teams on the west coast. He changed the course of St. Petersburg's history by pursuing his goal of bring major league baseball teams to St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg greatly benefited from the efforts

of the man known as St. Petersburg's "ambassador of baseball."

In February 1961 news broke of the Yankees moving from St. Petersburg to Ft. Lauderdale. At the time, there had been segregation related housing issues for players training in St. Petersburg. However, another issue in keeping the Yankees in St. Petersburg were the dated facilities. Plus, AI Lang Field was shared with another team. The facilities in St. Petersburg could not compare to what Ft. Lauderdale promised – a new modern 8,000 seat stadium including air-conditioned clubhouse and offices with desegregated housing for players. The spring training season of 1961 would mark the end of an era of the Yankees in St. Petersburg. After 36 years, the Yankees left St. Petersburg for new facilities in Ft. Lauderdale. The Yankees won a total of 17 World Championship titles in the years they trained at Huggins-Stengel Field.

In 1962, a new expansion team, the New York Mets, would call Huggins-Stengel Field home for spring training. Also, a person well-known in St. Petersburg would come out of retirement and become the first manager for the Mets, Casey Stengel. Casey Stengel was the manager of the Yankees from 1949 through 1960. During Stengel's tenure, the Yankees won 10 pennants and 7 World Championships.

In 1962, a group of city officials and civic leaders wanted to pay tribute to Casey Stengel by changing the name of Huggins Field to Casey Stengel Field. A resolution was passed by the City of St. Petersburg city council. On August 25, 1962, a formal presentation was made in a ceremony prior to a Mets-Dodgers game at Polo Grounds. There was opposition to the name change and in January 1963 the Chamber of Commerce's baseball committee endorsed a combined name, Huggins-Stengel Field. On February 21, 1963 the field was renamed Huggins-Stengel Field. In August 1963, a

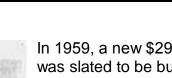


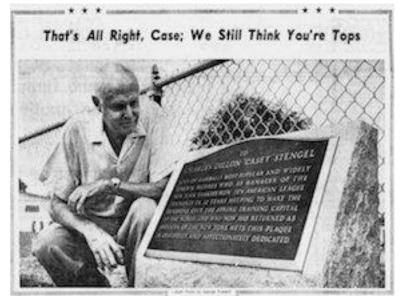


Figure 8 "Will It Change Their Luck?" St. Petersburg

Times. 9 February 1960.

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tablet on a granite block, similar to the one dedicated in 1930 to Miller Huggins, was erected at Huggins-Stengel Field honoring Casey Stengel. The plaque reads:



"One of baseball's most popular and widely known figures who, as manager of the New York Yankees, won ten American League pennants in 12 years, helping to make the Sunshine City the spring training capital of the world and who now has returned as manager of the New York Mets, this plaque is gratefully and affectionately dedicated."

*Figure 9* Photo of baseball historian Fred Lieb, who along with J. Roy Stockton, wrote the inscription. *St. Petersburg Times.* 18 August 1963

The New York Mets trained at Huggins-Stengel Field through the 1987 season, playing their home games at Al Lang Field (later Al Lang Stadium). During the time they trained in St Petersburg, the New York Mets won the World Series twice - in 1969 and 1986. From 1992-1995 the Baltimore Orioles trained at Huggins-Stengel Field. The team had three one-year options to play games at Al Lang Stadium and practice at Huggins-Stengel Field. At the time, the Orioles were seeking a long-term spring training home, which they found in Ft. Lauderdale in 1996.

In 1997, city council approved a 10-year lease agreement turning over management of Huggins-Stengel Field, Al Lang Stadium, and the former Busch complex to the Devil Rays. The Devil Rays did not end up using Huggins-Stengel Field much for practice because they had other practice fields. As a result, in late 1999 the Devil Rays returned Huggins-Stengel Field to the city. While Huggins-Stengel Field was in the Rays' control, improvements were made to the clubhouse, the backstop was replaced, and the irrigation system was repaired.

In 2003, the 1960 Huggins-Stengel clubhouse underwent \$230,000 in renovations to make offices and a meeting room. The building is now home to the City of St. Petersburg's Teen Arts, Sports, and Cultural Opportunities program, which began in the 1980's. During the renovations, the monuments to Miller Huggins and Casey Stengel were moved from the vicinity of the right field dugout to the front of the clubhouse.

In 2008, the era of spring training in the City of St. Petersburg came to an end after 94 years. On March 28, 2008, the final spring game in the City of St. Petersburg was held at AI Lang Field with the Rays vs. Reds. During this 94-year span, with the exception of a few years during World War II, 9 major league baseball teams called St. Petersburg home for spring training:

St. Louis Browns	1914
Philadelphia Phillies	1915-1918
Boston Braves	1922-1937
New York Yankees	1925-1942, 1946-1950, 1952-1961
St. Louis Cardinals	1938-1942, 1946-1997
New York Giants	1951
New York Mets	1962-1987
Baltimore Orioles	1993-1995
Tampa Bay Rays	1998-2008

The historic ball fields in St. Petersburg are mostly gone. Sunshine Field/Coffee Pot Bayou Park was cut into building lots prior to Waterfront Park being built. Waterfront Park was replaced by AI Lang Field, now home to the Rowdies of the United Soccer League.

However, there is still one ball field in St. Petersburg built for baseball greats from a time long ago. It continues to be open to local schools such as St. Petersburg High School and other groups. The only visible and tangible reminders of its rich history are the monuments to Miller Huggins and Casey Stengel, some memorabilia contained in the old renovated clubhouse, and the unassuming historic baseball field sitting quietly in the Crescent Lake neighborhood known as "Huggins-Stengel Field."

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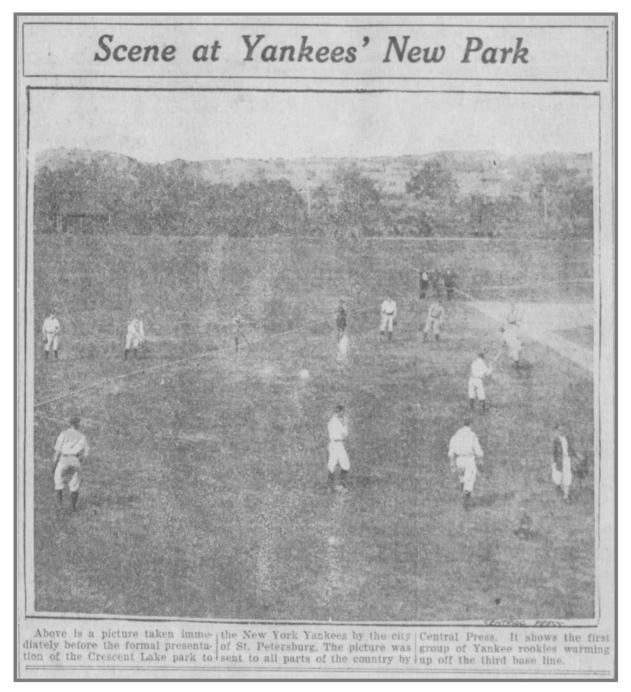
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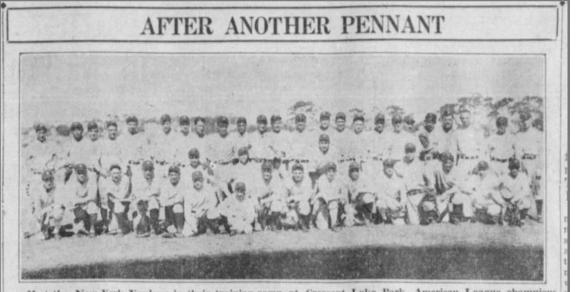
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Additional photographs:



St. Petersburg Times, 2 March 1925.

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Meet the New York Yankees in their training camp at Crescent Lake Park. American League champions last year and strong favorites to repeat this season. Introducing, back row from left to right—Lazzeri, Durst. Grabowski, Giard, Johnson, Meusel, Combs, Gehrig, Wiltse, Farrell, Williams, Pipgrass, Cy Moore, Flickinger, V. Davis, Hoyt, Chesterfield, Beall, Collins, Reuther, Ruth, Dugan, Critchell and Thomas. Front row from left to right—Koeing, Moorhart, Adams, Paschal, Wera, Cannon (top), O'Leary, coach; Huggins, manager; G. Davis (above), Art Fletcher, coach, Funk, Gazella, Shawkey (top), Phillips, Shocker, Bengough, Nee (scout), Doc Woods (trainer), and Eddie Bennett (mascot). Photo by Ray Williams

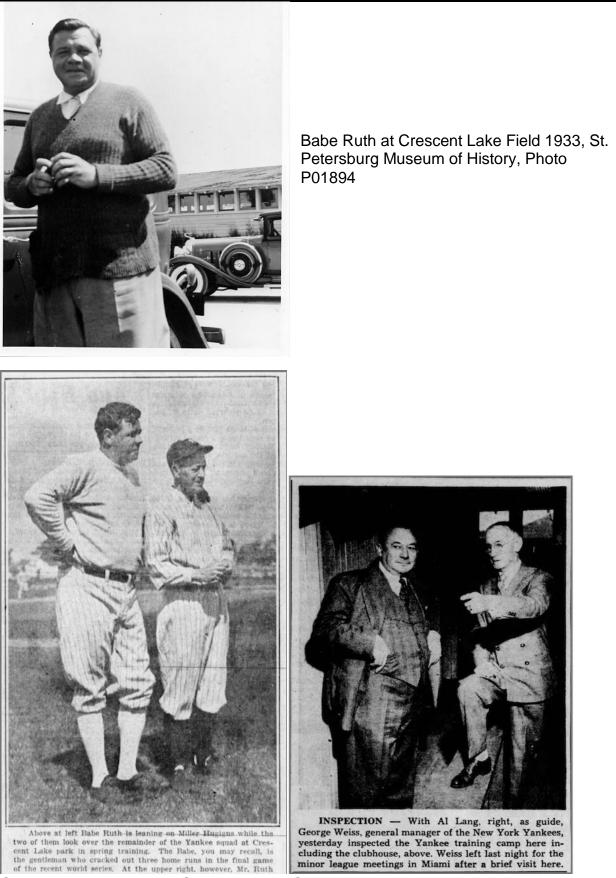
St. Petersburg Times, 23 March 1927



SPRING TRAINING STARTS HERE-When the World Champion New York Yankees trotted out on Miller Huggins field. Creaseent Lake for their initial practice yesterday, 33-year-old "Poosh-"Em-Up" Tony Lazzeri (at bat) showed no suspicion of "old age" which sport scribes annually pre-dict will remove him from major league ranks. The Yankees second baseman is shown here a second after tashing the ball in the general direction of the late during batting practice. The Yankees train daily at the memorial field, while the Boston Bes, under Manager Bill McKechnie, are drill-ing at Waterfront park. St Petersburg is the only city in the nation to be spring training camp for two major league teams. (Additional details on sports pages.)

St. Petersburg Times, 2 March 1937

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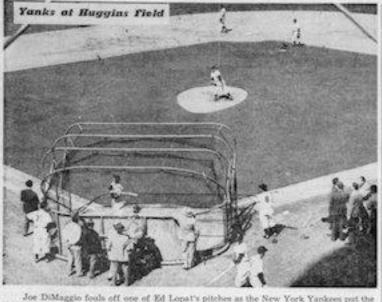


St. Petersburg Times, 14 October 1928. St. Petersburg Times, 30 November 1947.

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NY Yankees team photo at Crescent Lake 1942. St. Petersburg Museum of History, Photo P08324.



Joe DiMaggio fouls off one of Ed Lopat's pitches as the New York Yankees put the batting cage to use in yesterday's opening day of Spring training at Huggins Field. (Staff Photo by Johanie Evans)

St. Petersburg Times. 2 March 1949.

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training base. It was erected by Chamber of Commerce to keep "shorter" drives from rolling into Crescent Lake. "World Champion Yanks Launch Prospect School."

St. Petersburg Times. 3 February 1954.

Current photographs of Huggins-Stengel Field (taken April 21, 2018):



Monuments to Casey Stengel and Miller Huggins in front of clubhouse



Entrance to field



Huggins-Stengel Field view from home plate



Huggins-Stengel Field view southeast towards Water Tower showing dugouts



Dugout by entrance to field (by first base side)



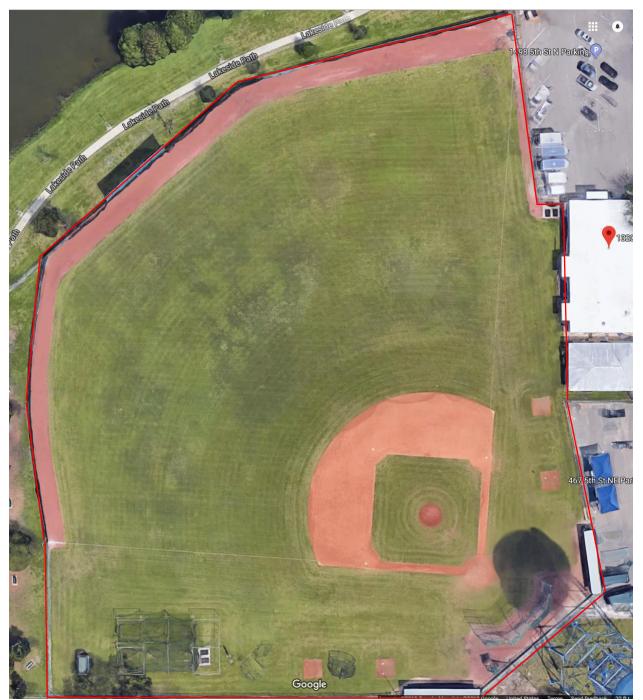
Dugout west of Water Tower (by third base side)



Bullpen in the foul territory by third base



Bullpen in the foul territory by first base



Aerial view of Huggins-Stengel Field via Google Maps.