



Exterior of Fenway Park, from Van Ness St.



Pedestrian Circulation around the Fenway Area

FENWAY PARK

Chris Drinan

Quick Facts:

Completed in April 1912

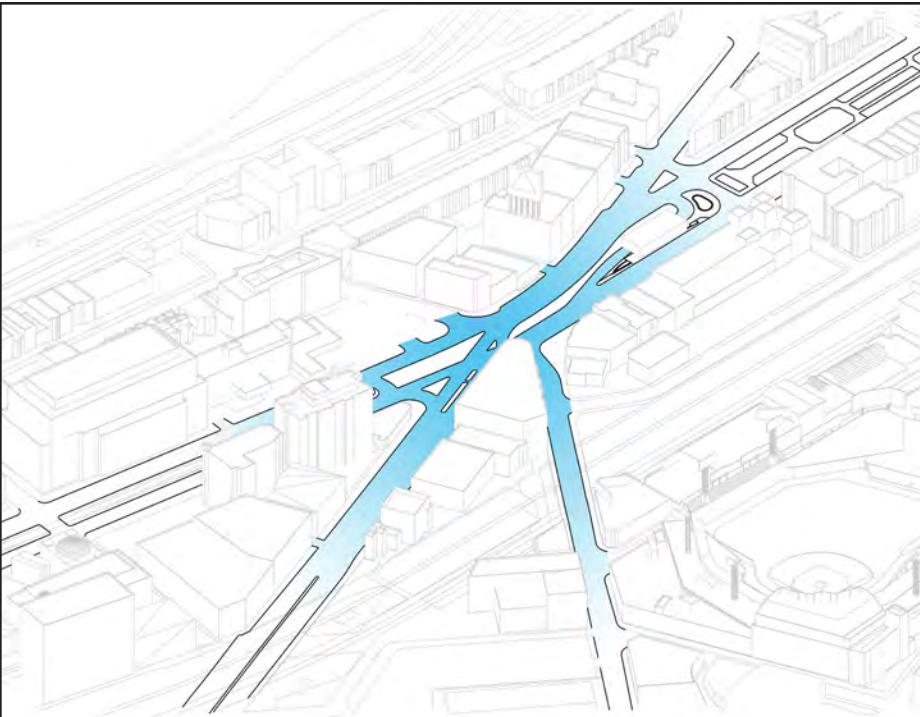
Address: 4 Yawkey Way

Architect: James McLaughlin

Materials: Brick, Concrete, Tin, Other Metals

Size: 1 City Block

Fenway Park is the baseball stadium home to the Boston Red Sox since 1912. Located just across highway from Kenmore Square, it is the most significant landmark in the Fenway neighborhood. The park was one of the first major construction projects in the area, and was named for the neighborhood in order to represent it. After its inception, the neighborhood began to grow rapidly and the buildings around the stadium adhered to the brick design and height datum that was already created. This created a tight knit relationship between both the park and community, something that is noticeably lacking in most other stadia throughout the United States.



Axonometric Diagram identifying Kenmore Square as the central access hub to Fenway Park

The Boston Red Sox used to play on the Huntington Avenue Grounds, which is now Northeastern University's campus. While still located in the Fenway/Kenmore neighborhood, it was poorly constructed and could no longer house the growing team and fan base. Therefore, at the end of the 1911 season, construction began in the area known as the Fens. This site was chosen because of the large amount of area available, since the Fenway was not even incorporated as a neighborhood yet. After only a few months of construction, the park opened in April of 1912, with the first game against the New York Yankees on April 20th. The grand opening was in part overshadowed by the recent Titanic disaster, but the date marked a milestone in baseball history.

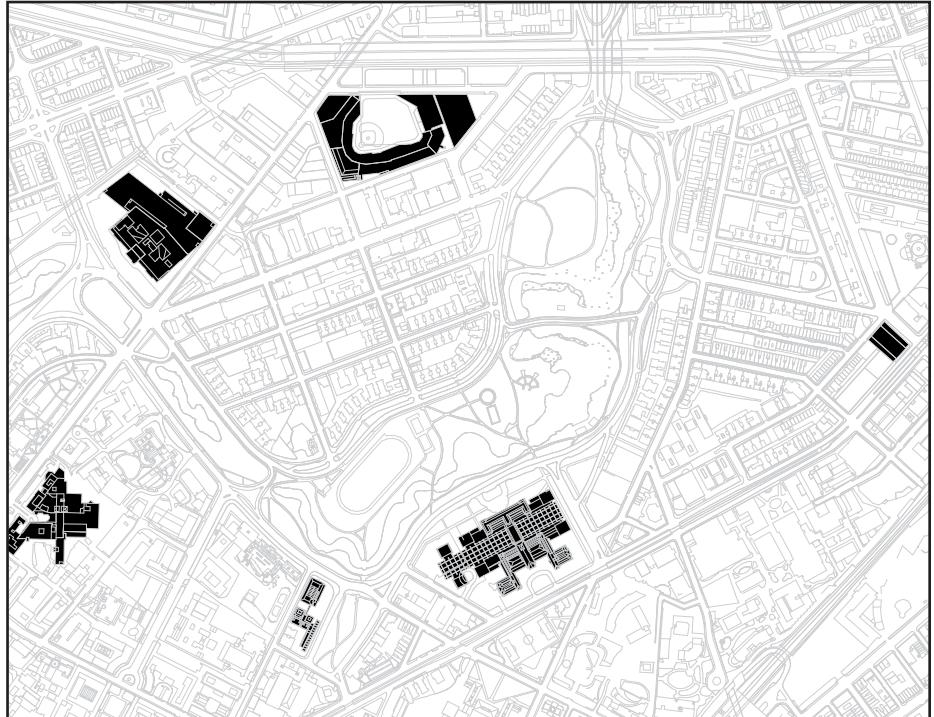


Figure Ground drawing of the Fenway neighborhood highlighting the landmark buildings of the area

The park was renovated over the years, with major expansions in 1934, 1946, and the early 2000's. Despite these more recent projects, the aura and architectural style of the park has been unchanged. This makes it the oldest ballpark in America, and it is the only stadium on the National Register of Historic Places. The classic brick façade in traditional style is highly successful, and many more recent stadia attempt to mimic the architectural articulation because of this. This architectural success has stood the test of time as the Fenway neighborhood rapidly developed. While apartment buildings and restaurants sprouted up all over, Fenway Park was an icon of not only the neighborhood, but the city as a whole.