

## SAVE THE YANKEE GATE 2 COMMITTEE

Press Release: October 6, 2009



Recently, we met with three key members of the Bronx Borough President's Office. This meeting was requested and sponsored by Ruben Diaz, Jr. On 9/21/09, The Bronx team reviewed and discussed our proposal to preserve the original Yankee Gate 2 as part of the design for the new Heritage Field, to be built on the site of the original Yankee Stadium (The House that Ruth Built).

In attendance were: Wilhelm Ronda-Director of Planning, Dan Donovan-Landmarks and Topography, Sam Goodson-City Projects and Transportation, Mark Costello-Save Gate 2 and John Trush-Save Gate 2.

Our friendly, active and open exchange covered the following topics:

- The inclusion of Gate 2 will not delay the completion date of Heritage Field. Our focus will continue to work collaboratively with the Bronx community, Bronx officials and Parks officials.
- Multiple funding options exist to offset any incremental costs and to provide an on-going maintenance endowment.
- Gate 2 is original and represents the only practical element for inclusion from the 1920-30-40-50-60's era. The current NYC Department of Parks and Recreation design plan does not include any authentic historical items that date from before 1976.
- Our joint ideas will be presented and discussed with Ruben Diaz, Jr. for further consideration.

An excellent update summary written by Benjamin Peim appeared in The Daily News on 9/28/09.

Heritage Field/Yankee Stadium is no longer on the agenda for the 10/5/09 NYC Design Commission meeting. It was originally posted as item #23688 and then withdrawn without a reason specified. The next opportunity for the Department of Parks and Recreation to appear before the Design Commission will be on Monday, 10/26/09.

The complete details of our proposal, including renderings and animations, are located on our website at [www.savetheyankeegate2.com](http://www.savetheyankeegate2.com).

We welcome the opportunity to provide additional information, to meet in-person and to discuss our proposal with all interested individuals.

We can be contacted directly as follows:

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## GATE 2 ORIGINALITY

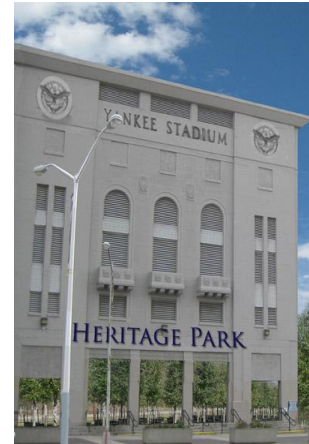
The exciting reality is that more than 80% of the original 1920's Gate structure remains. Of the stadium's three main entrances, Gate 2 was the only one not significantly altered during the renovation and Gate 2 is the most architecturally significant element remaining from the pre-renovated structure. Please refer to the three photos/renderings below that clearly illustrate this originality.



**Gate 2: 1928-1973**



**Gate 2: 1976-Current**



**Gate 2: Proposed**

In terms of its construction, the lowest section of the Gate was built in 1923 when the stadium opened. The upper portion (arches & balconies) was added in 1928 with the leftfield grandstand extension. Because the upper deck was reconfigured during the Yankee Stadium renovation in 1973-76, the uppermost section seen in the old photo on the left (containing the two medallions and the "Yankee Stadium" lettering) was replaced with the concrete strip with the three vent openings, and the cornice above, as shown in the center post renovation photo.

Our proposed Gate 2 restoration (depicted at right) would only involve the removal of the horizontal concrete strip located above the cornice (refer to center photo) and reinstalling the two medallions and the Yankee Stadium lettering.

The two sidewalls would provide stability for Gate 2 as shown in the rendering below. The sidewall on the right (or current outfield side) was built as part of the 1928 grandstand extension. This wall still exists. So new construction would consist of just the one sidewall depicted on the left (or infield side) of this rendering.

