Guide to the J. A. “BOB” QUINN PAPERS

National Baseball Hall of Fame Library
25 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

www.baseballhall.org

This guide to the collection was prepared by Anne McFarland and reviewed by Andrew Newman in December 2006.
It was updated by Claudette Scrafford in March 2013 and in July 2015.
Collection Number
BA MSS 38
BL-76.2007

Title
J.A. “Bob” Quinn Papers

Inclusive Dates
1890-1946 (bulk 1910-1933)

Extent
1.25 linear feet (4 manuscript boxes)

Repository
National Baseball Hall of Fame Library
25 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

Abstract
This collection contains correspondence, financial reports, and photographs of J.A. “Bob” Quinn career in baseball.

Preferred Citation
J.A. “Bob” Quinn Papers, 1890-1946, BA MSS 38, National Baseball Hall of Fame Library, Cooperstown, NY

Access
By appointment during regular business hours, email research@baseballhall.org.

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Separations
Oversized material from the collection have been separated from the original folders and placed in an oversized box. BA MSS OVR Box 1, see content list below.

Photographs have been photocopied; originals have been separated to the Photograph Department.

History
James Aloysius "Bob" Quinn was born on February 14, 1870 in Columbus, OH.

His baseball career began in 1888 as a minor league player in Indiana, Ohio, New York and Virginia leagues. In 1900, he started in Columbus as a groundskeeper and
worked his way up to president. He served in that capacity until 1917, when he left to become the vice president and business manager for the St. Louis Browns.

After six years with the Browns, he, with associates Palmer Winslow, Robert Drury, etc., purchased the Boston Red Sox from Harry Frazee. By 1933, it was evident that the venture was failing as Quinn had to take out a loan against his life insurance policy to pay for spring training expenses. He sold the team to Thomas Yawkey. The proceeds from the sale went to the other investors and his debtors. Quinn came away without a penny.

During the 1933 season, Quinn returned to the minor leagues for a short time, taking a position with the Reading club of the New York-Penn League. In 1934, he became the business manager for the Brooklyn Dodgers. He stayed there before he was offered a position with the Boston Braves in 1935, and he remained there until mid-1946.

In 1946, he left the Braves and went to work for Wilson and Company as a salesman but soon retired in 1948. In 1948, he accepted the position of Director at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. He would remain there until 1952.

Mr. Quinn died on March 12, 1954 after suffering a stroke.

Sources
Quinn, J.A. Robert. Clippings files, National Baseball Hall of Fame Library.

Scope and Content
This collection follows the baseball career of J.A. “Bob” Quinn. The collection is arranged according to the teams Mr. Quinn was associated with at a particular time. Within each of these team designations, there is correspondence, clippings, ephemera, and financial information. During his time with the Boston Red Sox, Mr. Quinn was very active with the Boston Park Department programs regarding sports; therefore, the annual reports from this are also included.

Of note in the St. Louis correspondence, is some information regarding the sale of the team. The Boston Red Sox correspondence contains information regarding the financial situation of the team and its ultimate sale to Thomas Yawkey in 1933.

Controlled Access Terms
These records are indexed under the following terms in the National Baseball Hall of Fame’s Library catalog. Researchers wishing to find related materials may wish to search under these terms.

Subjects/Genres
• Baseball executives – Biography.
• Correspondence
• Photographs
• Minor League Baseball

Corporate Names
• Boston Red Sox
• St. Louis Browns
• Brooklyn Dodgers
• Boston Braves
• Boston Park Department

Personal Names
• Quinn, J. A. “Bob”
• Bernard, E.S.
• Landis, Kenesaw Mountain, 1866-1944.

Content List
Box 1

19th century
Folder 1 “Women and Baseball” by Jane Stuart, photocopy
Demorest’s Family Magazine, 1890, pages 591-596

Folder 2 Scorecards, Boxscores c. 1895, Quinn listed as catcher
Young Easterners, Lancasters

Columbus, OH
Folder 3 Correspondence, 1900 - 1917

Folder 4 Clippings, 1910 - 1915

Folder 5 Invitation to Providence Eastern League Baseball Club Opening Day, Apr 25, 1907 BL-1044.70
Harrisburg vs Williamsport, scored scorecard, 1907
Ohio State League Schedules, 1908-1909
Invitation to NAPBL dinner, Oct 23, 1902
Cover only-Champions Season 1905, Jas. A. Quinn
Columbus champions dinner, Sept 18, 1906
Flag-raising day, West Side Base Ball Park, Chicago
July 4, 1907, National League Pennant 1906
Pittsburgh Baseball Club champions dinner, Dec 15, 1909
Invitation to the opening of White Sox Park, July 1, 1910
NAPBBL banquet program, Nov 12, 1913

Boston Red Sox championship dinner program, Oct 6, 1915
Team photo, menu

**Folder 6**
Columbus BB Club, receipts and expenditures 1909, BL-1054.70
Columbus BB Club, receipts and expenditures 1910, BL-1052.70
Columbus BB Club, trial balance, May 31, 1911
Columbus BB Club, Annual statement Dec 1, 1916, BL-1050.70
Columbus BB Club, General report Nov 30, 1916, BL-1051.70
List of players with salaries, no date
Newark BB Club, receipts and disbursements 1910, BL-1053.70

Newark BB Club, July 19 - Aug. 23, year unknown
Receipts & expenditures BL-1055.70
Weekly Time Book, 1904-1907, employees

**Folder 7**
American Association contract, Columbus BB Club, Apr 15, 1887
10 Inter-State League contracts, Columbus BB Club, Feb-Apr 1900
Inter-State League contract, Columbus BB Club, Apr 9, 1901

**St. Louis, MO**

**Folder 8**
Correspondence, 1917

**Folder 9**
Correspondence, 1918

**Folder 10**
Correspondence, 1919; includes copy of Ban Johnson’s affidavit

**Folder 11**
Correspondence, 1920

**Box 2**

**Folder 1**
Correspondence, 1921

**Folder 2**
Correspondence, 1922, Apr 4, 1923

**Folder 3**
Receipts and disbursements, 1917 - 1919
Signed contracts, Feb 7, 1922; list of names and salaries
Trial Balance, Dec 30, 1922, Dec 30, 1933
Clippings

**Boston, MA (AL)**

*Folder 4*  
Correspondence, 1924-1928

*Folder 5*  
Correspondence, 1929

*Folder 6*  
Correspondence, 1930

*Folder 7*  
Correspondence, 1931, 1932  
Executed contract of Daniel F. MacFayden, Jun 6, 1932

*Folder 8*  
Correspondence, January – February, 1933

**Box 3**

*Folder 1*  
Correspondence, March, 1933

*Folder 2*  
William F. Carrigan executed contract, 1927-1928 Red Sox manager  
Photograph of a May 16, 1925 check, from Cleveland Club to  
Brundt Automatic Cashier Co.  
Portland Eskimos, N.E. League, 1926 receipts and expenses  
Appraisal report for Fenway Park, August 20, 1928  
Liabilities, Sept 1924 and estimated Aug 1928, stockholders’ notes  
Division of 6000 Red Sox shares for purchasing group, 1930 agreement  
Receipt for railroad travel, Feb 13, 1932  
Receipt for loan payment, Quinn to Harry M. Stevens, Inc., Feb 1932  
Receipt for payment on MacFayden’s contract, to NY Yankees, Jul 1932  
Semi-final statement, Boston Baseball Co. and Harry M. Stevens, Inc.,  
Oct 1932  
Receipt of mortgage interest paid to Jacob Ruppert, Dec 1932

*Folder 3*  
Three Christmas cards, no date  
Front of an envelope, postmarked Jul 3, 1926, with image of Quinn,  
catcher’s mask and chest protector, red sox in cleats, addressed  
to Fenway Park, Boston, MA  
Three admission receipt tickets to Fenway, gov. tax 10 cents, no date
Written in French, honorary member of St. Anne Parish, 1926
RSVP to National League’s 50\textsuperscript{th} anniversary dinner, Feb 2, 1926
Babe Ruth’s All-America teams, 1922-1931
Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig signatures, not authenticated
“The Dearo”, East Cambridge Catholic Club newsletter, July 5, 1929
National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues 25\textsuperscript{th} annual convention, Dec 7-9, 1926, invitation

\textit{Folder 4}  
Clippings, 1926 - 1933

\textbf{Reading, PA}

\textit{Folder 5}  
Correspondence, April 1933

\textit{Folder 6}  
Correspondence, May – Sept 1933

\textbf{Brooklyn, NY}

\textit{Folder 7}  
Correspondence, 1935 (3)

\textbf{Boston, MA (NL)}

\textit{Folder 8}  
Correspondence, 1935, 1939 - 1943

\textit{“Casey at the Helm” \textsuperscript{by Tom Shehan, pages 9-10, 26}}

\textbf{For People Everywhere}, July 1939

\textit{“Grandstands & Stadiums” \textsuperscript{by The Osborn Engineering Co., no date}}

Booklet illustrates a few baseball, football stadiums and other structures designed and built by the Osborn Co.

Clipping, Feb 15, 1938

\textit{Folder 9}  
Ticket, no date, Anglo-American Baseball Association

Stamford Bridge Grounds

Poem by Jack Rafferty, \textit{“Dedicated to the fans of ’86, ’87, and ’88”}

“Humorous baseball stories” by J.G. Taylor Spink, no date

Three bookmarks advertising Heilbroner’s Blue Book; ‘Choosing’ Up sides’ on verso in color.

\textbf{Photos (Photocopies)}

\textit{Folder 10}  
Baseball, no dates

\textit{Folder 11}  
Non-baseball, no dates
Folder 12  Report, 1929 Boston Park Dept Senior Twilight BB Leagues
Folder 13  Report, 1930 Boston Park Dept Baseball Leagues
Folder 14  Report, 1931 Boston Park Dept Basketball League and
          Handball Club

Box 4
Folder 1  Report, 1931 Boston Park Dept Baseball Leagues
Folder 2  Report, 1931 Boston Park Dept Baseball Leagues
Folder 3  Report, 1931 Boston Park Dept Summer Playground Program

BA MSS Oversized
Box 1, Folder 10
1895 Akron season schedule

Columbus, OH
1907 newspapers of Chicago and Philadelphia, showing crowd watching
  “record” scoreboard.
Compton Electric Baseball Bulletin with press comments
Ohio State Fielding Averages
Official OH and PA League Averages for the 1910 season
National Agreement for the Government of Professional Base Ball,
  revised July 20, 1912.
Invitation to the Annual Meeting of the NAPBBL, Nov. 13-15, 1917.
  Signed by J.A. Quinn.

St. Louis, MO
Baseball Score Sheet, 1922, St. Louis winning over Wash, 16 – 1

Boston, MA
Editors’ Feature Service, Aug 12, 1926, Bill Regan headlines
Capehart sound and amplifying equipment advertisement
Initial draft of NY-Penn League schedule, 1932