This guide to the collection was prepared by Anne McFarland and reviewed by Andrew Newman and Russell Wolinsky in February 2007.
Collection Number
BA MSS 39
BL-2588.88

Title
Papers of Louis Perini

Inclusive Dates
1948-1956

Extent
2.5 linear feet (5 manuscript boxes)

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

Abstract
This collection contains the personal papers of Louis Perini between 1948 and 1956. The majority of these papers deal with Perini’s baseball interest as the owner of the Boston/Milwaukee Braves. The collection consists primarily of correspondence.

Acquisition Information
This collection was a gift of David B. Perini in 1988.

Preferred Citation

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

Copyright
Property rights reside with the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library. For information about permission to reproduce or publish, please contact the library.

Separations
Photos have been separated to the Photograph Department. Oversized materials have been separated to an oversized box.

History
Louis Perini was the son of an Italian immigrant who owned a construction company in Massachusetts. Mr. Perini worked alongside his father from an early age, serving first as a water boy to the workers. At 21, Perini took over the management of the company after
his father’s death. He kept expanding the company into heavy construction, marine and pipelines.

In 1942, the “Three Steam Shovels;” Perini, Guido Rugo, and Joe Maney purchased the Boston Braves. By 1951, Perini and his brothers owned the majority of the team. The team moved to Milwaukee in 1953. With his construction company in Massachusetts, Perini was unable to give the Braves organization the time and attention it needed so he sold the majority of the Perini holdings to a group in Chicago. Prior to the sale, Perini had already started discussions to move the team to Atlanta.

Mr. Perini died in 1972 at the age of 68.

Sources: National Baseball Hall of Fame clippings file: Perini, Louis.

Scope and Content
This collection contains the personal papers of Louis Perini between 1948 and 1955. The majority of these papers deal with Perini’s baseball interest as the owner of the Boston/Milwaukee Braves. The collection consists primarily of correspondence. Some of the topics discussed include: radio and television contracts, issues with the Braves move to Milwaukee (see correspondence N), stadium construction and the desire to bring the scoreboard from Boston to Milwaukee, and the Jimmy Fund. There are also a few original cartoons from Walt Munson in the collection. The letters ‘n.d.’ refers to undated correspondence.

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.

Corporate Names
- Boston Braves (Baseball team)
- Milwaukee Braves (Baseball team)
- National League of Professional Baseball Clubs
- Jimmy Fund, Jimmy Day

Personal Names
- Perini, Louis
- Cairnes, Joseph
- Davidson, Donald

Forms
- Correspondence
- Photographs
Content List
Series 1 contains correspondence, arranged alphabetically and then chronologically, following the arrangement of the original papers. The correspondence is most often between Mr. Perini and his staff and other baseball executives, such as Walter O’Malley, Branch Rickey and James Gallagher. Television and radio contracts are one of the most prevalent topics in the collection.

Correspondence

Box 1
Folder 0  “Jimmy Day” correspondence & info, 1948, BL-6425.71
Folder 1  A, 1948, 1951-1953
Folder 2  A, 1954-1955
Folder 3  Attendance and Concessions, 1953-1955, n.d.
Folder 4  B, 1949-1953
Folder 5  B, 1954-1955, n.d.
Folder 6  C, 1952-August, 1953
Folder 7  C, September, 1953-1955, n.d.
Folder 8  Cairnes, Joseph, 6 June 1951, January – February, 1955
Folder 9  Cairnes, Joseph, March – May, 1954

Box 2
Folder 1  Cairnes, Joseph, June – October, 1954
Folder 2  Cairnes, Joseph, November – December, 1954
Folder 3  Cairnes, Joseph, January – March, 1955
Folder 4  Cairnes, Joseph, April – May, October, 1955
Folder 5  D, 1953-1954
Folder 6  Davidson, Donald, 1954
Folder 7  Davidson, Donald, 1955, n.d.
Folder 8  E, 1951, 1953-1954, n.d.
Folder 11  H, 1949, 1951, 1953-1955
Folder 12  I, 1951
Folder 13  J, 1954

Box 3
Folder 1  K, 1953-1955
Folder 3  M, 1950-1951
Folder 4  M, 1953
Folder 6  Milwaukee Commerce, 1953-1955
Folder 7  Milwaukee Hotel (Harry M. Blume), 1954-1955
Folder 8  N, 1948-1950
Folder 9  N, 1951-1952
Folder 10  N, January – June, 1953
Box 4

*Folder 1*  
N, July – December, 1953

*Folder 2*  

*Folder 3*  
National Association, 1953-1954

*Folder 4*  

*Folder 5*  
N.Y. Sports Dinner, 1954-1955

*Folder 6*  
O, 1954-1955

*Folder 7*  
P, 1952-1954

*Folder 8*  
Q, 1948-1952

*Folder 9*  
Q, 1954-1955

*Folder 10*  

*Folder 11*  
S, 1948, 1951-1953

*Folder 12*  

Box 5

*Folder 1*  
San Francisco (Cairnes), 1955

*Folder 2*  
T, 1952-1955

*Folder 3*  
U, 1952-1953

*Folder 4*  

*Folder 5*  

*Folder 6*  
World Series, 1952

*Folder 7*  

*Folder 8*  
Yankee Network, 1953

*Folder 9*  

BA MSS Oversized

Box 1, Folder 11

Bid for Hotel Statler, Hartford, Conn., July 1, 1952

11” X 14” cartoon depicting “Swappers” by Walt Munson

Sept. 24, 1953 advertisement in Brewers’ Bulletin

11.5” X 10” black-and-white photo, 1954 WTMJ interview

Paper diner placemat with the 1955 Braves schedule

Four 1954 Braves rosters

Map of U.S. with a marked out area

Box 1, Folder 12

Receipt totals for the years of 1953 and 1954 (2 copies 1954)

1952 World Series ticket and hotel room allocations

Summary of litigations as of July 10, 1954

Four 1956 Braves rosters

Bulkeley Stadium seating plan, line drawing of 1948

Street map of Milwaukee’s downtown, from Water St to 10th St

and from Clybourn St to Kelbourne Ave.

Jan 10, 1955 advertising the Milwaukee Journal as the leader in advertising sales

Booklet about the growth of Milwaukee, 1954

1955 marketing area of Milwaukee