

Grandstand and Ball Field in Independence, Kansas

April 30, 1896, Independence Daily Reporter: The base ball park had bleachers and a grand stand.

August 18, 1913, Independence Daily Reporter: Baseball game played at Riverside Park.

February 26, 1914, Independence Daily Reporter: City adopted donation of park.

May 15, 1915, Independence Daily Reporter: Annual Senior-Alumni baseball game will be played Tuesday afternoon, May 18, at 3:30 o'clock on the diamond at Riverside Park.

June 13, 1916, Independence Daily Reporter: Baseball game played at Riverside Park on June 12.

July 21, 1916, Independence Daily Reporter: There was a running track around baseball field. Citizens presented a petition to have it removed because it make it difficult for baseball players to chase balls into the outfield.

October 3, 1918, Independence Daily Reporter: Says Grandstand was the third big donation made to the park.

April 28, 1920, Independence Daily Reporter: Reports a water line is being built to the Grandstand, and installing showers and toilets is in progress.

January 25, 1922, Official Centennial History Independence, Kansas, 1970, page 63; Baseball association gives box seating for life to A.W. Shulthis for his donation of the Grandstand in (about 1918).

June 1923, Sanborn Map, Independence, Kansas: Grandstand seating capacity is 2,500 people, and the grandstand was built in 1918.

April 28, 1930, Official Centennial History Independence, Kansas, 1970, page 75; The time was April 28, 1930. Business for baseball teams, like many other businesses, wasn't too good. The depression was pinching pockets. The team owners, particularly minor leagues, used every idea they could to promote attendance. In Independence, they started NIGHT baseball. What's more, Independence, then fielding a team in the Western Association, defeated Muscogee, Oklahoma in the NIGHT OPENER. This was the first organized baseball night game ever played under lights.

April 4, 1931, Independence Daily Reporter: Oval track addition inside stadium is near completion. The new fence to be placed around track is expected to be completed by April 12.

April 21, 1931, Independence Daily Reporter: New fence added around baseball field is complete.

June 23, 1937, Official Centennial History Independence, Kansas, 1970, page 77; Producers Park is renamed Shulthis Stadium in honor of the donor.