



Douglas baseball team c. 1914-1918 with managers Bud Kirby and Frank Wicks, in civilian clothes, standing in the back row.

BEERY FIELD

Harold J. Beery was the superintendent of public works for the Village of Douglas for 35 years. Following his death in 1984, the ball diamond and athletic field once under his care was named Beery Field in his honor.



Detail from 1907 bird's-eye drawing of Douglas by Joseph Warner shows a team playing on an established diamond on the Douglas Village Green.

Sporting events and activities have been held in this field since the 1860s. By the 20th century it was the only diamond around with dugouts and running water for the teams, protective fences, spectator seating, lighting for night games, and a press box. Facilities over time have included baseball and softball diamonds, tennis courts, shuffleboards, and playgrounds.

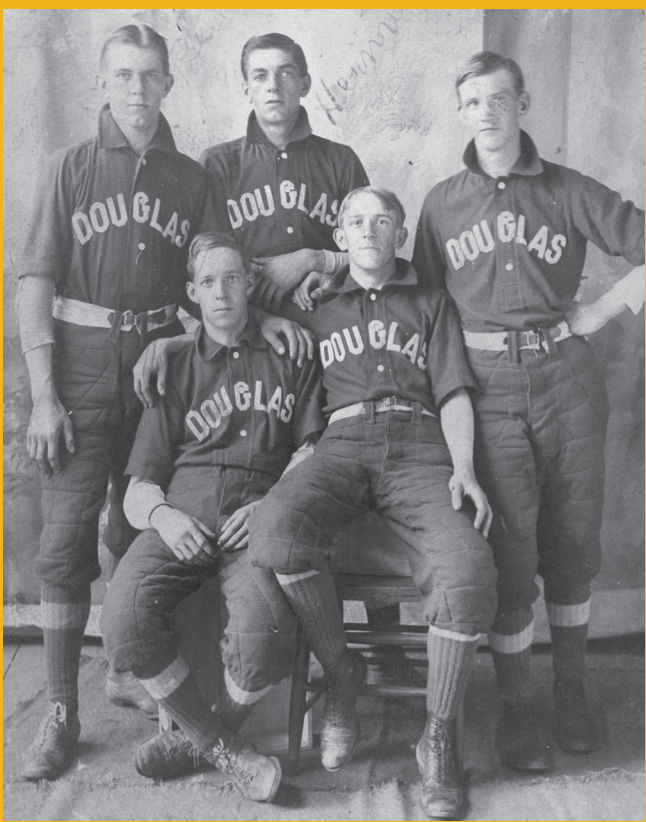


In 1935 a grant from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) funded site updates for continued community use.



In 1944, an honor roll listing the names of those from Douglas who served in World War II was installed. In 1953 it was replaced by the veteran's memorial monument at the northwest corner of the block.

Baseball has always been a popular pastime in Douglas. Historic teams included the Douglas Brownies, Douglas Merchants, and the Douglas Athletic Club. Harold J. Beery played center field for the Athletic Club team in the 1930s and 1940s. Today, the Douglas Dutchers Base Ball Club, founded in 2003, continues the tradition.



Douglas teams and players through the years including George "Speedy" Randall-Saldivar.

