

## > ATHENS 1896 VENUES



### OVERVIEW

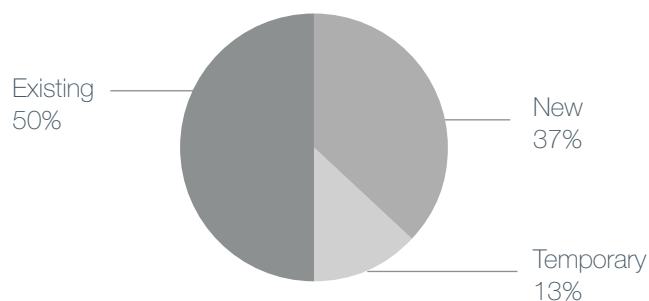
Seven competition venues were used for the Olympic Games Athens 1896, five of which remain in use today. Three of the competition venues were existing, three were new and one was temporary. Along with the temporary venue, one of the new venues has been demolished. The three existing venues all remain in use.

Most of the venues continue to host elite sporting events, with two of them staging competitions at the Olympic Games Athens 2004 and a third used as the main communications centre for that event. Some are also open to visitors and host events such as conferences and concerts.

An eighth venue was set up to host the Athens 1896 rowing competition, but this was cancelled due to stormy conditions. The venue is still in use. An existing venue, the Panathenaic Stadium, served as the Olympic Stadium, staging the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and several of the competitions. There was no official Olympic Village.

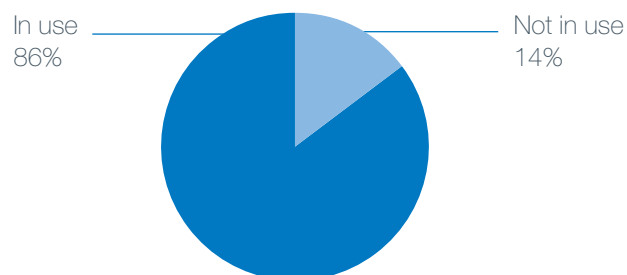
### VENUE CLASSIFICATION

---



### CURRENT USE (PERMANENT VENUES)

---





## ATHENS 1896 VENUES AT A GLANCE

Venue name at Games time	Venue classification at Games time	Use at Games time	Current status
Panathenaic Stadium	Existing	Athletics, artistic gymnastics, weightlifting	In use
Phaleron Bay	Existing	Rowing	In use
Bay of Zea	Existing	Swimming	In use
Zappeion	Existing	Fencing	In use
Athens Lawn Tennis Club	New build	Tennis	In use
Velodrome	New build	Cycling (track), tennis	In use (rebuilt)
Kallithea stand	New build	Shooting	Not in use (demolished)
Athens-Marathon-Athens	Temporary	Cycling (road), marathon	Dismantled (temporary)

## > THE VENUES UP CLOSE

### VENUES IN USE

---

#### PANATHENAIC STADIUM

Originally built in 329 BC, the stadium had fallen into disrepair in the 19th century before being restored for the 1896 Games. However, the work had not been completed by the time the Games began, and temporary wooden stands were installed.

The stadium has since hosted a number of sporting and cultural events, including the first Balkan Games in 1929, the opening ceremony of the 1997 IAAF World Championships, and the archery competitions and the finish of the men's and women's marathons at the Olympic Games Athens 2004.

Every two years, the stadium is also the venue for the official handover of the Olympic flame to the organisers of the next Olympic Summer or Winter Games. In April 2010, it opened to the public and became a visitor attraction, offering educational programmes for schools and tours. It is also a concert venue.

#### ATHENS LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Founded in 1895 and the oldest tennis club in Greece, the Athens Lawn Tennis Club hosts local and international competitions, including Greece's home Davis Cup matches. Open to members and visitors, it is also used for coaching and practice.

#### BAY OF ZEA

The bay has been a harbour since the early fifth century BC. Some temporary facilities were erected for the Games, including a pier for spectators and shelters for boats. It is now a yacht marina with berthing capacity for 670 craft.

#### ZAPPEION

Opened in 1888 for the purposes of exhibiting Greek art and antiquities. The Athens 1896 fencing competition took place in the building's circular atrium, around which spectator seating was installed. The venue has fulfilled a number of functions since then. A radio station and then a hospital during the Second World War, it was the home of the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games Athens 2004 from 1998 to 1999, and served as the main communications centre during the Games. Situated close to the Panathenaic Stadium, it is now a conference and exhibition centre and a member of the Historic Conference Centres of Europe association.

#### VELODROME

The 7,000-capacity velodrome at Neo Phaliron hosted the finish of the cycling road race and some of the tennis matches. Cycle races had been held before in the area, and the venue, which was refurbished to include other sporting facilities in 1899, would continue to stage them in the years immediately after the Games. The popularity of cycling began to decline in Greece, however, and the track was abandoned. In 1925, the velodrome was converted into a football ground and the track removed. Eleven years later, the venue was renamed Karaiskakis Stadium. The home ground of the football club Olympiacos, it hosted several other sports as well. In 2003, it made way for a new Karaiskakis Stadium, which staged several football matches at the Olympic Games Athens 2004.

## VENUES NOT IN USE

---

### KALLITHEA STAND

White marble was used to build the shooting stadium in the classical Greek style. The gallery featured long rows of columns and was capable of accommodating 30 shooters at a time. In 1922, the site was expropriated by the state to house refugees from the Greco-Turkish War, and the shooting range was relocated across the city of Athens to Kaisariani.

## TEMPORARY VENUES

---

### ATHENS-MARATHON-ATHENS

The men's individual road race at Athens 1896 covered the same route as the marathon race, with riders racing from Athens to Marathon and back again. For the marathon race, competitors ran from Marathon to the Greek capital on a course that was only 24.8 miles long (modern-day marathons are run over a distance of 26.219 miles or 42.195 kilometres). The first Olympic marathon of the modern era, the race was held to commemorate the famous run that the messenger Pheidippides made in delivering news of the victory over the Persians in 490 BC. The Athens 1896 road race and marathon both finished at the Panathenaic Stadium, which is also the finish point for the Athens Classic Marathon, first held in 1972.

## > DID YOU KNOW?

The Panathenaic Stadium is so called because it was intended for use by all Athenians (the prefix - pan means "all, every, whole, all-inclusive"). It is also known as "Kallimarmaro", Greek for "beautiful marble".

In the Roman era, the stadium was a gladiator arena where wild animals were staged.

Along with the velodrome and the Kallithea stand, the stadium was one of three Athens 1896 venues to provide temporary shelter for refugees from the Greco-Turkish War of 1919-1922.

The Athens 1896 marathon was won by Greek runner Spyridon Louis, who gave his name to the Olympic Stadium used at Athens 2004 and the Olympic Athletic Centre of Athens, where the Olympic Stadium is situated.

## > PARIS 1900 VENUES



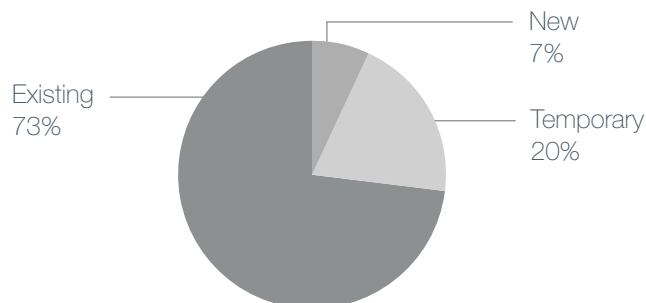
### OVERVIEW

Fifteen competition venues were used for the Olympic Games Paris 1900, eight of which remain in use today. Eleven of the competition venues were existing, one was new and three were temporary, all of which have since been dismantled along with four of the existing venues. The one new venue is still in use, as are seven of the existing venues. Many of the remaining venues are home to sports clubs and provide recreational and sporting facilities for their members and visitors.

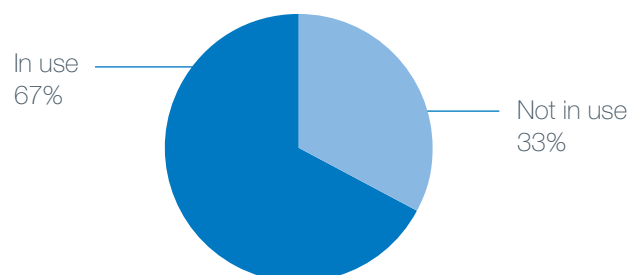
Four of the venues were later used at the Olympic Games Paris 1924: the Vélodrome de Vincennes, the Terrain de Polo de Bagatelle, the Palais de la Société des Régates du Havre, and the Cercle de la Voile de Paris.

No Opening or Closing Ceremonies were held at the Games, which ran for more than five months and were held as part of the 1900 Paris World's Fair. In the absence of an Olympic Stadium, the main venue was the Vélodrome de Vincennes, which hosted six sports in all. There was no official Olympic Village.

### VENUE CLASSIFICATION



### CURRENT USE (PERMANENT VENUES)





## PARIS 1900 VENUES AT A GLANCE

Venue name at Games time	Venue classification at Games time	Use at Games time	Current status
Croix-Catelan	Existing	Athletics, tug of war	In use
Seine River	Existing	Rowing, swimming, water polo	In use
Courts de la Société des Sports de l'île de Puteaux / Cercle de Puteaux	Existing	Tennis	In use
Vélodrome de Vincennes	Existing	Cycling (track), football, gymnastics, rugby, cricket, archery	In use
Cercle de la Voile de Paris	Existing	Sailing	In use
Cercle du Bois de Boulogne, Pelouse de Madrid	Existing	Croquet	In use
Pelouse de Bagatelle, Bois de Boulogne	Existing	Polo	In use

## PARIS 1900 VENUES AT A GLANCE (CONTINUED)

Venue name at Games time	Venue classification at Games time	Use at Games time	Current status
Fronton de Neuilly / Terrain de la Société du Jeu de pelote	Existing	Basque pelota	Not in use (demolished)
Stand de l'île Séguin	Existing	Shooting	Not in use (demolished)
Terrain de la Société des Sports de Compiègne	Existing	Golf	Not in use (demolished)
Palais de la Société des Régates du Havre	Existing	Sailing	Not in use (demolished)
Camp militaire de Satory	New build	Shooting	In use (repurposed)
Place de Breteuil	Temporary	Equestrian (jumping)	Dismantled (temporary)
Grande Salle des Fêtes de l'Exposition, Champ de Mars	Temporary	Fencing	Dismantled (temporary)
Terrasse du Jeu de Paume, Jardin des Tuileries	Temporary	Fencing	Dismantled (temporary)

## > THE VENUES UP CLOSE

### VENUES IN USE

#### CROIX-CATELAN

Founded in 1886 and formerly one of five sites used by Racing Club de France, the Croix-Catelan is a large sports complex. It is home to 45 tennis courts, a 50m swimming pool, a gym, a football pitch and volleyball and basketball courts. The venue offers classes and lessons and several activities for children. Racing Club de France vacated the venue in 2006, when it was taken over by Lagardère Paris Racing.

#### SEINE RIVER

The section between Courbevoie Bridge and Asnières Bridge was used to host the rowing, swimming and water polo competitions at Paris 1900. No facilities were erected for the rowing events, with spectators watching from the banks of the river.



The river continues to host rowing events, among them the Championnats de la Seine, France's oldest rowing competition, which is held on the same section of the Seine as the Paris 1900 events. This section is also home to the Aviron Courbevoie club, which was founded in 1882. Paris Rowing Club relocated from Courbevoie in 1970, and rowing activities on the Seine are now mainly focused on areas such as Saint-Denis and Neuilly.

#### COURTS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES SPORTS DE L'ÎLE DE PUTEAUX/CERCLE DE PUTEAUX

Still a tennis venue and situated on an island in the Seine, it was established in 1886. The club now has more than 850 members and 600 juniors in its tennis academy. Its 16 courts, five of which are covered, are also open to the public, and classes and lessons are offered.

#### VÉLODROME DE VINCENNES

A venue for multiple competitions at Paris 1900, the velodrome opened in 1896 and also staged cycling events at the Olympic Games Paris 1924. The setting for the prestigious Grand Prix de Paris, the velodrome was also the official finish line of the Tour de France between 1968 and 1974 but suffered neglect thereafter and was closed in 1980. Thanks to a campaign to save it and three years of refurbishment work, it reopened to the public in 2015, with its original stands still intact. A listed historical monument, the venue is officially known as the Vélodrome Jacques Anquetil and more popularly as La Cipale.

#### CERCLE DE LA VOILE DE PARIS

The club was founded in 1858 and its clubhouse still stands to this day. Also a sailing venue at Paris 1924, it organises regattas across a number of classes.

#### CERCLE DU BOIS DE BOULOGNE, PELOUSE DE MADRID

The site was first used as a skating club in 1865. The Cercle du Bois de Boulogne came into being in 1899, at which point the venue became a clay pigeon shooting club, counting Pierre de Coubertin among its members. With the growth in popularity of tennis between the wars, the club began hosting tennis tournaments and became a popular practice venue for players competing in the French Open at Roland-Garros. The Ligue de Tennis de Paris is now the resident club. Among its many activities, it identifies and coaches talented young players.

#### PELOUSE DE BAGATELLE, BOIS DE BOULOGNE

France's oldest polo club, founded in 1892, is now known as the Polo de Paris. It offers its members a wide range of sports, including athletics, fencing, golf and tennis, and also lays on recreational and cultural activities, as well as receptions and business seminars.

#### CAMP MILITAIRE DE SATORY

The site, which housed specially erected pavilions during the 1900 Olympic Games, is still occupied by military buildings.

### VENUES NOT IN USE

---

#### FRONTON DE NEUILLY/TERRAIN DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DU JEU DE PELOTE

The Société du Jeu de Pelote was founded in 1898 and built the French capital's first permanent pelota court at 26 Rue Pauline Borghèse in Neuilly-sur-Seine. It was this court that hosted the competition held as part of the 1900 Olympic Games, with a small stand built next to it to accommodate spectators.

Two more courts were opened in Neuilly in the years immediately afterwards, as the popularity of the game spread, with new clubs being founded and the game finding its way into schools. This popularity quickly faded in the Neuilly area, however, leading to the closure of the Rue Pauline Borghèse court in 1906. By 1912, Neuilly's two other courts had also closed, while a fourth opened in 1913 only to shut down a year later.



### STAND DE L'ÎLE SÉGUIN

This island in the Seine was a popular leisure destination and was used for recreational boating and angling, as well as clay pigeon shooting. The shooting range made way for a Renault car factory in 1919. The factory produced its last car in 1992 and was demolished in 2005. The site is now occupied by newly built concert and performance venues.

### TERRAIN DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES SPORTS DE COMPIÈGNE

Founded in 1896 and situated in the middle of a racecourse, the golf course closed in 2017. The expansion of the racecourse led to it being reduced from an 18-hole course to just nine holes. The club lost members as a result and was unable to continue operating.

### PALAIS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DES RÉGATES DU HAVRE

Established in 1838, the venue held its first regatta a year later, with its resident club founded in 1842. Also a venue at the Olympic Games Paris 1924, its Palais des Régates clubhouse in Sainte-Adresse was bombed and destroyed in 1942, at the height of the Second World War. The club relocated and continues to organise regattas across different classes to this day. It also stages a number of partner events.

## TEMPORARY VENUES

---

### TERRASSE DU JEU DE PAUME, JARDIN DES TUILERIES:

The venue for the épée competitions at Paris 1900, the Galerie du Jeu de Paume forms part of the Jardin des Tuileries, the oldest and largest public garden in Paris. Located on the Terrasse des Feuillants, the site hosts contemporary art exhibitions.

The facilities set up to host the equestrian jumping competition at Place de Breteuil were taken down after the Games. The venue for the fencing foil and sabre competitions, the Grande Salle des Fêtes de l'Exposition, was built for the 1900 Paris World's Fair and was dismantled at a later stage.

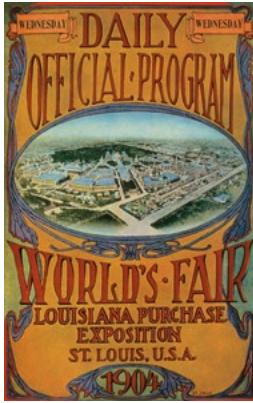
## > DID YOU KNOW?

The stands at the Vélodrome de Vincennes were built by Gustave Eiffel, who designed and oversaw the construction of the Eiffel Tower.

The velodrome also staged a cricket match as part of the 1900 Games. The game was played on the infield, between two Paris clubs made up almost entirely of British immigrants.

The great Belgian rider Eddy Merckx completed the last of his five Tour de France victories at the velodrome in 1974.

## > ST. LOUIS 1904 VENUES

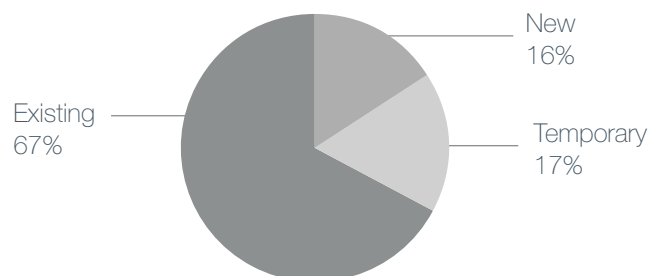


### OVERVIEW

Six competition venues were used for the Olympic Games St. Louis 1904, five of which remain in use today. Four of the competition venues were existing, one was new and one was temporary. Three of the remaining venues are used by a local university and two more by local sports clubs. The Francis Field Stadium was the main Games venue. There was no official Olympic Village. The Games were held in conjunction with the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, also known as the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

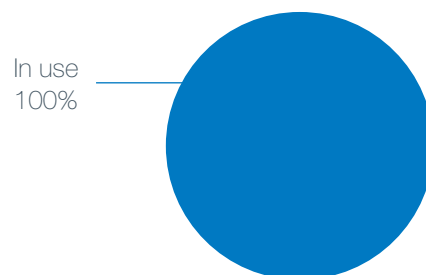
### VENUE CLASSIFICATION

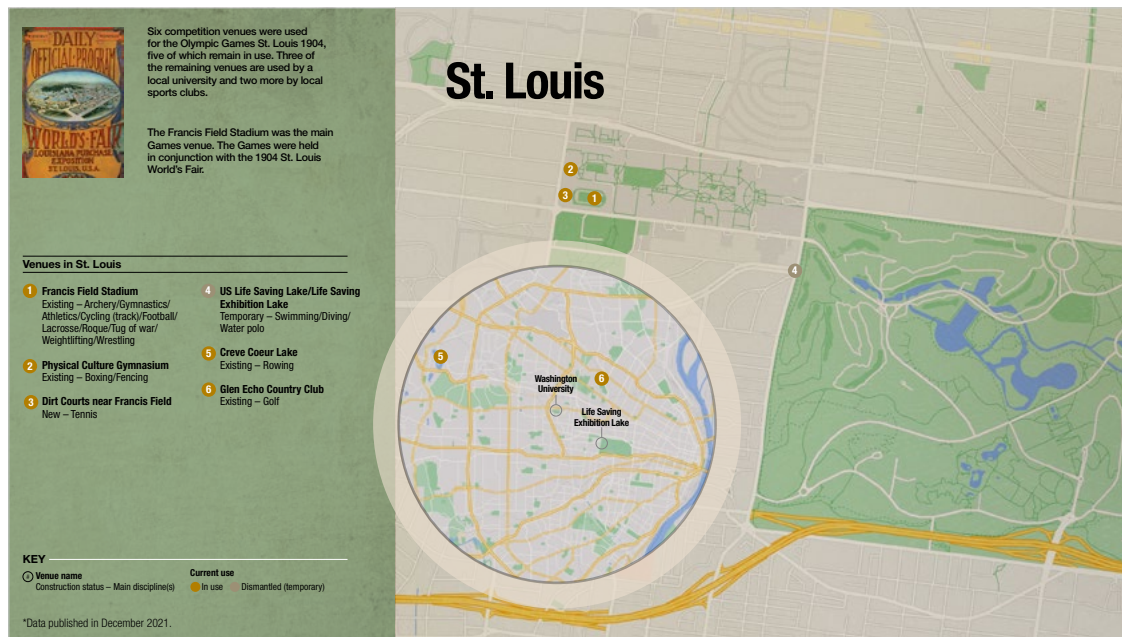
---



### CURRENT USE (PERMANENT VENUES)

---





## ST. LOUIS 1904 VENUES AT A GLANCE

Venue name at Games time	Venue classification at Games time	Use at Games time	Current status
Francis Field Stadium	Existing	Archery, gymnastics, athletics, cycling (track), football, lacrosse, rogue, tug of war, weightlifting, wrestling	In use
Creve Coeur Lake	Existing	Rowing	In use
Glen Echo Country Club	Existing	Golf	In use
Physical Culture Gymnasium	Existing	Boxing, fencing	In use
Dirt Courts near Francis Field	New build	Tennis	In use (rebuilt)
US Life Saving Lake / Life Saving Exhibition Lake	Temporary	Swimming, diving, water polo	Dismantled (temporary)

## > THE VENUES UP CLOSE

### VENUES IN USE

---

#### FRANCIS FIELD STADIUM

Built in 1902, Francis Field became the home of the Washington University in St. Louis (WUSTL) Bears American football team after the Games. In 1984, the stadium underwent its first major renovation, with the original cinder track replaced by a 400-metre artificial track. The seating capacity of its original reinforced concrete stands was also reduced to 4,000. The stadium was further refurbished in 2003 and 2004, when an artificial pitch was installed. By this time, Francis Field was also home to the university's women's and men's soccer, track and field, and cross-country teams.

Francis Field Stadium is the oldest Olympic stadium still in regular use for official sporting events and is also a registered historic landmark. In September 2018, a structure featuring the Olympic rings was erected nearby to provide a permanent reminder of the stadium's Olympic status, a function also performed by the ornamental wrought-iron gate installed after the Games at the east entrance to the stadium. A year later, the venue was renamed Francis Olympic Field, to recognise its place in Olympic history.

#### CREVE COEUR LAKE

One of the largest natural lakes in the state of Missouri, the venue has been the permanent base of the St. Louis Rowing Club since 1983, though the club has been racing on it intermittently since the early 1900s. A competitive racing club that also offers recreational rowing, it runs junior and adult programmes. The lake, which is also used by the community for recreational activities such as paddle boating and sailing, is part of the Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park, which is itself part of the St. Louis Urban Oases Important Bird Area.

#### GLEN ECHO COUNTRY CLUB

Fourteen of the golf course's holes are still laid out exactly as they were when it hosted the Olympic golf competition in 1904. Opened in 1901, Glen Echo Country Club was St. Louis' first complete 18-hole golf course and organises competitions for women and men throughout the season. Its grounds and clubhouse also host weddings, galas and private social functions.

#### PHYSICAL CULTURE GYMNASIUM

The venue was handed over to the WUSTL Department of Athletics after the Games. Since known as Francis Field House, it was converted into a modern, energy-efficient fitness, recreation and athletic centre in 2016. The building, which was also extended to incorporate new facilities, was renamed the Gary M. Sumers Recreation Centre.

During its renovation, parts of the original gymnasium were demolished. Some elements were retained, however. These include the gym's original maple flooring, which was relaid in a bridge section connecting the existing and new parts of the facility. Among the centre's many exercise spaces is the Olympic Studio, which celebrates the venue's Olympic past and whose walls are lined with photographs from the 1904 Games. The venue has also played a part in recent US political history, providing the setting for five presidential and vice-presidential debates since 1992.

### DIRT COURTS NEAR FRANCIS FIELD

The area that the courts once occupied is part of the campus of Washington University in St. Louis, which is home to the Olympic Stadium and the Gary M. Summers Recreation Center. There are tennis courts just to the east of these buildings, and this is most likely the original location of the Olympic courts used in 1904.

### TEMPORARY VENUES

---

#### US LIFE SAVING LAKE/LIFE SAVING EXHIBITION LAKE

The venue was an oval-shaped man-made lake in St. Louis' Forest Park and was created by the organisers of the 1904 World's Fair to allow the US Coast Guard to demonstrate their life-saving manoeuvres on the water. Modifications were made to the lake to create a course for the swimming events at the 1904 Games. These included the installation of a small pontoon dock from which competitors could dive into the water. The lake was emptied and refilled with soil after the Games. The site is now occupied by a golf course.

## > DID YOU KNOW?

Washington University in St. Louis built Francis Field Stadium for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, which was held to celebrate the centenary of the USA's purchase of the state from France. The event was held in conjunction with the 1904 Olympic Games, which were originally scheduled to take place in Chicago but were moved to St. Louis.

To commemorate the 1904 Olympic Games, the Olympic flame visited Francis Field during the torch relays held for Los Angeles 1984, Atlanta 1996 and Athens 2004.

Francis Field House and Francis Olympic Field are named after David Rowland Francis. An 1870 graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, he went on to become a governor of Missouri, the president of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company, and a US ambassador to Russia.