



WHAT
HAPPENED

Moisant
Field
started
commercial
operation in
May 1946.



A new \$917 million, 35 gate terminal is scheduled to open at Louis Armstrong International Airport in 2019.



The airport operated out of hangar from 1946 to 1959 until a terminal was completed.

CHARLES L. FRANCK STUDIO COLLECTION AT THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

The gateway to New Orleans — the **Louis Armstrong International Airport** — is actually in Kenner.

But that doesn't matter to the millions of visitors who stream through the terminal each year, making it one of the largest destination airports in the United States. Just a few years after New Orleans Lakefront Airport opened in 1934, it was clear the airport wouldn't be large enough for commercial traffic and it would be too expensive to expand at that site. The city was eye-

ing a cow pasture in Kenner when World War II started. The land in Kenner was used as an air base. After the war, the city of New Orleans began using as Moisant Field, or Moisant Stock Yards (MSY) as a commercial airport.

For more than a decade, the field serviced passengers out of Quonset hut. In 1959, a new terminal was opened, which is still being used today, though with major expansions made in 1974 and 1996.

The New Orleans airport was named after aviation pioneer John B. Moisant who died after being ejected from an airplane in a nearby field.

The airport was renamed Louis Armstrong International Airport in 2001 to commemorate Armstrong's 100th birthday.

The airport served a record 11.14 million passengers in 2016. A new terminal on the north end of the airport is being built. It is scheduled to be completed in February 2019.



THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION



Moisant International Airport, New Orleans, La.

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