

## Kent State University Airport Andrew Paton Field TIMELINE

1917	Farm of Rev. Edward J. Smith believed to have been used as a landing field.
1920	Ohio Flying School & Transport Co. opens flying field offering rides and instruction. Firm goes out of business in 1921.
1920s	Notable flyers as Brig. Gen. William "Billy" Mitchell, Maj. Eddie Rickenbacker, Capt. Charles Nungesser, Clarence Chamberlin, and Eddie Stinson fly from what is known as Stow Field.
1925	Two large aerial exhibitions held drawing up to 80,000 people. One included the christening of Goodyear's first helium blimp, <i>Pilgrim</i> .
1927	Hugh C. Robbins forms Robbins Flying Service and rebuilds the hangar# following a fire in 1929.
1931	Frankie G. Renner reaches 28,000 ft. in failed altitude attempt.
1932	The Depression ends Robbins Flying Service. Stow Flying Field incorporated, backed by Allen T. Simmons. Business ends in 1933 when fire strikes again, destroying the hangar.
1937	Three investors lease Stow Field, building a new hangar and offering rides and instruction.
1940	Rudy Van Devere purchases Stow Field.
1942	Van Devere sells the airfield to the University, but not the parcel with the hangars. Stow Field renamed Kent State University Airport.
1945	Van Devere builds maintenance hangar.
1946	The first aeronautics courses offered winter quarter of the 1945-46 school year. Van Devere erects the large army-surplus Quonset hangar, purchased in 1945.
1947	Airport classified as a general aviation field and given the identifier 1G3.
1953	University purchases the remaining airport parcel with hangars from Van Devere.

1964	Airfield named in honor of Andrew W. Paton, creator of the aviation technology curriculum and strong advocate for the airport and a university-run flight training program.
1965	North-South runway paved, along with installation of airport lighting and fuel farm with apron extension.
1966	University assumes full operational control of the airport, including the provision of flight training. Fourteen-unit "T-hangar" constructed.
1978	FAA antenna / transmitter installed on University Library roof.
1980	FAA approves the University's master plan submitted in 1977.
1981	Albert Beckwith installs Commercial Aviation Corp. office trailer for his FBO business.
1982	North end of the North-South parallel taxiway constructed.
1983	South end of the North-South parallel taxiway and southern runway extension (60 ft.) constructed.
1984	Main hangar reskinned, along with repair of flooring, doors, walls, and electrical.
1985	Visual Approach Slope Indicators (VASI) landing guidance system installed.
1988	North-South runway extended from 3065 to 3950 ft., runway drainage problems corrected, and runway lighting installed on extension.
1989	Aircraft parking ramp/apron expanded. Final 50-ft. section of North-South runway constructed, bringing the runway to 4,000 ft.
1999	Airport runway, taxiway, ramp/apron resurfaced.
2006	Kent State becomes the first flight program in Ohio accredited by the Council on Aviation Accreditation.
2007	Kent State receives FAA authorization for the Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative Program.
2010	Kent State Precision Flight Team awarded the Loening trophy, presented annually to the outstanding all-around collegiate aviation program in the nation.
2011	Accreditation reaffirmed for all four aeronautics bachelor degree programs, and initially for air traffic control program by the Council on Aviation Accreditation.

2012	Kent State named to the core team of universities leading a new FAA Center of Excellence Partnership to Enhance General Aviation Safety, Accessibility and Sustainability (PEGASAS).
2015	<p>University completes an FAA sustainable master plan, outlining a twenty-year plan for the airport.</p> <p>Grant received for improved snow and ice control equipment.</p>
2016	<p>FAA approves the University's master plan, to be implemented in three phases over twenty-years.</p> <p>Aviation Accreditation Board International renews accreditation for all five aeronautics bachelor degree programs.</p> <p>Runway 1-19 pavement and markings rehabilitated.</p>
2017	<p>Kent State University Airport named <i>Airport of the Year</i> by the Ohio Aviation Association (OAA).</p> <p>Airport honored as <i>Animal Hero of the Year</i> by the Humane Society of Summit County for Props-4-Paws program.</p> <p>Full parallel taxiway, apron, and compass calibration pad pavement and markings rehabilitated.</p>
2019	FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center dedicated.