

Atlanta 1996 venue file complete

The choice of venues for the events in the twenty-six sports (269 finals in all) on the programme of the Games in Atlanta has been definitively fixed. The FISA has now given its agreement to use the artificial lake in Rockdale, 30 km north east of Atlanta, rather than the lake in Stone Mountain Park, where the cost of moving an island would have meant a large increase in the price of a facility which was only temporary.

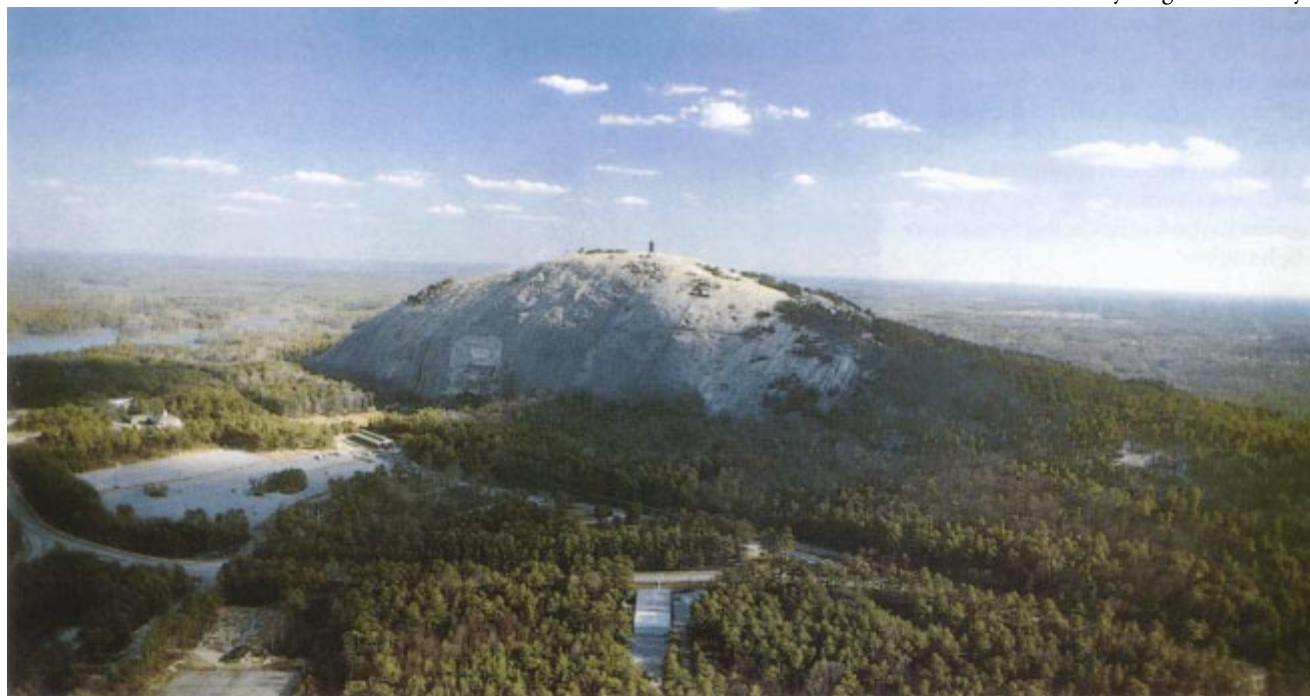


Mr. Billy Payne, president of the organizing committee (ACOG), had already reported to the Executive Board in December that he had the agreement of the other federations concerned. Announcing the change of site for the rowing course, he explained: "We

decided to spend money on durable rather than temporary constructions. We therefore chose Rockdale in the same way as we chose permanent venues for shooting and equestrian sports, which will also be moving from Stone Mountain."

A natural park located 30 km east of Atlanta, Stone Mountain will now be

Stone Mountain will host cycling and archery.





The ACOG delegation presents its report to the Executive Board

hosting just the archery and cycling events. The final of the football tournament is planned for Athens, 113 km north east of the Olympic city, in the 85,000-seat stadium of the local university of Sanford.

GUARANTEED BUDGET

In his report, Mr Payne was also happy to stress the massive mobilization of the private sector to support the Games, for which two-thirds of the financial programme - the total budget is 1.5 billion dollars - has already been secured. *"The cost of the Games will thus not be too great a burden on the taxpayer"*, he declared.

ACOG is to present an initial schedule of test events using the Olympic venues to the forthcoming Session in Lillehammer.

SWATCH IS THE WATCH

For everything to do with official time-keeping, ACOG has chosen the offer made by Swatch. The Swiss firm thus becomes a member of the Centennial Games sponsor programme, the marketing programme set up by ACOG. *"As the official timekeeper. Swatch will provide the best there is in the art of timekeeping and sports results"*, promised Mr Nicholas G. Hayek, chairman and managing director of SMH/Swatch, clearly delighted with Atlanta's choice. *"In cooperation with*

the other technological partners, we shall also transmit the most accurate results there are directly to the information system used at the Games. We want to offer users the chance not only to experience the Olympic enthusiasm, but also to share in creating the Olympic experience."

This exclusive deal gives Swatch the right to produce watches and other timekeeping products bearing the Olympic logo. Enthusiasts now just have to hold tight and watch their collection grow!

NEW MAYOR

Mr Bill Campbell has been elected mayor of the Olympic city, replacing Mr Maynard Jackson who was not standing for re-election.

OLYMPIC PARK IN THE HEART OF ATLANTA

A Centennial Olympic park is to be created on a 72-acre site in the heart of Atlanta. This is the idea just launched by Billy Payne, with the agreement of the Executive Board. The creation of this park, in an excellent city-centre location, is being financed privately to the tune of 100 million dollars. It will be used initially as a meeting place for visitors during the Games, before part of it is sold off in lots and the rest turned into a public garden.

The Georgia Dome in Atlanta, one of the venues for the Centennial Games.

