

GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE

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ISSUE **71** JANUARY 2023



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Too wide?



ADAM LAWRENCE

For the last 20 years or so, playability through width has been the dominant mantra in golf architecture. Without adequate width there can be no strategy: when a fairway is but 20-25 yards wide, the only question for the golfer is, 'Can you hit it?' There is no question of playing to one side or another to get a preferred angle into the pin. With strategy comes playability: greater width reduces the amount of time spent searching for balls in long grass. Width is good.

But if width is good, does it automatically follow that more width is better? Or is there a point beyond which extra width just implies more maintenance and more cost, without a matching payback in increased playability?

Recently there has been a small, but noticeable trend of ultra-wide golf courses making their debut. I shall not name them here: alert readers know which ones are meant, and there is no need to make this about particular architects.

Tom Doak is one of the architects who helped to create the current love affair with width. But, in this issue's lead feature on designing for bad golfers, Doak says he thinks the quest for width has gone too far, and that the effect of today's extreme width is to encourage young male golfers to swing as hard as they can at the ball – with consequent effects on the distance they hit and the distance by which they sometimes miss their target! If courses were not so wide, Doak says, these players might be induced to throttle back a bit, with consequent benefits for courses that would not be required to maintain so much turf.

In a world of more than 30,000 golf courses, it seems unlikely that a few ultra-wide ones are having any effect on a significant number of players, but Doak's point is well made. There must *be* a point where more width is a bad thing, otherwise it would make sense to build golf holes a mile wide. We do not want any sort of a return to bowling alley fairways, especially now that the philosophy of tree management seems to be gaining some critical mass. But, as with everything else in life, it is important to find a happy medium.

Adam

A large hand is shown in the upper left corner, holding a golf ball. The background is a lush green golf course with a sand trap, a golfer in the distance, and a dense forest of trees under a blue sky.

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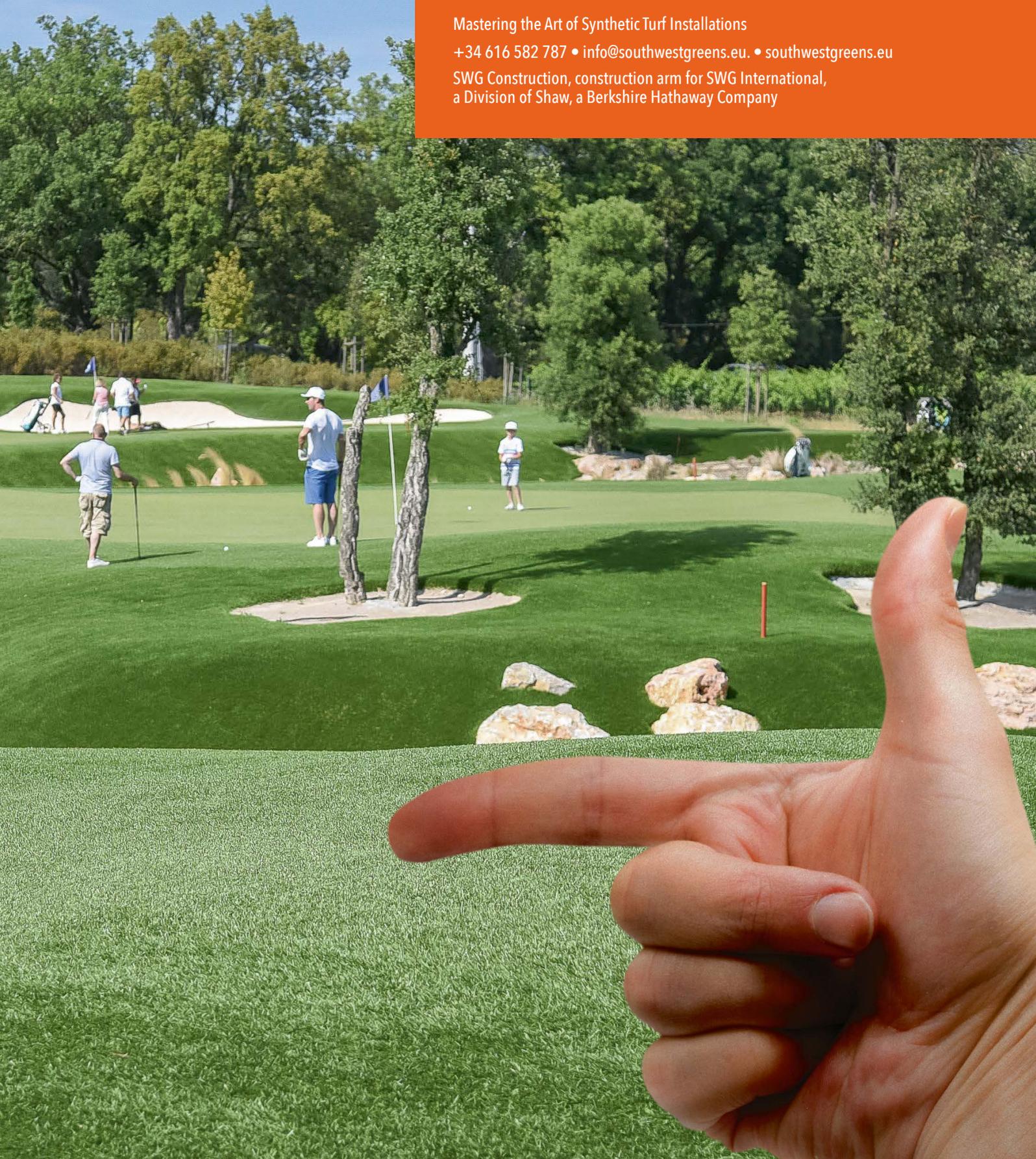


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CONTENTS



ON THE COVER

The Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Club in New Zealand, a new 27-hole layout by Chris Cochran

*Photographed by:
Gary Lisbon*

14

Our Tee Box section opens with news of the 27-hole layout Chris Cochran has created for Royal Auckland and Grange in New Zealand

44

Mike Clayton explains why he believes Britain has been relatively slow to share in the fruits of the current age of great golf design

48

Designers have long laid out courses to be playable for all standards of golfer. But what level of bad golf can an architect be expected to design for?

Adam Lawrence reports

54

Ron Kirby talks about his career in the golf design business and what he has learned



60

Adam Lawrence reports on the dramatic changes that have taken place at The Addington, which is in the middle of a five-year transformation process

66

Renovation work at Old Chatham was designed to raise the challenge while remaining playable for all, as Toby Ingleton discovers

72

Pinehurst has hired Tom Doak to design the resort's tenth course on a dramatic site



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MAIL BOX

Dear Editor

Your article 'Losing the crutch: holes without bunkers' gave solid insights on the origins and usage of bunkers in course design.

I tend to support a middle ground: put in bunkers with strategic merit, but don't overdo it. As far as entire courses with no bunkers, I have encountered a few. One was the public Prairie course in Lincoln, Nebraska, which was my unofficial home course during 1991. I then moved to Dallas, Texas, to an area with lots of well-bunkered golf courses. One result was that my sand game struggled for that first year in Texas.

So, if your course has no bunkers, your home crowd suffers a skill disadvantage when playing courses with bunkers. Hence, the idea of balance in bunker installation.

More common in St. Louis area is courses with most – or all – bunkers removed. A prominent example is Ruth Park Golf Course, a nine-hole muni designed by Scottish architect Robert Foulis. Robert and his brothers combined for dozens of courses in the Midwest in the early 1900s. At Ruth, the bunker removal hurt playability, as many of the bunker areas were simply levelled to promote drainage.

As for prairie grass touches and hazards, area courses tried it a decade ago. Nature lovers seeking Audubon certification thought it would be challenging and pastorally elegant to line fairways with prairie grass. Ruth Park tried it briefly. The main result was a plague of slow play by foursomes with directionally-challenged golfers. A few years back, I went out in March

and was delighted to find that the prairie grass had largely retreated to the outer borders of the courses.

In closing, I wanted to share with you an excellent hole with no bunkers, and no water. This is the fourteenth at Normandie Golf Club, another Foulis course. The course was recently spared from home developers by a partnership between Nicklaus Design and the local amateur golf association.

The hole goes uphill to a landing area, and downhill to a diagonally-set

shelf green with swale in front and hill at the back. You have to think about every shot.

John Orr
St. Louis, Missouri

We are delighted to receive letters from readers, and the best in each issue will be rewarded with a golf shirt. Send to 6 Friar Lane, Leicester, LE1 5RA, UK, or email us at letters@golfcoursearchitecture.net

GOPHER WATCH



Sandy was in Scotland, in fact in the home of golf itself in the last issue, sat on the edge of the Ladies Putting Course, otherwise known as the Himalayas. Originally laid out by Old Tom Morris, it is believed to be the oldest mini golf course in the world and is run by the Ladies Putting Club. Richard Phillips of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, figured it out (as did quite a lot of others, but Richard's was the first name out of the hat). We hope you enjoy your GCA golf shirt, Richard!

A slightly unusual location for Sandy this month. One might almost say precarious in the event of a very high tide, because the timbers in the shot are to protect the golf course from the inflowing sea – it is, effectively, located in a tidal creek. A little younger than the Himalayas, the course has still been around for well over a century. Know where it is and fancy one of our coveted shirts? Send your answer to gopher@golfcoursearchitecture.net.

TEE BOX

NEWS EDITOR: RICHARD HUMPHREYS

Transformation complete in Auckland

New 27-hole layout created by Chris Cochran following merger of neighbouring clubs



Nicklaus Design's Chris Cochran has completed a new 27-hole layout for the Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Club in Auckland, New Zealand.

In 2017 the adjacent Royal Auckland and The Grange clubs merged, each of which had an 18-hole course and limited practice facilities.

Cochran had first visited the Royal Auckland course in 2014 and submitted renovation plans. Before leaving, he visited the neighbouring Grange club,

where some members were talking about the possibility of a merger.

"They were both shortish golf courses, but had great bones," said Cochran.

"The Grange had some nice land with Middlemore [Royal Auckland] having some very nice trees. I strongly recommended that the clubs join."

Following the merger, Cochran developed a new plan to transform the 36 holes into a 27-hole layout with a new clubhouse, short-game area

and a state-of-the-art practice facility. Around 20 hectares of land was sold to finance the project.

"There was talk of having a full-length eighteen-hole course and a short nine, or maybe a par-three layout," said Cochran. "However, I felt they had enough land to have three equal nines. Although the Grange nine is the shortest, it still has some great golf holes. The Tamaki nine goes around the estuary, so you play across and alongside



The first (foreground) and third green complexes on the Middlemore nine



The seventh on the Tamaki nine is one of three successive holes that play along the estuary

it. Then the Middlemore nine is more of the old rural Auckland property, kind of a big domey hill but with stately trees that you play in and out of.”

Construction started in October 2018, with the Grange and Tamaki nines completed in 2019, with the Middlemore nine completed in early 2022.

“There’s a lot more elevation change on the Grange in comparison to Tamaki,” said Cochran. “There’s fewer trees and it’s a little bit hillier and open. Architecturally, the holes on both nines are quite similar. Middlemore is a bit different.”

Middlemore was the last nine to be worked on, with the Covid-19 pandemic impacting Cochran’s ability to visit the site. “A couple of local guys did the bunkers and so the bunker

style on the third nine is a little bit different,” said Cochran. “It’s a little bit more distressed, but it’s beautiful.

“The 27 holes are a really good test of golf. There’s a huge amount of variety in terms of green contours, sizes and shapes, as well as bunker depths and placement.

“The 27 holes are a really good test of golf. There’s a huge amount of variety”

“On the Grange, the second hole is a favourite of mine. It’s a short par four with plenty of interest and strategy. The seventh and ninth on Tamaki are very interesting and different golf holes. The par-four seventh has a double fairway. Naturally the holes that

go along the estuary – six, seven and eighth – are great.”

On Middlemore, the second hole is a mid-length par three. “It is very interesting,” said Cochran. “It’s kind of like a punchbowl. If you miss the green, you have a pitch or chip over these mounds that are inside

the green. Middlemore’s ninth is a driveable par four that goes back to the clubhouse and ties into the practice putting green.

“It has been a total transformation. We pretty much stayed within existing corridors – for example, on



Middlemore's ninth green blends into the practice putting green

the Middlemore course, the third hole is the old Royal Auckland eighteenth, but in reverse – the fourth and fifth on Middlemore are the only two holes that stayed in the same corridor and played in the same of the entire property.”

Cochran wanted to realise the property’s full potential. “There was wasted land,” he said. “The old Auckland didn’t go to the estuary, so there was probably 30 to 40 metres of dead space there, so we cleared the bamboo and other trees and moved the golf holes to the estuary. This helped to fit everything in.

“Because of the estuary, there are some force carries, which add some spice and variety to the round. Like I tell an 18-handicapper, it’s my job

to ensure you can make 18 bogeys. If players hit from the correct tee; it is very playable.”

Middlemore and Tamaki combine for the longest eighteen-hole round, playing up to 7,200 yards. Tamaki and the Grange combine for the shortest round, which can play between 4,600 and 6,850 yards. Cochran says if the club hosted a tournament, it would play on a composite of all three nines.

Since opening in 2022, member reaction to the new holes has been very positive, with tee sheets fully booked, says Cochran. The new short-game area is proving popular too. There are four greens, two that are fairly flat and two with plenty of contour.

Cochran remarks on the great leadership and communication

throughout the project. “There are countless people who have been a big help on the project,” he says. “General manager Rob Selley, who was the GM at the Australian Golf Club when we renovated it several years ago was at RAGGC when we did the work – he is now at New South Wales. His experience has been very helpful.

“Paul Garvie, who I have worked with all around the world since 1997, was the project manager and has done a great job putting a team together, including shapers Greg Stringer, Bob Ramos, Scotty Dansmuir, Gordy Johnstone, Cliff Hamilton and Scotty Wells; contractor Grant Puddicombe; Steve Marsden, a Kiwi superintendent, who was super helpful; and Mark Hooker, our director of agronomy.”

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Second nine complete at new Bucharest course

The final nine holes are growing in at a new golf course designed by Jeff Howes near Bucharest, Romania, ahead of a full opening in May 2023.

Bucharest Golf Club is located about 20 miles north of Romania's capital, near the village of Tâncăbești.

Construction of holes seven to twelve and sixteen to eighteen was completed last year, and seeding of the remaining nine holes was completed in autumn 2022.

"Five holes cross the two valleys that run through the site," said Howes. "We also massaged a par four and five into the landscape on the most prominent of the two valleys." The irrigation pond is also located

within one of the valleys to maximise retention of water runoff.

"Using the natural landscape has created a roller-coaster routing with clusters of short and long holes," said Howes. "The start is a longish par four followed by a long par five. The beautiful third is the shortest par three with Lake Tâncăbești in the background and is followed by two driveable par fours. The fifth will be much talked about as the dramatic, 2.5-metre-deep bunkers will be very penal for any errant tee shot. After this short loop comes a group of long holes from six through to ten. The eleventh is a treacherous and short par five. Holes twelve to fourteen are again long

holes with fifteen and sixteen short enough to catch your breath before the testing par-three seventeenth and long par-four eighteenth."

Howes points to the greens as the main challenge. "The greens will be very slick and designed in such a way that there will be places on each complex where you will not want to miss," he said.

The holes currently open have been popular among members and guests. "The enthusiasm from this young golfing country is incredible," said Howes. "They have waited a long time for an 18-hole golf course in Bucharest and they can't believe they are getting one which will rank right up there with the best!"

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The Osprey Meadows course has been reconfigured to make room for real estate



Image: Robert Trent Jones II

Osprey Meadows to reopen following update by RTJ II

Tamarack Resort in Idaho will reopen Osprey Meadows golf course in summer 2023 following a renovation by the Robert Trent Jones II design firm.

The course was originally designed by RTJ II and opened in 2006. It closed in 2015 and was bought by the neighbouring Tamarack Resort in 2016.

The scope of work has included a slight rerouting to allow for residential development and repositioning many bunkers to better challenge the big hitters, while making the layout more playable for shorter hitters. Tees have also been reshaped and more short grass has been introduced as a defence.

Many of the changes made will improve playability. For instance, the number and length of forced carries has been reduced, while fairways have also been widened. A par-three nineteenth 'Gambler's Hole' has been added, between the first and eighteenth holes.

With the course having expansive views to the nearby mountains, the RTJ II team approached the project with a 'listen to the land' philosophy, making full use of the property's



Photo: Tamarack Resort

The original layout, pictured shortly after it opened in 2006

natural contours, wetlands and meadowlands. Careful pruning and removal of some vegetation has been undertaken.

"We explored opportunities to provide some 'plastic surgery' to many of the golf holes while providing room along

the perimeter for resort and residential development," said Bruce Charlton, president of RTJ II. "This is definitely what I consider a reinvigoration of the Osprey Meadows course, mostly an allocation of more space to the golf course to make it more fun."



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New South Wales appoints Mackenzie & Ebert for masterplan



Photo: SkyLens Aerial Videography

New South Wales Golf Club in Sydney, Australia, has appointed Mackenzie & Ebert to develop a masterplan.

“Mackenzie & Ebert has a well-established reputation for successfully and sympathetically upgrading courses of all types, particularly windy seaside courses like ours, and including the likes of Turnberry, Royal Portrush, Royal Dornoch and Royal St Georges,” said Chris Coudounaris, the club’s president. “We felt that Tom Mackenzie and Martin Ebert were the right fit to help us maximise the potential of the exceptional property on which our course is located.”

The New South Wales course dates back to 1926, but parts of the original

layout by Alister MacKenzie were lost during World War II. Since then, aspects of the course have been rebuilt by various architects, which has resulted in an inconsistent architectural theme.

Renovation work will aim to improve strategy, playability and aesthetics, with all 18 greens complexes designed by one architect and built in one summer season.

“Having travelled to Australia to meet with the club’s board in August, we are enormously excited to be appointed to work with New South Wales Golf Club on the renovation of their course,” said Mackenzie. “It is an incredible property, and

the course is already very highly regarded, but there is so much opportunity for improvement.

“Our shared priorities, in accordance with the brief, are to make the course even more interesting, fairer and playable for the members and, at the same time, more varied, strategic and challenging for the best players. The overall intention is to produce a course which remains demanding, but which is also enjoyable to play in whatever the conditions experienced.”

The project will be Mackenzie & Ebert’s first in Australia, and they will visit New South Wales again in early 2023 to progress the masterplan, aiming to start work on the course in 2024.

THE BIG PICTURE

A distinctive thumbprint features on the green of the ‘Short’ fourteenth hole at the new Ballyshear Golf Links course at Ban Rakat Club near Bangkok, Thailand. In the background is the green of the ‘Lagoon’ eleventh hole, a dogleg par four with a plateaued putting surface.

Gil Hanse and his partner Jim Wagner designed the course as a tribute to Long Island’s famous lost Lido course. “The Lido is the holy grail for the ‘created’ golf course, the ultimate manifestation of what can be done with enough creativity, money and sand,” said Hanse. “The fact that it no longer exists makes it more romantic in nature and inspires all of us to elevate it in the pantheon of golf course architecture.”

Covid restrictions prevented the duo from visiting the site since 2019, so their Caveman Construction team completed the project.

“It’s incredible to think back – through two and a half years of Covid – to when this project began,” said Wagner. “Just reflecting on what this property was when we showed up: a dilapidated, perfectly flat golf course. What has it become today: a total and truly remarkable transformation from a golf course, landscape, earthwork and vegetation standpoint.”

Photo: Chris Wise





GOOD READ

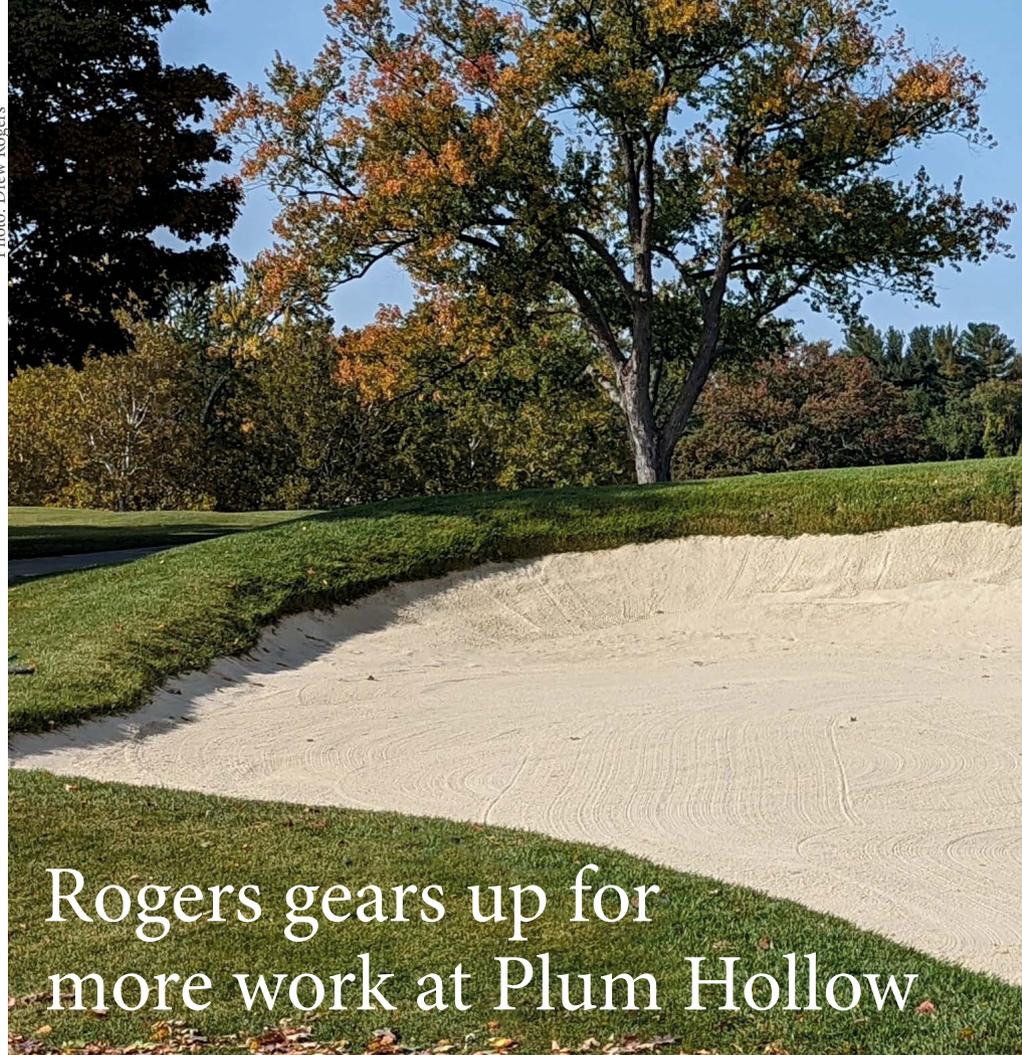
“It’s important to consider the site’s natural features”

The cover story of the latest issue of *By Design* magazine – produced for the American Society of Golf Course Architects by the team responsible for GCA – sees architects discuss the techniques they employ when working on sites with significant elevation change.

“It’s important to consider the site’s natural features,” says Kevin Atkinson, who has completed several projects where severe elevation change was a factor. “Distant views play a key role in the memorability of golf holes.”

The Winter issue of *By Design* also includes an interview with new ASGCA president Brit Stenson, thoughts from Todd Quitno on the trade-off between slope and speed when designing greens, and profiles of the five projects recognised in the 2022 ASGCA Environmental Excellence Awards.

To download the latest issue and subscribe to *By Design*, visit www.asgca.org



Rogers gears up for more work at Plum Hollow

Drew Rogers is preparing for another phase of renovation work at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield, Michigan.

In 2023 he will conduct studies of the practice facilities and green surfaces, and continue landscape work that he says “will present the course with heightened colours, textures and long, dramatic views”.

This work builds on projects already completed, beginning with floodplain remediation work in winter 2019 and renovations associated with the impacted holes in spring 2021. Rogers also completed a tee and bunker renovation project in 2021.

“Tees were enlarged and rearranged with more varied playing angles,” said Rogers. “The bunker character is quite bold, with features of great scale and depth, more in the character that Hugh Alison likely built. Trees were also removed to open up the

playing corridors so that dramatic vistas would be restored throughout the property and fairways could be properly aligned to their intended widths and angles.

“Our goal for the overall project was to re-establish playing strategies, improve course conditions and aesthetics and to provide greater balance. Speed of play and overall enjoyment are part of that equation as well.”

Work has been well received by the membership. “It has been really pleasing to have members remark about all the playing options that are now in effect that were previously unrealised,” said Zachary Savas, president of Plum Hollow. “Drew has been able to create more variety, especially around the greens with more runoff and bailout areas. The members exude nothing but pride now. New member interest has also seen an uptick, along with our ability to raise the initiation fees.”



Rogers restored a grander scale to bunkers during his 2021 project, as seen on the seventh



Alison, Rogers and Plum Hollow

Golf historian and writer Anthony Gholz provides insight into Alison's original design of Plum Hollow and the impact of Drew Rogers' work

When considering Plum Hollow and its designer Hugh Alison, two thoughts come to mind. The first is Alison's big scale routing, which makes excellent use of the Rouge valley and the ridges and deep swales caused by its various tributaries. Of Alison's routing, unchanged since 1921, only the third and fourth holes make no use of the deep swales and serve to remind us of the flat farmland which surrounds the course. Starting with the first hole the second shot plays across the swale which begins at Lahser Road and crosses the first, second, ninth and tenth holes before entering the Rouge. On the back nine, the big scale of the property becomes more evident, and all the holes make use of the contours created by the creeks and river.

Plum's bunkering, when viewed in hindsight, was neither consistent from hole to hole nor at a scale appropriate to

the property. Was this Alison's fault or Wilfrid Reid's, who was retained in 1928 to rebunker a course less than a decade old? Our information regarding Alison's original bunkering is scant... actually nil. Our earliest photo is an aerial from 1937, long after Alison's original efforts and those of Reid and others.

Drew Rogers' recent renovation has only improved the routing with his change to eleven. He moved the fairway right to play along the ridgeline, removing trees and opening up long views into the Rouge valley. Rather than a short 'get well' hole, it becomes a strategic one from the tee onwards.

Taking inspiration from other Alison courses, such as Japan's Hirono, Rogers has created a

big-scale bunkering scheme that now compares with the best of Alison's work. Plum Hollow is again ready to take its place among the best, and most fun to play, courses of the Detroit area.

A 1937 aerial of Plum Hollow, one of the earliest photos the club has of Alison's design





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Infinitem plans more changes

The Infinitem resort near Tarragona, Spain, host to the DP World Tour’s final qualifying school in 2022 is planning changes to its Hills course.

The work at Infinitem – formerly known as Lumine before a rebrand in 2021 – follows the regrassing of its Lakes layout from ryegrass to Tifway 419 bermuda, to reduce water usage and therefore support the resort’s sustainability goals.

Work planned for 2023 on the Hills course, which was designed by Catalan architect Alfonso Vidaor, will be led by architect Dave Sampson of European Golf Design and includes bunker removal and restyling for consistency.

Several holes on the front nine will get new back tees, and tees on the tenth will move to accommodate a new parking area. “With up to three driveable par fours currently on the back nine, which we feel is too many, the seventeenth will see one of the biggest changes, with the hole being



The eleventh hole on the Hills course and, top, the eighteenth green, which will be moved closer to the cliff face, and the lake extended closer to the green

Photos: Kevin Murray

extended to a mid-length four,” said Sampson. This will also lead to tees on the adjacent fourteenth being moved over slightly to accommodate.

The fifteenth and sixteenth holes will be switched to play in opposite directions to improve safety, with a nearby housing development due to

begin soon. The green of the dramatic eighteenth will be moved closer to the cliff face that sits behind it and dominates the hole, while the lake will be extended closer to wrap around the new green. A boutique hotel is to be built on top of the cliff, overlooking the hole.

Short course decision pays off for Skamania

Skamania Lodge, located in Washington, USA, close to the border with Oregon, is seeing increased play and revenue following a transformation of its golf facilities by Brian Costello of JMP Golf Design.

The resort had an eighteen-hole golf course, a Gene Mason design that opened in 1993, routed over 175 acres of heavily forested terrain with dramatic views towards the Columbia River Gorge.

But an influx of new layouts in the region combined with the resort increasing the range of other activities available to guests, led to a decline in play.

“The owners and management realised that they needed to take a fresh look at the golf course to re-evaluate the asset and to completely

reimagine the golf experience,” said Costello. He proposed a new masterplan that replaced the existing course with two shorter layouts, a nine-hole par-three course and an eighteen-hole putting course.

Verde Sports Construction started work in February 2020 and, despite some Covid-related delays, completed “The Gorge 9” course in June 2021, with a grand opening taking place a month later.

“The original required a golf cart to navigate the hilly terrain and took close to five hours to play,” said Costello. “The new Gorge 9 is a fun, walkable short course that features some of the former ‘all-star’ signature approach shots, and typically takes under 90 minutes to play.”

Holes range in length up to 201 yards.

There are multiple teeing options on each hole, including forward tees that allow the holes to be played to lengths of around 50-75 yards. The routing also allows for a loop of four or seven holes.

“We wanted to incorporate elements from some of the best holes and existing landscape features into the new routing,” said Costello. “The holes closest to the clubhouse provided the best terrain for a golf course trail which avoided the steeper slopes. We explored numerous routings to keep existing green sites, reverse holes and find new holes until we settled on one that kept six original green sites and created three new greens.

“The final routing was fine-tuned to provide a variety of lengths and minimise forced carries. We removed the sand bunkers and created grass

hollows and collection areas to provide strategic interest and more playable recovery shots.”

A new Rain Bird IC irrigation system, designed by Greg Baer, has been installed and synthetic turf was used on tees and fairways.

“The engineering beneath the synthetic turf and the topdressing within the surfaces replicates the characteristics of real grass when receiving tee and approach shots,” said Costello. “The design of each green has 10 to 12 hole locations to add tremendous variety to the course experience.”

General manager Kara Owen said: “The change in our course size and the use of synthetic greens and tees has greatly reduced our water and chemical use. In addition, the hours that it takes to be sure they are weed free and meticulously managed to maintain the right conditioning, consistency and speed has also been reduced. This allows our teams to focus on other priorities both on the course and around the lodge.”

There were several existing walking trails that laced through the golf course property. Costello considered how to route the course so golfers could experience the best views of the gorge and meadows. “The original fourteenth was a very narrow downhill par four with a small creek fronting the green, a signature pond and a breathtaking backdrop,” he said. “If you could place your drive in the ideal spot in the fairway, you enjoyed this awesome view and a relatively level lie. The tees for the new fifth hole places you in this same vantage point recapturing the thrill of

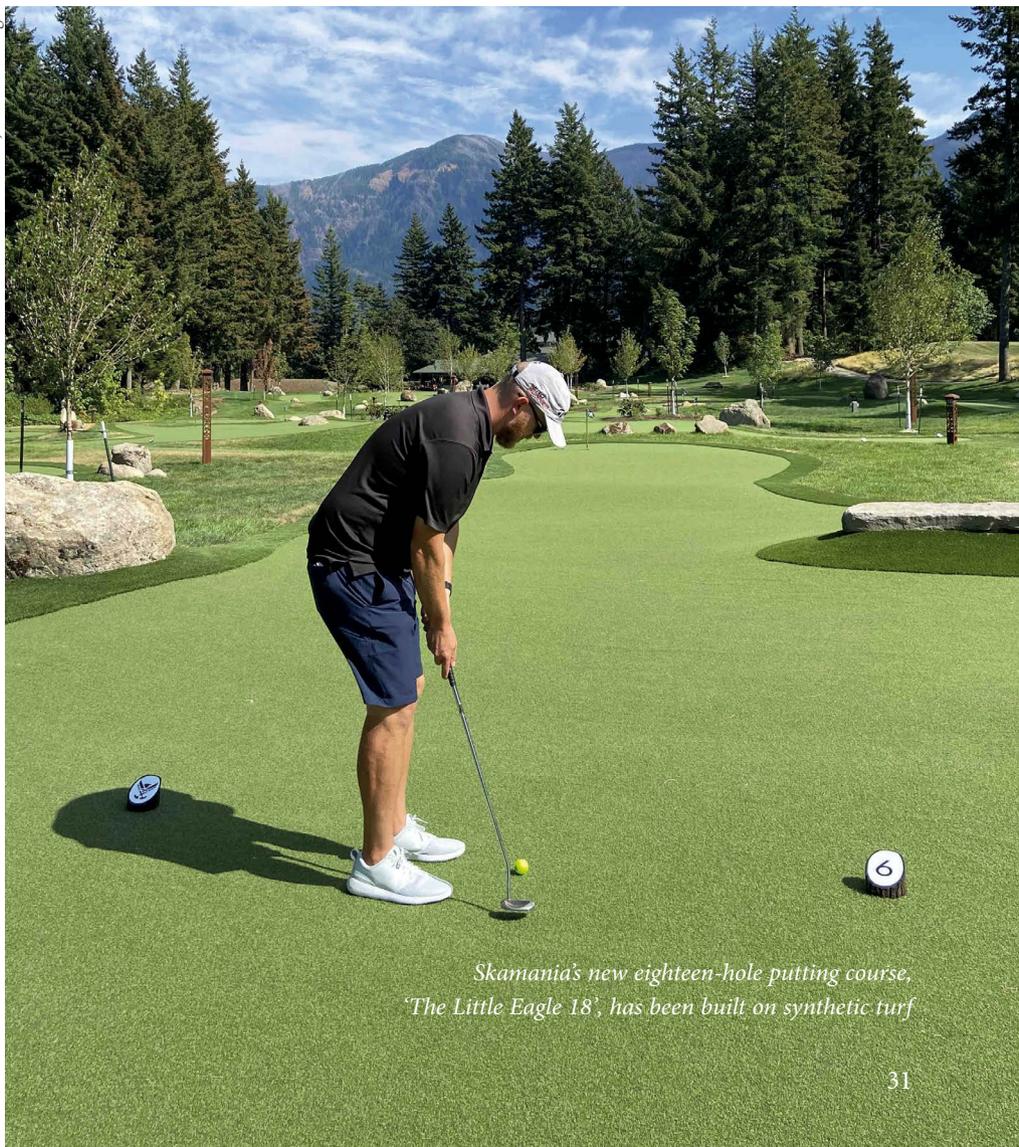
this approach shot into this picturesque and dramatic green setting.”

In place of the former driving range, a new eighteen-hole putting course, ‘The Little Eagle 18’, has been built, also using synthetic turf. “The putting course features real-course strategy with creative and fun contouring such as elevated plateaus, ridges, collection hollows, deflection mounds and bumpers amongst rock outcrop obstacles and rough,” said Costello. “Each individual hole is set apart from the others amongst native trees and colourful and contrasting

landscaping that add beautiful interest to the experience.”

Owen said: “Both The Gorge 9 and The Little Eagle 18 putting course have added value to our lodge. More of our corporate groups have taken advantage of the courses. In our first 1.5 years we have focused on making golf approachable for all and focused on its ability to be a team building activity for groups. As we begin 2023, we will increase our focus on bringing more youth into the game of golf as well as giving our younger guests an opportunity to try golf when they visit.”

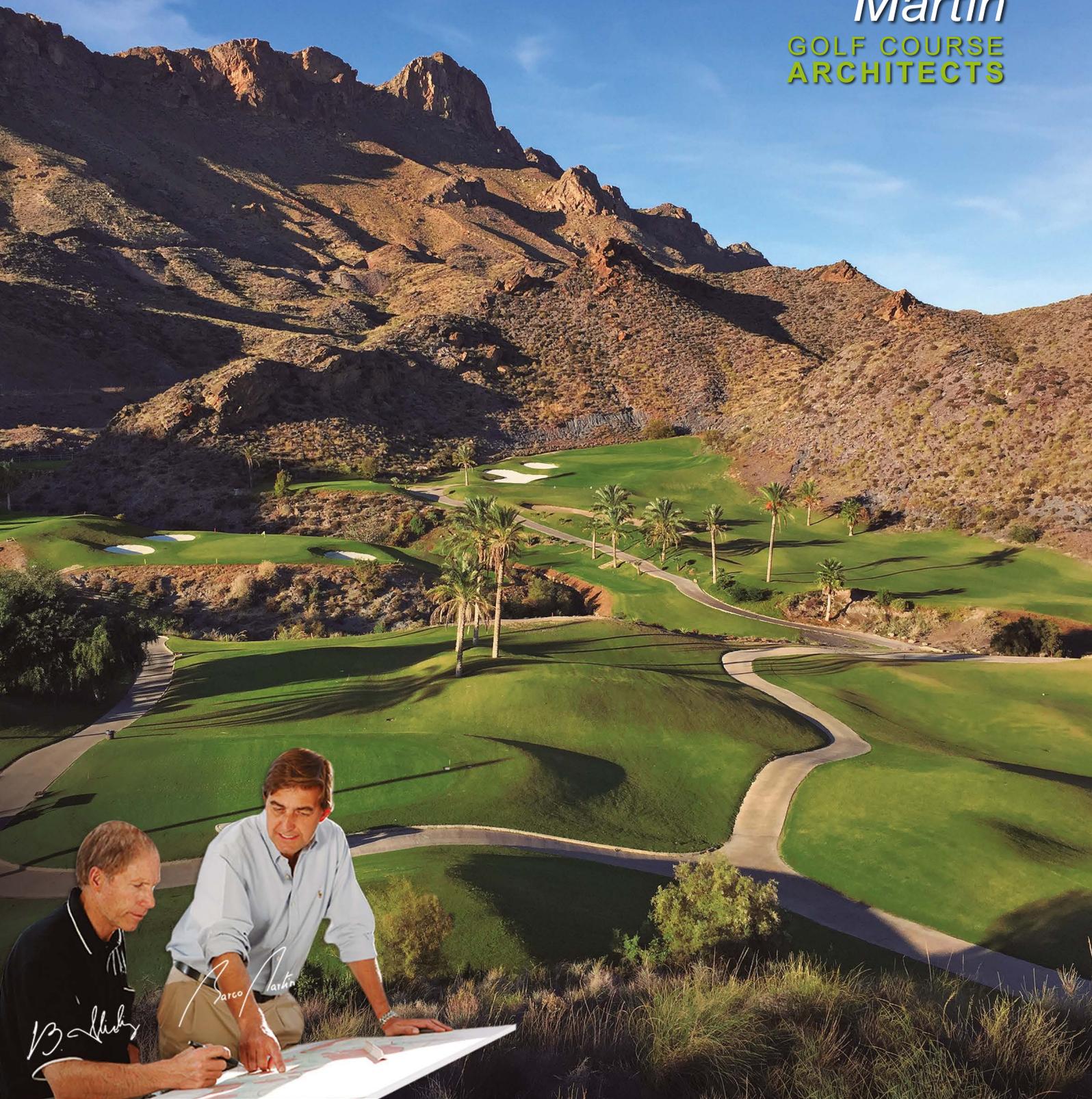
Photo: JMP Golf Design



Skamania's new eighteen-hole putting course, 'The Little Eagle 18', has been built on synthetic turf

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Kilada course takes shape in Greece

Construction is progressing on the new Jack Nicklaus signature course at Kilada Country Golf & Residences, located in the Porto Heli area of the Peloponnese region in southern Greece.

Work began in 2020 as part of a larger development led by Dolphin Capital Investors, involving a hotel, sport and leisure facilities and luxury resort homes. The project is being overseen by Dirk Bouts, a senior design associate at Nicklaus Design.

Some holes have now been grassed, with greens featuring Platinum TE paspalum, provided by Atlas Turf

International, and all other playing surfaces seeded with Pure Dynasty.

“Various obstacles were overcome in order to achieve this goal, which makes it even more satisfying to see the first greened-up holes,” said Bouts. “With the first holes complete, it becomes even more apparent how the course integrates flawlessly within the existing terrain, landscape and numerous features throughout the property.

“Greens have been kept gentle and will be fun to play on. Bunkers are on the small end; however, we are making sure they are strategically well

placed. There’s a great variation in golf holes, and all through the course there are amazing vistas, not only over the golf course, but towards the sea and the surrounding mountains.”

Construction and grassing will continue in spring 2023.

“Our mission has always been to design great golf courses but equally to help grow the game of golf around the world,” said Bouts. “The team at Kilada has given us the opportunity to bring to life our vision for this property and we look forward to seeing this be a successful project for years to come.”



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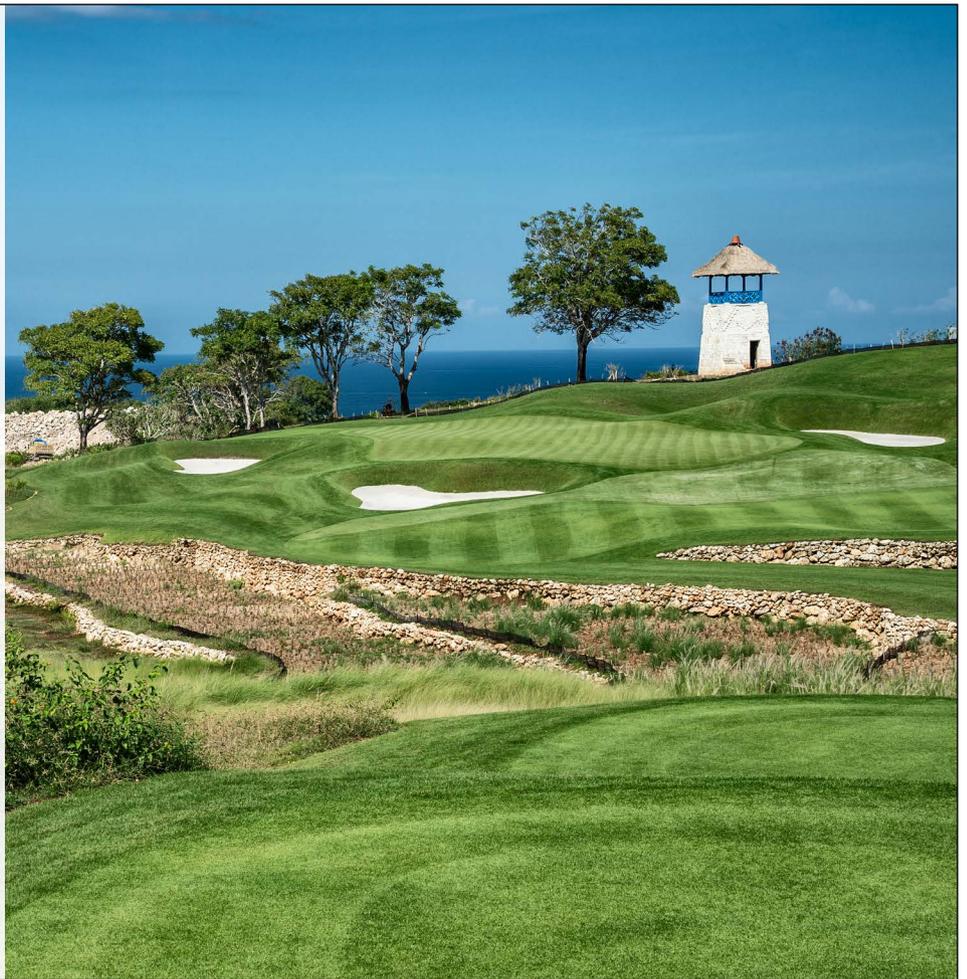
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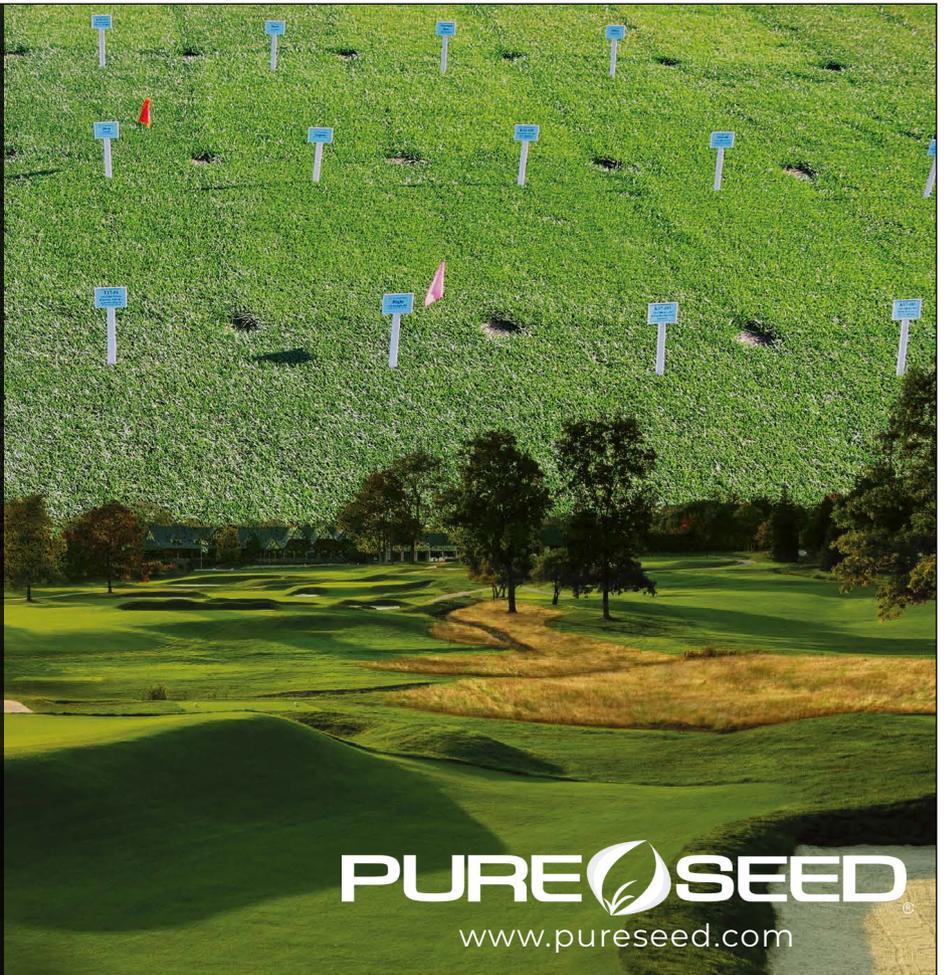
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New public course to be built on Colorado dairy farm

A new 18-hole public golf course, Bella Ridge, designed by Art Schaupeter, is to be built on land in Johnstown, Colorado, that was recently home to a working dairy farm.

“The site is wonderfully set up for a golf course,” said Schaupeter. “There is about 150 feet of elevation change from the south of the property to the north. A deep valley and creek run the length of the site, with the creek to act as a conduit for the delivery of ditch water that will be used to irrigate the course.”

An existing irrigation lake is being cleaned out and the dairy farm is being dismantled and moved to a new location in preparation for golf course construction to begin this year.

“The golf course routing is set up so that players can play multiple loops and different lengths,” said Schaupeter. “The opening six holes play out and back to the clubhouse. After passing the clubhouse, players reach a neat three-hole loop which brings them back, ready to begin the back nine.



A sketch of the fourteenth and fifteenth holes, which play over a deep valley

“The back nine generally plays out and back, with holes ten to fourteen working their way uphill to the top of the property at the south end. The fourteenth and fifteenth holes play back and forth across the valley and are the shortest par four and par three on the course. The final three holes are all very long, albeit playing downhill. It’ll be a challenging finishing stretch, which will emphasise the need to post low scores on fourteen and fifteen.”

The clubhouse will sit on a small hill, overlooking most of the course,

with holes one, six, ten and eighteen to the west. The practice facilities, which will have the ability to operate as a standalone facility, will include a 400-yard range, a 20,000-square-foot putting green and a two-acre short-game area with a pitching range.

Meetings with developers regarding residential and commercial real estate are ongoing. Three planned residential areas on higher areas of the site around the perimeter of the course will have spectacular views of the golf and the Rocky Mountain Front Range to the west.



New short course in play at Aurora Anguilla

A nine-hole short course, named Avalon Links, by Greg Norman Golf Course Design, is now in play at Aurora Anguilla Resort & Golf Club.

The par-28 1,315-yard layout is located on 19 acres of land between the fifth, sixth and seventh holes of the resort's eighteen-hole Championship course, which underwent a 'remastering' by Norman's firm in 2022.

The resort, formerly named CuisinArt Resort, is now owned

by American businessman Richard Schulze and managed by Salamander Hotels & Resorts. The idea for a short course was conceived during a tour of the property by Schulze and Norman, with the resulting Avalon Links layout comprising eight par threes and one par four.

"The first hole begins with panoramic views of the Caribbean Sea and unfolds with a rich variety of tee shot angles, distances and carefully integrated

design elements, including white sand belts and large areas of grass to make it playable and fun for beginners," reads a statement from the resort.

"Water features and a double green provide elements of excitement, and a short drivable par four was conceived to complete a great golf experience. Undulating greens and collection areas provide different ways to attack every flag around the green, including flop shots and bump and runs."



Photo: Lobb + Partners

Lobb and Lundin collaborate on Gävle masterplan

Gävle Golfklubb in Sweden has appointed golf course architects Tim Lobb and Christian Lundin to develop a new masterplan for its two 18-hole courses and practice facilities.

It will be the first time Lobb, whose firm is based in Woking, England, and Lundin, the Swedish architect who also heads up Henrik Stenson's design practice, have formally collaborated on a design project.

"We were both invited to submit a proposal to the club separately," said Lobb. "We're good friends and have great respect for each other professionally and felt that this would be an ideal opportunity to combine our skills."

Gävle's Old course is 6,100 yards and the Avan is 6,900 yards. "The Old is quite short and narrow – it's quirky," said Lundin. "Whereas the Avan is longer and more open." The club also has a nine-hole par three course.

"What we're exploring now is how to create a really strong identity and contrast for each course," said Lobb. "The Old will remain shorter and more intimate and may be a bit more friendly to players with slower swing speeds. Whereas the Avan will be a true championship venue."

"Gävle has a real tradition of creating great golfers, so the practice facilities will be a very important aspect of the project," said Lundin. "The club has



Tim Lobb, left, and Christian Lundin

always had indoor practice options, which allow golfers to train in winter and I think is part of why they have been so successful."

Lobb and Lundin are now working on several masterplan options, to give the club solutions for a range of budgets and design preferences. They will present their initial ideas before the end of 2022 with hopes of creating a final masterplan by spring 2023, aiming for work to begin in 2024.

THE INTERVIEW
with Tom Marzolf



“As the game evolves and equipment improves, the golf architecture must react and adjust”

GCA spoke with Fazio Design’s Tom Marzolf about the renovation of Bonita Bay’s Cypress course



Photo: Evan Schiller

Bonita Bay Club in Naples, Florida, reopened its Cypress course in October 2022 following an 18-month renovation by Tom Marzolf of Fazio Design.

The course, originally designed by Tom Fazio, debuted in 1996, and is located close to the Everglades and other protected wetlands. It is adjacent to the Sabal layout, also designed by Fazio, which will undergo a renovation by Fazio Design in autumn 2023.

What have been the biggest changes to the course?

We worked with contractor Glase Golf to raise the entire course by twelve to eighteen inches to improve drainage. We did this by creating six new lakes, expanding the four that already existed and distributing the resulting 200,000 cubic yards of earth across the property.

In addition, fairways have been lifted and reshaped, with 450 new catch

New bulkhead walls have been built on lake edges as pictured here on the par-five fourth



One of six new lakes splits the opening holes of each nine, with the tenth on the left and the first on the right

basins added and extensive subsurface drainage pipes added to firm up the play spaces.

We also added a long tee and two short tees on each hole so that each has seven tees and the course can play at 500-yard intervals from 4,500 to 7,500 yards, making it the first Fazio design with a 3,000-yard spread.

What work has been completed on the greens?

The original routing remains the same, but greens have now been expanded and surrounds cut short to encourage a wide variety of short-game shots. Wooden bulkhead walls along lake edges now feature on holes four, eight, fifteen and eighteen. The aim was to enhance aesthetics, especially when the often-fluctuating water level drops.

The first hole gives an immediate feel for the course's green complexes with a deep, narrow, right to left angled green and an expansive, low-mow chipping area to the right. The firm, sandcapped approach will allow the ball to release onto the front hole locations.

How have you approached work on the bunkers?

Bunkers were rebuilt with a cleaned up, Augusta look. White sand is flashed on bunker faces and surrounding turf has been shaved low – the largest of these low-mow areas being at the par-five twelfth. White sand was also added to out-of-play areas along and between holes, and around trees. The contrast between the sand, native plantings and pine straw aims to add drama and visual appeal to the layout.

Bunkers, especially in first shot landing areas, have been relocated to account for advancements in club and ball technology since the course's opening in 1996. Fairway bunkers are angled slightly closer to the centreline of play, and new fairway lines bring short grass in front of the hazards.

Since the modern ball can fly straighter today, the fairway bunkers have been moved in closer. To regain the attention of the game's best players, the tee shot strategy now calls for reaction and alignment choices, based on the carry point of the bunker. This noticeable decision making off the tee will now be a feature of Cypress, keeping players focused on the variety of each hole. As the game evolves and equipment improves, the golf architecture must react and adjust.

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SENTRYWORLD



Huxley Golf builds new practice tees at Gleneagles

Huxley Golf has installed new all-weather practice tees for the PGA National Academy for Scotland at Gleneagles.

“Here at Gleneagles, we combine leading instruction with unrivalled practice facilities to give golfers of all ages and abilities the opportunity to enjoy the sport and grow their game in the most comprehensive and desirable surroundings,” said Matthew Reid, PGA National Golf Academy manager. “Huxley Golf’s elite golf surfaces are a key component of us being able to deliver this service. Silent and comfortable underfoot, they look, feel

and play just like natural turf, yet are so much more hard-wearing.”

Huxley Golf installed its Premier Tee Turf 2 product on a practice tee measuring approximately 170 by 12 feet, and two short-game area tees. “With exceptional pile density, it sets the perfect stage and provides a superb all-weather playing surface,” said area manager Hugh Fraser. “Its unique construction enables balls to be played straight off the surface or from a tee and, because no filler is needed, there’s very little maintenance needed to keep it in tip-top condition all year round, just as visitors to this iconic venue expect.”

Tilander hired for Aura Golf renovation

Aura Golf, on the island of Ruissalo, Finland, has appointed Lassi Pekka Tilander to develop a renovation plan for its course.

The club’s first nine holes opened in 1969 and it expanded to 18 in 1983, becoming one of the first full-length courses in the country.

“The original holes meander through a hilly landscape dotted with old oak trees, which suit a parkland course,” said Tilander. “The newer parts, on the other hand, lie mostly on flat fields previously used for farming. Apart from planting new trees, these areas have remained the same since the 1980s.

“The goal is to update the strategic elements of the course to provide a better challenge. We also plan to visually integrate the younger areas of the course closer to the atmosphere of the original holes. The golf holes must be fun and fair for all golfers.” No changes will be made to the routing.

The first phase of work will focus on holes six to eleven. Holes seven to eleven were among those built in 1983.



Global round-up



WAC Golf develops renovation plans for Hillsdale

Whitman, Axland & Cutten (WAC Golf) is developing a golf course renovation plan for Hillsdale Golf Club in Mirabel, Canada.

The club, located northwest of Montreal, was founded in 1953 and has two 18-hole courses – the Laurentien and the Woodside – across its 430-acre property.

The Laurentien course played host to both the Canadian Amateur

Championship in 1998 and the Canadian Women’s Open in 2011.

The club hired WAC Golf in May 2022 to transform the property, which would include a reduction in the number of holes to make better use of the site.

“While major adjustments to the general layout and sequence of play will ultimately transform the golf course property, several of the existing hole corridors will

be repurposed,” said Keith Cutten of WAC Golf. “Nevertheless, every feature – including tees, bunkers and greens – will be reimaged.”

The redesign will also feature a subsurface drainage system and upgrades to irrigation.

Final plans are expected to be finalised in summer 2023, with the aim of breaking ground in spring 2024.



Photo: WAC Golf

New A\$20m Kangaroo Island project set to begin



Photo: Darius Oliver

Construction has started on The Cliffs, a Darius Oliver-designed course located on Kangaroo Island, which lies off the coast of mainland South Australia, southwest of Adelaide.

The A\$20 million project, which was initially approved in 2017 but faced several delays broke ground on 9 December 2022. Construction of the holes is now expected to commence in February 2023 with the aim of opening the course in late 2024.

The project site is atop 500-million-year-old cliffs. “The five holes directly along the clifftops [two, three, eight, fourteen and fifteen], and the three that run toward the cliffs [one, seven and thirteen] will generate the most attention I’m sure,” said Oliver.



Photo: Arora Group

Luton Hoo plans new course and Ryder Cup bid

Arora Group plans to build a new championship course, designed by Ross McMurray of European Golf Design, at Luton Hoo Hotel, Golf and Spa in Bedfordshire, England, as part of its bid to host a future Ryder Cup.

The estate’s existing 18-hole golf course is a bunkerless design created by Mike Smith in 2008.

“Arora’s aspirational plans to take the superb Luton Hoo Hotel, Golf and Spa complex set in its beautiful surroundings to the next level, have the scope to put Central Bedfordshire on the world stage,” said Richard Wenham, leader of the Central Bedfordshire Council. “Securing the Ryder Cup would be an enormous boost to our thriving economy, bringing many new tourists and supporting more new jobs.”

Photo: Faldo Design



Construction continues on new Faldo course in Vietnam

Sir Nick Faldo said the new Silk Path Dong Trieu course in the Quang Ninh province of Vietnam “has the potential to become the best course in Vietnam”, during a visit to the Faldo Design construction site.

The \$60 million project by resort developer Silk Path Group covers 320 acres, 50 miles east of Hanoi.

“I really enjoyed my first site visit to Dong Trieu, and I am very happy with the golf course progress,” said Faldo. “We have many great holes with interesting features including rocks, elevation changes, pine trees, streams, lakes and mountain views.”

Construction is expected to be complete by the end of 2023.



MIKE CLAYTON

The Dark Ages of British golf

Mike Clayton explains why he believes Britain has been relatively slow to share in the fruits of the current age of great golf design

The United States has more good golf than anywhere else in the world for the obvious reasons. There is more wealth and more land. Charles Blair Macdonald built the National Golf Links, the first of his and Seth Raynor's great courses, by importing the principles of the great links holes found on the British coast and for the two decades leading to the Great Depression so much incredible golf was built 'over there'.

But English golf is, for me, the greatest concentration of beautiful golf in the world.

The variety of the heathlands – courses like Alwoodley, Ganton, Woodhall Spa, Notts, New Zealand or the wild Minchinhampton – and the great seaside links makes for

the greatest condensed education for anyone wanting to learn about how great architecture is the most important nurturer of the game and its future.

Alister MacKenzie, Tom Simpson, JF Abercromby, Harry Colt and their contemporaries made extraordinary courses and it was MacKenzie who wrote that the standards of the profession and the courses yet to be built would be even further advanced.

Instead, the Second World War and their passing changed the trajectory of architecture, not only in Britain but all over the world.

We can box the two periods into a 'Golden Age' and a 'Dark Age' and be accused of being simplistic but with the benefit of hindsight it's hard to

argue the former wasn't wildly more productive. Certainly, this was true in Australia where nothing much of any worldwide significance was built post the MacKenzie-inspired era of the late 1920s and very early 1930s until the turn of the new century. In fairness, there were more important things to deal with after the Second World War. The prosperity and optimism of the Golden Age was gone. There wasn't money to spend on great golf – indeed on almost any golf – as the country recovered from the ravages of the war.

We all understand professional golfers would happily play down the proverbial motorway if the money was right. Nowhere is it better illustrated than the Ryder Cup. Golf's greatest event moved from Birkdale, Muirfield, Lytham and



New Zealand in Surrey, an example of beautiful golf from Britain's Golden Age

Walton Heath to the Belfry, Valderrama, the K Club, Celtic Manor, the Nicklaus course at Gleneagles (the one John Huggan calls “the fourth best course in Auchterarder”) and Le Golf National.

On the European Tour the French Open left Chantilly for Golf National, the Irish Open went from Portmarnock to Mount Juliet and the European Open from Sunningdale to East Sussex National.

The modern courses may be great venues – and the modern Ryder Cup underpins the financial viability of the European Tour – but is anyone thinking the architecture matches the quality of the Golden Age? A Ryder Cup at Simpson’s Chantilly would have been as enchanting and representative of first-class French golf as Le National

was unrepresentative of it. The ball goes too far for the Kings at Gleneagles and wealthy owners bought the Cup in other, obvious instances.

The Belfry is, however, worthy of more discussion because it’s the poster child for what happened to English golf course architecture in the era coinciding with the tour’s boom on the back of the ‘Ballesteros generation’.

Unlike the London heathlands, the links, or the great inland sites, so many courses built in the last few decades of the twentieth century were made on less-than-ideal land. There was neither much sand nor ideal undulation, so the quality of the courses was dependent on imaginative routing, interesting, subtle strategy, first-class construction, and beautiful greens.

Instead of embracing what made English golf so great, so many courses began to look like facsimiles of what we were seeing on our televisions from the PGA Tour. Of course, it wasn’t so surprising as many of the commissions went to big-name architects from across the ocean.

Why else would anyone build the eighteenth hole at the Belfry? Sure, it made for some memorable moments, but so have the finishers at Sunningdale, Birkdale, Muirfield or the Old course at St Andrews.

I caddied at the first stage of this year’s European Tour school on a course presumably built as an adjunct to what looked like a beautiful hotel. You hear all the excuses for these modern courses – it’s lousy land, the soil is no good, the



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Gil Hanse's Castle Stuart sets a high bar for modern British golf

budget wasn't enough, the client didn't care. On and on.

This was not a good course, not of the measure of a good English course that is in the top 100 (150 even) courses in the country. And it was on heavy soil but so is Augusta National.

It was a bad course because the construction of the bunkers was inexcusably rudimentary. They were ugly. Fairway bunkers were poorly positioned, and the greenside bunkers were so far off the green they were irrelevant. The only one I raked all week was the one by the practice green.

The front nine routing was decent enough because it was flat ground, and it didn't really matter where the holes went – it was just a matter of making good holes out of what there was to work with. There was ample space and beautiful trees perfectly dotted across the land asking to be used to make the golf interesting.

The back nine was much different. The land was filled with interesting undulation. But one practice round

and it was obvious (fair to say, more obvious to me than my player, who was just dealing with how to shoot the lowest score he could) there were much better holes to be had by teeing off the eighteenth green, finishing up on the tenth tee and playing the entire thing backwards.

Every hole would have been better, but the reversed tenth wouldn't have come back to the front of the hotel. Likely someone who didn't know much about good golf suggested a finishing green on the tenth tee was too far from the clubhouse – or the architect never saw the other possibility.

It's fair to say MacKenzie et al weren't bothered by such trivialities and it's unanswerable what he might have done with the same site but fair to suggest he'd have done something unimaginably better.

The years after the turn of the century have seen some excellent new golf in Australia and New Zealand. Gil Hanse's Castle Stuart sets a high bar for modern British golf. Tom Weiskopf's

Loch Lomond, Kyle Phillips's Kingsbarns, and David McLay Kidd's Queenwood and Beaverbrook are very good courses albeit on land not quite Sunningdale, Swinley Forest, Woking or Walton Heath.

Whilst good sites are important and it's true you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, the future of first-class golf is in the hands of dedicated and talented golf course architects. The evidence of the last couple of decades is that, finally, there is a group who've done as much to advance the game as the brilliant men – many of them British – who worked between the two world wars.

Dark Ages are sometimes worthwhile – even necessary. We can learn much from bad courses as they serve to illustrate why courses built in more enlightened times were so worthwhile. **GCA**

Mike Clayton is a former touring professional, a golf architect and partner at Clayton, DeVries & Pont

How low should you go?

BAD GOLFERS

Written by Adam Lawrence

Throughout the history of golf architecture, designers have aimed to lay out courses that are playable for golfers of all standards. But what level of bad golf can an architect really be expected to design for?

Adam Lawrence reports





Back in the prehistoric days of golf architecture (otherwise known as the nineteenth century), courses were generally laid out with scratch, or at least high-quality players in mind, and a good course was believed to be one that provided the best test for the best players.

That changed with the revolution that struck golf course design in the early part of the twentieth century. Architects such as Harry Colt wrote that the ideal course was one that provided a test for the top player and fun for golfers of every level of ability. And, even allowing for exceptions like Pine Valley, where founder and designer George Crump sought to make a course that was only suited to

very good players, that viewpoint has remained dominant ever since.

It is well known that trying to cover both these bases is harder now than it has ever been before, simply because the extreme distance achieved by elite players now means the gap between good and bad is so massive. Yes, it is possible to provide tees of radically different lengths so that the 330-yard and the 110-yard driver use the same landing zone. But then what? Suppose a hole is set up so that the landing zone leaves an approach shot of between 150-180 yards. That's a very short iron for Rory McIlroy and completely out of reach for a typical super-senior.

For course rating purposes, according to the new World Handicap System,

a male bogey golfer is one with a handicap index from 17.5-22.4, who hits his drives 200 yards and can reach a 370-yard hole in two, while a female one has a handicap index of 21.5-26.4, hits her drives 150 yards and can reach a 280-yard hole in two. Very useful for its purpose no doubt, but completely irrelevant when designing a golf course, even as far as playability for the bogey player is concerned. Because a bogey player, in reality, could be someone who hits a very short ball, perhaps a man who can only drive 150-160 yards, but almost never misses a fairway. Or it could be a young man who takes a fearful swipe at the ball but has only the vaguest idea of where it is going to end up.



Golf courses that are accessible to the public, like the Old course at St Andrews, may be more likely to feel the need to be accommodating for beginners

What makes golf interesting is its infinite variety. But the “infinite variety of strokes used” (perhaps not entirely in the meaning MacKenzie intended when writing his ninth principle) makes nuts-and-bolts golf course routing somewhere between hard and impossible.

“I think that in the past, I have made my courses just too long and tough for a lot of ordinary golfers,” says English designer Adrian Stiff. “With the original course at the Players Club, the Codrington, many people can’t play it, and even for me now, at 62 and nearly crippled, I can’t make the carries off the back tees. Off the front tees, I reckon some carries are 100 yards, and certainly for a lot of women that’s impossible. That’s the reason only about five ladies play that course! But then it is those great carries at Cypress Point or Pebble Beach that take courses

to elite status. You have to figure out your audience I guess.”

Catering for ‘ordinary’ bad golfers, those who top a few, slice a few, hit a few reasonably straight but don’t go out of the county is not too difficult. As American architect Phil Smith says: “It comes down to attack angles when designing particular holes. I try to minimise forced carries whenever possible and I always try to design a safe option to play a hole, so high handicap players can navigate the hole by using bump and run shots if desired.”

Ron Forse says that the focus should mostly be on the tee shot (because it typically goes further, there is more scope for error than on shorter shots). “Properly positioned forward tees for those with slow swing speeds; bailout areas along the right side of common hitting areas; areas pitched inward to help contain balls; sand bunkers placed

beyond their range but positioned as visual guides; wide welcoming fairway dimensions; easy undulations in their landing areas; a preponderance of lakes or water hazards on the left side rather than right,” he says, noting that all this doesn’t do much to help left-handed players! “At the green, provide a wide approach for a run up. If there’s an upslope present, many times the good golfer will spin the ball off it. This feature does not scare the high handicap, but a front pin is treacherous for the fast clubhead speed. To keep interest for the high handicap, cross bunkers can be placed where a second shot on a hole can easily be carried. Dimension-wise, invading or cross bunkers at 300 to 320 can readily be carried with two decent shots.”

So far, so straightforward. This is fairly commonplace design thinking that architects have practiced for



Photo: iStock/jwoisey



Photo: Jon Cavalier/@LinksGems

Hell's Half Acre looms in the distance, as an almost insurmountable hazard, for those setting out on the seventh at Pine Valley. But founder George Crump had designed the course specifically for very good players

a hundred years or more. The real challenge comes about as a side-effect of the equipment changes that have made courses so short for elite golfers. There are now plenty of players out there who are capable of giving the ball an almighty thump, but who have little or no idea of where it is going to go.

“I regard the long inaccurate wild golfer as his own inherent problem,” says Forse. “His biggest issue may be getting sued by fellow golfers or owners of passing cars!”

“Random shots are hard to predict,” says Robin Hiseman of European Golf Design. “I do think I give a lot of thought to the very forward tees, but I leave it to the players to show some common sense once they have set off from the tee. I know it is difficult to predict where it is going if you're that much of a novice, but you have a responsibility to yourself to make

it easy on yourself if you have the choice. Very poor golfers ought to limit themselves to simple courses until sufficiently experienced, otherwise they'll just put themselves off.”

Golfers of all standards are prone to blame architects for their own failings, says Smith. But there has to be a line drawn somewhere between what is the architect's fault and what is the player's. “That line usually emerges during a

“There is a point where some players ought not to be pandered to”

member or town hall meeting,” he explains. “Someone will pick upon and continue to criticise a simple design issue, because it affects their personal game. I have made the comment a few times after someone like that continues to complain: ‘I can't design for that!’

There has to be some level of skill to meet me part of the way and that's why facilities have golf professionals.”

Texas-based designer Kurt Bowman, who worked for Nicklaus Design for many years, remembers a memorable line from his old boss. “I was once at a grand opening with Jack, and he was asked, ‘how do you do strategy for a 20 handicap?’ Jack answered, ‘You can't’. He said if you don't know where

the ball is going, how am I supposed to know? He said all you can do is limit forced carries and give them a lot of space. I do think you can do both, mind, so long as you have ample space. Augusta National and Royal Melbourne are proof.”

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Tom Doak says absolute beginners can enjoy courses like the Old course at St Andrews and Royal Melbourne (pictured) because they are completely playable from 250 yards and in, principally because out-of-play is generally not lost ball territory

Tom Doak says that width, which has been the mantra of golf architects in recent years, is a double-edged sword – because more width makes a course more expensive to maintain. “There is a point where some players ought not to be pandered to,” he says. “I believe I was one of the pioneers of increased fairway width in this era, but I think that has gone way too far in recent years; we are encouraging young guys to hit it long and wrong. A narrower course might get them to gear down a little bit, and that would be better than maintaining that extra 20 acres.

“By the same token, we can keep building forward tees for the weaker player, but we could also just tell them to tee it up at the start of the fairway and go from there until they get good enough to play from, say, 5,000 yards.”

In Germany, players have to pass a test to play on a course, as architect Angela Moser points out: “A 54 handicap equals a pass on the ‘Platzreife’ – the practical test to be officially allowed to play on the course.”

“While you can’t ‘design for’ the 50-handicap – after two shots, they could be anywhere – you can make

play’ areas are generally not lost ball country, due to favourable climate and turf species, without irrigation.

“It’s worth noting that it is up to the developer or club to decide what level of player they wish to accommodate. Not every golf course has to be playable for the 50 or even the 15 handicapper – there are a lot of courses in the top 50 that certainly aren’t. I don’t think that’s

“Not every golf course has to be playable for the 50 or even the 15 handicapper”

a course playable for them,” says Doak. “I have seen elderly golfers and even absolute beginners enjoy the Old course at St Andrews and Royal Melbourne. The key is that they are completely playable from 250 yards and in, principally because the ‘out of

something for the average course to give up on, but there are some sites where it is difficult, cost prohibitive or just a waste of resources to try and provide 60 yards of playable width off every tee, and that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t build a golf course there at all.” **GCA**



A life in design

INTERVIEW: RON KIRBY

Just turned ninety, Ron Kirby has been in the golf design business since the 1950s, and is still working – he has just finished overseeing the rebuild of the Apes Hill course in Barbados. Ron told Adam Lawrence a bit about his career and what he has learned

Most people retire in or around their middle sixties, perhaps a bit later these days given the pressure on pension funds the world over. Very few are still working after their ninetieth birthday.

But then, very few people have a life like Ron Kirby.

From growing up in Beverly, Massachusetts, 15 miles north of downtown Boston, to 18 different homes around the world, Kirby has seen more in his life than most could possibly dream of.

Golf was a part of his life from a young age. “My dad was a club pro in New Hampshire – my brother and I worked in the shop, and I didn’t care

for the members, so he gave me a rake and set me loose on the golf course,” he says. “In 1950 I went to turf school at the University of Massachusetts on a Francis Ouimet Caddy Scholarship – something I’m still very proud of, and I still support the fund. My ambition was to be an assistant greenkeeper.”

It wasn’t just learning about turf in those days – the young Kirby learned another skill that he has used throughout his life; drawing. To this day, he continues to sketch his design ideas to get them across to shapers and construction crews. “My grandfather was an artist, and I used to paint with him,” he says. “When I was a kid, in the winters, you could get watercolour

lessons in Boston at the Museum of Fine Art, so I did that. My brother and I could go and get into trouble in Boston, but I learned I can draw. I sketch what's there, and I can then draw the green in. It's easy for me. You don't want the bulldozer guy to draw, you want him on the bulldozer, but if you can show what you want in a sketch, it's easier to understand."

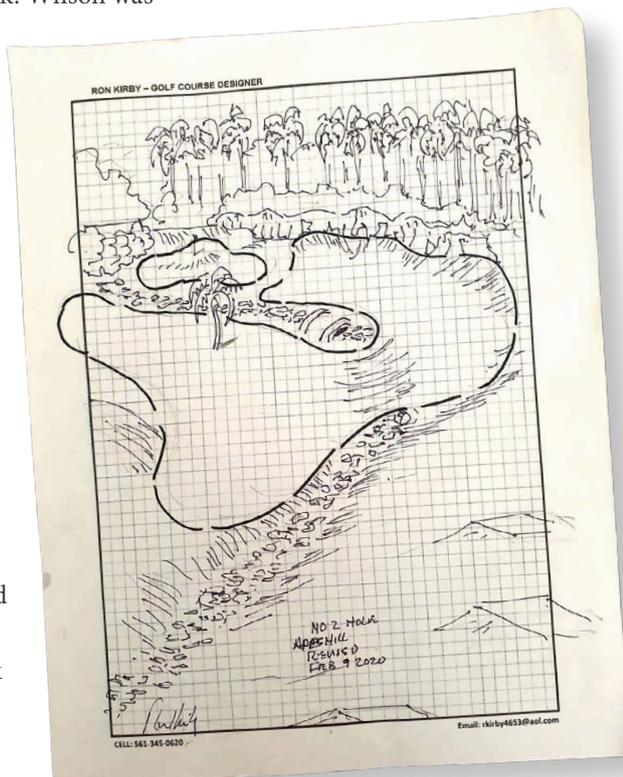
He met his wife, Sally, in 1949; they were married three years later and travelled the world together for 68 years until her death in January 2020. "In the winter, we'd head south to Florida; my dad was working down there, and he introduced me to various golf architects," he says. "I got a connection to Dick Wilson from my dad. Wilson was doing a job at Riviera in Coral Gables, Florida, where he lived. Bob von Hagge was doing most of the work. Wilson was hard to know. His favourite drink was Dubonnet and soda, and he started into it pretty early in the day. Somewhere in the early 60s, there was a centrefold of Wilson and Robert Trent Jones. Jones was in a button-down shirt and a blazer, and Wilson was on a tractor in work boots, with straw in his hair. That summed up the difference between them. I think Wilson was a genius at strategy. I watched

what he did at Doral and was really impressed."

After Wilson, Kirby went to work with Jones, the most successful golf architect of the era. "I was doing some work at Paradise Island in Nassau, and the pro from Nassau CC called me and said Jones was staying there and I should meet him, so I went over there. He was interested in what I was doing with hydraulic fill. We had pumped in 40 acres of sea bottom sand and he was fascinated by that. He told me he was building a team, and if I wanted a job, here was his business card."

Kirby says he held Jones in very high regard, even though he could be hard work. "I really loved him," he says. "At the 1963 US Open, which was held at the Country Club at Brookline, I had arranged to meet him at a dinner. I borrowed my mother's car to get

there, but he sent me a message that he wouldn't be there, and instead I should meet him at the Yale Club in Manhattan at 10 the following morning. Imagine, I'm in Boston and he says, 'Meet me in New York tomorrow morning'! Later I learned that wasn't unusual for him. So, I took the Eastern Shuttle, and got to the club. Roger Rulewich was sitting there, Jones was in a phone booth. He slid the door open and said, 'Ron, I'll be with you in a minute'. The doors went back and forth, and he told me that I needed to go to Fort Lauderdale and I should talk to a particular guy about buying a house, and I should be ready to go to California. But they were the greatest seven years of my life. I met so many powerful people, it was a real eye opener. One day he said to me, 'We have a lot of work in Europe, you



Kirby has sketched throughout his life and continues to sketch his design ideas to get them across to shapers and construction crews

Photo: Kristopher Streek



Photo: Mike Toy

Kirby is working at Apes Hill to emphasise the course's natural beauty, including many of its spectacular vistas

should go live there for a bit'. We had a job in Yorkshire, England, at Moor Allerton, so I lived there for some time."

Kirby says that Jones was a classic 'big picture' designer. "When he was on site, we'd go over the land for the new courses, and then, one night, he'd sit down and do the layout," he says. "He had a marble table in his garage, a scale, and a pencil that was dull, with an eraser on the end of it. He'd sit there, asking which way does the wind blow, Ron? And all the layouts that were good were done on that marble topped table in his garage!"

Kirby founded his own design firm in 1970, working for a time with Gary Player, and then, in 1986, sold the business to Golden Bear, Inc, and went to work for Jack Nicklaus, overseeing European projects. They had first met in 1963, when a young

Nicklaus came to the Bahamas to go fishing, and Kirby arranged a boat and skipper to take them out. "Nicklaus was the opposite of Jones – he was very detail-oriented," Kirby says. "He wouldn't draw anything till he had everything sorted in his mind. When we were building the Monarch's course at Gleneagles, now the Centenary, on which the Ryder Cup was played, we were walking past the eighth hole one day. He said, can we back it up a bit? See how far back you can go. Next trip he said, the green's not right. He'd remembered we could back it up, we had backed it up by 10 yards, and he said, 'You didn't back up the landing area!' He wanted the dogleg moved. He's a detail guy. I had Jones get me started, but Nicklaus is a finishing school. Meeting Jones and meeting Jack

were two of the greatest things that happened to me."

In the 1990s, the great Irish amateur Joe Carr got Kirby involved with the Old Head project in Kinsale on Ireland's south coast. Old Head remains the most high-profile project Kirby has worked on in his long career, and surely the most spectacular site, on a headland poking two miles out into the Atlantic, and with steep sea cliffs all the way round. Kirby's routing puts as many holes right next to the cliffs as possible, creating a golf course of almost unmatched memorability. "The O'Connor brothers, who developed the course, said they had an Eddie Hackett layout, and there was a greenkeeping guy there who was shaping some greens, but that was about it when I got there," he says. "Joe said to me 'I've been asked to do a golf course; can you



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Hole 18 NEWGIZA Photo: Kevin Murray



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Kirby visiting Old Head, which he helped design in the mid-1990s, and left, alongside the club's general manager Jim O'Brien and owner Patrick O'Connor

help me? I don't know how to build a golf course,' and so I got involved. There was very little budget. Now it's a success, but it took time. If money guys had got hold of it, they could have done it quicker, but I don't know if it would have been any better. I lived in Kinsale for five years, not a bad place to spend your time."

Some critics of Old Head have complained that the greens, in particular, are too flat and lack interest, but Kirby says this was a deliberate choice in response to the site. "Joe originally said the greens would need to be flat, and he was right," he says. "You can't have severe undulations in your greens that close to cliff edges in a windy place like that. The ball would blow right off. We built collecting greens for that reason."

And now, late in his career, Kirby is rebuilding the Apes Hill course in central Barbados. He has a long history of working in the Caribbean, building nine holes for Jones at Dorado Beach in Puerto Rico, and the Palmas del Mar course for his own firm, with

Gary Player as its signature designer. "Roddy Carr, Joe's son, asked me to do a redo at Bahamas Country Club – which was tricky, there was again very little budget, and they didn't have enough water, but we got it in play – and it was him who got me involved at Apes Hill," he says. "Landmark Land originally developed it, and it was designed by the company's in-house team, Chris Cole and Jeff Potts. They

“Marquee golfers got into the design business in the past, but I don't think we're going to see much more of that”

didn't do a bad job, the routing is pretty good, but it was too difficult – the opening hole was an uphill par five straight into the prevailing wind, and it went on in the same kind of mode. Landmark brought in some shapers who had worked with Pete Dye, and the course had 100-odd unplayable bunkers. But it is a fantastic site with great vistas and plenty of water – the owner has a huge reservoir.”

In 2019, Apes Hill was sold to Canadian investor Glenn Chamandy, and since then Kirby has been at work, revising the course. “My goal was to make a course that, after you played it, you wanted to play it again,” he says. “I said to the owner, ‘Have you played Augusta?’. He said yes. I said, ‘Well, there's thirty bunkers on that course, let's try for that'. I think it is coming out really well – the real

estate is selling now, and the new ownership is on the plus side.”

After six decades in golf design, Kirby has, surely, seen it all. What has changed? “Marquee golfers got into the design business in the past, but I don't think we're going to see much more of that. You've got to look more at the quality of the designer, not the name of the Tour player,” he says. **GCA**



Unveiling the past

THE ADDINGTON, LONDON, ENGLAND

The Addington in south-east London is in the middle of a five-year transformation process. The most dramatic changes have already taken place, as Adam Lawrence reports

Historical restoration of old golf courses is not a trend that has taken off in the UK. There have been attempts to put courses back to something more akin to what they looked like 50 or 100 years ago, but none of them have really, truly

taken the bull by the horns. Most such projects, when you look closely, involve a fair degree of change: whenever you hear phrases like, ‘What the original architect would have done today’ or anything similar, you know that the ‘restoration’

architect cannot resist putting his own stamp on the course.

Why this should be is not immediately obvious. Historical restoration has, over the last twenty years or so, become extremely popular in America, to the extent that there



The ideal aiming point on the par-four fourteenth is the Shard skyscraper

are architects whose entire business is focused on restorative projects on courses (mostly, to be fair, designed by Donald Ross). In Britain, though, we continue to believe, in general, that today we know better than Harry Colt, Alistair MacKenzie or Willie Park.

Part of the problem lies in golf club governance. It has proved extremely difficult to get clubs to buy in to the restorative process. Committees have a reputation for designing camels when

trying to produce horses, and it is true that getting the sort of support from a committee – and from the membership as a whole – has proved extremely difficult in Britain. It's also true that British golf operates on a much tighter budgetary model than the game in America, so persuading them to invest significant sums in *anything* is tough.

Golf architects and committees are not always the best of bedfellows. The architect Donald Harradine famously

said that a committee should have an odd number of members, and three is too many.

Back in its heyday of the 1920s, The Addington was regarded as one of the best inland courses in Britain. It was designed by JF Abercromby, with Harry Colt as his consultant. It is unclear who did what, indeed, there is at least one contemporary newspaper article that describes it as a Colt design, with no mention of



Photo: David Cannon

The extent of clearance work can be clearly seen on the par-four fifteenth, pictured in October 2020 and, right, two years later



Abercromby, who was involved with the syndicate that owned the club. It is said that, when asked by a member where to find the suggestion box, Aber retorted ‘I am the suggestion box’. The most obvious answer to the conundrum would be that Colt routed the course and left Aber to handle the details of the holes, but

would automatically have routed such a hole across the ravine that crosses the ninth, at the top of the site.

But we are getting ahead of ourselves. The Addington is unusual among classic British courses in that it has always been privately owned. For many years, it was owned by Moira Fabes, an eccentric woman

managed Brentford for a time, with some success). Noades, a self-made man and passionate golfer, also owned several other courses in the area, collectively known as the Altonwood Group; his youngest son Ryan, who now runs the course, says his father bought The Addington at least in part because he had been unable to play there as a young man, and it was to him a symbol of how far he had come.

Ron died in 2013 and eventually Ryan took over as managing director of the club. As such, he closely approximates Don Harradine’s ideal. Doubtless he consults on important decisions with the other co-owners of the club in his family, but essentially, he is the committee!

Like his father, Ryan is a passionate golfer. He is very well-travelled, has seen a lot of great golf, and is an

“The most dramatic part of the restoration has already been carried out, in the form of massive tree clearance”

architect Frank Pont, part of the team from the Clayton, DeVries & Pont firm that is leading the restoration, believes this is not so. His argument, which is compelling, is that Colt, who was known for using par-three holes to cross difficult or broken ground,

whose father had acquired all the shares in the original syndicate. She died in 2002, and in 2006 the course was bought by local businessman Ron Noades, famous as the chairman and owner of football clubs Wimbledon, Crystal Palace and Brentford (he also



enthusiast for golf course architecture. As such, it wasn't hard to see what lay underneath a hundred years of tree growth and mismanagement at The Addington, and he resolved to try to put it back.

After opening, The Addington was so successful that a second course was built on the other side of Shirley Church Road. The New course was taken over by the military during the Second World War and was compulsorily purchased for housing by Croydon Council after (users of the historical aerials function on Google Earth can go back and see the hole corridors filling up with houses in the late 40s). Because of the construction of the New course, the originally planned clubhouse site, higher up the hill, was abandoned, and a house built at the very bottom, next to the road, so it could serve both courses;

this explains The Addington's rather unsatisfactory start, with a severely uphill par three. That clubhouse burnt down in the 1950s – taking with it the club's historical records – and what was built in its place is now starting to wear out and will soon be in need of replacement. Ryan and his advisors see this as an opportunity to put the new clubhouse in the position that was originally intended for it – which would see the course played in its planned routing, with the fifth hole becoming the first. He points out that the fourth, a long, tough par four, is a classic closer, and that the fifth, a four of similar length but without too much in the way of complexity, is a classic Colt opening hole.

Ryan Noades hired Clayton, DeVries & Pont to lead the restoration, and all three of the firm's widely spread

partners are deeply involved. Naturally, Frank Pont has been most often on site, but Mike Clayton, who spends a lot of time in the UK, is there regularly, and Mike DeVries has visited several times and has built a new short-game facility.

The most dramatic part of the restoration has already been carried out, in the form of massive tree clearance. To anyone who had seen The Addington before the work, it is quite remarkable how much it has changed, with holes that were choked by tree growth now having a wide and airy feel. The whole course shows this, but there are several holes where it is most notable: the eighth, where some of the huge tree removal actually took place (by agreement) on the property of the neighbouring Addington Palace course, has opened up the hillside on the left; the unique twelfth, which, when

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Reconstruction of the course's bunkers has begun, as seen here on the closing hole

Photo: David Cannon

finished, will be around 150 yards wide; the famous par-three thirteenth, which Henry Longhurst called, apart from the fifth at Pine Valley (which was designed by Colt within weeks of The Addington being planned) the greatest inland one-shot hole in the world; and the stunning downhill par-five sixteenth, which was formerly a double dogleg because of trees but now offers a much clearer view.

The Addington, on the highest ground in the area, has always been a course of long views, but now it is very obvious; the ideal aiming point on the fourteenth is the Shard skyscraper in central London.

There is one other tree removal point we should make. Clearance to the left of the twelfth hole has revealed a lost green site, behind and to the right of the existing ninth hole's putting surface, that must have been taken out of play quite shortly after the course opened. Next year, Mike

DeVries will come to London to put this green back, and it will provide exciting options for Ryan Noades; it would most probably be played as a par three from near the ninth green and could be used as a bye hole, or as a spare hole should maintenance mean taking one out of play.

Enormous amounts of green surface have been lost over the years and

“Enormous amounts of green surface have been lost over the years and are starting to be recaptured”

are starting to be recaptured. Most dramatic is the par-three seventh, where the green originally extended perhaps 20 yards further back, creating a spectacular ‘double punchbowl’, and at the seventeenth, where, several yards to the right of where the green now ends are to be found a range of obviously man made mounds that must have been

intended to protect a pin position; when the green is extended back to its original size, the hole will be transformed.

The reconstruction of the course's bunkers has already begun, and will have a very dramatic impact on how it both looks and plays. In short, The Addington is being transformed. Ryan Noades is careful when asked about his hopes for his golf course, but it

isn't hard to see his excitement. In the 1920s, Addington was the place where London's elite played their golf, with the car park populated almost entirely by Rolls-Royces. Perhaps those days may never return, but in a few years time, I think The Addington will once again be spoken of as one of Britain's very finest inland courses. **GCA**

PROFILED

For the players

OLD CHATHAM GC, NORTH CAROLINA, USA

Renovation work at Old Chatham was designed to raise the challenge while remaining playable for all, as Toby Ingleton discovers



Photo: Ryan Montgomery/Monty Aerials LLC

The approach to the sixth hole has changed considerably, with fairway extended to the left providing a better angle into the green

The term ‘players’ club’ can strike fear into the hearts of average golfers. One imagines registering at the clubhouse and immediately being presented with a one-iron and a demand to stripe it 250 yards, proving your golfing credentials before stepping foot on the first tee.

Old Chatham is described by some as a players’ club. But thankfully that doesn’t mean a one-iron initiation, or even that average golfers aren’t wholeheartedly embraced. Rather it indicates a focus on golf alone. You won’t find tennis courts, swimming pool or a croquet lawn here.

The club was founded at the turn of the millennium by a group of well-connected and passionate golfers in the fast-growing Research Triangle area of North Carolina; home to the cities of Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, as well as three universities: North Carolina State, Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill.

As the region has thrived, so too has the club. Routed through 400 acres of pine forest, the course at Old Chatham provides a retreat from the burgeoning metropolis.

“There are no homes. You don’t see a single building other than the clubhouse,” says director of golf course management Brian Powell. “You’re out in the middle of a forest and it gives you this big feel, a wonderful sense of awesomeness.”

The course was laid out by Rees Jones and his associate Greg Muirhead in 2001 and has since built a reputation as one of the best in the state. It hosted the US Senior Amateur in 2019 and will welcome the USGA for a second



The new par-four sixteenth hole is reachable from the forward tees

time in 2026, for the US Girls Junior Championship.

“It’s a pure golf club,” says Jones. “A special place.”

Rees and Greg have remained close to the club since it opened, and in twenty years have been consulted on all changes, most significantly the recontouring of greens a few years ago.

As its prized asset, the club has always been extremely cautious about alterations to the course. “When we do things here, we make sure they are well thought out and protective of what we already think is a phenomenal golf design,” says Powell. “Our first rule is ‘thou shalt do no harm.’”

But after 20 years of evolution in turf science, the club made the decision to move to modern zoysia varieties for tees and fairways. As well as its water efficiency and shade tolerance, “most of the good players feel like this is a better surface in terms of how the ball rests,” says Muirhead. “They are able to really pinch it off the fairway.”

The turf transition required the course being out of play for 16 weeks, so it made sense to consider whether more could be done within that window of time.

“It was designed with significant bunkers because it was such a large, open course,” says Powell. “One of the



Photo: Ryan Montgomery/Monty Aerials LLC



Photo: Google Earth

The sixteenth hole before it was redesigned

things we hoped to accomplish was to find a way to shrink some of these features, particularly the bunkers, so that we could reduce maintenance. We also wanted to add some complexity, in a very thoughtful way; changes that could challenge lower handicap golfers but not beat up someone that may be in the twilight of their life.”

The biggest change comes at the sixteenth.

“The back nine builds to a crescendo. It is so strong, but when you got to the sixteenth it felt like it wasn’t a hole that the golfer was going to have to focus on as much. It was a safe hole that gave them a mental break,” says Powell.

“The finishing sequence has always been really good,” says Muirhead. “But we wanted sixteen to really stand out as a more thought-provoking, shot-option hole.”

The design team came up with a new concept for the hole that would demand a more strategic approach. By introducing two new forward teeing areas, a new lake and a bail-out area to the right of the green, and rethinking the bunkering, the new design provides golfers with multiple options. Now there is a choice of laying-up, driving over a cluster of bunkers to leave a pitch, or going for the green, on days when tee placement bring it within reach.



A new cross bunker in the landing area for the second shot on the par-five first will make players stop and think

The bail-out area is crucial for that final option, as it turns what would have been an all-or-nothing shot into one where the player knows there is leeway for a miss. “Shrinking the bunker and making a chipping area means that if you miss a little bit right you can still pitch it and make birdie,” says Jones. “It’s a long one-shot hole but you have to give golfers the possibility of succeeding,” he adds. “And if they don’t succeed it’s not a complete penalty.”

Powell says: “My club president was a bit sceptical when the hole was being built. He was concerned that it might be too challenging. But on the first day

he played it, two of his group hit the green and had a putt for eagle, and the other two finished in the water. They had so much fun – even the guys that hit it in the water!”

“With relatively minor architectural tweaks, we have created a more interesting and thought-provoking experience”

Design changes elsewhere were intentionally not as dramatic. While the club was keen to reduce the overall bunker area, it didn’t want to lose the course’s expansiveness. “I had a

little bit of trepidation about how the bunker changes would turn out given the large scale of the golf course,” says Powell. “But one of the most pleasant surprises to me and our members was

that they shrank our overall bunker square footage by 18 per cent, but have done it so surgically, and with such great precision, that it looks like it was built that way from day one.



Photo: Ryan Montgomery/Monty Aerials LLC

Duininck Golf handled construction work, with “a focus on ensuring our work fits seamlessly with the broader landscape and looks like it’s been here for decades,” says their project manager Paul Deis.

Bunkers throughout the course were rebuilt, including the installation of Capillary Concrete liners, and on several holes placements were adjusted to improve strategy and visual definition.

On the par-five opening hole, for example, a bunker in the second landing area has been reorientated to become a cross bunker, with

alterations to the fairway lines in that area providing more options for the layout. Similarly, on the par-five sixth, bunkers have been reshaped and some tree removal has allowed for the expansion of fairway to create a risk-reward second shot opportunity that gives a much-improved angle of approach to the green.

“Players were bailing out into the right rough because there was danger on the left so Rees and Greg added a small bunker on the right which looks very foreboding and has totally changed the nature of that second shot,” says Powell. “You now have to

really think your way through it. It’s not a no-brainer like it used to be.”

Powell also highlights the fourth hole. The original design had called for the hole to play as a dog-leg, but limitations during the original construction meant it played more like a long, straight hole. “The new framing of the fairway bunker has changed to emphasise how the hole turns, as was originally envisioned. It’s a small change that has made a big difference.”

Muirhead says: “With relatively minor architectural tweaks, we have created a more interesting and thought-provoking experience.”

For the evolution of its course, Old Chatham has placed their trust in the hands of the designers who first conceived it. “We talk a lot in our industry about Donald Ross working at Pinehurst for years, and MacKenzie going back to his courses to make changes,” says Powell. “For 22 years Rees and Greg have had their hands on the development of this golf course. Our plan was always to tweak it and add some complexity.”

But what about those average golfers? Can they still negotiate their way round? “The higher handicappers aren’t noticing any real difference in the difficulty,” says Muirhead. “It’s evoking the shot options that we hoped it would, but for the higher handicapper they can lay up and maybe have an extra club into the green. It’s a win-win.”

“Old Chatham wants its course to be challenging but fair,” adds Jones. “They’ve always been very conscious of the balance.” **GCA**

And then there were ten

Tom Doak is designing the first new layout at Pinehurst Resort for nearly 30 years

When the US Open returns to Pinehurst No. 2 in spring 2024, the renowned resort will also have celebrated the opening of its tenth course. According to some, the site for the new Tom Doak design is arguably the most dramatic at the resort.

Pinehurst No. 10 will be built four miles south of the resort's main clubhouse on a parcel of land that was until 2010 the site of Pit Golf Links, a design by local architect Dan Maples built on an abandoned sand mine.

Construction is starting in late January 2023 with the aim of the course being completely rough-shaped by May.

"The site is topographically distinct and drastically different from anywhere in Pinehurst," says Doak. "It's bigger, bolder and more dramatic. There's about 75 feet of elevation change, and we'll work our way up to it around the mid-point of the layout. You'll have expansive views from this apex over the rest of the course. It will be an unforgettable experience for golfers."

The new course will incorporate rugged dunes mined at the turn of the 20th century accented by native sand and wiregrass. With natural ridgelines, intriguing landforms, longleaf pines, streams and ponds, Doak envisions a course that complements the resort's other courses through its contrasts.

German designer and shaper Angela Moser will serve as Doak's lead design associate for this project. Moser has worked with Doak on many projects,

including the acclaimed new St Patrick's course at Rosapenna in Ireland and the forthcoming Te Arai in New Zealand.

"The number one thing that excited us about the project is working with the beautiful sand that's native to this region," Doak says. "The sand, the wiregrass, the bluestem grass, and other native grasses that grow around the Sandhills create a fabulous texture for golf. It's something most places just don't have." **GCA**

"The site is topographically distinct and drastically different from anywhere in Pinehurst"



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