GOLF ARCHITECTURE: ECONOMY IN COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND GREEN-KEEPING

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649027538

Golf Architecture: Economy in Course Construction and Green-Keeping by A. Mackenzie & H.S. Colt

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A. MACKENZIE & H.S. COLT

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THE 140-YARD SHORT HOLE AT SITWELL PARK : a flercely criticised green that has become universally popular.



GOLF ARCHITECTURE

ECONOMY IN COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND GREEN-KEEPING

DR. A. MACKENZIE

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION

H. S. COLT

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INTRODUCTION

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My partner, who is the author of these short essays on Golf Course Architecture, has asked me to write an introduction. This is, however, hardly necessary, as the name of Dr. Mackenzie is so well known in connection with this subject.

Many years ago now the idea came to him, as to a few others, that it might not be impossible to create a golf course without doing damage to the natural attractions of the site. Up to that period the courses which had been designed by man, and not by nature, had in great measure failed in this direction, and although no doubt they had provided necessary opportunities for playing the game, the surroundings in many cases proved a source of irritation rather than pleasure.

9

Introduction

I vividly remember meeting my present partner for the first time. I had been asked to go to Leeds to advise about the design of the Alwoodley Golf Course, and staved at his house. After dinner he took me into his consulting room, where, instead of finding myself surrounded by the weapons of his profession as a Doctor of Medicine, I sat in the midst of a collection of photographs of sand bunkers, putting greens, and golf courses, and many plans and designs of the Alwoodley Course. I found that I was staying with a real enthusiast, and one who had already given close attention to a subject in which I have always been interested.

And it is this enthusiasm for the natural beauty of nature which has helped him in all his work, so that in the case of Alwoodley the player not only has the opportunity of displaying his skill in the game, but also of enjoying the relaxation which

'ightful natural surroundings always give.

Introduction

No doubt many mistakes were made in our early attempts, and I never visit a course which I have designed without seeing where improvements could be made in the constructional work, and as long as this is so, I feel that we shall all continue to learn and to make progress, our instructor being nature herself.

H. S. COLT.

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