Palatine faces five-year remodeling

Approximately $2 million in improvements appear in the Palatine, Ill., master plan for the Palatine Hills Golf Course.

The 18-hole, Edward Lawrence Packard-designed course is in line for a dozen cosmetic improvements over the next five years. Some have already been completed or are underway.

A fourth irrigation well was added last summer. Sewer and water hook-up to the village is taking place. Two rain-shade shelters have been approved and should be ready when the course opens in April. The Kiilman Design Group has designed a layout for a 20-tree box driving range.

Another $1 million has been proposed for a computerized irrigation system and improved landscaping. Additional trees and shrubs have also been mentioned.

A recommendation for a timetable for improvements was scheduled to be submitted to the park board in January.

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FEBRUARY 1990

Robbie Robinson
Architect Robinson dead at 82

C.E. “Robbie” Robinson, credited with designing some of the most outstanding golf courses in Canada, died Dec. 29 at the age of 82.


He had become interested in course design during his undergraduate years when he updated and renovated the Fenelon Falls, Ontario, course of Canadian statesman and magistrate Sir Joseph Flavelle.

After graduating in 1929 from University of Toronto’s Agricultural College in Guelph, Ontario, he served an apprenticeship with the famed Canadian golf architect Stanley Thompson, who arranged a position for Robinson as course manager and superintendent at Sunningdale Country Club in London, Ontario.

Robinson returned to Thompson’s firm in 1959, then served with the Royal Canadian Air Force during World War II before moving on to a job in site selection and housing development with the Canadian government and later opening his business.

He further studied soil science and agronomy at Cornell University and turf management at the University of Massachusetts, and became recognized as an expert on turfgrass culture.

Robinson served several years as director of the Royal Canadian Golf Association’s Green Section.

He designed Upper Canada Village Golf Club in Morrisburg, Ontario; Brudenell Golf Club on Prince Edward Island; John Blumberg Winnipeg Municipal Course in Winnipeg; Cape Breton Golf Club in Nova Scotia; Hamilton Golf & Country Club in Ancaster, Ontario; and other courses in the United States, Mexico, the Caribbean and South America.

He remodeled St. George’s Golf and Country Club near Toronto and Cherry Hill Golf and Country Club in Ridgeway, Ontario, for the 1968 and 1972 Canadian Opens, respectively.

Survivors include his wife, Thelma, of Paris, Ontario; one brother and three sisters.

Donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.