Williamburg, Va. — Many superintendents throughout North America are restoring their courses' masterpieces back to the original design features, or are giving these venues a facelift, to restore their brilliance and luster.

Working with their favorite golf course architects and design associates forms a common bond between individuals with common goals and love of the golf course landscape.

There are many "menu item"-type options of how the restoration process originates — from the major undertaking of preparing a master plan to the minor but equally important aspect of rebuilding a sand or grass bunker or green, or adding a new teeing ground. The architect restores the masterpiece, while the superintendent and his or her staff sometimes do the actual restoration work at the same time they maintain the course to the best conditioning possible.

Doing the proper background research is one of the many pleasurable aspects of the restoration process — from hopefully locating all original architectural design and topographical drawings and engineering drainage blueprints, to finding as many old and valuable files on everything possible that has transpired over the years.

Another possible in-depth research agenda is locating historical photographs that are still in good condition. Architects and superintendents alike benefit from historical photographs that show the original design criteria, because they help the design objectives during the restoration process. Historical photographs are usually faded and not as clear and sharp if they were taken in color, but if they were shot in black and white they better stand the test of time and can be restored.

Golf course architects recommend that all photographs should be taken in black and white, using the best-quality film and processing available. This is widely accomplished after a restoration is complete, or immediately after a new course is constructed. Taking black-and-white 35-mm photographs for all aspects of historical preservation will provide quality for many generations to enjoy.

Another rewarding research idea is probing sand bunkers or former bunkers to see where the sand delineation's outlines used to be, and probing greens sites to discover exactly where the defining edges of the putting surface were.

Improving on existing design features is a rewarding challenge, where the architect and superintendent make recommendations for sometimes an even better course than it once was.

I always like to hear stories that evolve during restoration. Architects and superintendents can make formal presentations to course officials, using two side-by-side slide projectors, showing the original black-and-white photographs and the transformed versions at the same time. It is a perfect "before-and-after" scenario.

The use of computer-enhanced photo manipulation, depicting what there is now compared to what it will look like after restoration, is now available and gaining great success.

Yet another presentation used by designers and superintendents is putting old black-and-white historical photographs and the transformed versions at the same time. It is a perfect "before-and-after" scenario.

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Yet another presentation used by designers and superintendents is putting old black-and-
GCSAA begins standards initiative

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is initiating an education program to enhance the golf course superintendent profession.

GCSAA has formed a standards initiative to improve the profession of golf course superintendents. The initiative includes creating GCSAA's Learning Systems Institute, developing distance learning programs, Web-based training, and creating faculty internship programs.

The GCSAA Education Department will continue to focus on program development, delivery, and quality improvement. The department will be led by Rufus Mullen, who will serve as senior manager of education and as staff liaison to the GCSAA Education Committee.

The timing was right to create a team to focus squarely on the future educational needs of our members, said GCSAA President George Renault. "Junior golf is a subject near and dear to the heart of GCSAA and its members," said Renault.

GCSAA makes 1st Tee commitment

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has established its commitment to the World Golf Foundation's The First Tee Initiative.

"Junior golf is a subject near and dear to the heart of GCSAA and its members," GCSAA President George Renault said. "The vast majority of our members first experienced the game at an early age, playing and/or working at a golf facility. The First Tee Initiative combines the resources of the nation's golf governing bodies to provide access to the sport for those who otherwise may not have had the opportunity."

Among the activities GCSAA has committed to include:
1. Provide GCSAA members as role models for minority programs.
2. Provide support for the First Tee through GCSAA's internal and external media outlets.
3. Develop an operations manual for maintenance of First Tee Facilities.
4. Solicit in-kind donations from industry partners.
5. Support the environmental education of youth in conjunction with First Tee facilities.
6. Facilitate chapter support for maintenance programs for First Tee facilities.
7. Coordinate with chapters to provide labor from local golf course maintenance facilities.
8. Conduct turfgrass/environmental research at First Tee facilities.
9. Develop a charity even around GCSAA's annual 800-member Golf Championship, presented in partnership with The Toro Co.
10. The primary contribution of participants in the First Tee initiative will be provision of expertise and consulting advice, land-planning and other services to reduce the total cost of each project.

President George Bush is the honorary chairman, while the oversight committee includes the PGA Tour, U.S. Golf Association, Augusta National Golf Club, PGA of America and the LPGA. Joining GCSAA among the organizations on the advisory committee are the National Golf Foundation, American Society of Golf Course Architects, National Golf Course Owners Association, Tiger Woods Foundation, American Junior Golf Association, National Minority Golf Foundation and National Association of Junior Golfers.

FREE CATALOG

PH & DO METERS
SOIL SAMPLERS
PROFILE SAMPLERS
SOIL MOISTURE METERS
MAGNIFIERS/MICROSCOPES
WATER & SOIL TEST KITS
POND TREATMENT SPRAYERS
EROSION CONTROL
WEED BLOCK
TEMPORARY FENCING
TWO-WAY RADIOS
WEATHER EQUIPMENT
PROTECTIVE CLOTHING
RESPIRATORS
MARKING PAINT & TOOLS
CROWD CONTROL ROPE
SAFETY SUPPLIES
LASER DISTANCE MEASURERS
TREE TRIMMING TOOLS
SURVEY INSTRUMENTS