## Classic Golf Books BY SEAN TULLY, MEADOW CLUB

Get to know your architecture.

There is good architecture and there is bad. Anyone who knows me knows that I have a preference for older courses and of the new courses, I am partial to a select group of architects. As the Superintendent at a course, I feel it is very important to know who designed your course and some facts about your given architects style and design philosophies.

There have been numerous articles and books written on the subject of golf course architecture, so it is interesting that two of the more noted books on golf course architecture were published within a year of each other, written by two very wealthy and well traveled men, both lived in California, and some of their best work was still ahead of them.

"The Links," by Robert Hunter was first and talked of his trips to the UK and playing over some famous golf courses. The book looks at the design of golf courses and was written by Hunter following his first design work at Berkeley Country Club. Shortly after "The Links" was published he partnered with Alister MacKenzie and they designed Meadow Club, Cypress Point, Valley Club, Northwood, and Sharp Park.

"Golf Architecture in America," by George C. Thomas followed Hunter's lead and dealt with much of the same topics as to the design of golf courses. Thomas was already a noted architect by this



time and is most known for his work at Riviera, LACC, and Bel-Air.

Both books are wonderfully written and act to set the tone for what was to become the golden age of golf course design. The photos included in both books make them both a wonderful resource to study of golf course architecture for the beginner or the expert. The following adverts were included in golf publications like the earlier version of Golfdom and a San Francisco based magazine called the "The Fairway." Both books can be found online and for a reasonable price. Enjoy.

