New Jubilee course opens at St Andrews

Originally regarded as a ladies course when it opened in 1887, the new Jubilee reconstructed course marks a further stage in the development of these famous links

Last month saw the opening of the 'new' Jubilee course at St Andrews. The original course was opened in 1887 on the day when Queen Victoria's Jubilee was celebrated, but it was regarded then as the ladies' course, an alternative to the gentler challenge on the ladies' putting green. In 1912, the course was extended from 12 to 18 holes and, in 1939, Willie Auchterlonie, then club professional to the R & A, with a few men began its construction. 'By 1946, they had made a pleasing course on the bayside of the dunes, not over-demanding, but ideal for beginners and high-handicap players', so wrote Pat Ward-Thomas in his book 'The Royal & Ancient''.



The central dune looking down the proposed 15th (the Golf Course May 1987)



Walter Woods admires the bunkering

The Jubilee course has been redesigned by Donald Steel with the main feature being the use of the huge main sand dune that used to be an unused spine down the centre of the course. This now comes

into play on four of the new holes. As our illustrations show work by constructors Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) has required considerable earth moving and contouring to maximise the links qualities of the terrain. Walter Woods the St. Andrews Links Supervisor has worked closely with the contractors and is particularly pleased with the quality of the greens which will be every bit as demanding as those of the Old Course. The Links Manage-

CONSTRUCTION

The 15th





Autumn 1987

Spring 1989

The 16th



Autumn 1988



Spring 1989

ment Trust are committed to providing even better facilities for visitors to the 'Home of Golf' and they together with Messrs Steel, Puerson and Woods are to be congratulated on producing an exciting course that will appeal to the visitor and take some of the strain from the old course. Steel has also been given the task by the Links Management Trust of redesigning the Eden course. Not only to make it a more valued test of golf ,but by using some of the land recently acquired at the far end of the course.

An exciting new course that appeals to all golfers

Steel's design allows the vast flat area that formed the 1st, 17th and 18th holes to be drained and provide a permanent site for the Open Championship tented village. With poor weather at three consecutive Open Championships the tented village area turned into a mudbath how with easy access next to the Old course, 16th green and the Old Course Hotel, this well drained area will provide an ideal site.

Staff constructed a lake that guards the entrance to the 8th green that has to be played over to the short 9th. A lake may seem a strange addition to the St. Andrews scene but it is an effective feature. A reproduction of the 'Principal's nose' is also incorporated in the design of the 16th hole. Next year on the land bought from the Strathstryrum Estate between the Eden and the road into the town, a further 18 hole layout is to be built, again designed by Donald Steel and built for the Links Management Trust by Brian Pierson.

Material is being collected from the other courses to form the sand dunes to the flat pastureland site for the Strathstrvrum course, into a links in keeping with the St. Andrews tradition.