

# Arthur Hills designing his 1st course in England...

WATFORD, England — The golf course architectural firm Arthur Hills and Associates will design its first British project here northwest of London.

Ground has not yet been broken on The Grove at Watford, a proposed 18-hole resort course. Developed by The Ralph Trust, The Grove project remains in the permitting process.

The par-72 course has been routed on rolling terrain along the River Gade and in close proximity to the Grand Union Canal. At press time, developers still owed presentations to the environmental groups English Heritage and British Waterways.

"The developers are involved in several exclusive hotel facilities in the London area," said Hills Project Manager Drew Rogers. "A hotel will be attached here, in addition to a conference center and state-of-the-art practice facility."

"It will be the first development of its type in the London area, as far as being a resort, conference center and hotel facility," Rogers continued. "The course will be unique, but we're trying to maintain the traditional English landscape. It fits very well into the terrain. Hopefully, this will be the beginning of other opportunities over here."

A course contractor has not yet been retained, said Rogers.

# ...as is S.C.'s Clyde Johnston

NOTTINGHAM, England — Construction has begun on Norwood Park Golf Club just minutes from legendary Sherwood Forest here.

Course architect Clyde Johnston of Hilton Head Island, S.C., will be integrating the 18-hole course in and around Norwood Park, the sole survivor of four

deer-hunting and fishing preserves that date back to c.1250. The earthwork and moat that surrounds the original 100-acre park — designed to keep wildlife inside — is still visible.

The daily-fee facility will have four holes inside Norwood Park, several of which will play across centuries-old fishing ponds and earthworks. In keeping with the legacy of the property, Johnston will employ a minimalist design scheme, foregoing sand bunkers and working strictly with natural grass swales and depressions around green sites. A signature of the course will be the framing effect provided by scores of medieval English oaks.

In recent times, Norwood Park has been landscaped with orchards, gardens and additional ponds. It is the home of Sir John and Lady Starkey, who open their estate to tours during the summer. The Starkeys reside in a manor home that dates back to 1763 and originally served as a hunting lodge.

## Paragon reorganizes management team

NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla. — Paragon Golf Construction, Inc. has announced its new corporate management team. John Boyd was named president of the specialized construction company.

Other executives appointed at Paragon Golf & Construction include: Sal Rodriguez, vice president of western North America and Latin America; John Copeland, vice president of eastern North America and Canada; Chris Curbello, operations and project controls manager and John Mueller, vice president of business development.

Boyd brings more than 17 years of experience in the areas of commercial and mixed-use projects. He has been with Paragon since October 1996 as chief operating officer. Beforehand, he was vice president and country manager for Parsons International Limited.

"Our overall goal at Paragon is to provide quality work for your clients in the areas that we specialize in, namely project management and golf course construction. We plan to dominate in these services for resort and golf-related developments," said Boyd.

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