HILLCREST SHOWS ITS MODEL CLUBHOUSE



This is a model of Hillcrest CC (Los Angeles district) clubhouse designed by architects Walter Wurdeman and Walton Becket to replace the Hillcrest home destroyed by fire May 7, 1944. Construction will be begun when materials are available.

Three major problems were handled by the architects. First, the coordination of clubhouse functions under conditions of smaller staffs than clubhouses were operated with in pre-war days, and an elasticity in arrangement to provide for party-handling without having excessively large lounge spaces that are unused most of the time. The second problem was that of taking full advantage of "a magnificent, uneven site and a spectacular view." The third was that of making the building unusually beautiful and modern without setting another one of the cold and screwy "modernistic" structures where it would clash with the scenic setting of the building and the warm spirit of a hospitable country club.

Men and women's locker-rooms and kindred facilities are smartly arranged, without sacrifice of integration of the social activities of the club as a whole. Many minor facilities such as a barber shop, steam rooms and sun decks, are provided to look ahead to the completely equipped modern country club without too heavily burdening the club with expensive and unprofitable features.

A major achievement in the Hillcrest building design and location, that of bringing the views into the clubhouse as a charming feature of decorative interest, is one that GOLFDOM has been pointing out for some years as a prime need in new clubhouse design. In telling of the Hillcrest plan the building committee says "The intricate planning of the facilities themselves were concurrent with the studies for the major lounges and dining rooms and their relation to the broad impressive views which exist in almost all directions. The position of the sun at all hours of the day, and especially those occurring at the time of greatest occupancy, were recorded. Solarmeter recordings to record seasonal variations in the sun's angle also were taken into account, because protection had to be provided for furniture and floor coverings, as well as for occupants of the building. Finally, the prevailing winds, always a factor at this location, had to be accounted for."

The committee also noted: "The various rooms themselves were designed to suit their use; window walls where views are important and more complete enclosures where resting, reading and recreational activities tended to subordinate the importance of the outdoors. * * * Well studied wall and opening proportions, interesting changes in material and texture, beautiful color schemes and well designed detail combined to create an atmosphere which is a fine expression of the physical characteristics of modern living."

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