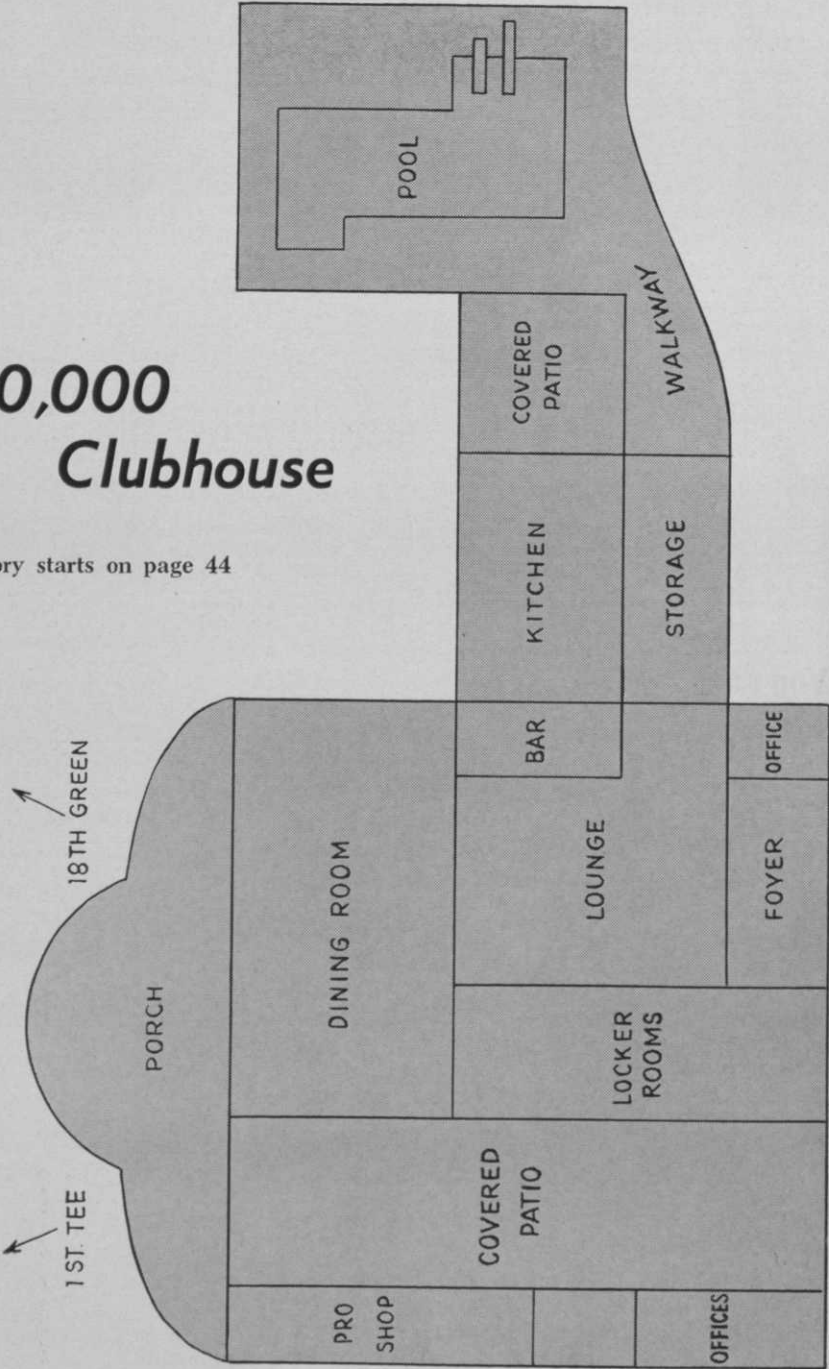


Faith in the dollar is restored when it is seen
what Canyon Creek got for its investment

\$350,000
Clubhouse

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\$350,000 Clubhouse



Entranceway to Canyon Creek clubhouse is shown close up and at a distance. Company that built club plans to construct high-rise, luxury apartment building in clubhouse area in the near future.

By **JOE DOAN**

Found: A club that got dollar for dollar value for the money it invested in its clubhouse.

The club is Canyon Creek. It is located in Richardson, Tex., just a few miles north of Dallas.

Located on a hilltop site, the clubhouse is imposing, if not overwhelming. A combination brick and frame building, it is marked by simple but substantial lines that reflect smart thinking on the part of the club owners — that at least as much money should be invested in the golf facilities as the social ones. That is a point that too often is lost sight of in the planning and building of country clubs.

That Canyon Creek's owners decided on a wise policy in diverting as much money to the course as the clubhouse was demonstrated last fall. Many clubs in the Southwest that had made large investments in their clubhouses, but hadn't thought it necessary to install fairway watering systems, were extremely hard hit by the drought. It wasn't uncommon to see huge and imposing piles of stone and glass rising out of the acres of parched turf at these clubs. Canyon Creek, though, never lost its springtime look, thanks to its coursewide irrigation system and the skill of its supt., Glen F. Welch.

It cost \$350,000 to build the Canyon Creek clubhouse. Apparently not a dollar of it was wasted. It is not an unusually large place, but since it was planned as a series of rectangles, each of which either adjoining or dovetail, there is hardly a square feet of interior space that isn't put to good use.

Everything at the Canyon Creek clubhouse is centered around the combination dining room and lounge. A Spanish influence predominates here, with the walls being panelled in oak, and wrought iron filigree being introduced in various locations to relieve the monotony of con-



Texans, who love the great outdoors, take advantage of open air patio during the warm months. Dining room is moved out into this area and sidewalk cafe eating style becomes popular.



Norman Taylor, assistant pro, Don Dunkelberger, head pro, and H. C. McSwain, club manager, are in above photo. At left is main lounge with replicas of old Dutch and English clubs on wall in background.

tinuous paneling. Thick, intersecting oak beams run the length and breadth of the ceiling in this L-shape room. The long wall of the dining section is broken by a 20-foot fireplace that extends to the ceiling. A small lounge fronts the fireplace.

Hanging on the walls in one corner of the large lounge area are oversize crossed-shaft replicas of clubs that were used by the early English and Dutch golfers. The bar that juts into the lounge opens into the kitchen, which is located so that it is convenient to a small covered patio on the west end of the building and to the swimming pool.

Oak Is Matched

Matched grain oak tables and straight-back and captain's chairs, some of which are upholstered in black leather, occupy most of the lounge and dining area. The oak furniture was supplied by Romweber of Batesville, Ind. The entire dining and lounge combination is carpeted except for a small dance floor in the west end of the dining room which is finished in parquet oak flooring. When private parties are held and it is necessary to close off part of the dining area, oak panel screens are used. These are hand-

some five-sectional affairs about seven feet high. Each panel section is two-feet wide and has a small iron filigree window.

A large open-air patio or veranda, located between the dining room and pro shop, is the most popular spot in the Canyon Creek clubhouse once warm weather arrives. Actually, it is under the main roof and is open on only one side. Tables and chairs and a portable bar are moved into this area during the spring and summer months and then more lunches and dinners are served

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Canyon Creek crest appears on panel above mantel. Fireplace is located in the center of the main dining room.



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treated on all sides with a roller coat of colored Minwax to ease the movement of bags and preserve the chipboard against wear and moisture. Some members had the pro staff carpet their sections.

Costs are always important to club management. This job, exclusive of paint finish, ran \$4.83 per cubbyhole. Three-quarter inch plywood would have cost \$1.00 more per section, but it is felt that the plywood would be subject to greater splintering deterioration and bag damage. Costs between different club installations and various regions of the country will vary quite considerably.

\$350,000 Clubhouse

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here than in the main dining room.

The pro shop is located on the east end of the clubhouse, and is only a short distance from the first tee. The sales display room is 25 feet wide and 40 feet long and opens into an alcove where clubs are stored. Behind this is Pro Don Dunkelberger's office.

Eventually, about 2,400 residences will surround the Canyon Creek course. The subdivision is being developed by Wallace Investments, Inc., which has its headquarters in Dallas. As of Jan. 1, about 250 homesites had been sold in the subdivision. The fact that 10,000 people someday will live in the Canyon Creek area doesn't mean that the club will be overrun with golfers. The course is not being used as a come-on for the sale of real estate. Memberships in the club weren't offered until the clubhouse and all 18 holes were completed last summer. The clubhouse has been built to accommodate between 250 and 300 members and when this quota is filled, Canyon Creek CC doesn't plan further expansion of its membership.

The manager of the Canyon Creek club is H. C. McSwain, who served in the Air Force for 21 years and got into club management work shortly after he was retired in 1961. While in service, McSwain, a graduate of the University of Texas, was in charge of officers' clubs from 1955 until the time he was discharged.