

A maintenance shed that works

*With proper site selection, size and type of building and layout,
the superintendent will have a shop, not a shanty.*

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An important but often neglected phase of planning or operating golf courses is the maintenance building.

Known as the "shops" or "storage barn" in some areas, the maintenance building is supposed to serve several vital functions. Among them are storage for machinery and supplies; construction, paint and repair shops; administrative headquarters for the superintendent.

A building or complex of buildings properly designed to take care of all these needs is essential to a successful operation. Yet fine old country clubs still get by with ancient sheds for maintenance headquarters, while spending \$100,000 or more to rebuild the golf course or enlarge the clubhouse. New golf clubs, embracing the most modern concepts in course and clubhouse areas, often put up a makeshift Quonset hut tucked away in a remote corner, forcing the super to operate inefficiently from the beginning.

In planning a new course, the superintendent should be consulted about location of the shop, and his views should be respected by those who plan the building or buildings.

Not all superintendents would agree on design, construction and size. It depends on course, geographic location and size of operation. But ask any group of experienced supers and you will get some good ideas. Eighteen were queried in part of the Rocky Mountain Region—Colorado and Wyoming—where there are four distinct seasons and courses must be cared for in dry, hot summers

as well as freezing winters. The survey shows:

- Mid-course setups are preferred by 67 per cent of the superintendents; only about 50% of the shops are now in mid-course while the others are near the clubhouse.

- Most buildings are too small; two-thirds are less than 2,500 sq. ft., not nearly enough for adequate storage.

- Opinions are evenly divided between metal and concrete construction; only one super voted for wood.

- Sixty per cent prefer all materials, repair and equipment areas under one roof; 40 per cent prefer them separated.

- Virtually every superintendent believes the buildings should include offices and lunchroom-locker-shower areas for the crew.

- The cost of an adequate shop building varies with the size of the operation, ranging from about \$10,000 to \$30,000, not including equipment.

- The biggest mistake is erecting buildings that are too small, not allowing enough storage area and crew facilities, and lacking a large, central door for the movement of equipment.

From my own experience in building my shop at Boulder (Colo.) CC I would make the following suggestions to fellow superintendents planning a new shop:

SITE SELECTION

1. The area should be virtually flat, in order to maneuver machines, and mix and store top dressing.

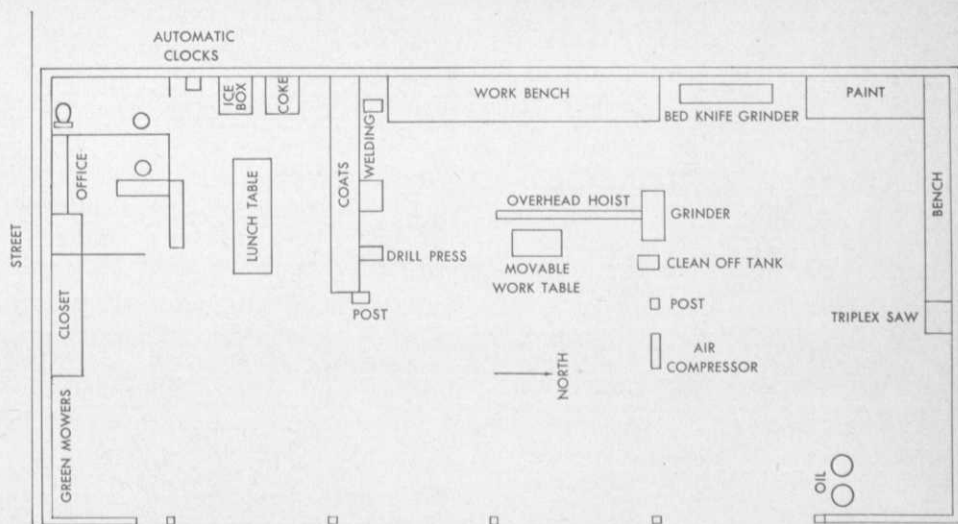
2. The location should be central to the course.
3. The area should drain.
4. The area must be accessible to big trucks.
5. All utilities must be available.
6. The parking lot must be out of

danger from mis-hit golf shots.

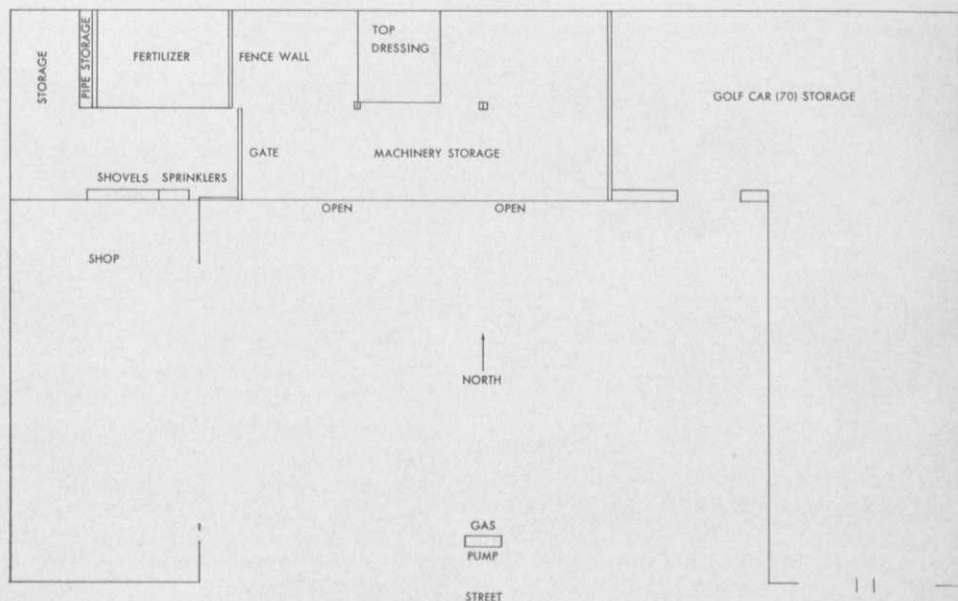
DESIGN

1. The overall look should fit in with surrounding buildings, clubhouse or homes.
2. Materials should be durable and easily maintained.

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Layout of shop at Boulder (Colo.) CC, above. Plan of whole maintenance building, below. Built in 1963, it is considered one of best in Rocky Mountain Region.





More important, all these plant-food elements known to be needed for vigorous, healthy growth are naturally chelated. This means they are not subject to "tie-up" or "unavailability" even in the trickiest soils.

Chart Tells How Much of the Grass-Important Ones

Element	Pounds per Ton
Nitrogen	120.00
Phosphorous	91.80
Potash	16.00
Sulphur	53.80
Magnesium	33.60
Calcium	31.00
Iron as oxide	132.60

Also appreciable amounts of Copper, Manganese, Zinc, Lead, Chromium, Molybdenum, Boron, Titanium and Vitamin B-12.

Golf Courses Use More

MILORGANITE

Than Any Other Fertilizer
MORE THAN 6 BILLION POUNDS USED

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SUPER SHOP

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- Doors should be kept away from the windy side.
- There should be enough space for all machinery, plus repair shops, personnel area and storage.
- The shape should either be wide (more than 30 feet) with a center aisle and large doors at each end, or have many doors opening into the side of a narrower building.
- The number of windows should be kept to a minimum, made to open, but screened for ventilation and security.
- The area should be well lighted for night operation, and, if possible, separately fenced and locked.

Work Arrangement

- There should be a separate personnel area with at least lockers, lunch table and toilet facilities.
- If spray painting is to be done, a special area is needed, or at least extra ventilation.
- Lighting must be good in all work areas.
- At least the shop area must be well heated and insulated.
- The superintendent should have a quiet private office, with window, closet, desk and chair, bookshelves, drawing board and telephone.
- Arc welding space should be separated from other areas.
- A floor drain should be included in the washing-cleaning area.
- Gas pumps should be located where they will not block normal traffic—but where big machines can get to them.
- The repair shop must have an overhead rail to hold a half-ton hoist for pulling motors and handling large mowers, moving them from floor to assembly table and grinder.
- Electric sockets should be plentiful. ●