



All of the color photos on this page were taken by Superintendent Stan Metsker on his course. This National riding mower is used for trimming.

— dragging a rake behind. We now use one person for 4 hours, compared to the four persons we used to use for 2 hours each (8 man-hours).

The other areas of mowing are not quite as dramatic. We have saved many hours of trimming around trees with small walk-behind rotary mowers by going to the larger 60-inch, riding-type mower. A little time has been saved by using hydraulic lifts on the fairway and rough mowing units, but the main advantage is the ease with which these machines can get around the golf course.

At many clubs time saved in the above-mentioned areas is probably being used to do a better job. At Cherry Hills Country Club, for instance, there is more area under intensive grooming today than there was in 1958. With the advances in machinery and technology in the golf course maintenance field, there is no doubt that labor reduction is now possible. □



Five-gang mowers cut the rough at the Country Club of Colorado, making it a one-man job.



Greens at the Country Club of Colorado are mowed by a triplex mower like this Toro Greensmaster 3.



Larger gang mowers cut the fairways.

Motorized maintenance vehicles quickly move men and materials around the course.



Howard up-front riding rotary makes fast work of trimming around trees, shrubs, and other obstacles.



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Big-tractor features. Under each tractor's lift-up hood is a liquid-cooled, fuel-efficient diesel engine: 22 PTO hp for the 850, 27 PTO hp for the 950. Both tractors have smooth-running transmissions with 8 forward speeds, 2 reverse. Speeds are well-spaced from less than 1 mph for tilling to almost 12 mph for transporting.

Other big-tractor features are standard. There's a differential lock that engages on-the-go for added traction in slippery conditions and a fully shielded 540-rpm rear PTO. Individual rear wheel brakes lock together for highway transport and lock down for parking. A heavy-duty drawbar adjusts to four positions. Hand and foot throttles are both standard. Integral equipment easily attaches to a 3-point hitch (Category 1). The adjustable, fully cushioned seat tilts forward for weather protection.

Big-tractor versatility. You can match the 850 and 950 to your jobs. Wheel

tread width adjusts front and rear. Ground clearance is nearly 14 inches under the 850—more than 15 inches under the 950. Maneuverability is superb since both tractors will turn within a 10-foot radius. So whether you're mowing, loading, plowing, digging, planting, or cultivating—these tractors can handle the job.

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Contour mowing adds flair to

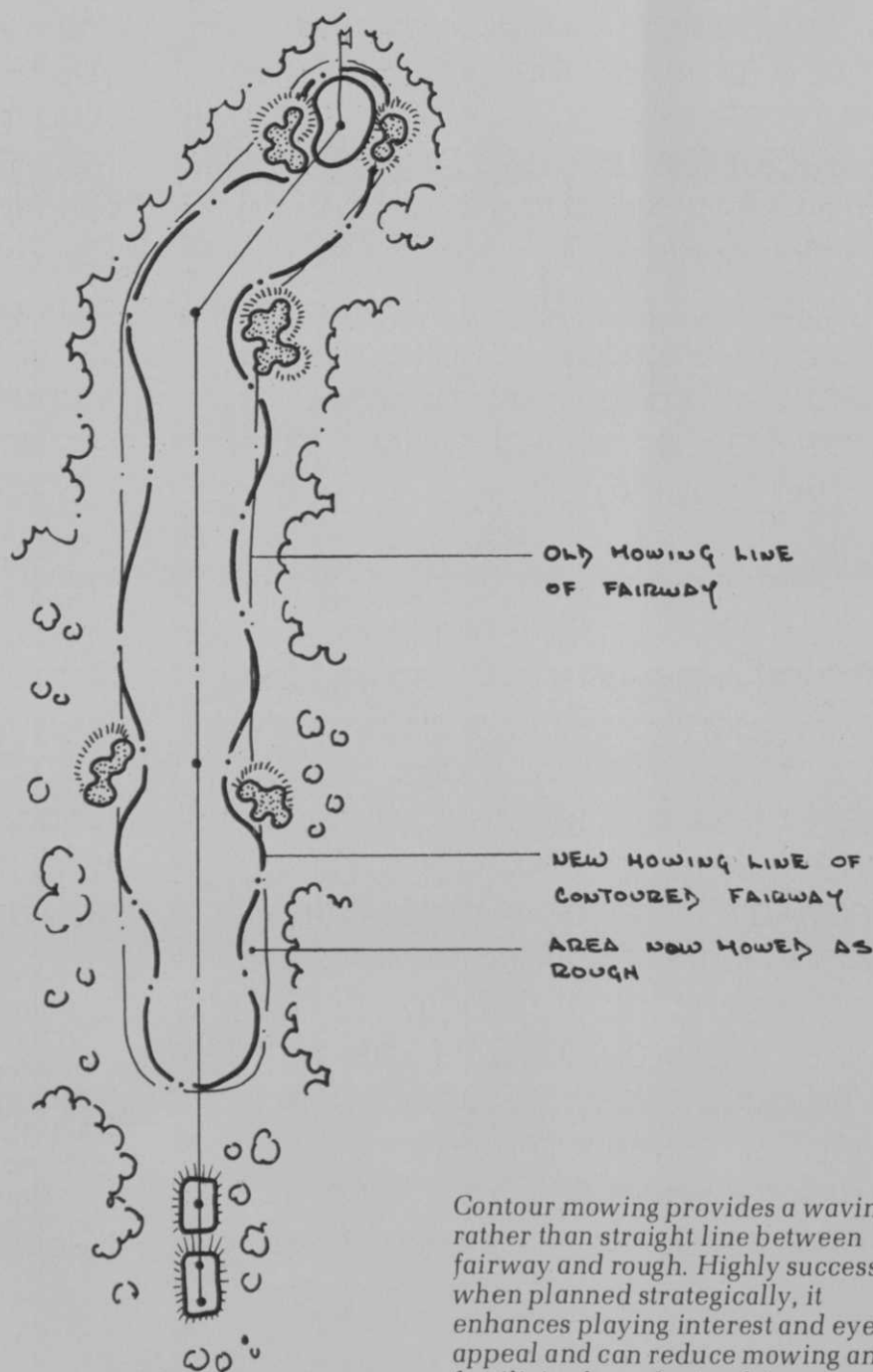
by Geoffrey S. Cornish & William G. Robinson

In recent years superintendents and golf architects have developed contour mowing involving a curving rather than a straight line between fairway and rough. If executed strategically to keep the game interesting for the low handicapper without hurting the player who has troubles enough, it adds enormously to the excitement and pleasure of golf.

Furthermore, the curving line enhances aesthetics because it is more pleasing to the eye than a straight line. Contour mowing also reduces the acreage in fairways. Indeed on some 18-hole layouts, this acreage has been reduced to 30 to 35 acres. This in turn reduces the tonnage of fertilizer required and may lower mowing costs.

An objection has been that a ball landing a few feet off the fairway can be more difficult to play than one landing 30 to 40 feet out in the older rough. This is because new rough is extremely lush for a year or two after it has been converted from a fairway with a high fertility level. To compensate for this, superintendents mow an intermediate refined strip for a season or more.

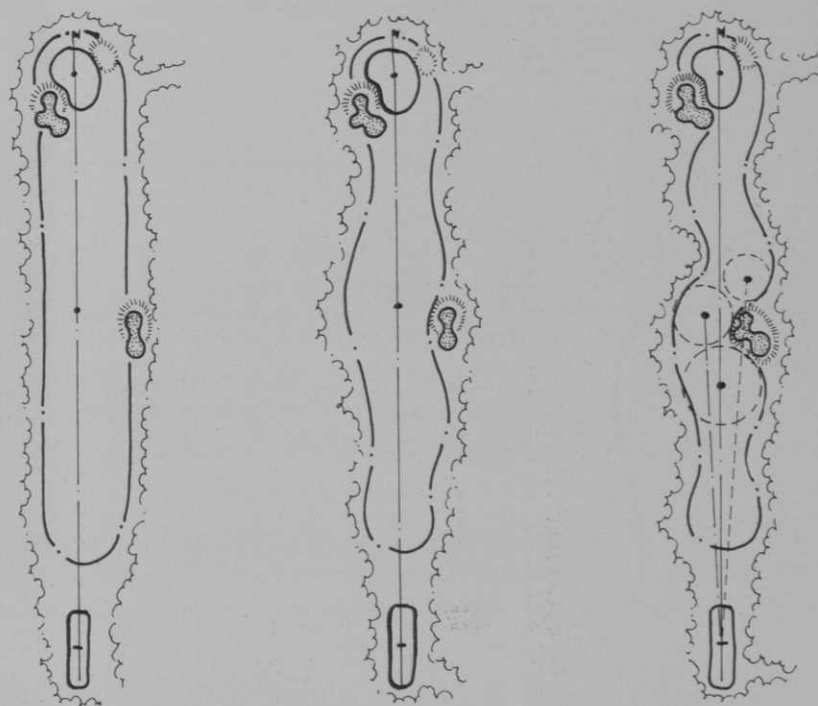
The most dramatic examples of contour mowing we have seen include Woodway Country Club in Darien, Conn., where Superintendent Sherwood Moore, a pioneer in this type of mowing, has executed patterns that have become a major feature of his course. At Canterbury Country Club near Cleveland, with 18 of the most perfect bentgrass fairways on the continent, Superintendent Bill Burdick achieved the ultimate in eye appeal by adopting contour mowing. Westfield (Ohio) Country Club's superintendent, John Spodnik, has developed intricate mowing patterns on his 36 holes so eye appealing that even the most absorbed golfer is aware of them. These three superintendents met with player opposition initially, but this dissipated as beauty and playing interest became increasingly apparent.



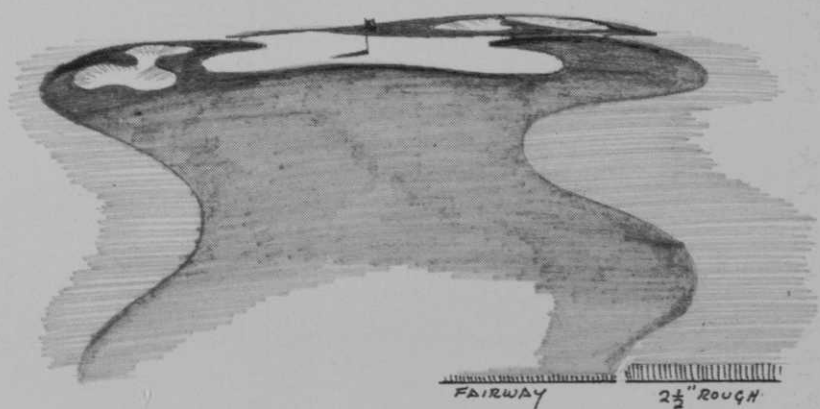
Contour mowing provides a waving rather than straight line between fairway and rough. Highly successful when planned strategically, it enhances playing interest and eye appeal and can reduce mowing and fertilizing by reducing fairway area.

Geoffrey S. Cornish and William G. Robinson of Amherst, Mass., are both members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects. Cornish is also an honorary member of the equivalent British Association, while Robinson belongs to the American Society of Landscape Architects. A previous contribution, "Trees on Golf Courses," appeared in the June 1977 issue of GOLF BUSINESS.

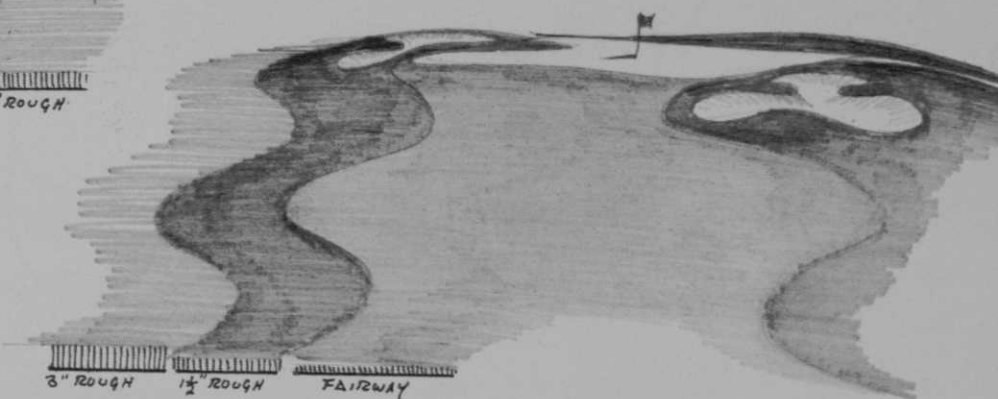
fairways — and cuts fertilizer usage



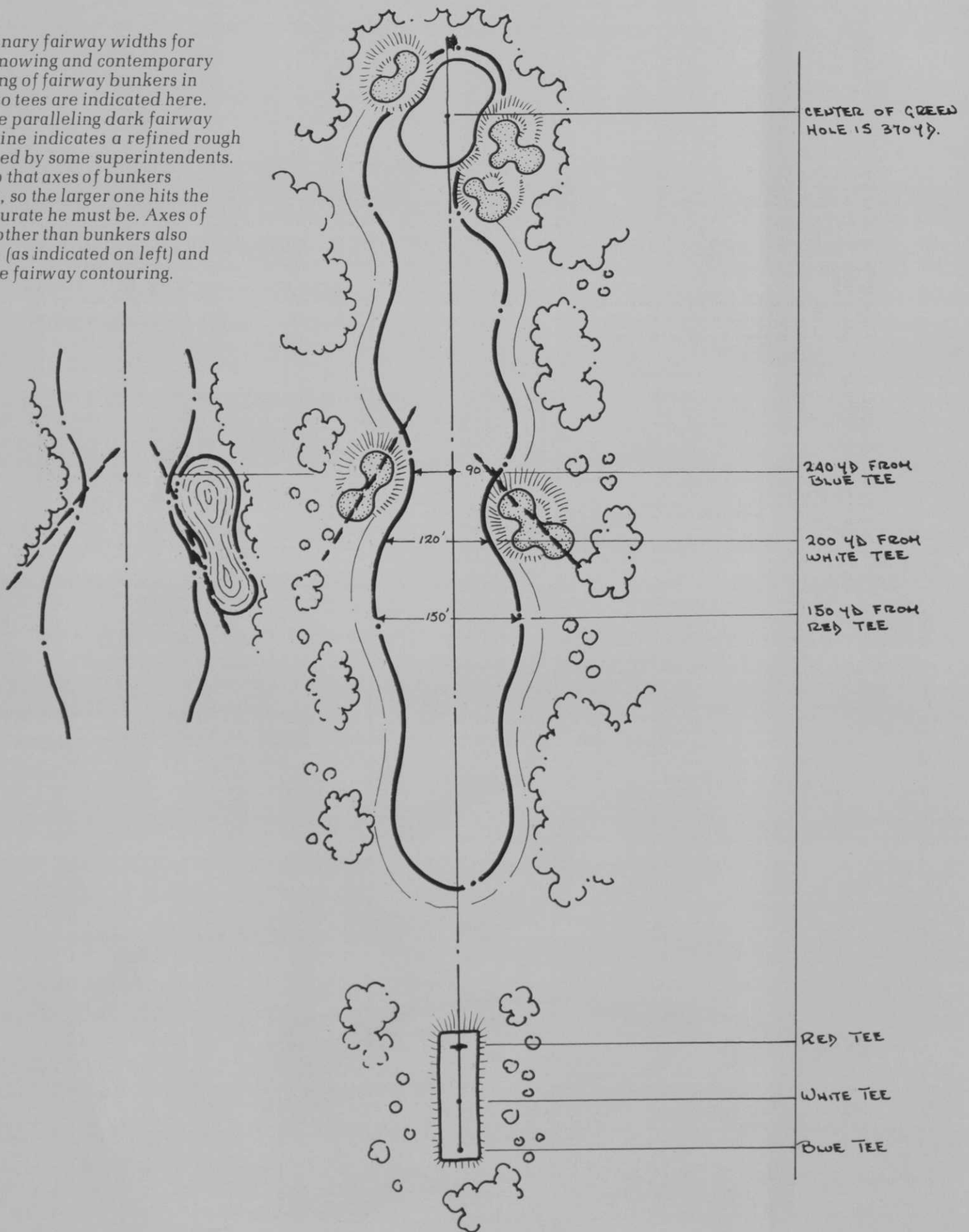
LEFT: Straight line mowing lacks style.
 CENTER: Haphazard contour mowing adds style but not strategy, may discourage high handicappers.
 RIGHT: Mowing executed in accordance with strategic concepts and shot values offers progressively smaller targets (circles) for players with differing abilities.



BELOW: Mowing heights for cool season grasses as practiced by three superintendents. Budget considerations are often paramount in selecting the style of mowing.



Discretionary fairway widths for contour mowing and contemporary positioning of fairway bunkers in relation to tees are indicated here. Light line paralleling dark fairway contour line indicates a refined rough maintained by some superintendents. Note also that axes of bunkers converge, so the larger one hits the more accurate he must be. Axes of hazards other than bunkers also converge (as indicated on left) and influence fairway contouring.



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GOLF BUSINESS PROFILE

Seay and Palmer design a county course

by David J. Slaybaugh, editor

Consider the courses golf architect Ed Seay has designed in collaboration with Arnold Palmer: Broadmoor South, Mission Hills, Sawgrass, Grenelefe, Cherry Hills, Oakmont, Spessard Holland. . . .

Spessard Holland? Is that a new resort in the Antilles? Actually, the official name is the Spessard Holland Golf Course; the location is Melbourne Beach, Fla.; the Brevard County Recreation & Parks Division operates it; and the Seay-Palmer team did design it.

But perhaps even more unusual than the fact that Seay and Palmer did a county golf course is the fact that it was built with a matching funds grant under Title 10 of the U.S. Public Works and Development Act.

How it was built

Spessard Holland Park had occupied a site between the Atlantic Ocean and the Intercoastal Waterway in Melbourne Beach for many years, and there had been many plans for its further development — including a recent plan incorporating a golf course.

Along about 1975, the Economic Development Administration of the

U.S. Department of Commerce made Title 10 funds available through the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation for the construction of outdoor recreation facilities. The purpose was economic development via the creation of jobs. The BOR Southeast regional office in turn made some of the money available to the state of Florida.

At this point, it is necessary to understand that the long-standing policy of Florida, like many state governments, is to not use BOR money to build golf courses. That is normally left to private enterprise.

When Brevard County Development Coordinator John Hannah found out about these special funds, however, he reasoned that "this grant didn't come under the normal state BOR funding plan because it was actually EDA money."

He then proceeded to convince the state to apply the money to golf course construction.

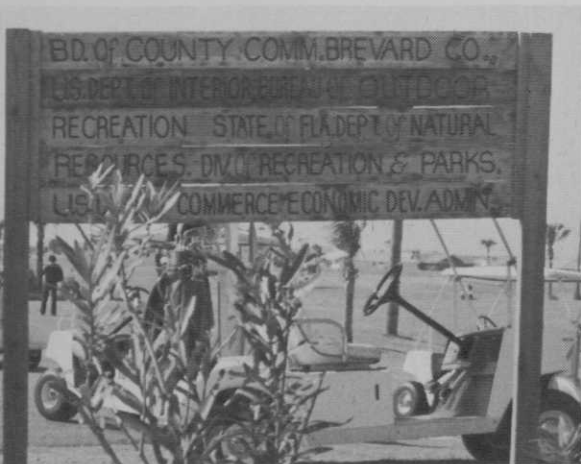
"I had to talk a mile a minute giving a thousand reasons why this wouldn't set a precedent," Hannah explained. "It was a one-shot, extra-money deal. The state is not in the business of building golf courses and didn't want to look like it had changed its policy.

"I put them in a position where they didn't have an excuse not to give us the money. This was not in their regular yearly funding program. The state merely acted as a middleman."

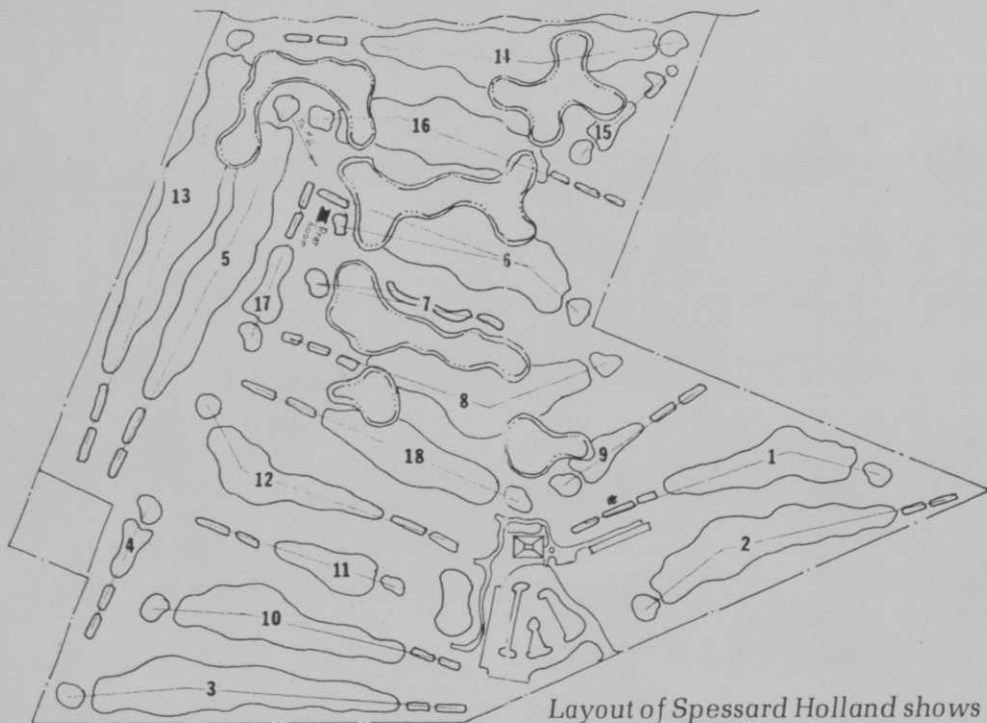
After several months of talking and maneuvering "just to get things arranged so we could apply for the grant," Hannah said, Brevard County made application through the state of Florida to the Southeast regional office of BOR to EDA for a grant. The result was \$1,269,500 for the development of Spessard Holland Park, including building a golf course and more than \$400,000 worth of work on the beachfront facilities across highway A1A from the golf course site. Half of the financing came from a Brevard County bond issue to be repaid from golf course revenues.

A fitting design

Because of the compactness of the site and the fact that it contains six ponds



Sign outside the Spessard Holland clubhouse attests to financial involvement of a variety of government bodies.



Layout of Spessard Holland shows how Seay packed an interesting golf course into a fairly compact site. Clubhouse is at bottom center.

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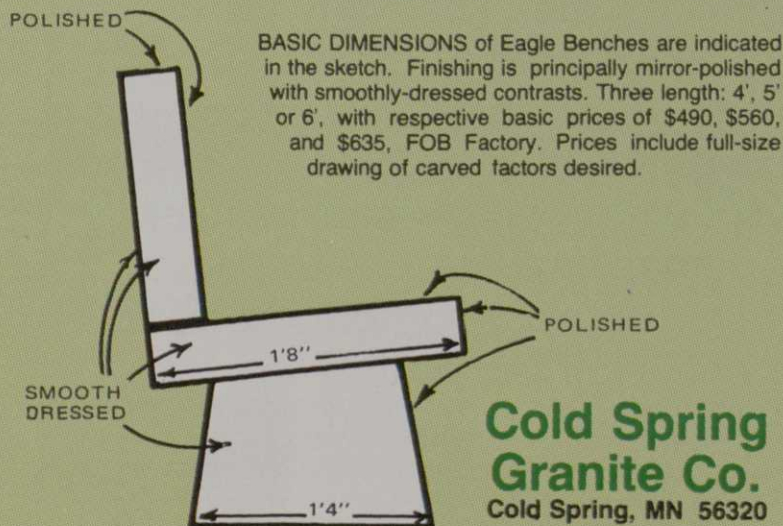
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