

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Ridgewood Country Club

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 96 West Midland Avenue

not for publication

city or town Paramus Borough

vicinity

state New Jersey code 034 county Bergen code 003 zip code 07652

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national X statewide X local

Rh Booy *Ass't Comm.* *3/2/15*
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NJ Dept
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

other (explain:) _____
Jan Meltzer *5-29-2015*
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	15	buildings
27		sites
	4	structures
		objects
31	19	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

LANDSCAPE: Golf Courses

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

LANDSCAPE: Golf Courses

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th & 20th CENTURY REVIVALS

OTHER: Norman Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: _____

walls: STONE, BRICK

roof: SLATE

other: _____

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Ridgewood Country Club is comprised of three nine-hole golf courses, the East, Center and West, laid out in a clover-leaf pattern, and a Norman-revival style clubhouse, located on a 220- acre site in Paramus, Bergen County, New Jersey (figures 1 and 2). The one-and-a-half-story clubhouse with two-story entrance tower, located at the northern end of the property, is constructed primarily of brick and stone, with a textured slate roof and some detailing in faux half-timbered wood and stucco (figure 45, photos 1, 2, and 3). The rolling contours of the three golf courses constitute a designed landscape dating from the "Golden Age" of golf course architecture. Both the exterior of the clubhouse and the golf courses have a high degree of historic integrity.

Narrative Description

(See Continuation Sheet)

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1929-1935

Significant Dates

1929

1935

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N / A

Cultural Affiliation

N / A

Architect/Builder

Albert Warren Tillinghast, Designer, Golf Courses

Clifford Charles Wendehack, Architect, Clubhouse

Period of Significance (justification)

The clubhouse and the courses were completed and opened to members in the spring of 1929. Ridgewood Country Club's debut in the international arena occurred in 1935 when it was selected to host the third Ryder Cup Match to be held in the United States. This date coincided with the approximate date that Tillinghast's involvement with the courses ceased, and has been identified as the end date for the Period of Significance.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Ridgewood Country Club is eligible under Criterion C as an exceptional example of Landscape Architecture for the design of its three nine-hole golf courses by Albert Warren Tillinghast, a seminal figure in golf course design and the development of the strategic course. It also is eligible under Criterion C in the category of Architecture for the design of its Norman-revival clubhouse by Clifford Charles Wendehack, the leading architectural designer of clubhouses in the United States and South America in the 1920s. The clubhouse and the courses were completed and opened to members in the spring of 1929, though Tillinghast continued to fine-tune details of the course design over the next several years. Ridgewood Country Club's debut in the international arena occurred in 1935 when it was selected to host the fifth Ryder Cup Match to be held in the United States. This date coincided with the approximate date that Tillinghast's involvement with the courses ceased, and has been identified as the end date for the Period of Significance. The Ridgewood Country Club is of statewide and local significance. New Jersey has been well endowed with excellent golf courses (Baltusrol Country Club, in Union County, NJ, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2014), but even among them Ridgewood Country Club must be considered among the best: it stands out for the fortuitous collaboration of Tillinghast and Wendehack from the golden era of golf course design and for the continuing maintenance of the integrity of their work. No other course in New Jersey had this precise collaboration, and few can match its design qualities from the same era.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

(See Continuation Sheet)

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Mayo, James M. *The American Country Club: Its Origins and Development*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1998.

Moss, Richard J. *Golf and the American Country Club*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2001.

Quirin, William. *The Ridgewood Country Club: A History*. Franklin, Virginia: Q Publishing LLC, 2009.

The Ridgewood Country Club. Pamphlet published by the Ridgewood Country Club, 1929.

Young, Philip. *Tillinghast: Creator of Golf Courses*. Pearl River, NY: Future Classics of Golf, 2005.

Wolffe, Richard C., Jr., "The Life and Times of A. W. Tillinghast," The Tillinghast Association website: www.tillinghast.net.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 220 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Lat: 40.949898 | Long: -74.080858 | 10. Lat: 40.944879 | Long: -74.072351 |
| 2. Lat: 40.946526 | Long: -74.082936 | 11. Lat: 40.945787 | Long: -74.073875 |
| 3. Lat: 40.945477 | Long: -74.081177 | 12. Lat: 40.946368 | Long: -74.073930 |
| 4. Lat: 40.941235 | Long: -74.085330 | 13. Lat: 40.947971 | Long: -74.076704 |
| 5. Lat: 40.934202 | Long: -74.073201 | 14. Lat: 40.948807 | Long: -74.076476 |
| 6. Lat: 40.939250 | Long: -74.073449 | 15. Lat: 40.949632 | Long: -74.078621 |
| 7. Lat: 40.941018 | Long: -74.072707 | 16. Lat: 40.949383 | Long: -74.078935 |
| 8. Lat: 40.943360 | Long: -74.072688 | 17. Lat: 40.949531 | Long: -74.079241 |
| 9. Lat: 40.943552 | Long: -74.072454 | 18. Lat: 40.949152 | Long: -74.079603 |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the Ridgewood Country Club are equivalent to Block 3101 Lot 2 on the Paramus, NJ tax map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are the legal boundaries of the Ridgewood Country Club.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Penelope S. Watson
organization Watson & Henry Associates date January 2014
street & number 12 North Pearl Street telephone 856-451-1779
city or town Bridgeton state New Jersey zip code 08302
e-mail pwatson@watsonhenry.com

Ridgewood Country Club
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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Photographs of the Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, Bergen County, NJ were taken by Larry Lambrecht of Q Publishing, LLC (117 Gillette Court, Franklin, VA 23851) (Photos 1, 6-15) and Penelope Watson of Watson & Henry Associates (12 N. Pearl Street, Bridgeton, NJ 08302) (Photos 2-5).

1. Ridgewood Clubhouse, looking south, c. 2009
2. Ridgewood Clubhouse, looking north, 2013
3. Ridgewood Clubhouse lobby rotunda, 2013
4. Tennis Assistant's Building, looking north, 2013
5. Building #1, looking northwest, 2013
6. East Course, Hole #2, looking south, c. 2009
7. East Course, Hole #9, aerial view looking north, c. 2009
8. Center Course, Hole #1, aerial view looking southeast, c. 2009
9. Center Course, Hole #3, aerial view looking west, c. 2009
10. Center Course, Hole #5, looking east, c. 2009
11. Center Course, Hole #6, aerial view looking northwest, c. 2009
12. Center Course, Hole #6, looking southeast, c. 2009

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13. West Course, Hole #4, aerial view looking west, c. 2009
14. West Course, Hole #5, looking east, c. 2009
15. West Course, Hole #6, aerial view looking north, c. 2009

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Ridgewood Country Club
street & number 96 West Midland Avenue telephone _____
city or town Paramus Borough state NJ zip code 07652

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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The property is an irregular parallelogram in form, set at an angle to the points of the compass. The entrance and clubhouse are located near the northern limit of the site, with the three golf course loops fanning out toward the southeast, the south, and the southwest. The property is entered by means of a half-mile-long drive known as Country Club Road, which runs south from West Midland Avenue.

The Ridgewood Country Club is bounded on the west by Bergen Community College and the Paramus Golf Club. To the east, beginning at the northern point, residential homes border a buffer area of Ridgewood Country Club-owned land that is in the out-of-bounds area of the golf course. Proceeding further south, a wooded area forms a buffer between the course and the backs of commercial businesses along State Highway 17. The George Washington Memorial Park, a cemetery, runs along the club's southern border. The Garden State Parkway borders the property at the southeast corner. The entire property is set off from adjacent properties by wide, mainly woodland buffers. The surrounding area in general is comprised of residential developments.

After previous facilities in Ho-Ho-Kus and Ridgewood, the Ridgewood Country Club moved to Midland Avenue in Paramus in 1929. When the move to Paramus was being planned, the Ridgewood Country Club retained the two foremost golf club designers of the day to plan the new facility: Albert Warren Tillinghast was selected to design the courses, and Clifford Charles Wendehack, AIA to design the clubhouse. The courses and clubhouse were completed in 1929. Both the clubhouse exterior and the courses are maintained in excellent physical condition; they retain a high degree of historic integrity in all seven criteria: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

THE CLUBHOUSE (CONTRIBUTING)

The clubhouse was designed by Clifford Wendehack in a Norman-revival style. He reportedly submitted more than fifty potential plans to the club for their selection.¹ Wendehack, who had studied architecture in France, England and Italy, wrote that

A search through the Northern Department of France suggested a surprising similarity in the terrain and landscape of that country with the new golf site of the Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, New Jersey. Normandy furnished abundant examples of simple, picturesque buildings of all descriptions; ample colored materials and a most charming combination of brick work combined with stone and other materials in a naïve simplicity to furnish inspiration for not only a club house, but in fact an entire village.²

The Norman revival style differentiated the Ridgewood clubhouse from those in other revival styles being built at the same time in the New York metropolitan area: "The Ridgewood Country Club, being an old and dignified organization, demanded a club house possessing some characteristic distinction befitting a discerning membership."³

The footprint of the 1929 clubhouse is essentially in the shape of a W (figures 13 through 17); at the base of the apex in the center is the round entrance tower. The clubhouse is brick, with horizontal bands and detailing of stone (figures 18, 19 and 45). The one-and-a-half-story primary mass is dominated by the two-and-a-half story

¹ William Quirin, *The Ridgewood Country Club: A History*, Franklin, Virginia: Q Publishing, 2009, p. 65.

² Clifford C. Wendehack, "A Normandy Club House," in *The Ridgewood Country Club*, pamphlet published by the Ridgewood Country Club, 1929, p. 10-11.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

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tower with conical roof surmounted by a copper finial. The textured slate roof, characterized as a “high mansard” by Wendehack, features jerkin-head dormers, with one bell-shaped wall dormer to the west of the entrance tower. The ridges of the four primary wings run perpendicular to one another.

The tower and adjacent wings constitute the primary L-shaped façade. The tower has the round-headed main entrance door on the first story, and three tall, small-paned windows at the second story. As originally constructed, the entrance was protected by “a lead marquis taking the place of the usual porte cochère” (figure 30).⁴ In 1988 the marquis was replaced by an actual porte cochère with a hipped slate roof, projecting off the tower at a diagonal to the main mass of the building, and supported by two wood posts braced with curved brackets.

The wing to the immediate east of the entrance tower, with a ridge running east-west, has three French doors with semicircular transoms on the first floor and three jerkin-head dormers with casement windows on the second. At the west end of the roof, behind the circular tower, a brick chimney with stone trim is centered on the ridge. On the south side, a five-bay semi-octagonal addition with French doors surmounted by semi-circular transoms extends the original dining room area, and a patio covered with an awning follows the outline of the building (photo 2).

This wing terminates at the easternmost three-bay-by-five-bay wing, which has a ridge running north-south. The two-bay gable end of this wing is integrated into the primary façade and features an end chimney centered on the ridge. A porch with brick piers on the east side of this wing has been enclosed with faux half-timber and stucco infill (photo 1); a second brick-piered porch on the south gable end remains open (figure 12). Both gable ends feature round windows at the second story, and the south end has a fixed leaded-glass window high in the gable. All other windows in the wing are casements.

According to architect Wendehack, “The porches which overlook every vista of the course, are designed as an integral part of the building and are adapted from the lean-to’s and sheds so abundantly found in the court yards of the smaller French Chateaux.”⁵

The three-bay wing to the immediate west of the entrance tower runs north-south, and features the bell-shaped wall dormer, and a small wall dormer directly adjacent to the tower. There are three casement windows on the first story, two in the wall dormer, and one in the small dormer.

The fourth, westernmost wing has a faux gable roof with a low-slope area behind the steep slope. Originally, this wing was set back several feet to the west from the façade the wing to the west of the tower; this area has been infilled with a faux half-timbered and stuccoed hipped-roofed addition, partially open on the first story to form an entrance porch to the men’s locker room. The addition and the wing have jerkin-head wall dormers with casement windows. At the south intersection of the two wings, the building has been expanded to accommodate a second dining room, and a terrace has been built to the west beyond the addition; the addition is clad in stucco. As Wendehack wrote of this wing:

The gradation to less formality toward the locker room end is carried out by the employment of larger stucco areas and an increased amount of brick in the surface of the walls in these portions of the building,

⁴ Ibid., p. 11.

⁵ Ibid., p. 12.

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and a sparse use of thin irregular structural timber exposed at prominent points, lends a feeling of informality in that portion of the building where this quality is supposed to exist.⁶

This wing was expanded with a two-story addition in 1954-55 to enlarge the Men's Locker Room.

Of the plan, Wendehack wrote: "Aside from the entrance lobby, the traditions of the style do not affect the plan of the club house, and the most workable sequence of parts are <sic> employed to produce the most up-to-date and flexible club plan possible, eliminating all unnecessary and expensive hallways and passages."⁷

On the interior, the circular entrance lobby with a staircase rising counter-clockwise along the wall is the core of the building (figures 24, 32 and 33). In Wendehack's words:

The entrance lobby is approximately twenty-three feet in diameter and two stories in height and contains a circular iron stairway winding gracefully up to a balcony on the second floor level. The floor of the lobby is tiled in a deep buff gray toned hard flint tile, which is brilliant in color but easy to maintain.⁸

The entrance lobby is the least altered of the public spaces, and remains essentially unchanged, except for replacement of the original flint tile floor with stone pavers. The stairway has been carpeted for reasons of safety.

Opening off the lobby to the east is the corridor originally known as the loggia, and now called Peacock Alley. As is true of the interiors of all the public spaces, the original décor was based on the Norman revival style: "The loggia [is] treated with the utmost simplicity, starting from the buff tiled floor with black slate base and border surmounted by a rough plastered vaulted treatment of cool neutral tones."⁹

In the 1954-55 renovation, the loggia was redecorated in a Colonial revival style, with carpeted floor, paneled arches, wood coffered ceiling, and smooth-plaster walls (figure 34).

Parallel to Peacock Alley and opening off it through five arched openings is the Main Dining Room. Originally, "the dining room [was] finished in rough sand plaster, colorful in treatment with five high arched openings on each side; a decorative beamed ceiling thirteen feet high and a huge fireplace at the north end, adopted from the chateau at Blois, complete the decorative treatment of this room."¹⁰ This room also had a hardwood floor, and decorative retractable iron gates closed off the dining room from the lounge (figures 21, 26, and 31).

The Main Dining Room was renovated in 1954-55 in Colonial revival style (figure 28). The fireplace mantel is Greek revival in style, with flanking half-round pilasters; the entire fireplace wall is clad with wood paneling. The floor is carpeted, and the room has a wood coffered ceiling. When the dining room was expanded to the south in 1988, the French doors on the south side were relocated to the new exterior wall, and the original wall was opened up through the center three of its five arched openings being combined into one large opening.

⁶ Ibid., p. 12.

⁷ Ibid., p. 12.

⁸ Ibid., p. 12.

⁹ Ibid., p. 13.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 13.

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At the east end of Peacock Alley and the Main Dining Room is the Tillinghast Lounge, occupying the entire eastern-most wing (figure 35). This room was originally two stories (figures 22 and 25), with a hardwood floor, and, as described by Wendehack,

with high timbered trusses and decorative ceiling...A hugh <sic> stone fireplace with a high over-mantle dominates the entire end of this room, while the other two sides are thrown open with wide doors to the porches and terraces...Color obtained by painted decoration and in the textures of the materials, [is] the dominant note of this room.

The women's lounge on the second floor had a balcony overlooking the main lounge.¹¹

In 1954-55 a floor was inserted in the lounge at the second story level to expand the women's locker room. The décor of the lounge was redone in a Colonial revival style, with a Federal-style mantel, wood coffered ceiling, smooth plaster walls and carpeted floor (figure 35). Most of the trusses remain intact in the locker room, though the curved braces have been removed (figure 36).

Just west of the entrance lobby is the bar; this room was the grill in 1929 (figure 20), and was later known as the Century Room. Beyond the bar, the building was expanded in 1954-55 to accommodate a new informal dining room. The grillroom was expanded once again in 1980 following a serious fire. In 1988, the club undertook a major construction project, renovating the kitchen, and expanding the grillroom; the room is now known as the Champions' Grille. The grill opens onto the expanded west terrace, also used for dining. The 1988 Member's Grill (now The Grille) is situated on the ground floor below the Champions' Grille.

The men's locker room, the kitchen, and the pro shop also are located in the west wings. The Jacobus Lounge, remodeled in 2006, is located off the lower Men's Locker Room. This was initially called the Men's Grill (figure 29), and in the 1990s was known as the Trophy Room. In the late 1940s it held the club's only bar.

On the second floor, the women's locker room and lounge (figure 28) are located above Peacock Alley and the Main Dining Room, with the expanded women's locker room above the Tillinghast Lounge. The original private dining rooms in the south end of the west wing adjacent to the lobby are now the President's Room, and the Billiard Room has been converted to offices. The far west wing continues to house the upper level of the Men's Locker Room.

BUILDING #1 (CONTRIBUTING)

Building #1 is a two-bay-by-seven-bay, two-story, hipped-roofed, frame structure with a poured concrete foundation; a one-store hipped-roofed wing is centered on the rear elevation (photo 5). The roofing is textured slate, and the building is clad with waney-edge weatherboards painted dark brown. On the front elevation, the slope of the roof continues down to the first story level over the three center bays to form a porch, supported on two wood posts with gunstock brackets; a jerkin-head dormer is set in the roof of the porch. Gable vents pierce the side roof slopes. Windows feature double-hung six-over-six sash.

Building #1 was part of the 1929 construction project. Wendehack based its design on a Norman vernacular building; he saw it as reminiscent of a village building adjacent to a Norman manor house. The building was

¹¹ Ibid., p. 13.

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originally built for staff housing. It is now used for housing, with a workshop on the first floor.

TENNIS ASSISTANT’S BUILDING (CONTRIBUTING)

The Tennis Assistant’s Building was part of the 1929 construction, and it, too, is based on a Norman vernacular building. The building continues to serve in its original use. The Tennis Assistant’s Building is a one-bay-by-two-bay, one-story hipped-roofed, frame structure with a poured concrete foundation (photo 4). On the front elevation, the east bay projects beyond the plane of the façade and features a gable roof. The roofing is textured slate, and the building is clad with waney-edge weatherboards painted dark brown. The overhang of the front gable protects the entrance, and the base of the gable is supported on brackets. The windows are horizontally-oriented rectangles with one fixed pane.

ENTRANCE ROAD SHELTER (CONTRIBUTING)

The Entrance Road Shelter is a one-bay-by-two-bay, one-story gable-roofed, cinder-block structure, painted brown, with the ridge parallel to the road (figure 48).¹² A block chimney is centered on the roof ridge at the north gable end. On the front elevation, the slate roof projects with an over-hanging eave, providing protection to the one large door opening that dominates the façade. The opening is currently secured with a garage-type door. Two windows on the south gable end are boarded up.

The original use of the building has not been identified. It is currently used for storage.

THE GOLF COURSES

DEFINITIONS

For readers not familiar with golf courses and golf terminology, the following definitions are offered to make the descriptions more meaningful (figure 67). In general terms, a hole is the assemblage of a tee, a fairway, and a green, with the option of hazards to make play more challenging. A tee or tee box is the flat, mown area where players tee off to start a hole. The fairway is the part of the course covered with short grass that extends from the tee to the putting green. The rough is the part of the course, usually bordering the fairway, where the grass is longer than that of the fairway; the grass in the rough can be only slightly or much longer than that of the fairway. A hazard is an obstacle between the tee and the green that increases the difficulty of the game. Hazards come in three types: a bunker is a hollow, usually comprised of sand; a water hazard can be a lake, pond or stream; a natural hazard is an obstacle such as dense vegetation. The green is the closely mown area where the flag and cup (the actual hole) are located. The flag and cup are moved from place to place on the green, generally on a daily basis.

SUMMARY HISTORY

Ridgewood Country Club is now in the fourth location it has occupied since it was founded as Ho-Ho-Kus Golf Club in 1893. The current three nine-hole courses were designed by A. W. Tillinghast between the time he helped the club select the site in 1926, and the grand opening in the spring of 1929; they remain essentially as they were designed.

¹² The material is true cinder block, not concrete block.

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A. W. Tillinghast developed and promoted the concept of “the course beautiful,” by which he meant a course in harmony with its natural setting, where natural features are incorporated as greens, bunkers and natural hazards; his regard for natural appearance led to a corresponding aversion for straight lines and right angles. His design for the Ridgewood Country Club reflects the principles he espoused: no artificial mounds, no bunkers built above the ground, fairways and greenside bunkers constructed down into the ground as if placed by nature. Tillinghast’s commission at the Ridgewood Country Club gave him a rare opportunity to play a role in choosing the land on which the course he would integrate into nature would be constructed.

Perhaps Tillinghast’s greatest contribution to golf course design was his part in the development of the strategic course. In the early decades of golf, courses tended to follow the penal concept, in which there is only one route from tee to green, and a player is penalized for any deviation from that path. Tillinghast and his contemporary Donald Ross were innovators in the strategic layout, where a player must make a decision, weighing perhaps a shorter route against an increased risk of encountering a particular hazard. Tillinghast designed holes where shot-making is paramount, and placement on the fairway is an essential part of the game. This strategic approach affected all aspects of his designs, including the placement and form of tees, the placement of bunkers, the shape of fairways, and the configuration of greens.

One of Tillinghast’s innovative ideas was to design tees that were basically large level areas, providing various opportunities for placing tee-markers, instead of the small, mathematically precise tees that were common previously. Tillinghast’s tees were sloped very gently into the surrounding landscape so they would blend harmoniously.

In Tillinghast’s time greens tended to be flat, sunken areas in the fairways that were not visible from afar, and that collected water. Tillinghast chose to use natural contours wherever possible; he constructed greens that were in harmony with the surrounding topography. As his design career progressed, he developed a preference for small, closely guarded greens, usually sloping from back to front.

Tillinghast’s fairways might be wide, but with a right and a wrong side. Landing on the right side facilitates the path to the green, while landing on the wrong side calls into play a carefully-located hazard such as a bunker or tree.

Tillinghast is perhaps best known for his bunkers. Tillinghast disapproved of the then-common placement of bunkers in echelon (parallel lines) and never used them in his own designs. There is no typical Tillinghast bunker; almost every one is a unique design. For Tillinghast, the bunker was an opportunity for an artistic creation, and each was designed to be harmonious with its setting; the pattern of bunkers for each hole was designed for the requirements of that hole. Tillinghast’s use of bunkers reflects his belief that a golf course should be designed to provide a challenge to the most skilled players, while at the same time providing an enjoyable experience to the less skilled and beginning golfers. One of his key strategies was the judicious use of bunkers; he called them “duffer headaches.” While other designers filled their courses with expensive-to-maintain bunkers, Tillinghast used them sparingly to challenge the best golfers and reduce frustration for the less skilled golfers.

Tillinghast’s design for Ridgewood Country Club is a demonstration of a strategic plan. On most holes, Tillinghast allows one opening to the green for a running shot. These are usually at an angle, favoring an approach from one particular side of the fairway. On some short holes, the green is surrounded by bunkers, which must be played over.

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Minor changes were made in the first years under Tillinghast’s supervision. A salt marsh between 1 East and 9 East was allowing salt to be tracked onto the greens and fairways by players retrieving lost balls, and causing a soil imbalance. Tillinghast’s solution was to build a pond between the 1 East and 9 East fairways, and use the fill to eradicate the salt marsh.

Golf courses, as all designed landscapes, evolve over time. Mowing patterns over the years gradually change fairway and bunker boundaries; trees grow into unintended hazards, or are lost to hurricanes. At Ridgewood Country Club, since the 1980s, a sustained effort has been made to return the courses wherever possible to Tillinghast’s original design.

Restoration was emphasized most recently in Gil Hanse’s 2001 Master Plan, which called for resurrecting some lost bunkers, and restoring greens, fairways and bunkers based on a 1935 aerial photograph. The bunkers Tillinghast designed were much rougher in appearance than is the custom today; some even had sand worked into the surrounding grass to simulate windblown sand. Over the years, the bunkers at the Ridgewood Country Club had become less organic in shape as a result of routine maintenance. Between 2002 and 2006, almost every bunker on the course was reworked to restore its original shape.

In addition, the game of golf has changed over the past century as modern technology has altered clubs and balls. Equipment was already evolving in the early twentieth-century when Tillinghast was designing courses, and he realized that the status quo would not endure. He deliberately laid out his courses so that holes were slightly angled from one another, and tees could be lengthened on one hole without impinging on the green of the hole before; this has allowed Tillinghast’s courses to be kept current with an evolving game in a manner he intended at the time of design. The added tees at Ridgewood Country Club can be considered part of Tillinghast’s original design strategy.

Tillinghast’s philosophy of anticipating change also encompasses the recent relocation of some bunkers, based on the 2001 Master Plan. Driving lengths have increased as a result of modern equipment, and some of Tillinghast’s bunker locations no longer presented obstacles, as they were easily cleared. Some bunkers have been returned to their original intended impact on the hole by moving them further down the fairway, where they once again present the planned impediment.

For championship matches such as the Barclays, a course has been configured out of the most challenging holes from all three of the club courses; it is known as the Championship Course. The 18 holes included in the Championship Course are identified and numbered beneath the par, distance, and name of each hole in the individual course descriptions below.

EAST COURSE

The East Course is laid out with the first four holes running generally southeast away from the clubhouse along the east property line, and holes five through nine looping back toward the north.

HOLE 1 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 380 YARDS) ADAM

(HOLE 1 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Hole 1 East is a straight-forward par 4. The fairway has a generous landing space for tee shots, guarded by a

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pond and oak trees on the right. A cross bunker stretches across the fairway from the left side about sixty yards from the green. The large green is well bunkered and Tillinghast incorporated a deceptive uphill slope from left to right.

The adjacent pond was created by Tillinghast after the completion of the course. It was constructed from a preexisting salt marsh that was causing deterioration of the fairway and green through soil imbalance for this hole as well as 9 East when players retrieving balls tracked salt onto the course.

This hole’s proximity to the clubhouse resulted in a change following a 1936 addition to the building; wayward balls from the tee were continually breaking windows in the addition (and going into the swimming pool). As a remedy, the tee was moved forward.

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 2 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 190 YARDS) WATER

(HOLE 2 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This downhill hole is played to a green protected by bunkers to the right and left (photo 6). The contoured green slopes from back to front. The green, with its slope and contours, is characteristic of Tillinghast. Part of his strategic plan here was to make the bunkers on the left deeper and more troublesome than those on the right.

The high rough that had grown up in front of the green was removed as part of the Hanse Master Plan to restore the course to the Tillinghast design. A new pro tee box was built in 1996, and a new pro tee was added in 2006.

HOLE 3 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 593 YARDS) GORILLA

(HOLE 3 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This is a classic Tillinghast par 5 hole. Though the fairway is close to a line of trees on the left, the ball must be kept to the left on the second shot, as the fairway makes a subtle right turn. The narrow, undulating, multi-tier green is well-guarded by bunkers. Players who keep their ball to the left have the opportunity to bounce a shot onto the green; those on the right have to fly their shot over menacing bunkers.

Tillinghast himself made the first alteration to this hole in 1932, when he moderated the severe back-to-front slope of the green on the lowest tier. Later, one large bunker on the left side was divided into two smaller bunkers. A stream running in front of the tee was routed to a buried pipe in 1979 by Rees Jones. A new forward tee was built in 2002; a new back tee, in 2008; and a new forward tee, in 2012.

HOLE 4 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 444 YARDS) BOG

(HOLE 4 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Hole 4 East features a dogleg to the left, made more difficult to navigate by a deep rough and a line of trees to the left, and a row of large oak trees on the right. The green is another Tillinghast signature design, with a false front and hard-to-read speed and breaks.¹³

¹³ A "false front" is a front portion of a green that slopes down toward the fairway, so called because a golf ball that hits such a false front is most likely to roll backwards, down into the fairway. Therefore, the golfer must carry his golf ball beyond the

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A new pro tee was been added in 2005, and a new forward tee in 2012.

HOLE 5 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 440 YARDS) KNUCKLE

(HOLE 9 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This uphill hole has a green that slopes sharply left to right and back to front. The fairway is guarded by a bunker on each side, and more bunkers protect the green. Both perceivable and imperceptible breaks in the green make putting a challenge. A dramatic false front challenges golfers on the second shot, as balls often come to a stop on the front third of the green, pause, and then begin a slow, frustrating descent off the front of the green.

The tees have undergone some changes. Rees Jones added a new one which in 2005 was replaced by another tee that was part of Gil Hanse’s Master Plan. A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 6 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 229 YARDS) COBRA

(HOLE 10 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

At two hundred yards downhill, this is a difficult par 3 hole. At the green, a small bunker on the left and a cross bunker on the right create a challenge to carry the tee shot the right distance. Shots hit to the back of the green, which slopes toward the front, make putting fast and difficult.

Rees Jones added a new back tee, and in 2002 a new forward tee was built. Trees protecting the front left of the green were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

HOLE 7 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 467 YARDS) STOCKTON’S LAIR

(HOLE 11 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Uphill and doglegged to the left, this hole is made more difficult by a fairway sloping from left to right. A prominent oak tree guarding the left rough challenges the most skilled golfers to fly their tee balls over the tree. For most golfers the need to keep their tee shot to the right of the tree reduces the available landing area in the fairway.

The fairway is protected by five bunkers lining both sides, and the plateau green is protected by additional deep bunkers to the left and right. The green, which is built into a hillside, slopes sharply from left to right and from back to front.

A right-side fairway bunker has been built into the back of the 3 East green. The grass bunker to the right rear of the green was once a sand bunker, and a bank at the back right of the green has been removed. A new forward tee was built in 2012.

HOLE 8 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 411 YARDS) GYPSY’S CURSE

This straightforward hole has a deep rough on the right, and a heavily-wooded area on the left. A slight rise in

front of such a green in order to ensure that it remains on the green.

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the fairway makes judging the distance to the flag difficult, a favorite trick of Tillinghast. The green slopes left-to-right and toward the back. The green is also guarded by two large bunkers, with the front right one being steeply-faced. Approach shots played to the left side of the green are given an opportunity to roll onto the green; those to the center and right side feed into a bunker.

A bunker on the right side of the fairway, nearer the tee, was removed as it was no longer an obstacle with modern equipment. A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 9 (PAR 4, 381 YARDS) SWIMMIN' HOLE

The last hole on the East Course, this one has a direct, panoramic view of the clubhouse from the tee (photo 7). The fairway has a left-turning dogleg at the far end; a long shot veering to the right ends up in the pond. The wide, deep and level green is protected by four bunkers.

The sand bunker to the right of the green was probably added as part of the 1936 pond construction. Robert Trent Jones enlarged the green and moved it to the left of the newly-created pond, and Rees Jones introduced a new back tee. A fairway bunker in front of the green has been removed. This is the only green which is not part of Tillinghast's original design.

CENTER COURSE

The center loop of nine holes reaches the south end of the property through two long holes, then swings to the west for one hole and doubles back along the south property line to the east for the next two. Between Holes 5 and 6 the course crosses to the west and the last four holes lead back to the clubhouse to the north, just west of Holes 1 and 2.

HOLE 1 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 388 YARDS) BIG CARRY

Considered the hardest of the three opening holes, this is a classic Tillinghast design (photo 8). The player has a choice of following the fairway on the right as it doglegs to the left around the pond, or attempting to play over the pond to the left to the green. The farther left a tee shot is played, the longer the carry over the pond. Long hitters aiming directly at the green are challenged to hit their tee shot over a tree which is on a small peninsula in the pond. There is a cross bunker on the right side of the fairway near the green. The green itself slopes from back-to-front and right-to-left.

In 2004, as part of Gil Hanse's Master Plan, the green area was restored and the high rough in front of the green was reduced in coverage to return the fairway to its original design. In 2005 the pond was enlarged to restore the level of difficulty for more skilled players to that envisioned by Tillinghast, with the secondary benefit of storing more water for irrigation purposes.

HOLE 2 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 568 YARDS) FINGAL

(HOLE 12 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This hole is a long par 5 that puts a premium on length and accuracy. The fairway climbs steadily uphill for over three hundred yards. It requires a strong tee shot and a second shot to the left side of the fairway to achieve the best angle for a third shot to an elevated green. The green slopes sharply from back to front and from right to left. Players missing their approach shot to the right of the green face a major challenge in stopping the ball on

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the sharply-sloping green.

A very deep bunker protects the front of the green, and additional bunkers protect both sides and the back of the green.

HOLE 3 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 462 YARDS) GLADE

(HOLE 6 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The downhill-uphill contours of this fairway are further complicated by its dogleg swing to the left at the end of a plateau in the fairway (photo 9). The left corner of the dogleg is protected by a stand of oak trees. Tee balls on the fairway beyond the plateau usually result in a challenging side-hill lie while playing the second shot to the green. The large raised green deceptively appears to be flat.

A forward tee was added by Rees Jones, and in 2012 a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 4 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 536 YARDS) BRIARS

(HOLE 7 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This hole is also known as the “Cemetery” hole, as it runs along the border with George Washington Memorial Park. It’s an uphill fairway, and a shot too far to the right becomes out-of-bounds in the cemetery. The small green is surrounded by bunkers, and its flat appearance is deceiving.

A bunker on the left of the fairway near the mound was removed, and in 2011 a bunker was added on the upslope to the left rough by Gil Hanse to enhance the visual of the hole. Hanse also restored the fairway on the left side at the top of the hill where the rough had encroached. Second shots played to the left side of the fairway are rewarded with the opportunity to bounce a shot into the small, firm green.

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 5 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 217 YARDS) BROOK

(HOLE 8 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The long downhill par 3 provides a great view from the tee, but the green slopes away from the tee and is protected by extensive bunkering (photo 10). A thick rough surrounds the green. A right side fairway bunker and bunkers on the left and right side ring the green. Shots hit too far risk being lost in a waste area beyond the green.

A new forward tee was built in 2002, and a new pro tee added in 2005.

HOLE 6 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 291 YARDS) SCOONIE

(HOLE 5 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This hole is also known as the “Nickel and Dime.” It is only 291 yards uphill from the back tees, but it’s one of the most difficult holes at the Ridgewood Country Club (photos 11 and 12). The relatively short yardage tempts the longest hitters to drive to the green.

The approach is a tricky shot that must be played accurately up to a small and narrow plateau green, built into a

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hillside, surrounded by six bunkers. The two-tier green has subtle and not so subtle breaks that are difficult to read.

This hole has been included in the *Golf Digest* "Top 500 Best Holes in the World" as well as in the *Sports Illustrated* "Top 18 Tillinghast Holes," and the *Met Golfer* "Dream 18."

A cross bunker was removed to lessen the difficulty from the forward tee, and a new forward tee were built in 2012.

HOLE 7 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 398 YARDS) POSSUM

The fairway is wide, and doglegs left around giant oak trees, with an expansive fairway to the right. However, a huge fairway bunker on the right presents an obstacle to a shot that falls short. The green slopes severely front-to-back and left-to-right.

The tee was widened by Rees Jones. Also, the right side fairway bunker was moved toward the green to increase its impact on longer shots. In 2002 a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 8 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 148 YARDS) TOPSY

A short hole, with the green surrounded by sand bunkers, 8 Center is deceptively difficult. The green slopes sharply uphill from front-to-back and runs quickly downhill from back-to-front. Along with 6 West and 6 Center, this is one of just three forced carries on the course, providing no opportunity to bounce a ball onto the green. A tee shot hit into the sand bunker behind the green presents an extreme challenge in getting the next shot to stop on the green before rolling off.

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 9 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 385 YARDS) INSPIRATION

This creatively challenging finishing hole offers a wide fairway for the tee shot, but requires strategic accuracy to the correct side of the fairway, depending on pin placement. Large overhanging trees protect the green from approach shots on both the left and right sides. The back-to-front and left-to-right slope of the green makes putting extremely difficult.

Approach shots hit to the left side of the green are afforded an opportunity to bounce on but the window is narrow, as the sharply-sloping left-to-right fairway feeds shots into a green-side bunker.

The back-to-front slope of the green on the right side was slightly reduced to allow for easier playability in 2002, at the same time a new forward tee was built.

WEST COURSE

The first three holes of the west loop run south. The fourth swings west, the fifth east, and the sixth and seventh west again. The course returns north to the clubhouse with Holes 8 and 9.

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HOLE 1 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 380 YARDS) ANTE

The oaks lining the fairway give it the appearance of an allée. It is preferable to keep shots to the left side of the fairway to avoid the left-to-right slope. Deep bunkers guard approaches to the green from the right side.

HOLE 2 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 393 YARDS) MOAB'S VINEYARD

The tee shot must clear a cross bunker on the left side, or avoid the forest of oaks at the right side of the landing area. The green is protected by an encircling ring of bunkers. The green slopes left to right. A hump running vertically the length of the green demands that the approach shot be hit to the upper or lower shelf where the pin is placed. Expansive size and numerous undulations and levels make the green a distinctive putting surface.

Tillinghast's false front on the green was restored recently as part of the Master Plan, at the same time the high rough in front of the green was also removed as part of the restoration. A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 3 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 209 YARDS) DUPPY

The uphill hole has a green protected by deep bunkers lining the right side. The green slopes to the right toward the bunkers, presenting further difficulties. Tee balls have the opportunity to bounce on the green, but this is made more difficult by a sharp up-slope to the putting surface.

A new forward tee was added in 2002.

HOLE 4 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 624 YARDS) MUCKLE

(HOLE 13 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The first shot is downhill to a fairway that has a bunker on the right and dense trees on the left (photo 13). Beyond is a series of moguls covered with deep rough that run on an angle at mid-hole. The green is tucked into a narrow corner of the course and protected by bunkers. The design as a whole is a good example of Tillinghast's design principles, and is among the "Top 18 Tillinghast Holes" as determined by *Sports Illustrated*.

Rees Jones noticed that two of the four tee boxes in Tillinghast's original design had never been built, and he supervised their construction to complete Tillinghast's own concept. He also added a new forward tee. The fairway bunker was reduced somewhat in size to lessen drainage issues.

In 2006, a new back tee was added. As part of Gil Hanse's Master Plan, in 2009 the connecting fairways of 4 West and 5 West were restored to the original design; over time, their connection had been lost. At the same time, a new pro tee box was built for the Championship Course farther back toward 7 Center.

HOLE 5 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 412 YARDS) NUB

(HOLE 14 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This is one of the most challenging holes on the course (photo 14). The fairway provides a generous landing area for tee shots, but longer hitters need to avoid the cross bunker on the right and the deep rough on the left. The elevated triple-tier green has a severe slope from back-to-front and left-to-right, and it is common for putts to roll downhill off the front of the green onto the fairway. A narrow strip of fairway between the left and right green-

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side bunkers affords an opportunity to bounce an approach shot onto the green. Downhill putts are treacherous while uphill putts often present difficulty in stopping on the correct tier.

The original false front, as well as the connecting fairways of 4 West and 5 West, mentioned above, was restored as part of the Hanse Master Plan. In 2006, a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 6 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 155 YARDS) BEECHES

(HOLE 15 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

A superb example of golf course architecture, this hole features a small, front-to-back, left-to-right sloping green, slightly uphill from the tee and surrounded on three sides by bunkers. A trademark Tillinghast feature is the inclusion of a small grass area of rough immediately in front of the center of the green. A straight shot has the opportunity to bounce on, versus being caught by the bunkers to the right and left. From the tee, the green appears to rise up from the landscape, and the lack of trees near the green subtly contribute to the challenge of determining the distance to the green.

In 2012, a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 7 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 422 YARDS) SNEAK

(HOLE 16 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Inaccuracy is penalized with heavy rough along the fairway. The tee box is elevated, and a good opening shot leaves the player with a blind approach to a green that sits below the fairway. The green is protected by bunkers short and left of the green deep right, and along the right corner and side of the green.

The hole presents one of Ridgewood Country Club’s narrower fairways. Careful aim is required as playing the tee shot directly at the flag stick will result in the ball in the right rough, or worse, on this slight left-to-right dogleg.

A new back tee and a new forward tee were added by Rees Jones. A new bunker was added in the left rough to increase the difficulty for golfers hitting longer tee shots; the second shot is best played from the left side of the fairway, and this bunker presents an obstacle for golfers playing too far to the left.

HOLE 8 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 593 YARDS) TIPPERARY

(HOLE 17 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

A long, dogleg hole, this is considered a great 5 par. The most efficient tee shot is hit down the left side of the fairway, but woods without-of-bounds claim shots too far to the left. Tee shots played too conservatively to the right find deep rough and can be blocked in a grove of trees.

The fairway is a sharp dogleg left. The second shot is challenged by a cross bunker on the left side of the fairway, and a tulip tree on the corner of the right side.

The third shot faces a sharply-sloping right-to-left fairway that will feed errant shots into a fairway or green-side bunker. Playing too conservatively to the right poses the challenge of chipping downhill, and trying to stop the ball on the sloped green. The small green has a false front and a sharp right-to-left slope that can send a ball

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downhill into a steep-faced bunker.¹⁴

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 9 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 470 YARDS) GABRIEL'S HORN

(HOLE 18 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The dog-legged fairway is lined with oak trees on the left and right. The left side of the fairway provides the best angle to the green. The green is guarded on the left by deep bunkers and features a putting surface that swings right-to-left and also slopes to the back to front. The sharply-sloping right-to-left fairway short of the green offers an opportunity to bounce a ball onto the green, but only from the right side. Shots to the center and left feed down a steep slope to a green-side bunker.

This is Ridgewood Country Club's only hole that rewards a fade (left-to-right) tee shot.

A new pro tee was added in 2005.

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

There are fifteen buildings and four structures at Ridgewood Country Club that are considered non-contributing because they were built after the period of significance. The buildings are all small in relation to the clubhouse, and support the operation of the club through housing utilities, maintenance operations, and additional member amenities.

BUILDING #2

Building #2 is a two-story, six-bay, wood-shingle-clad hipped-roof frame building with brick veneer at the first story on the east (front) façade (figure 56). A chimney pierces the center of the ridge.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #3/4/5

Maintenance Building #3/4/5 is a one-story gable-roofed concrete-masonry-unit building, constructed in three sections arranged in linear fashion (figure 52). The roof is fiberglass-shingle clad, and the ridge of each section is parallel to the front (north) façade; the ridge of the center section is lower than those of the two end sections. Along with the other maintenance buildings (#6, #7, and #8) the building faces into a paved courtyard in the approximate center of the property; the maintenance complex is buffered from view from the surrounding courses by berms and landscape plantings.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #6

Maintenance Building #6 is a concrete-masonry-unit building with a fiberglass-shingle-clad hipped roof (figure 49). The storage building has a phalanx of overhead garage doors along the east (front) façade.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #7

Maintenance Building #7 is a two-story stucco-clad hipped-roofed building with decorative stucco quoins (figure 50). The personnel door on the south (front) façade is accessible by means of a barrier-free access ramp.

¹⁴ A "chip shot" in golf is a shot played from close to the green, usually within a few yards of the putting surface, that results in the ball popping into the air, then hitting the ground and rolling forward.

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MAINTENANCE BUILDING #8

Maintenance Building #8 is a tall one-story metal-clad storage building with garage over-head doors on the south (front) façade (figure 51). The gable roof is clad with metal.

IRRIGATION PUMPHOUSE

The Irrigation Pumphouse is a small concrete-masonry-unit gable-roofed structure located between the fairways of 7W and 8W (figure 54).

TENNIS PRO SHOP

The Tennis Pro Shop is a one-story frame building with a pyramidal roof surmounted by a small cupola (figure 58). The siding is vertical wood boards. On the west side, the building is set back under the roof line, providing an open protected area.

PLATFORM TENNIS BUILDING

The Platform Tennis Building, constructed in 1973, is a frame structure with a low-slope shed roof (figure 60). The building is clad in vertical wood boards. Large windows face onto the platform tennis courts on the east side, and a stone chimney is centered on the west elevation.

RESTROOMS 1

Restrooms 1 is a masonry building clad in stucco and brick veneer with a gabled hipped roof (commonly known as a Dutch gable roof) surmounted by a small cupola with a weather vane at the apex (figure 55). A wide roof overhang provides open shelter on all sides of the building.

RESTROOMS 2

Restrooms 2 (figure 66) is identical to Restrooms 1.

PUMPHOUSE 1

Pumphouse 1 is a stucco-clad masonry building with faux half-timber detail on a stone base (figure 57). The fiber-glass-shingle-clad gable roof has a pent running across each gable end; above the pent, the gable is clad with shingles. A large round vent is centered on the south (primary) façade.

IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 1

Irrigation Structure 1 is a small frame building clad in vertically-scored wood paneling. The gable roof is clad with fiberglass shingles.

IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 2

Irrigation Structure 2 is a small flat-roofed masonry structure (figure 64).

WELL STRUCTURES FOR POND FEED (2)

The two identical well structures for feeding the pond are concrete-masonry-unit pyramidal-roofed buildings (figure 62). The buildings are concealed from view on all sides by a high hedge.

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NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

STORM SHELTER

The Storm Shelter is a pyramidal roof supported on four brick piers (figure 53). Parallel wood benches run between piers on two sides.

TENNIS COURTS

The four Tennis Courts, constructed in 1977, are surrounded by a high chain-link fence (figure 59).

PLATFORM TENNIS COURTS

The four Platform Tennis Courts, constructed in 1973, are raised above grade and surrounded by a high open fence (figure 61).

IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 3

Irrigation Structure 3 is consists of a rectangular well set in the ground and containing irrigation controls and piping, protected by a gable roof clad with fiberglass shingles (figure 65).

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Ridgewood Country Club has significance under Criterion C for the design of its golf courses and clubhouse by two master architects. The courses, designed by Albert Warren Tillinghast, and clubhouse, designed by Clifford Charles Wendehack, were conceived as a single project and completed in 1929. A. W. Tillinghast, one of the first designers of “strategic” courses, as opposed to the traditional “penal” courses, was a seminal figure during the Golden Age of course design in the first third of the twentieth century; he was one of the first golf architects to integrate the golf course into nature, and one of the first Americans to become a prominent golf course architect in a profession that had previously been dominated by practitioners from Great Britain. Tillinghast’s twenty-seven-hole design for Ridgewood Country Club is particularly noteworthy because of his continuing close involvement with the property over the seven years following its construction, and the surviving integrity of his original design. Equally significant is the design of the clubhouse by Clifford C. Wendehack, the most internationally-prominent clubhouse architect at work during the 1920s. Wendehack, a noted author on clubhouse design as well as a practitioner in North and South America, selected the French Norman style because he thought it particularly appropriate for the rolling landscape on which Tillinghast was designing the courses. Ridgewood Country Club’s combination of course design by Tillinghast and clubhouse design by Wendehack, one of only three surviving resources that possess an integrated design by these two master architects, makes the property particularly important.¹⁵

Ridgewood Country Club’s twenty-seven-hole three-part golf course is significant as a landscape design that was the work of A. W. Tillinghast, a major golf course architect; that was immediately recognized as one of the best-designed courses in the country when it was chosen to host the Ryder Cup just six years after opening; and that has maintained its position for eighty-five years, being included on *Golf Magazine*’s current list of the one-hundred best courses in the country. Ridgewood Country Club’s course retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling and association; it retains a high level of integrity of design within the parameters recognized for historic golf courses, which must undergo certain changes such as lengthened tees to remain viable in the face of evolving equipment technology. The course fulfils National Register Criteria at the local and state levels.

The Ridgewood Country Club clubhouse is architecturally significant as an example of a clubhouse designed by Clifford Wendehack, the foremost authority on clubhouse design of the twentieth century and internationally-recognized clubhouse architect. It is an outstanding example of the French Norman style, popular in the 1920s; the exterior, which retains a high degree of integrity, combines the elements of the style in a manner that respects the rural vernacular buildings which were its antecedents while adapting the it to a modern scale and use. The clubhouse retains integrity of location, setting, feeling and association, and retains integrity of design and workmanship on the exterior. It fulfils the National Register Criteria C at the local and state levels.

Two of Tillinghast’s courses have previously been nominated to the National Register: Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, NJ, and Johnson City Country Club in Johnson City, TN. None of Wendehack’s clubhouses are on the register, though three residences he designed in his hometown of Montclair, NJ are.

¹⁵ The other two properties with Tillinghast courses and Wendehack clubhouses are Winged Foot and Bethpage both located in New York.

¹⁶ The club had its origins in 1890, when William Dayton Rosencrantz (1852-1915) and a small group of friends starting Experimenting with golf balls and two rudimentary holes on the grounds of the Hermitage, Rosencrantz’s home in Ho-Ho-Kus. The men formed the Ho-Ho-Kus Gold Club in 1893, the first such entity in the state. The club moved to Maple Avenue

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Though Ridgewood Country Club's history began with its founding as Ho-Ho-Kus Golf Club in 1893 and continued through its 1901 move to Maple Avenue in Ridgewood as the Ridgewood Golf Club, and its second move, in 1912, to Lincoln Avenue in Ridgewood as the Ridgewood Country Club, its significance commences in 1929 with the completion of the golf courses and clubhouse at its present site in Paramus.¹⁶ Tillinghast continued to be involved with the fine-tuning of the course for several years, and the end of his participation coincided approximately with Ridgewood's entrance into the national and international arena with the hosting of the Ryder Cup in 1935. The courses were documented at this time through aerial photography. For these reasons, the Ridgewood Country Club Board of Directors determined that 1935 is the date to which the restoration prescribed in the Master Plan will be based, and it is considered to be the end of the Period of Significance. Following a 2001 Master Plan by Gil Hanse, the twenty-seven holes have been restored to their historic appearance, while taking into consideration alterations in the interim mandated by changes in equipment.

The "Golden Age" of golf course design in the US refers to the period prior to World War II, when courses evolved from unimaginative geometric layouts typical of the early twentieth century to sophisticated landscapes, combining creative and challenging hole design with natural beauty. Albert Warren Tillinghast was among the foremost of the golf architects that wrought this change. Geoffrey S. Cornish¹⁷ and Ronald E. Whitten,¹⁸ authors of the definitive history of golf course design, *The Architects of Golf* (1993), list nine men as preeminent during this period: James Braid, Willie Park, Jr., and Donald Ross were Scottish; Harry S. Colt and Alister Mackenzie were British, Stanley Thompson was Canadian, and Tillinghast was one of three Americans, along with George Crump and C. B. Macdonald.¹⁹

Tillinghast (1874–1942) was the indulged son of an affluent Philadelphia family; he never finished a single school he attended. As a young man he lived the life of a dilettante until golf became his passion, giving him a purpose in life. He involved himself in all facets of the developing world of golf: he honed his natural talents to become a gifted photographer, a published author of humorous fiction about golf, an entrepreneur of miniature golf courses and driving ranges, and a very accomplished player of the game itself. Finally, at the age of thirty-five, he found his true calling as a golf course architect when he was invited by a wealthy family friend to lay out a course for Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, located in Pennsylvania on the Delaware River just north of the Delaware Water Gap.²⁰ Over the next decade he designed several notable courses, which gathered national recognition.

in Ridgewood as the Ridgewood Golf Club in 1901 to be closer to members' homes. Development pressure forced a move to Lincoln Avenue in Ridgewood in 1912, where the golf club was reorganized as the Ridgewood Country Club. The final move to Midland Avenue in Paramus in 1929 was instigated by the rising value of land in Ridgewood, caused by increased development. There was also a growing danger to players because of increasing vehicular traffic on Lincoln Avenue: players were required to cross the road multiple times in one round on the course (William Quirin, *The Ridgewood Country Club: A History*, Franklin, Virginia: Q Publishing, 2009, p. 25-55). The grand opening at Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus occurred on May 30, 1929.

¹⁷ Cornish (1914-2012) was a golf course architect, author and historian; he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Massachusetts, and taught golf course design and history at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

¹⁸ Whitten is the golf architecture editor for *Golf Digest*.

¹⁹ Geoffrey S. Cornish and Ronald E. Whitten, *The Architects of Golf*, New York, NJ: HarperCollins, 1993, p. 175.

²⁰ C.C. Worthington, of the Worthington Pump Company and original developer of Shawnee, was a friend of Tillinghast's father. Reportedly the elder Tillinghast suggested to Worthington that his son would like to try his hand at designing the new

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He designed the Brackenridge Park municipal course in Texas, which became a regular fixture on the professional golfers' tour, hosting the Texas Open, and, in California, he designed the highly-rated San Francisco Golf Club. He also designed several courses in Florida. In New Jersey he designed Shackamaxon (1916) and Somerset Hills (1917), which is rated as one of the best in the world. During this period his design philosophy had not yet fully matured; at both Shackamaxon and Somerset Hills, he incorporated features like "chocolate drop" mounds and "alpinization," both of which he later dismissed as artificial and not in accord with a natural course.²¹

In the early 1920s, he was just hitting his stride as an architect when he obtained the commission for what became the Upper and Lower Courses at Baltusrol. This thirty-six-hole project made his reputation, and for the rest of the twenties his services were in great demand. In addition to Ridgewood Country Club, notable courses from this period include Winged Foot, Mamaroneck, NY; Quaker Ridge, Scarsdale, NY; Five Farms East, Lutherville, MD; Newport, Newport RI; and four courses at Bethpage, Farmingdale, NY, of which the Black Course is considered among his best.

When the Depression brought golf course construction to a virtual standstill, Tillinghast had to scramble to make a living. In 1930, only one year after completion of the Ridgewood courses, he opened an antiques store, Wister Antiques Tillinghast Inc., out of his house in Harrington Park, New Jersey, and he began to devote more time to writing. He had one last masterpiece to design, however, which was Bethpage Black, one of the three new and one renovated courses commissioned for Bethpage State Park in 1933 by Robert Moses, president of the Long Island State Park Commission.²²

In 1935 Tillinghast announced his retirement from golf course design in order to be a consultant for the PGA of America, of which he had been one of the founders.²³ Ironically, Tillinghast's work helped save the fledgling PGA. With golf courses across the country struggling financially, many questioned the need to have paid professionals, members of the PGA, on staff. Tillinghast's consultation was a valuable service available for no charge and only to PGA member courses. The service was unexpectedly popular, and he ended up visiting hundreds of courses across the country over the next two years.

When the Harrington Park house was lost to foreclosure in 1936, he and his wife moved to California, where they and a partner operated an antiques shop in Beverly Hills. Tillinghast Authentic Antiques was partially stocked with the contents of their former home. While in California he again tried to make a living as a golf course architect, in association with William P. "Billy" Bell; the attempt had limited success. In 1940 he suffered a heart attack, following which he moved to Toledo, Ohio to live with his daughter. He succumbed to a second heart attack in 1942 at the age of 68.²⁴

course to be added to the original nine holes and thus secured him the commission.

²¹ "Chocolate drops" refers to a row of small mounds that in form resemble giant Hershey's Kisses (which originated in 1907). "Alpinization" refers to breaking up the fairway and rough into miniature ranges of mountain and valley, a concept that appears to have been brought back from Great Britain by Tillinghast.

²² Philip Young, A. W. *Tillinghast: Creator of Golf Courses*, Pearl River, NY: Classics of Golf, 2005, pp. 116-130.

²³ Professional Golfers Association of America. The PGA was losing member clubs as a result of the economy, and in an effort to retain them offered Tillinghast's services on a complimentary basis to advise on course problems.

²⁴ Young, pp. 142-180.

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Tillinghast had two primary philosophical beliefs as a golf-course design advocate and as an architect; his work is the manifestation of these precepts. The “Course Beautiful” (a term which he may or may not have coined) became his mantra; the integration of the golf course into the natural beauty of the landscape was the focus of many of the articles and essays he wrote for golf magazines, and the defining principle of the courses he was simultaneously designing. “It seems to me that he, who plans any hole for golf, should have two aims: first to produce something which will provide a true test of the game, and then consider every conceivable way to make it as beautiful as possible. He should have in mind not only the skill and brawn of golfers but their eyes as well,” he wrote in *Golf Illustrated* in October, 1920.

While contemporary celebrated designer Charles B. Macdonald and his apprentice Seth Raynor were designing courses that featured copies of famous holes in Great Britain, Tillinghast was creating unique holes that were dictated by the natural terrain; every course, and each hole, was an original response to the innate terrain with which he had to work. He was not the only promoter of this approach, but his extensive writing combined with his notable course designs made him an influential proponent.

The strategic course, as opposed to the previously-popular penal course, was the second design principle for which Tillinghast advocated. The part he played in the development of the modern strategic course is perhaps his most important contribution to golf course architecture. On a penal course, there is only one route from the tee to the green; if a player deviates from the route, he is penalized. On a strategic course, the player has to weigh risks and make decisions regarding which route to take; for example, a shorter route may bring into play obstacles which a longer route will avoid.

While the Old Course at St. Andrews, the course by which all others are judged, started as a penal course but had evolved into a strategic course by the mid nineteenth-century, the quality of course design in general on both sides of the Atlantic deteriorated during the last years of the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth. Absolutely flat greens were oblong, round or square; bunkers were geometric rectangular ramparts, and there was no choice of the route from the tee to the green.

Students of the St. Andrews course, which included Tillinghast along with Donald Ross and Charles Macdonald, introduced the strategic layout to America. In the 1920s the concept evolved into several schools of strategic design, but Tillinghast, Ross and Macdonald had pioneered the approach in the previous decade. Macdonald’s revolutionary masterpiece, the National Golf Links of America on Long Island, NY, was being constructed at precisely the same time that Tillinghast was developing a strategic layout at his first course, Shawnee-on-Delaware, giving the two equal credit for authorship.²⁵

Tillinghast’s design for Ridgewood Country Club is a demonstration of the strategic approach for which he is known. For example, on many holes Tillinghast provided wide fairways, but each has a wrong side and a right side. The player must determine what strategy he wants to use to set up a favorable approach shot to the green. In achieving his strategic design at Ridgewood Country Club, Tillinghast first helped the Board of Directors select the site for the relocation of the club; he then proceeded to use to great advantage its natural features such as trees, rolling hills and natural springs, to create greens and hazards.

²⁵ Daniel Wexler, *Lost Links, Forgotten Treasures of Golf’s Golden Age*, Chelsea, MI: Clock Tower Press, 2003, p. 81.

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On most holes, Tillinghast allows one opening to the green for a running shot. These are usually at an angle, favoring an approach from one particular side of the fairway; 8 East is one example at Ridgewood Country Club. On some short holes, such as the renowned 6 Center, the green is surrounded by bunkers, which must be carried.

Not long after completion, Tillinghast's design for Ridgewood Country Club received international approbation when it was selected as the site for the 1935 Ryder Cup Matches, the fifth edition and the third to be held in the United States.²⁶ The professional golfers participating in 1935 were outspoken in their appreciation for the course, with player Paul Runyan calling it "really a magnificent golf course" and British captain Charles Whitcombe noting "I think you have a fine course here."²⁷

Other notable national tournaments that have been held on the courses over the years include the 1957 United States Golf Association (USGA) Senior Amateur; the 1981 Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Coca Cola Classic; the 1990 USGA Senior Open; and the 2001 Senior PGA of America Championship.

The Barclays, which began in 1967 as the Westchester Classic and underwent a number of sponsorship name changes in the ensuing years, took on its current name in 2007 and began rotating among clubs in the New York metropolitan area. It was held at Ridgewood in 2008 and 2010, and is scheduled to return in 2014.

Golf courses are evolving designed landscapes, being modified in response to growing membership and changes in the game and equipment. The Ridgewood courses have been adjusted over the years to keep them current as the game of golf has developed, but alterations have been respectful of Tillinghast's original design. Such changes include constructing lengthened tees for championship play (for example, 5 East, 6 East and 8 Center); construction of forward tees (as on 6 Center and 3 West), and the relocation of bunkers (such as on 4 Center and 7 Center) to positions where they once again become obstacles, farther from the tee than their original settings.

Only three golf course architects have worked at Ridgewood Country Club since Tillinghast retired, and each of the three has been among the very best of his generation. The first was Robert Trent Jones, who was retained in the mid 1930s.

Robert Trent Jones was born in England in 1906, and came with his parents to live in East Rochester, New York at the age of five. He began caddying, and then playing golf, when a teenager.²⁸ "He became the first person to study expressly for a career as a golf designer. He fashioned his own program of study at Cornell University, drawing upon courses in landscape, architecture, agronomy, horticulture, hydraulics, surveying, public speaking and economics."²⁹ Jones was unfortunate in trying to start a career in golf course design at the start of the Depression, and it was not until after World War II that conditions allowed his career to flourish.

²⁶ The Ryder Cup Matches is a men's golf competition between teams from the United States and Europe held biennially, and alternating between courses on either side of the Atlantic. Before 1979, the European team was selected only from Great Britain. The teams are selected from professional golfers, who receive no prize money for their participation.

²⁷ Quirin, p. 146.

²⁸ American National Biography Online website: <http://www.anborg/articles/19/19-00941-article.html>.

²⁹ Sports Illustrated website: <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/golfonline/travel/architects/rtjones.html>.

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Jones worked on Peachtree in Atlanta with Bobby Jones in 1948, which was the first course to manifest the “broad-shouldered, heavily sculpted power golf look that defined the postwar years.”³⁰ He called his style the “heroic school” of course design, which he saw as a combination of the “penal school” and the “strategic school.”³¹ He redesigned Oakland Hills – South Course for the 1951 U.S. Open, making his reputation as “The Open Doctor.” From his office in Montclair, New Jersey, Jones went on to design 450 courses in forty-five states and twenty-nine foreign countries in a career that lasted into the 1990s.³² He died at his home in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 2000.³³

It was Robert Trent Jones who had the pond constructed between 1 East and 1 Center that had been discussed by Tillinghast in his correspondence with the club. He also reworked the green for 9 East, making it larger. In 1961, at 2 East, he capped the spring that bubbled up and created a pond between 2 East and 8 East greens.³⁴ When the alteration was made to the east end of the clubhouse in 1936 that became a hazard for 1 East tee, it was he who moved the tee forward to avoid broken windows in the club.

In the next generation, it was Rees Jones (1941 -), son of Robert Trent Jones, whom Ridgewood Country Club hired to maintain and restore the courses. Rees Jones’ goal at Ridgewood was to return the courses as far as possible to their configuration in Tillinghast’s original design. Rees Jones was educated at Yale and Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design, then joined his father and older brother Robert Trent Jones, Jr. in their firm, Robert Trent Jones Incorporated. He worked with his father on many courses before leaving to form his own firm in 1974. He has a portfolio of over one hundred designed or redesigned courses. He is also an environmentalist, and has championed the cause of environmentally-friendly golf courses. He was the recipient in 2004 of the Old Tom Morris Award, the highest award given by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Rees Jones was brought to Ridgewood Country Club in 1978 when it was discovered that greens were suffering from lack of sunlight and air flow. He proceeded to restore the greens to their original dimensions, and facilitated their growth by cutting back many trees and removing others. He also had built two tees on 4 West that Tillinghast had planned, but that had never been constructed.

For a new computerized irrigation system constructed in 1985, he widened the pond at 1 East and 9 East, narrowing the approach to the 9 East green. He also built new tees at 5 East, 6 East, and 7 Center, and added forward tees at 3 Center, 3 West, 4 West, and 7 West.

The most recent golf architect to work at Ridgewood Country Club was Gil Hanse, who was retained in 2001 to

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ American National Biography Online website.

³² Ibid.

³³ Dave Anderson, “Robert Trent Jones Sr., Golf Course Architect Who Made Mark on U.S. Open, Is Dead at 93,” *New York Times*, 16 June 2000.

³⁴ This change was first requested by Tillinghast in a June 1929 letter to the club in which he requested \$9,500 to finish course construction: “Due to the fact that the spring at 2East green will not raise the water level enough to impound a sufficient quantity of water it seems essential that we deepen the basin into which it flows. If this is done we may then raise the bottom of excavations between 2East green and 8East green and build thereon a sand trap.” The work was not undertaken until the summer of 1961, as reflected in board minutes for 20 June and 12 July of that year.

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prepare a Master Plan for the three courses. Again, Hanse’s aim has been to honor Tillinghast’s original design and restore each hole to his original intention, making only those changes necessary for enjoyable play with twenty-first-century equipment.

Gil Hanse, with a Master of Landscape Architecture from Cornell University, is founder and president of Hanse Golf Course Design, Inc. (Malvern, PA). While he was at Cornell, he received the William Frederick Dreer Award, enabling him to spend a year in the United Kingdom studying historic golf course architecture. While there, he interned with the firm of Hawtree and Son, founded in 1912 and possibly the oldest continuously practicing golf course architectural firm in the world. Before starting his own firm in 1993, he was an associate and later a design partner in Renaissance Golf Design in Traverse City, Michigan.

Two of the most outstanding of his completed courses are the Boston Golf Club, in Hingham, MA, and Castle Stuart Golf Links, in Inverness, Scotland. He has been selected by the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games to design the golf course for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, over competition from the leading designers in the world, including Robert Trent Jones II, Gary Player, and Jack Nicklaus.

Of his restoration work at Ridgewood, he has said “With a restoration, you try to focus on the original design and restore aspects of it. At Ridgewood, the goal is to focus on Tillinghast, and to restore his characteristics without leaving our fingerprints. It’s almost like an archaeological site. We look for old buried bunkers. We dig and find the old sand sometimes.”³⁵

Among Hanse’s undertakings at Ridgewood were restoration of Tillinghast’s false fronts on the greens at 2 West, 5 West, and 5 East. He also removed high roughs that had developed preceding greens at 2 East, 1 Center, and 2 West.

The clubhouse is the second element in the equation that provides Ridgewood Country Club’s design significance. The design of the clubhouse by Clifford Wendehack proceeded in concert with the design of the courses, making the completed complex an integrated whole.

Clifford Charles Wendehack (1885-1948) was, and still is, considered to be the leading designer of clubhouses in the first half of the twentieth century. A current authority on clubhouse architecture, Richard Diedrich, has written of him:

A leader of clubhouse architects in the 1920s was Clifford Wendehack, best known for his design of the Winged Foot Golf Club clubhouse, which was created with stone excavated for the golf course and was the epitome of what a golf clubhouse might be. Wendehack’s other major contribution to the profession, however, was his regular writings on clubhouse design issues as in the monthly periodical *Golf Illustrated*. He was a major contributor to *Architecture Forum’s*

March 1925 special issue dedicated to and recognizing the importance of the clubhouse building

³⁵ <http://www.forbes.com/sites/monteburke/2012/04/04qa-with-golf-course-designer-gil-hanse/> Retrieved 21 January 2013.

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type.³⁶

Starting in the teens, throughout the 1920s, and even into the Great Depression, Wendehack was the preferred clubhouse architect for prestigious clubs in both North and South America. His major commissions during that period, with their approximate dates of construction, were:

- Norwood Country Club (West Long Branch, NJ) 1919;
- Trenton Country Club (Trenton, NJ) 1920s (figure 72);
- North Jersey Country Club (Wayne, NJ) 1923;
- Yountakah Country Club (Nutley, NJ) ca. 1923 (figure 73);
- Winged Foot Golf Club (Mamaroneck, NY) 1923 (figure 70);
- Rock Springs Country Club (West Orange, NJ) 1926;
- Park Country Club (Buffalo, NY) 1927;
- Douglaston Park Golf Course (formerly North Hills Country Club, NY) c. 1927;
- Hackensack Golf Club (Oradell, NJ) 1928
- Caracas Country Club (Caracas, Venezuela) 1928 (figure 69);
- Forsgate Country Club, (Monroe Township, NJ) 1930;
- Bethpage State Park Golf Courses (Farmingdale, NY) 1935 (figure 68);
- The Pennhills Club (Bradford, PA) 1937.

Wendehack was born in New York City, and studied in Italy, France and England. He did not receive a professional degree in architecture, as was not uncommon at the time, but learned the profession through years of apprenticeship. He began his apprenticeship about the age of seventeen, as a draughtsman with the atelier of Donn Barber, a leading Beaux Arts architect of the day. Barber's atelier primarily designed civic buildings (Connecticut State Library and Supreme Court Building; New Castle County (Delaware) Court House; Wilmington (Delaware) City Hall and banks (Fletcher Savings and Trust Company, Indianapolis; National Park Bank, 250 Park Avenue, New York City). Wendehack continued to work for Barber over a period spanning the first twenty years of the twentieth century, interspersed with short interludes of work in the offices of W. W. Bosworth (MIT campus, restoration of Palace of Versailles and Notre-Dame de Reims); Pell & Corbett (Maryland Institute College of Art, 1908 building), and Wilder & White (Washington State Capitol campus plan and Temple of Justice). He apparently moonlighted with his own architectural work from 1905 until 1921, working by himself under his own name, and, for four years between 1911 and 1914 with a partner. When he was in his early thirties, he opened his own office on a full time basis; the office was located in the Architects' Building at 101 Park Avenue, New York City.³⁷³⁸

In addition to his practice in clubhouse design, Wendehack was a prolific residential architect, designing many

³⁶ Richard Diedrich, *The 19th Hole: Architecture of the Golf Clubhouse*, Mulgrave, Victoria, Australia: Images Publishing, 2008, p. 11.

³⁷ Clifford Wendehack's "Application for Membership" in the American Institute of Architects, 15 April 1921, facsimile available from the online AIA Historical Directory of American Architects.

³⁸ In 1911, Wendehack married Daisybelle Frances Rinck, a teacher. By 1920, they were living at 124 Gordonhurst Avenue, Upper Montclair, NJ, in a house that he appears to have designed; he lived there for the rest of his life. The couple apparently had no children.

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homes in Tudor Revival and French Norman Revival. Three of the houses he designed in Montclair, NJ are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (figures 75, 76, and 77).³⁹

Wendehack was designing the Ridgewood Country Club complex at the same time he was writing his guide to clubhouse design, *Golf and Country Clubs: A Survey of the Requirements of Planning, Construction and Equipment of the Modern Club House*, published in 1929. This primer remained the major manual for clubhouse architects for decades.⁴⁰

Wendehack was also an authority on early Dutch architecture, writing “An Architectural Monograph: Early Dutch Houses of New Jersey” in the White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs, in 1925. In the 1930s, after the collapse of his clubhouse design practice due to the economy, he became involved in the Better Homes in America movement, which had been initiated by the Butterick Publishing Company after World War I, to improve housing conditions. In 1934 he was co-designer of a demonstration house constructed at the corner of Park Avenue and Thirty-Ninth Street in New York City, a project in which Dr. Lillian Gilbreth was also involved.⁴¹ He continued his design career through the 1930s and 1940s with residential and commercial plans for wealthy clients in Venezuela.

Wendehack was fluent in the architectural vocabulary of the period. He worked in the Colonial Revival (Yountakah Country Club, Nutley, NJ, figure 73; Bethpage State Park, NY, figure 68; Trenton Country Club, Trenton, NJ, figure 72) the Mission Style (Caracas Country Club, Caracas, Venezuela, figure 69; Villa Mercedes, Caracas, figure 74), and even the Moderne Style when it was appropriate for an automobile dealership (Planchart & Co. Building, Caracas, figure 71). For Ridgewood Country Club, he selected a version of Vernacular Normandy Revival or French Norman that became popular after World War I, part of a growing appreciation for French culture that followed the war.⁴² In the 1920s, the publication of two books advanced the development of the French Norman style throughout the US, and may well have been used by Wendehack for inspiration and details: *Small Manor Houses and Farmsteads in France*, H.D. Eberlein, 1926, and *Domestic Architecture in Rural France*, Samuel Chamberlain, 1928. Wendehack also appears to have refined his own version of the style through direct study of historic buildings in France when he was a young man.

The French Norman style had its roots in the Romanesque Revival, popular in this country starting in the 1840s.⁴³ The Romanesque Revival was primarily distinguished by the use of round arches for all openings, and, arrayed, as a decorative element (the original Smithsonian Institution building is an illustration). Examples tend to be somewhat attenuated, with towers and turrets rising above the roofline, and materials were smooth-faced stone or brick. In the 1870s the style evolved into Richardsonian Romanesque, led by the work of Henry Hobson Richardson. In this period the style became more compact and robust, with rock-faced masonry details adding

³⁹ The houses are at 21 Stonebridge Road, 7 South Mountain Terrace, and 83 Watchung Avenue (also known as The House That Lives).

⁴⁰ Clifford Charles Wendehack, *Golf and Country Clubs: A Survey of the Requirement of Planning, Construction, and Equipment of the Modern Club House* (New York: William Helburn, 1929).

⁴¹ Walter Rendell Storry, “Tables Set in the New Way,” *The New York Times*, 18 November 1934.

⁴² www.dahp.wal.gov/styles/french-norman. Retrieved 25 June 2014. (Website of Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.)

⁴³ Marcus Wiffen, *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*, Cambridge, MA: The M.I.T. Press, 1969, p. 61.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Ridgewood Country Club

Name of Property
Bergen County, NJ

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 10

dimension to façades; flat-topped openings were interspersed with arched openings. The style persisted into the 1880s, but fell out of favor by the turn of the twentieth century.

The French Norman style that developed in the 1920s is characterized by the defining feature of a tower (round, octagonal or square) capped with a cone-shaped roof; the tower is derived from historical examples of grain-storage silos that were part of combined dwelling and barn structures typical of the region.⁴⁴ Side gables or steeply-pitched hip roofs were additional elements, with materials of brick stone, stucco, shingle and some half-timbering. Wendehack's work also features compact asymmetrical massing of wings of different but complementary sizes; round and half-round turrets and wings; and an appealing human scale. A goal of the style was the appearance of a building that had evolved over time through building campaigns at different periods.

Wendehack's design for the Ridgewood Country Club clubhouse is a masterful combination of materials that captures both the authority and the informality of a Norman manor house, and the wealth of detailing reflects Wendehack's goal of replicating the appearance of organic evolution which was a defining characteristic of the Norman architecture that he was referencing. Its asymmetry and the use of stone and slate allow it to fit into the landscape in much the same way that Tillinghast's courses do.

The major feature of Wendehack's clubhouse is the round two-story turret, set into the inner angle of the "L" intersection of two wings. As is typical of the vernacular Normandy style, the entrance and stairs are contained in the tower. His asymmetrical treatment of the flanking wings emphasizes the informality of this style. The wing to the left of the entrance features jerkin-head dormers set in the steep roof, with three French doors with arched transoms on the first story. The mass of this large building is minimized by the change in roof-ridge direction and the presence of a gable indicating a third wing to further to the left. The wing to the right features flat-headed casement windows in the first story but is dominated by a large bell-shaped wall dormer.. Use of a mixture of brick and stone further breaks up the expanse of the facades and reduces the perception of scale; in the tower, the brick and stone form alternating bands, while the mixture is more random and less formal on the wings.

The contemporary auxiliary buildings, Building #1, the Tennis Assistant's Building, and the Entrance Shelter, continue the architect's Norman village theme. Wendehack's design is truly the confident and creative effort of a talented, experienced architect at the height of his powers and his career.

Ridgewood Country Club continues to honor and preserve the legacy of its Tillinghast courses and Wendehack clubhouse. Historic illustrations and photographs are displayed throughout the clubhouse, and the intent is to continue to maintain the courses as closely as possible to their original design, while continuing to keep them challenging for today's players using modern equipment.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

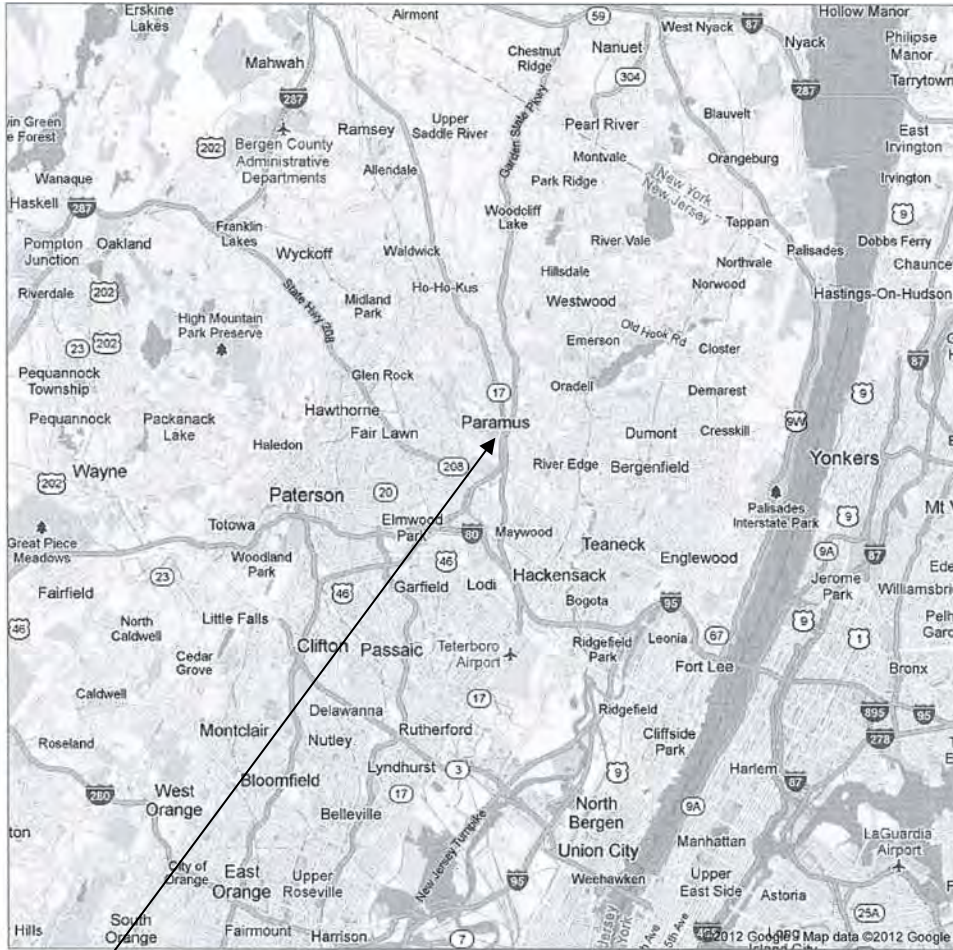
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Figure 7	1979 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
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**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

Figure 56	NON-CONTRIBUTING: BUILDING #2
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Figure 58	NON-CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS BUILDING 2
Figure 59	NON-CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1977)
Figure 60	NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS BUILDING (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
Figure 61	NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
Figure 62	NON-CONTRIBUTING: WELL STRUCTURES FOR POND FEED
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Figure 66	NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOM 2
Figure 67	GOLF COURSE TERMINOLOGY

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



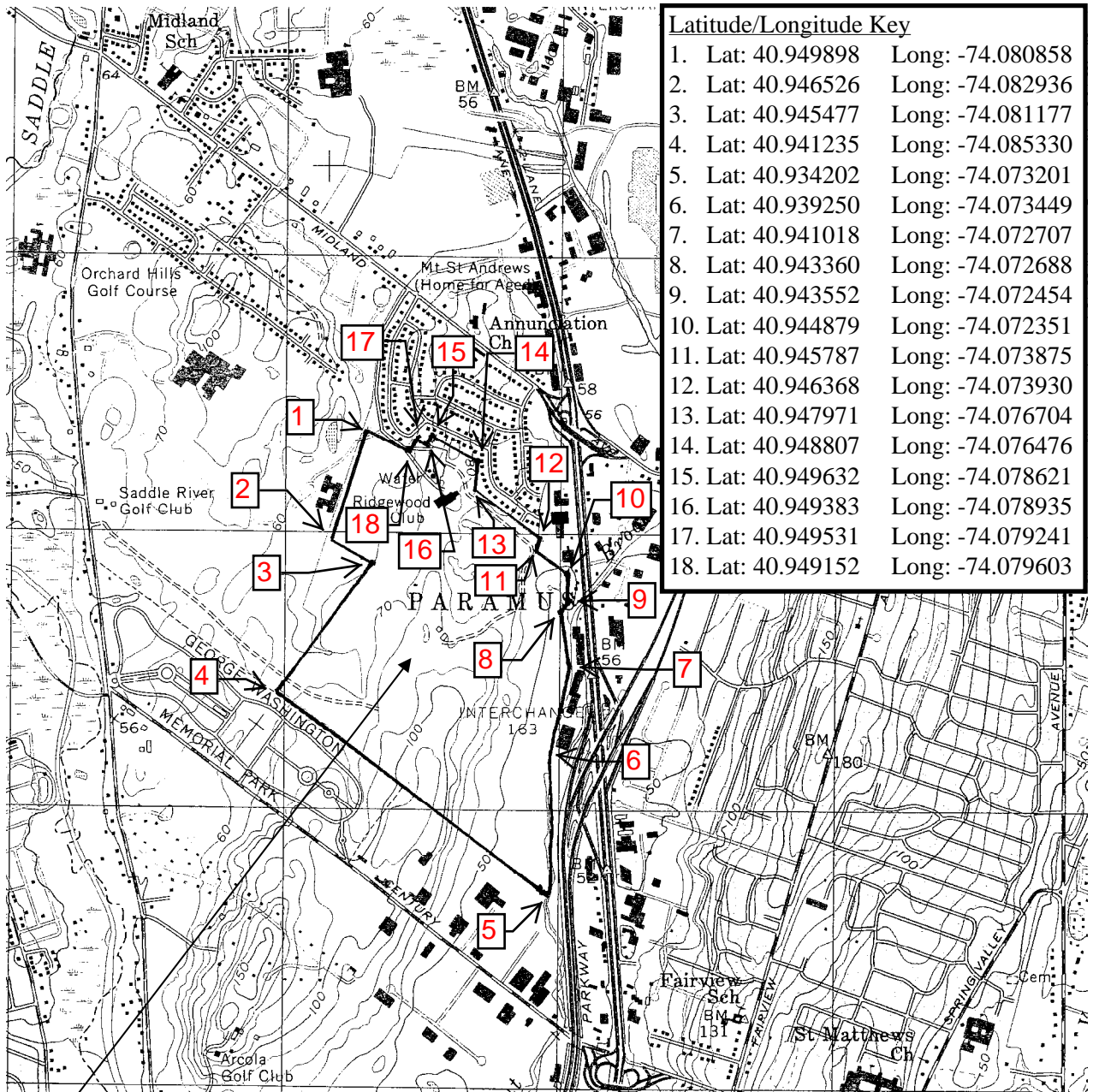
Site

Figure 1

AREA LOCATION MAP

Scale: 1 inch = 4 miles

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Site

Figure 2

USGS MAP HACKENSACK QUADRANGLE
New Jersey, Bergen County, 7.5 Minute Series
Scale: 1:24000

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Tillinghast's drawing of the course as built.

Figure 3

TILLINGHAST'S AS-BUILT PLAN FOR RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB COURSES

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 4

1931 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE



Figure 5

1953 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 6

1966 AERIAL PHOTO FO SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 7

1979 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 8

1987 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE



Figure 9

1995 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 10

2005 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 11

ARCHITECT'S RENDERING OF RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CLUBHOUSE
CLIFFORD C. WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

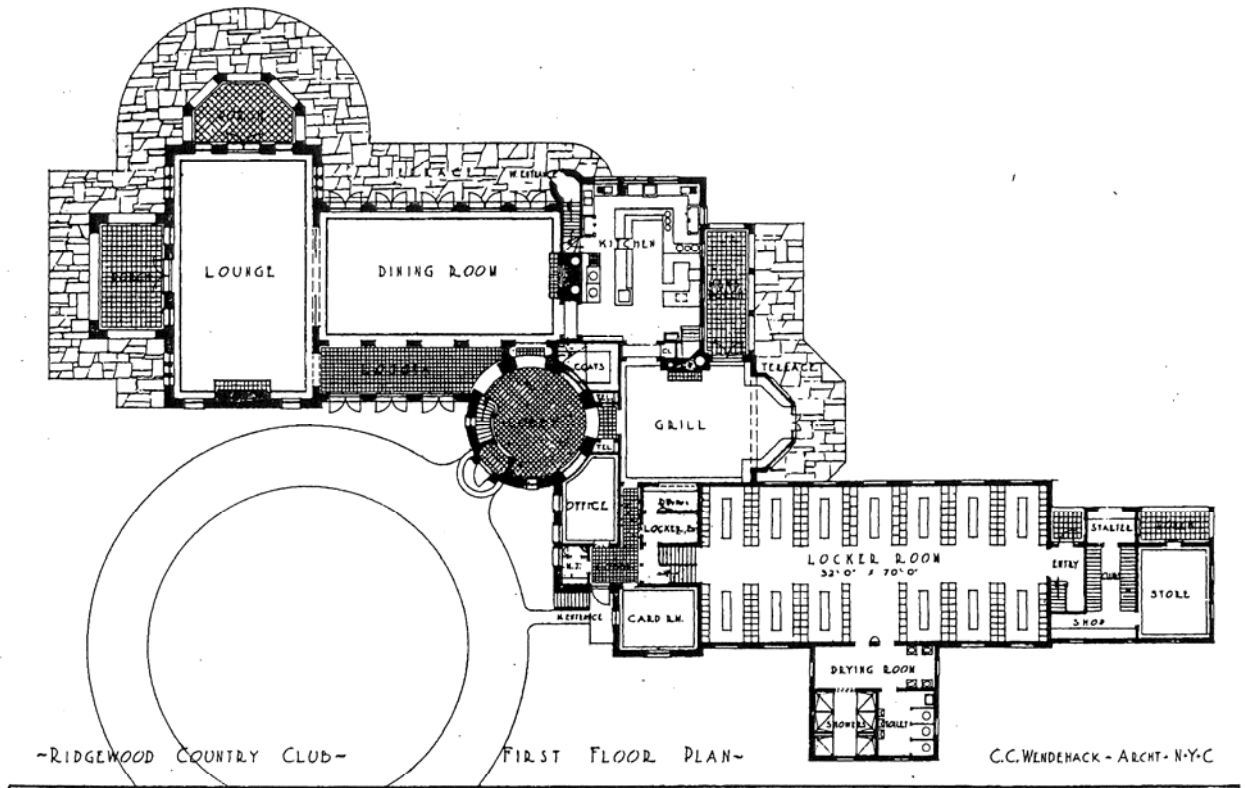


The porch and back side of the club.

Figure 12

**SOUTH ELEVATION, RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CLUBHOUSE
CA. 1929**

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



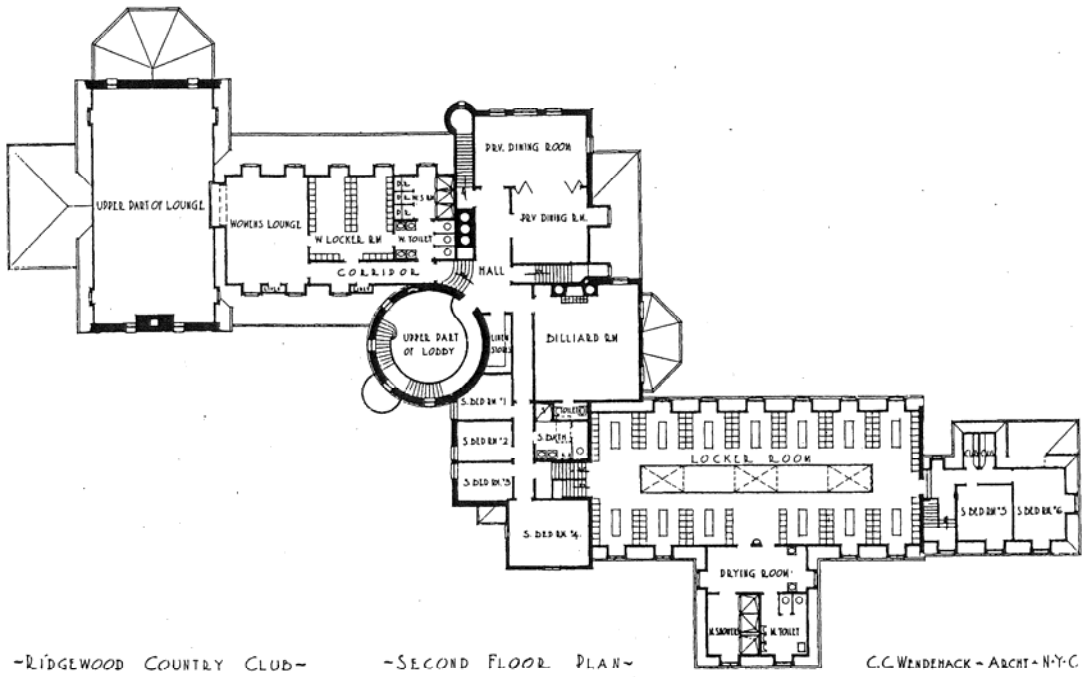
First Floor Plan

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB PARAMUS, N. J.
Clifford C. Wendehack, Architect

Figure 13

FIRST FLOOR PLAN, 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



-RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB-

-SECOND FLOOR PLAN-

C.C. WENDENACK - ARCHT. - N.Y.C.

Second Floor Plan

Figure 14

SECOND FLOOR PLAN, 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

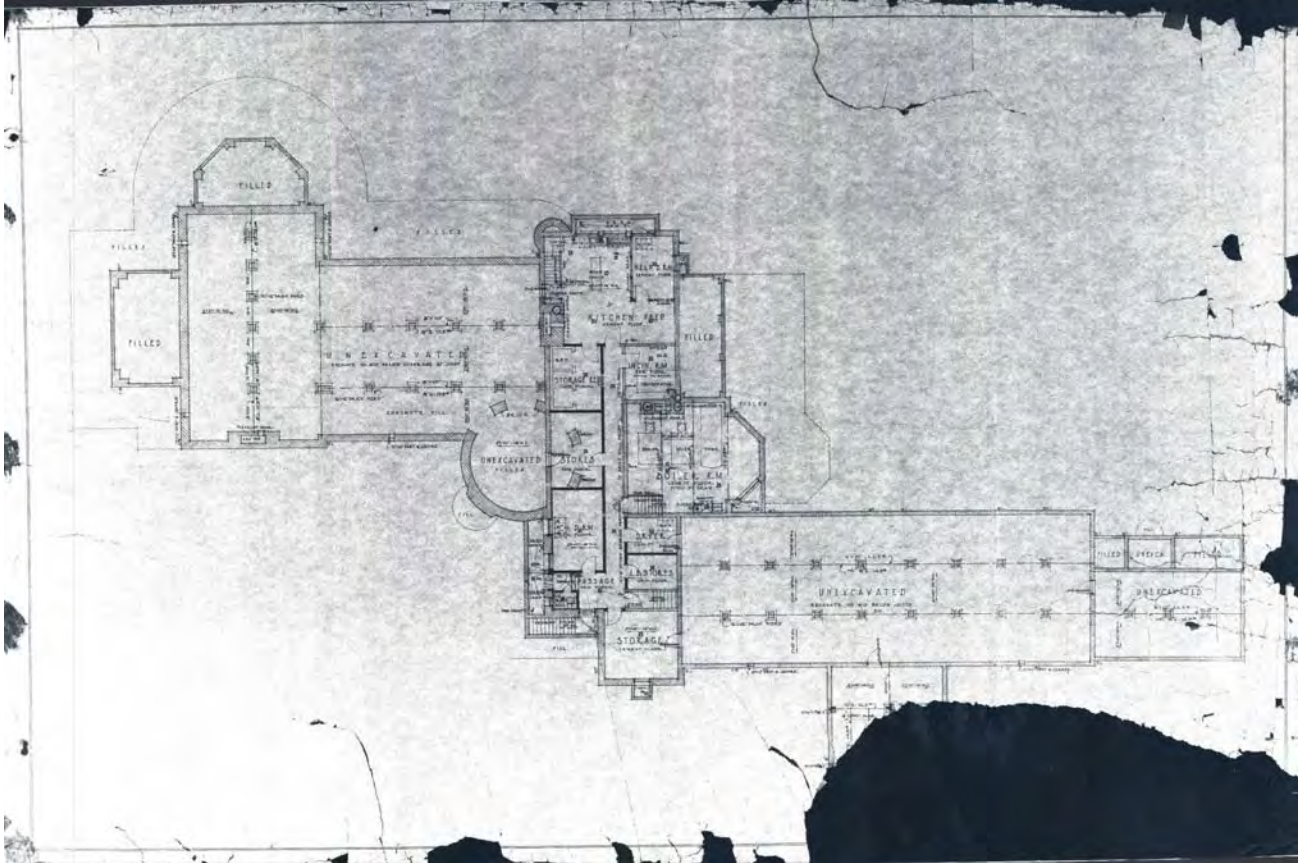


Figure 15

ORIGINAL BASEMENT PLAN BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

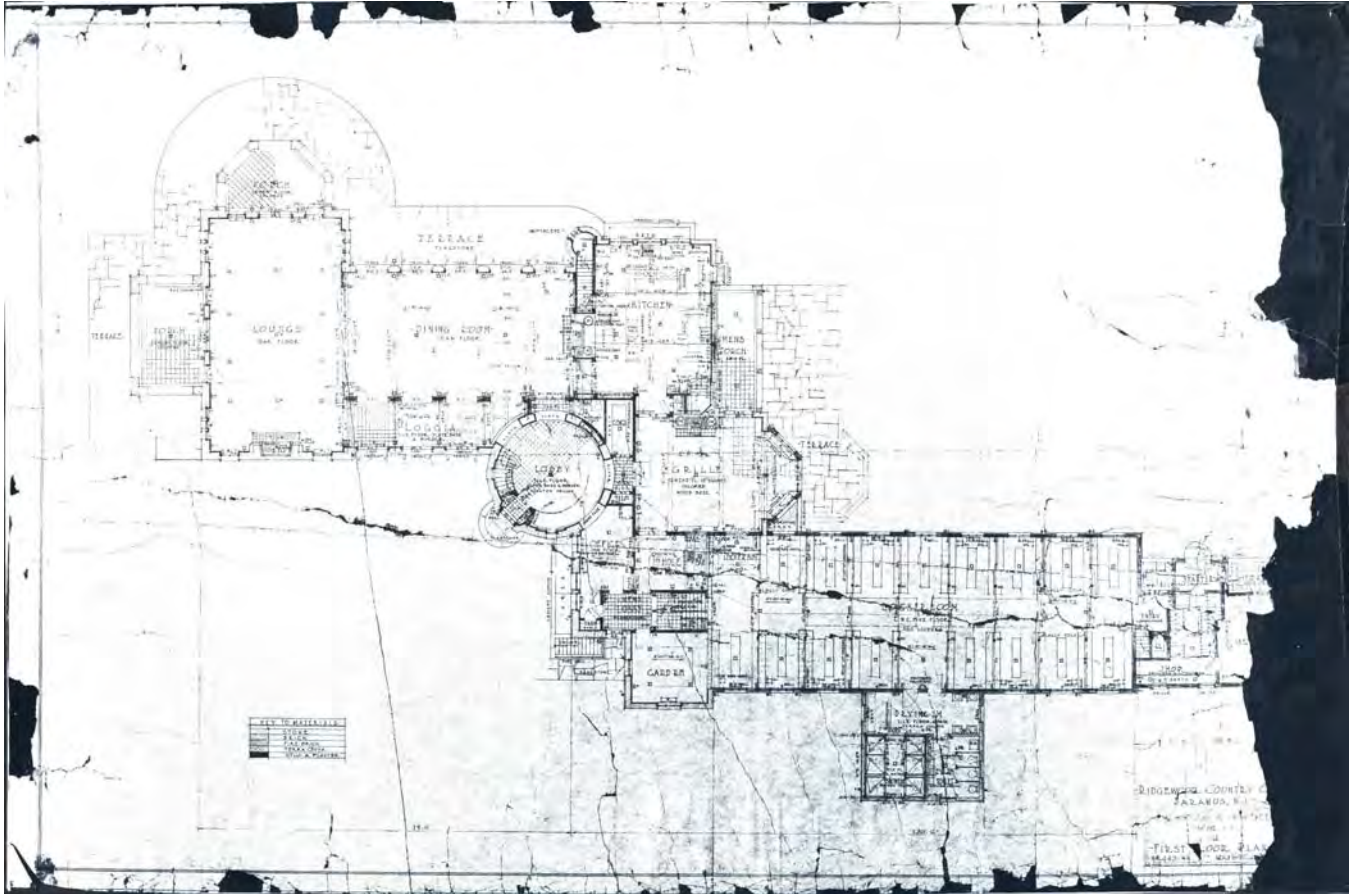


Figure 16

ORIGINAL FIRST FLOOR PLAN BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

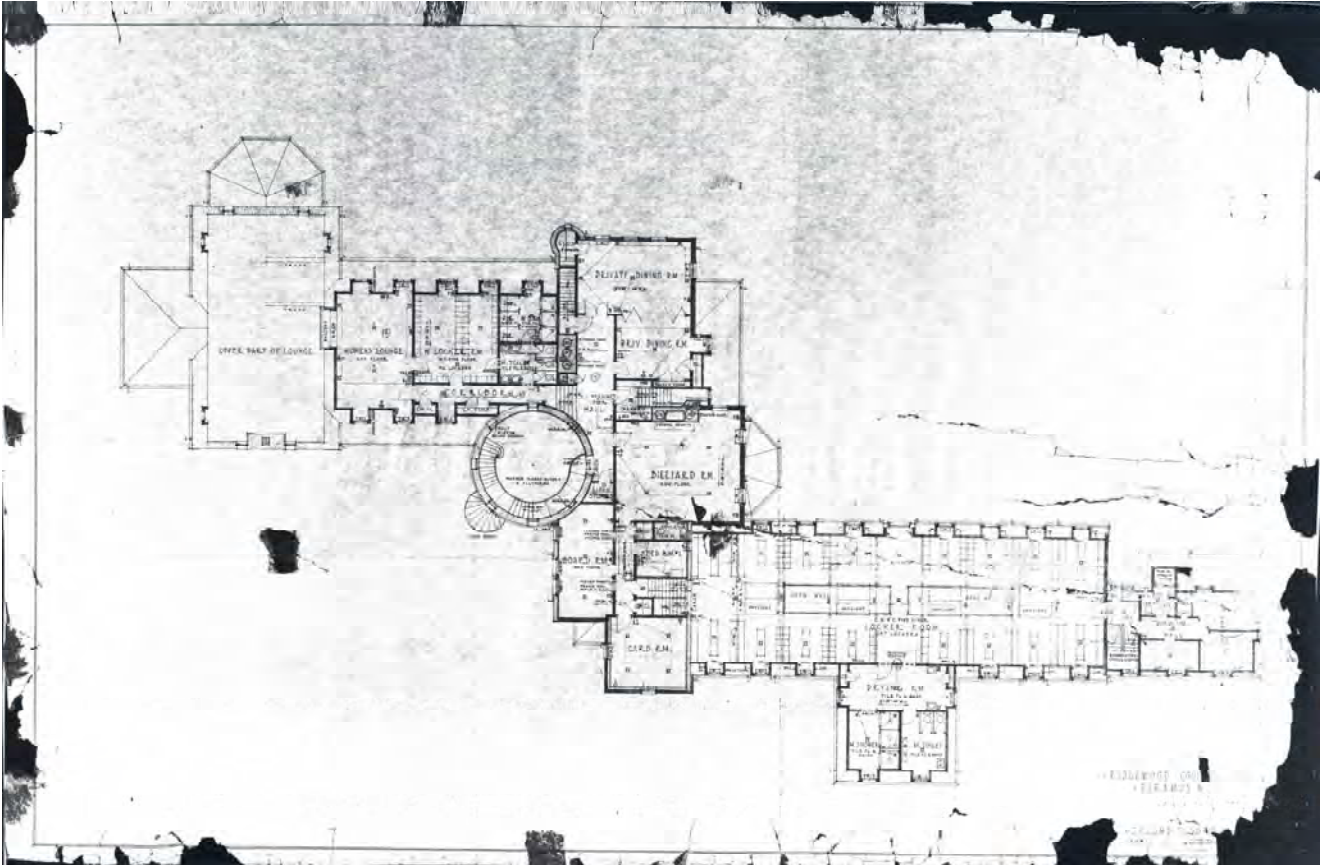


Figure 17

ORIGINAL SECOND FLOOR PLAN BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

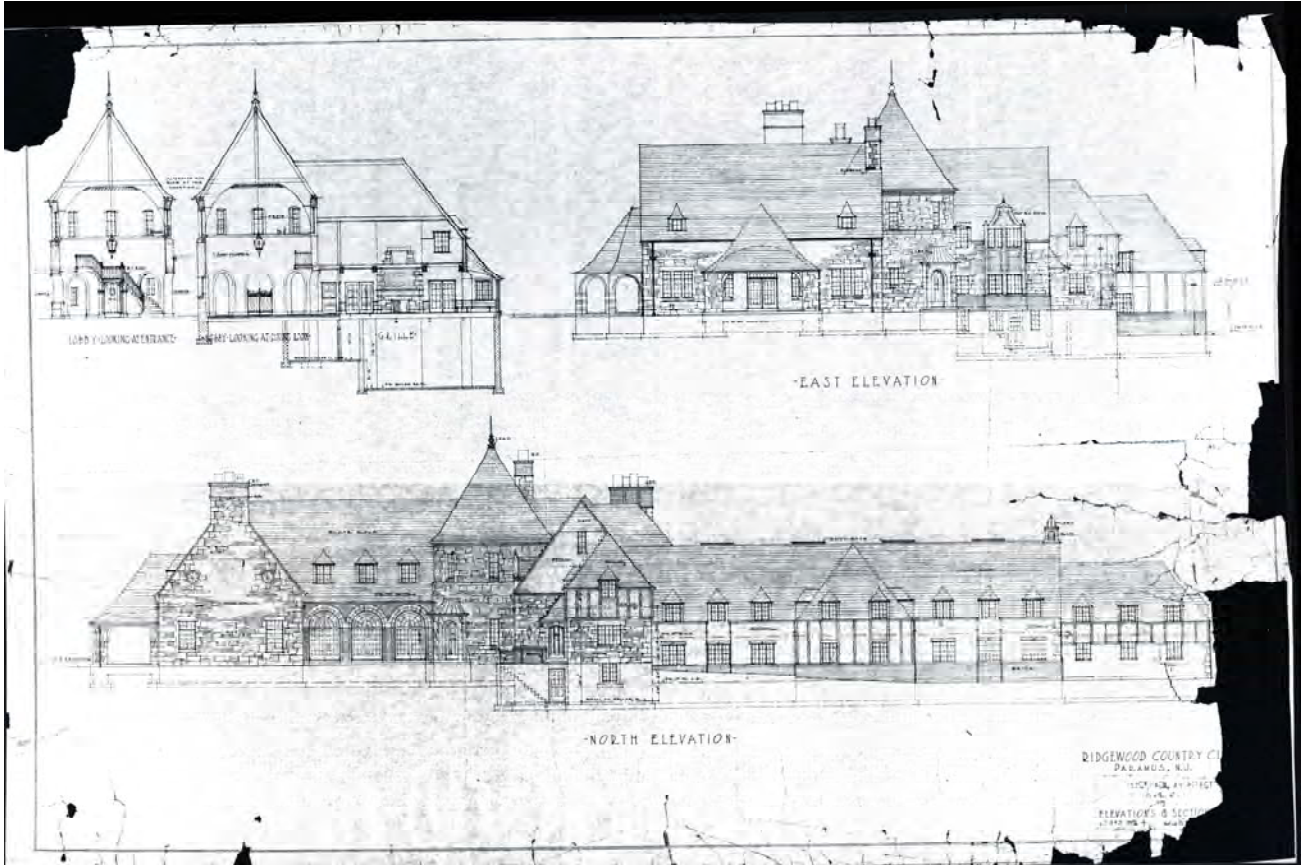


Figure 18

ORIGINAL EAST AND NORTH ELEVATIONS BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



Figure 19

ORIGINAL WEST AND SOUTH ELEVATIONS BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

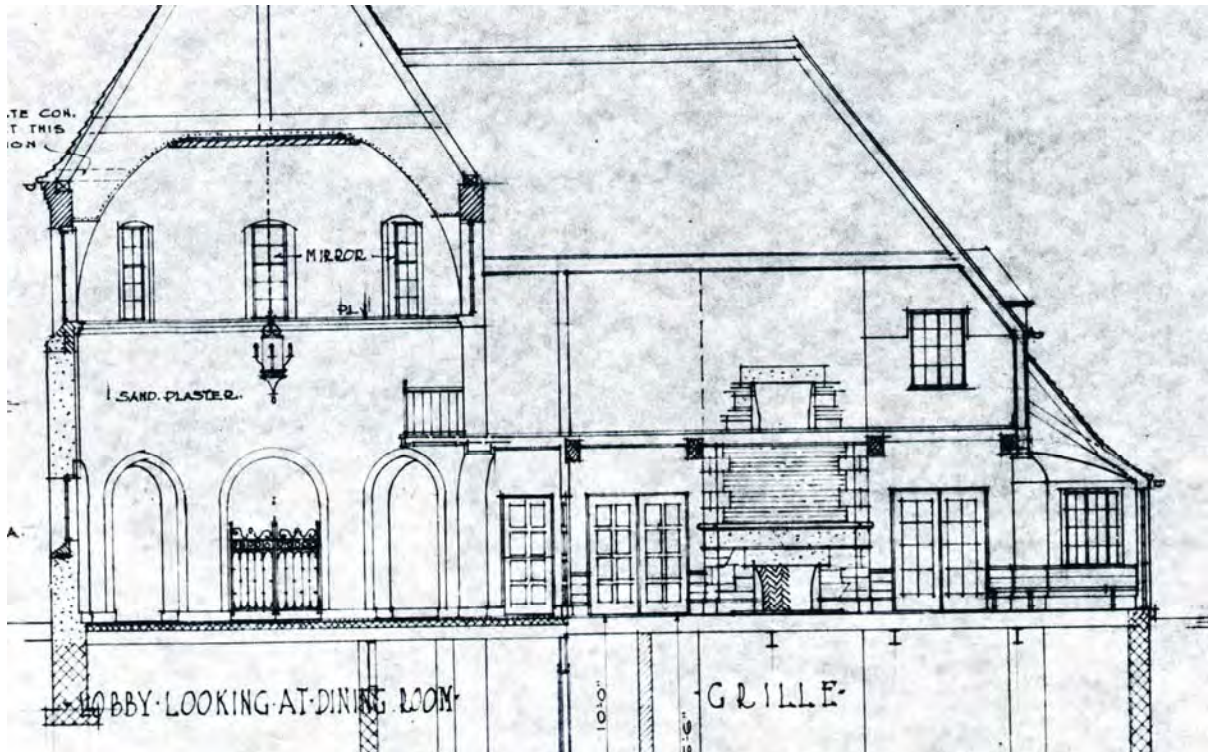


Figure 20

DETAIL OF LOBBY AND GRILLE (NOW BAR) BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

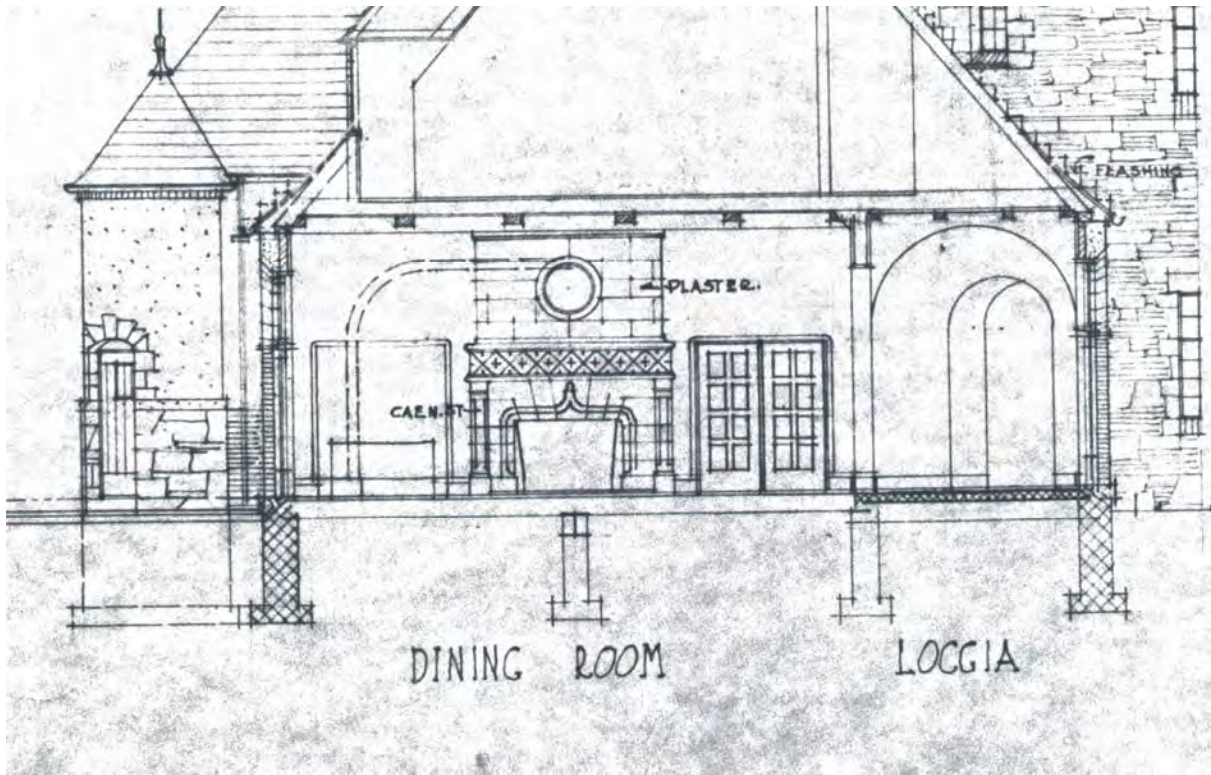


Figure 21

DETAIL OF DINING ROOM WEST WALL BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

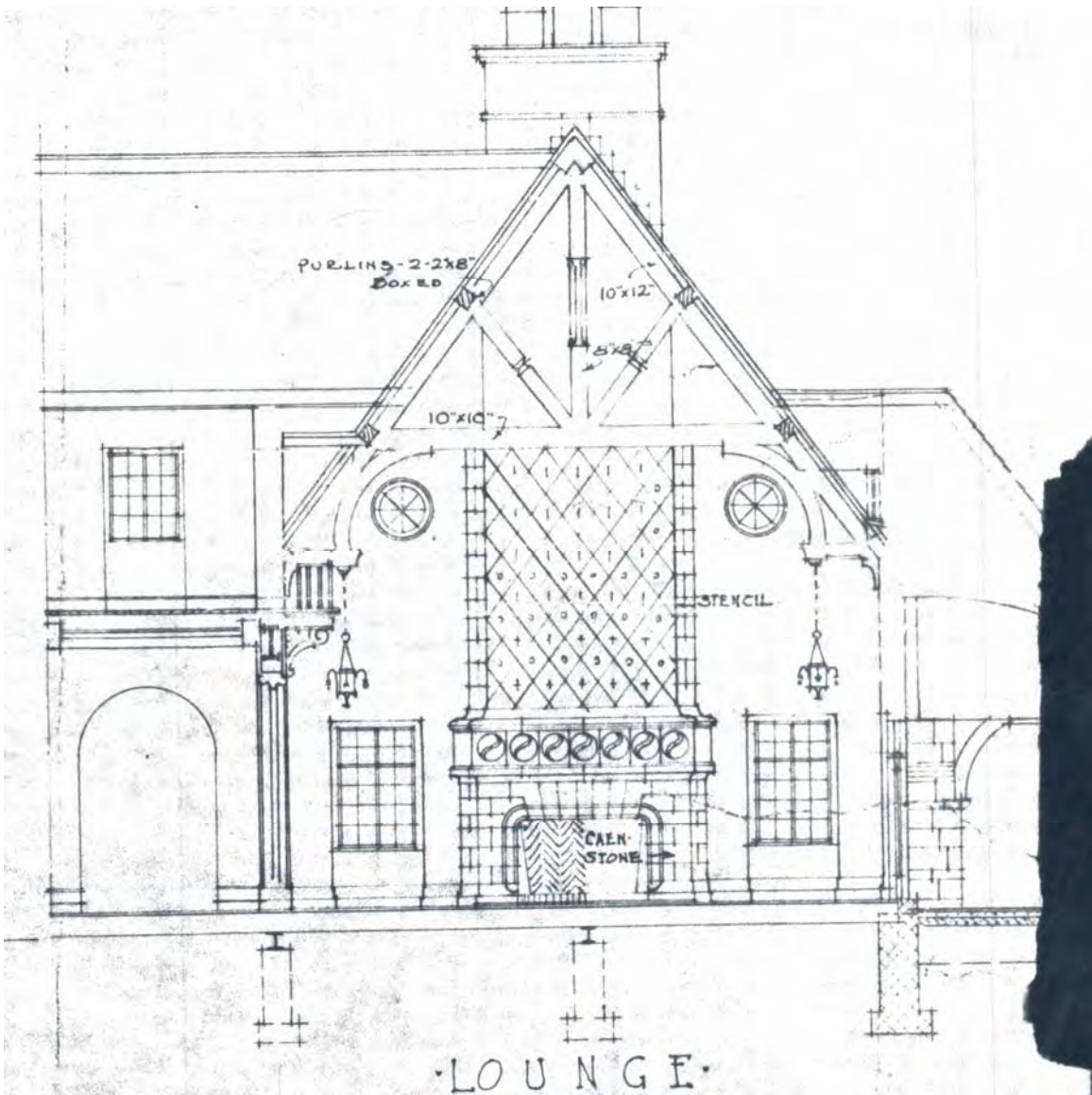


Figure 22

DETAIL OF LOUNGE NORTH WALL BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 23

VIEW TOWARD THE SWIMMING POOL
CA. 1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 24

ENTRANCE LOBBY
CA. 1929



Figure 25

LOUNGE
CA. 1929



Figure 26

MAIN DINING ROOM
CA. 1929



Figure 27

GUEST BEDROOM
CA. 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



Figure 28

WOMEN'S LOUNGE
CA. 1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 29

MEN'S LOUNGE
CA. 1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 30

ENTRANCE
CA. 1940



Figure 31

MAIN DINING ROOM, WITH PEACOCK ALLEY THROUGH ARCHES TO THE LEFT AND
LOUNGE THROUGH WIDE ARCH ON THE RIGHT
1940



Figure 32

ENTRANCE LOBBY

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates 2013



Figure 33

ENTRANCE LOBBY BALCONY AND CEILING

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates 2013



Figure 34

PEACOCK ALLEY (FORMERLY LOGGIA), 2009

Photo by Dan Demetriad from The Ridgewood Country Club: A History



Figure 35

TILLINGHAST LOUNGE IN LOWER PORTION OF ORIGINAL LOUNGE

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates photo 2013



Figure 36

WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM IN UPPER PORTION OF ORIGINAL LOUNGE, 2013
NOTE DECORATIVE ROOF FRAMING

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 37

MAIN DINING ROOM, 2009

Photo by Dan Demetriad from The Ridgewood Country Club: A History



Figure 38

TICKET FOR 1935 RYDER CUP MATCH



Figure 39

RYDER CUP MATCH, 1935, GARY SAREZEN ON 9 WEST



Figure 40

J. CLARK ESPIE AT 1957 USGA SENIOR AMATEUR



Figure 41

KATHY WHITWORTH, WINNER OF THE 1981 LPGA COCA COLA CLASSIC

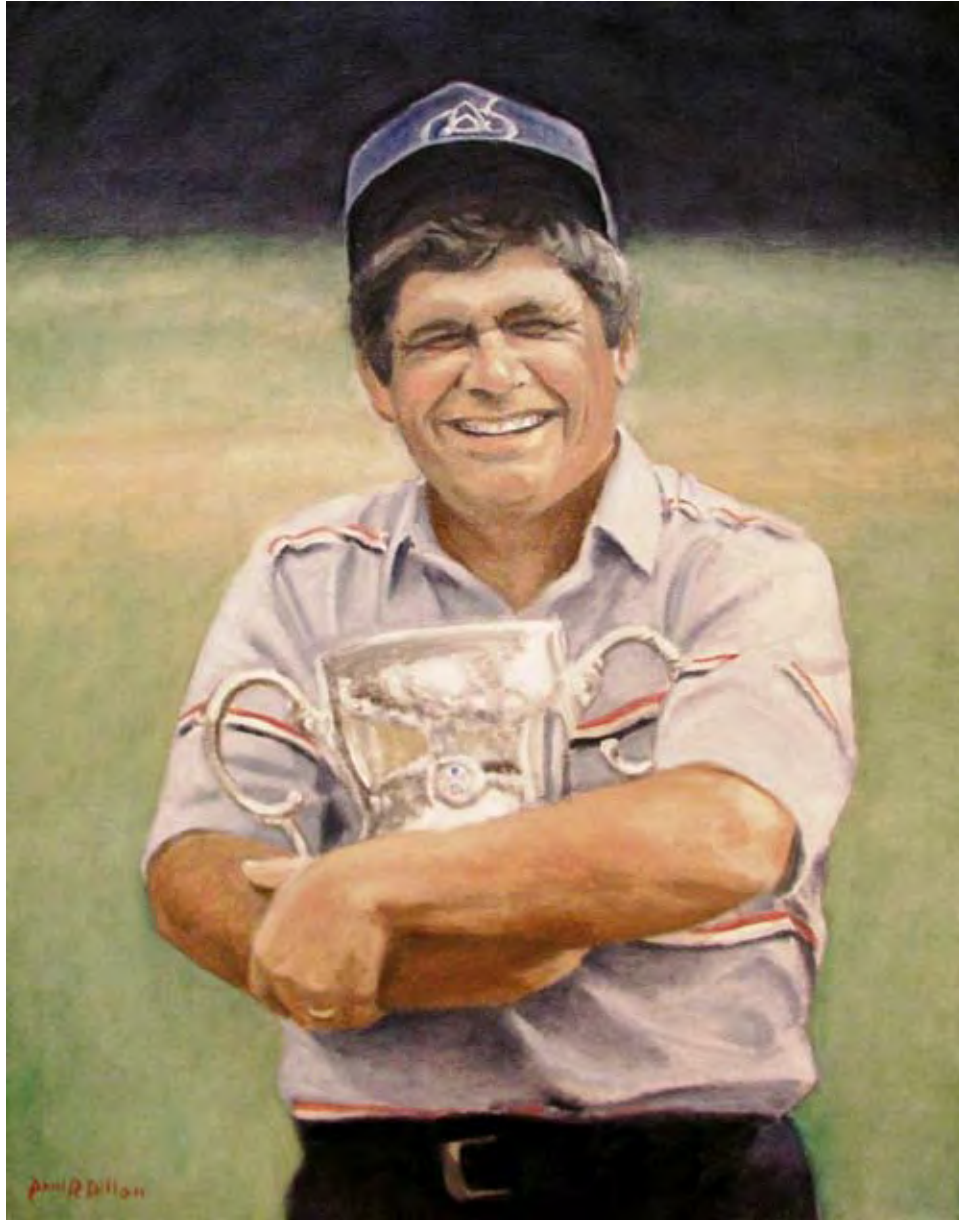


Figure 42

LEE TREVINO, WINNER OF THE 1990 USGA SENIOR OPEN

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 43

5 EAST, 1935

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 44

5 WEST, 1940

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 45

CONTRIBUTING: CLUBHOUSE



Figure 46

**CONTRIBUTING: BUILDING #1
(AT PARKING LOT)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 47

**CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS ATTENDANT'S BUILDING
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 48

**CONTRIBUTING: SHELTER
(ON ENTRANCE ROAD)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 49

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #6
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 50

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #7
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 51

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #8
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 52

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #3/4/5
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 53

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: STORM SHELTER
(BETWEEN 5W AND 7W FAIRWAYS)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 54

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION PUMPHOUSE
(BETWEEN 7W AND 8W FAIRWAYS)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 55

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOMS 1
(BETWEEN 4E AND 5E HOLES)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 56

NON-CONTRIBUTING; BUILDING #2
(ON ENTRANCE ROAD)

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 57

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: PUMPHOUSE 1
(BETWEEN 9E HOLE AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 58

**CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS PRO SHOP
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 59

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1977)
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 60

NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS BUILDING (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 61

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 62

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: WELL STRUCTURES FOR POND FEED
(BETWEEN 2E AND 9E HOLES)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 63

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 1
(BETWEEN 9E GREEN AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 64

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 2
(BETWEEN 9E GREEN AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 65

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 3
(BETWEEN 9E GREEN AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 66

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOM 2
(BETWEEN 2C HOLE, 3C TEE, AND 6C HOLE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

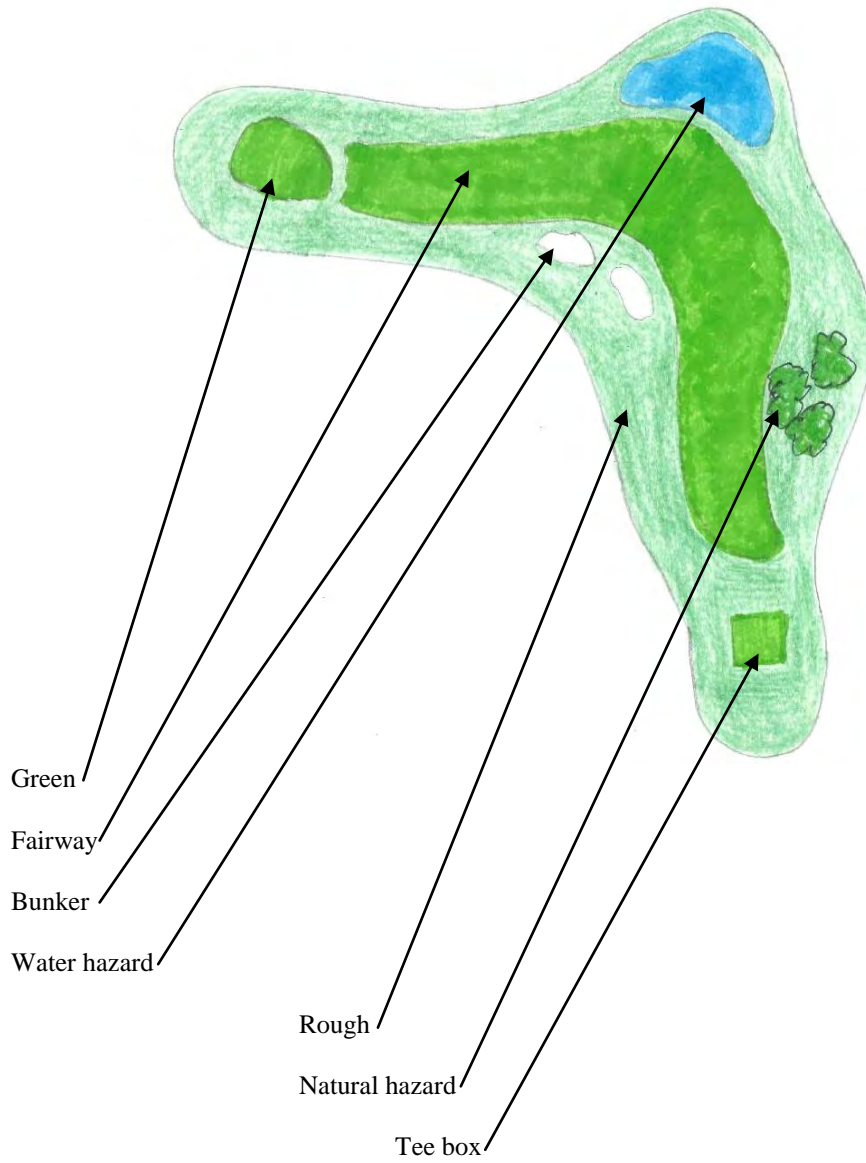


Figure 67

GOLF COURSE TERMINOLOGY

Watson & Henry Associates



Entrance - Original Configuration



Entrance - Current Configuration



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0001



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0002



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0003



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0004



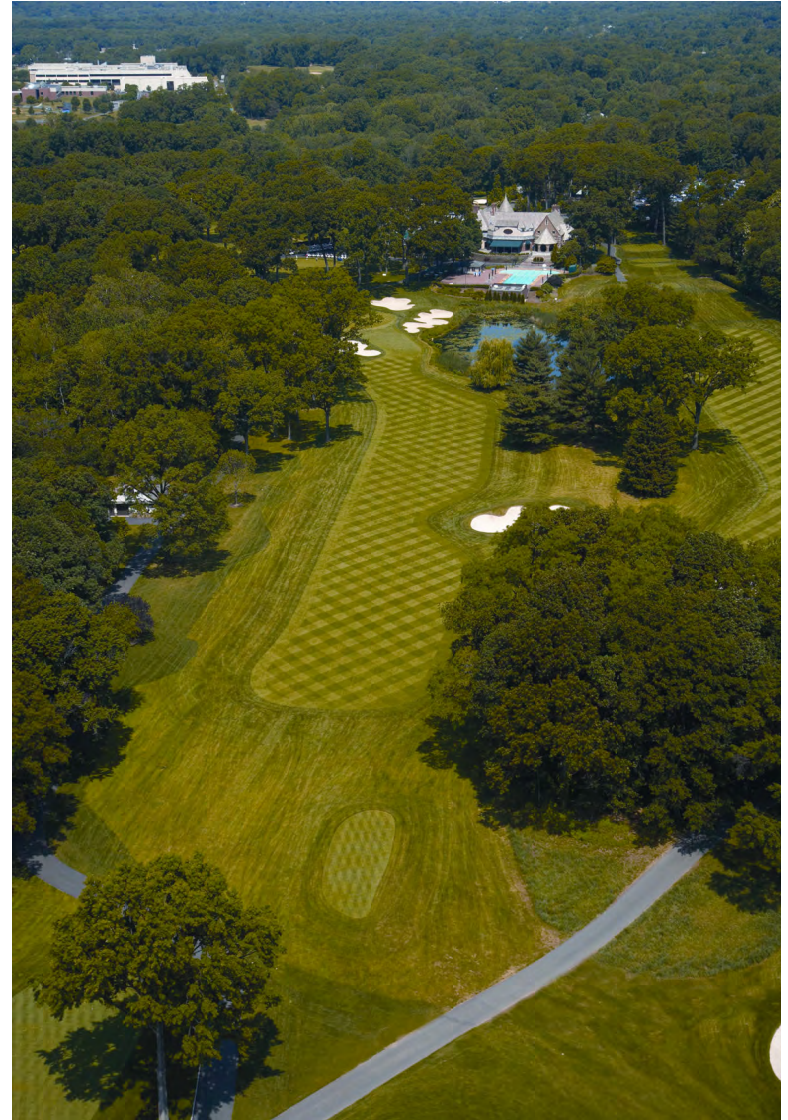
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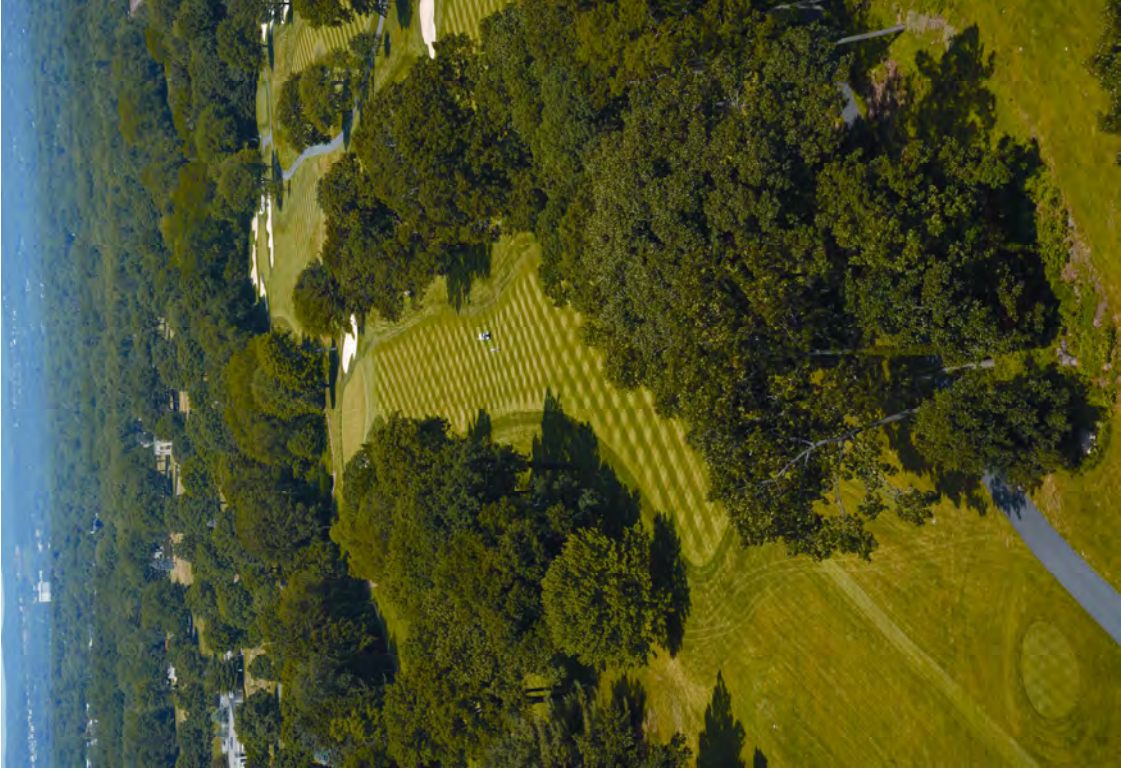
NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0006



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0008



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0007



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0009



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0010



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0011



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0012



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0013



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0014



NJ_Bergen County_Ridgewood Country Club_0015









Handwritten schedule or list on a sign posted on the shed wall.

Day	Time	Activity
Mon	7:00-8:00	Handball
Tue	7:00-8:00	Handball
Wed	7:00-8:00	Handball
Thu	7:00-8:00	Handball
Fri	7:00-8:00	Handball
Sat	7:00-8:00	Handball
Sun	7:00-8:00	Handball























National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Ridgewood Country Club

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Bergen

DATE RECEIVED: 4/17/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/02/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000222

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5-29-2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Addressed Return Comments
Significant at state & local levels - course designed by Master - A.W. Tillinghast. Clubhouse exemplary local example of Norman Review

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER J. Gabbey DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N Y see attached SLR Y/N N



Proj. #13-0170
HPO-B2014-181

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

Office of the Assistant Commissioner
MAIL CODE 501-03A
PO Box 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08625
609-292-3541/FAX: 609-984-0836

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor



February 20, 2014

Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Ridgewood Country Club, Paramus Borough, Bergen County, New Jersey.

This nomination has received unanimous approval from the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites. All procedures were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

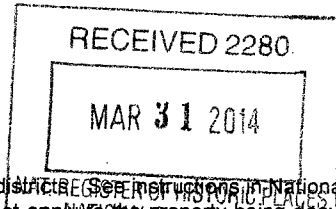
Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call him at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Ridgewood Country Club
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 96 West Midland Avenue not for publication
city or town Paramus Borough vicinity
state New Jersey code 034 county Bergen code 003 zip code 07652

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
___ national ___ statewide X local
R. H. Boony Ass't Commissioner 2/27/14
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
NJ DEP
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official Date
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:)
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Ridgewood Country Club

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Bergen

DATE RECEIVED: 3/06/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/21/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000222

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4/21/15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

No resubmission to review.

Requested revised nomination via email on 3/31/15 4/7/15

No response on 4/25/15

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Comments
Evaluation/Return Sheet
2nd Return**

Property Name: Ridgewood Country Club

Property Location: Bergen County, NJ

Reference Number: 14000222

Date of Return: 4/28/15

Nomination Summary

The Ridgewood Country Club nomination is being returned for technical reasons. The 3/6/15 resubmission for this property did not include a revised nomination form only a cover sheet, a photo disk, and the SHPO signature page.

Requests for the revised nomination were submitted via e-mail on 3/31/15 and on 4/7/15. Since nothing was received by the 45th day (4/21/15), this nomination is incomplete and is a return.

National Register of Historic Places
Lisa_Deline@nps.gov



HPO Proj. #13-0170
Chrono #: B2015-291

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

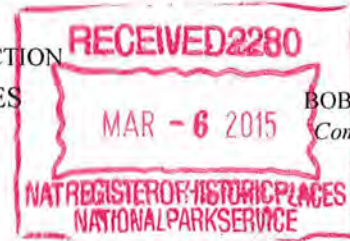
Office of the Assistant Commissioner

MAIL CODE 501-03A

PO Box 420

Trenton, New Jersey 08625

609-292-3541/FAX: 609-984-0836



BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

February 27, 2015

Lisa Deline
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Deline:

The New Jersey Historic Preservation Office is re-submitting the National Register nomination for the Ridgewood Country Club, in Bergen County, New Jersey—National Register reference number 14000222, for National Register consideration. The nomination was returned for substantive and technical issues; specifically for its level and areas of significance, for clarification of Tillinghast's course design history, and for accurate terms defining the elements of golf and the golf course. All changes have been made in compliance with your recommendations.

If you have any further questions or comments, please contact Bob Craig by email at bob.craig@dep.state.nj.us or by phone at (609) 984-0541.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian



HPO Proj. #13-0170
Chrono #: B2015-291

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

Office of the Assistant Commissioner

MAIL CODE 501-03A

PO Box 420

Trenton, New Jersey 08625

609-292-3541 / FAX: 609-984-0836



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Governor

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Lt. Governor

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National Register of Historic Places
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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1. Name of Property

historic name Ridgewood Country Club
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 96 West Midland Avenue not for publication
city or town Paramus Borough vicinity
state New Jersey code 034 county Bergen code 003 zip code 07652

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

Returned

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Rh Booy Asst Comm - 3/2/15
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
NJ Dep
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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national statewide local

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

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I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	15	buildings
27		sites
	4	structures
		objects
31	19	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

Returned

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

LANDSCAPE: Golf Courses

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

LANDSCAPE: Golf Courses

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th & 20th CENTURY REVIVALS

OTHER: Norman Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: _____

walls: STONE, BRICK

roof: SLATE

other: _____

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Ridgewood Country Club is comprised of three nine-hole golf courses, the East, Center and West, laid out in a clover-leaf pattern, and a Norman-revival style clubhouse, located on a 220- acre site in Paramus, Bergen County, New Jersey (figures 1 and 2). The one-and-a-half-story clubhouse with two-story entrance tower, located at the northern end of the property, is constructed primarily of brick and stone, with a textured slate roof and some detailing in faux half-timbered wood and stucco (figure 45, photos 1, 2, and 3). The rolling contours of the three golf courses constitute a designed landscape dating from the “Golden Age” of golf course architecture. Both the exterior of the clubhouse and the golf courses have a high degree of historic integrity.

Narrative Description

(See Continuation Sheet)

Returned

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

ENTERTAINMENT / RECREATION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1929-1935

Significant Dates

1929

1935

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N / A

Cultural Affiliation

N / A

Architect/Builder

Albert Warren Tillinghast, Designer, Golf Courses

Clifford Charles Wendehack, Architect, Clubhouse

Period of Significance (justification)

The clubhouse and the courses were completed and opened to members in the spring of 1929. Ridgewood Country Club's debut in the international arena occurred in 1935 when it was selected to host the third Ryder Cup Match to be held in the United States. This date coincided with the approximate date that Tillinghast's involvement with the courses ceased, and has been identified as the end date for the Period of Significance.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Returned

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Ridgewood Country Club is eligible with statewide significance under Criterion C as an exceptional example of Landscape Architecture for the design of its three nine-hole golf courses by Albert Warren Tillinghast, a seminal figure in golf course design and the development of the strategic course. It also is eligible with statewide significance under Criterion C in the category of Architecture for the design of its Norman-revival clubhouse by Clifford Charles Wendehack, the leading architectural designer of clubhouses in the United States and South America in the 1920s. The clubhouse and the courses were completed and opened to members in the spring of 1929, though Tillinghast continued to fine-tune details of the course design over the next several years. Ridgewood Country Club's debut in the international arena occurred in 1935 when it was selected to host the third Ryder Cup Match to be held in the United States. This date coincided with the approximate date that Tillinghast's involvement with the courses ceased, and has been identified as the end date for the Period of Significance.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

(See Continuation Sheet)

Returned

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Mayo, James M. *The American Country Club: Its Origins and Development*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1998.

Moss, Richard J. *Golf and the American Country Club*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2001.

Quirin, William. *The Ridgewood Country Club: A History*. Franklin, Virginia: Q Publishing LLC, 2009.

The Ridgewood Country Club. Pamphlet published by the Ridgewood Country Club, 1929.

Young, Philip. *Tillinghast: Creator of Golf Courses*. Pearl River, NY: Future Classics of Golf, 2005.

Wolffe, Richard C., Jr., "The Life and Times of A. W. Tillinghast," The Tillinghast Association website:
www.tillinghast.net.

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 220 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Lat: 40.949898 | Long: -74.080858 | 10. Lat: 40.944879 | Long: -74.072351 |
| 2. Lat: 40.946526 | Long: -74.082936 | 11. Lat: 40.945787 | Long: -74.073875 |
| 3. Lat: 40.945477 | Long: -74.081177 | 12. Lat: 40.946368 | Long: -74.073930 |
| 4. Lat: 40.941235 | Long: -74.085330 | 13. Lat: 40.947971 | Long: -74.076704 |
| 5. Lat: 40.934202 | Long: -74.073201 | 14. Lat: 40.948807 | Long: -74.076476 |
| 6. Lat: 40.939250 | Long: -74.073449 | 15. Lat: 40.949632 | Long: -74.078621 |
| 7. Lat: 40.941018 | Long: -74.072707 | 16. Lat: 40.949383 | Long: -74.078935 |
| 8. Lat: 40.943360 | Long: -74.072688 | 17. Lat: 40.949531 | Long: -74.079241 |
| 9. Lat: 40.943552 | Long: -74.072454 | 18. Lat: 40.949152 | Long: -74.079603 |

Returned

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the Ridgewood Country Club are equivalent to Block 3101 Lot 2 on the Paramus, NJ tax map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are the legal boundaries of the Ridgewood Country Club.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Penelope S. Watson
organization Watson & Henry Associates date January 2014
street & number 12 North Pearl Street telephone 856-451-1779
city or town Bridgeton state New Jersey zip code 08302
e-mail pwatson@watsonhenry.com

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Photographs of the Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, Bergen County, NJ were taken by Larry Lambrecht of Q Publishing, LLC (117 Gillette Court, Franklin, VA 23851) (Photos 1, 6-15) and Penelope Watson of Watson & Henry Associates (12 N. Pearl Street, Bridgeton, NJ 08302) (Photos 2-5).

1. Ridgewood Clubhouse, looking south, c. 2009
2. Ridgewood Clubhouse, looking north, 2013
3. Ridgewood Clubhouse lobby rotunda, 2013
4. Tennis Assistant's Building, looking north, 2013
5. Building #1, looking northwest, 2013
6. East Course, Hole #2, looking south, c. 2009
7. East Course, Hole #9, aerial view looking north, c. 2009
8. Center Course, Hole #1, aerial view looking southeast, c. 2009
9. Center Course, Hole #3, aerial view looking west, c. 2009
10. Center Course, Hole #5, looking east, c. 2009
11. Center Course, Hole #6, aerial view looking northwest, c. 2009
12. Center Course, Hole #6, looking southeast, c. 2009
13. West Course, Hole #4, aerial view looking west, c. 2009

Ridgewood Country Club
Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ
County and State

- 14. West Course, Hole #5, looking east, c. 2009
- 15. West Course, Hole #6, aerial view looking north, c. 2009

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Ridgewood Country Club
street & number 96 West Midland Avenue telephone _____
city or town Paramus Borough state NJ zip code 07652

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Returned

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Ridgewood Country Club

Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1

The property is an irregular parallelogram in form, set at an angle to the points of the compass. The entrance and clubhouse are located near the northern limit of the site, with the three golf course loops fanning out toward the southeast, the south, and the southwest. The property is entered by means of a half-mile-long drive known as Country Club Road, which runs south from West Midland Avenue.

The Ridgewood Country Club is bounded on the west by Bergen Community College and the Paramus Golf Club. To the east, beginning at the northern point, residential homes border a buffer area of Ridgewood Country Club-owned land that is in the out-of-bounds area of the golf course. Proceeding further south, a wooded area forms a buffer between the course and the backs of commercial businesses along State Highway 17. The George Washington Memorial Park, a cemetery, runs along the club's southern border. The Garden State Parkway borders the property at the southeast corner. The entire property is set off from adjacent properties by wide, mainly woodland buffers. The surrounding area in general is comprised of residential developments.

After previous facilities in Ho-Ho-Kus and Ridgewood, the Ridgewood Country Club moved to Midland Avenue in Paramus in 1929. When the move to Paramus was being planned, the Ridgewood Country Club retained the two foremost golf club designers of the day to plan the new facility: Albert Warren Tillinghast was selected to design the courses, and Clifford Charles Wendehack, AIA to design the clubhouse. The courses and clubhouse were completed in 1929. Both the clubhouse exterior and the courses are maintained in excellent physical condition; they retain a high degree of historic integrity in all seven criteria: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

THE CLUBHOUSE (CONTRIBUTING)

The clubhouse was designed by Clifford Wendehack in a Norman-revival style. He reportedly submitted more than fifty potential plans to the club for their selection.¹ Wendehack, who had studied architecture in France, England and Italy, wrote that

A search through the Northern Department of France suggested a surprising similarity in the terrain and landscape of that country with the new golf site of the Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, New Jersey. Normandy furnished abundant examples of simple, picturesque buildings of all descriptions; ample colored materials and a most charming combination of brick work combined with stone and other materials in a naïve simplicity to furnish inspiration for not only a club house, but in fact an entire village.²

The Norman revival style differentiated the Ridgewood clubhouse from those in other revival styles being built at the same time in the New York metropolitan area: "The Ridgewood Country Club, being an old and dignified organization, demanded a club house possessing some characteristic distinction befitting a discerning membership."³

The footprint of the 1929 clubhouse is essentially in the shape of a **W** (figures 13 through 17); at the base of the apex in the center is the round entrance tower. The clubhouse is brick, with horizontal bands and detailing of stone (figures 18, 19 and 45). The one-and-a-half-story primary mass is dominated by the two-and-a-half story

¹ William Quirin, *The Ridgewood Country Club: A History*, Franklin, Virginia: Q Publishing, 2009, p. 65.

² Clifford C. Wendehack, "A Normandy Club House," in *The Ridgewood Country Club*, pamphlet published by the Ridgewood Country Club, 1929, p. 10-11.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Ridgewood Country Club

Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 2

tower with conical roof surmounted by a copper finial. The textured slate roof, characterized as a “high mansard” by Wendehack, features jerkin-head dormers, with one bell-shaped wall dormer to the west of the entrance tower. The ridges of the four primary wings run perpendicular to one another.

The tower and adjacent wings constitute the primary L-shaped façade. The tower has the round-headed main entrance door on the first story, and three tall, small-paned windows at the second story. As originally constructed, the entrance was protected by “a lead marquis taking the place of the usual porte cochère” (figure 30).⁴ In 1988 the marquis was replaced by an actual porte cochère with a hipped slate roof, projecting off the tower at a diagonal to the main mass of the building, and supported by two wood posts braced with curved brackets.

The wing to the immediate east of the entrance tower, with a ridge running east-west, has three French doors with semicircular transoms on the first floor and three jerkin-head dormers with casement windows on the second. At the west end of the roof, behind the circular tower, a brick chimney with stone trim is centered on the ridge. On the south side, a five-bay semi-octagonal addition with French doors surmounted by semi-circular transoms extends the original dining room area, and a patio covered with an awning follows the outline of the building (photo 2).

This wing terminates at the easternmost three-bay-by-five-bay wing, which has a ridge running north-south. The two-bay gable end of this wing is integrated into the primary façade and features an end chimney centered on the ridge. A porch with brick piers on the east side of this wing has been enclosed with faux half-timber and stucco infill (photo 1); a second brick-piered porch on the south gable end remains open (figure 12). Both gable ends feature round windows at the second story, and the south end has a fixed leaded-glass window high in the gable. All other windows in the wing are casements.

According to architect Wendehack, “The porches which overlook every vista of the course, are designed as an integral part of the building and are adapted from the lean-to’s and sheds so abundantly found in the court yards of the smaller French Chateaux.”⁵

The three-bay wing to the immediate west of the entrance tower runs north-south, and features the bell-shaped wall dormer, and a small wall dormer directly adjacent to the tower. There are three casement windows on the first story, two in the wall dormer, and one in the small dormer.

The fourth, westernmost wing has a faux gable roof with a low-slope area behind the steep slope. Originally, this wing was set back several feet to the west from the façade the wing to the west of the tower; this area has been infilled with a faux half-timbered and stuccoed hipped-roofed addition, partially open on the first story to form an entrance porch to the men’s locker room. The addition and the wing have jerkin-head wall dormers with casement windows. At the south intersection of the two wings, the building has been expanded to accommodate a second dining room, and a terrace has been built to the west beyond the addition; the addition is clad in stucco. As Wendehack wrote of this wing:

The gradation to less formality toward the locker room end is carried out by the employment of larger stucco areas and an increased amount of brick in the surface of the walls in these portions of the building,

⁴ Ibid., p. 11.

⁵ Ibid., p. 12.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Ridgewood Country Club

Name of Property

Bergen County, NJ

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 3

and a sparse use of thin irregular structural timber exposed at prominent points, lends a feeling of informality in that portion of the building where this quality is supposed to exist.⁶

This wing was expanded with a two-story addition in 1954-55 to enlarge the Men's Locker Room.

Of the plan, Wendehack wrote: "Aside from the entrance lobby, the traditions of the style do not affect the plan of the club house, and the most workable sequence of parts are <sic> employed to produce the most up-to-date and flexible club plan possible, eliminating all unnecessary and expensive hallways and passages."⁷

On the interior, the circular entrance lobby with a staircase rising counter-clockwise along the wall is the core of the building (figures 24, 32 and 33). In Wendehack's words:

The entrance lobby is approximately twenty-three feet in diameter and two stories in height and contains a circular iron stairway winding gracefully up to a balcony on the second floor level. The floor of the lobby is tiled in a deep buff gray toned hard flint tile, which is brilliant in color but easy to maintain.⁸

The entrance lobby is the least altered of the public spaces, and remains essentially unchanged, except for replacement of the original flint tile floor with stone pavers. The stairway has been carpeted for reasons of safety.

Opening off the lobby to the east is the corridor originally known as the loggia, and now called Peacock Alley. As is true of the interiors of all the public spaces, the original décor was based on the Norman revival style: "The loggia [is] treated with the utmost simplicity, starting from the buff tiled floor with black slate base and border surmounted by a rough plastered vaulted treatment of cool neutral tones."⁹

In the 1954-55 renovation, the loggia was redecorated in a Colonial revival style, with carpeted floor, paneled arches, wood coffered ceiling, and smooth-plaster walls (figure 34).

Parallel to Peacock Alley and opening off it through five arched openings is the Main Dining Room. Originally, "the dining room [was] finished in rough sand plaster, colorful in treatment with five high arched openings on each side; a decorative beamed ceiling thirteen feet high and a huge fireplace at the north end, adopted from the chateau at Blois, complete the decorative treatment of this room."¹⁰ This room also had a hardwood floor, and decorative retractable iron gates closed off the dining room from the lounge (figures 21, 26, and 31).

The Main Dining Room was renovated in 1954-55 in Colonial revival style (figure 28). The fireplace mantel is Greek revival in style, with flanking half-round pilasters; the entire fireplace wall is clad with wood paneling. The floor is carpeted, and the room has a wood coffered ceiling. When the dining room was expanded to the south in 1988, the French doors on the south side were relocated to the new exterior wall, and the original wall was opened up through the center three of its five arched openings being combined into one large opening.

At the east end of Peacock Alley and the Main Dining Room is the Tillinghast Lounge, occupying the entire

⁶ Ibid., p. 12.

⁷ Ibid., p. 12.

⁸ Ibid., p. 12.

⁹ Ibid., p. 13.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 13.

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eastern-most wing (figure 35). This room was originally two stories (figures 22 and 25), with a hardwood floor, and, as described by Wendehack,

with high timbered trusses and decorative ceiling...A high <sic> stone fireplace with a high over-mantle dominates the entire end of this room, while the other two sides are thrown open with wide doors to the porches and terraces...Color obtained by painted decoration and in the textures of the materials, [is] the dominant note of this room.

The women's lounge on the second floor had a balcony overlooking the main lounge.¹¹

In 1954-55 a floor was inserted in the lounge at the second story level to expand the women's locker room. The décor of the lounge was redone in a Colonial revival style, with a Federal-style mantel, wood coffered ceiling, smooth plaster walls and carpeted floor (figure 35). Most of the trusses remain intact in the locker room, though the curved braces have been removed (figure 36).

Just west of the entrance lobby is the bar; this room was the grill in 1929 (figure 20), and was later known as the Century Room. Beyond the bar, the building was expanded in 1954-55 to accommodate a new informal dining room. The grillroom was expanded once again in 1988 following a serious fire. In 1988, the club undertook a major construction project, renovating the kitchen, and expanding the grillroom; the room is now known as the Champions' Grille. The grill opens onto the expanded west terrace, also used for dining. The 1988 Member's Grill (now The Grille) is situated on the ground floor below the Champions' Grille.

The men's locker room, the kitchen, and the pro shop also are located in the west wings. The Jacobus Lounge, remodeled in 2006, is located off the lower Men's Locker Room. This was initially called the Men's Grill (figure 29), and in the 1990s was known as the Trophy Room. In the late 1940s it held the club's only bar.

On the second floor, the women's locker room and lounge (figure 28) are located above Peacock Alley and the Main Dining Room, with the expanded women's locker room above the Tillinghast Lounge. The original private dining rooms in the south end of the west wing adjacent to the lobby are now the President's Room, and the Billiard Room has been converted to offices. The far west wing continues to house the upper level of the Men's Locker Room.

BUILDING #1 (CONTRIBUTING)

Building #1 is a two-bay-by-seven-bay, two-story, hipped-roofed, frame structure with a poured concrete foundation; a one-store hipped-roofed wing is centered on the rear elevation (photo 5). The roofing is textured slate, and the building is clad with waney-edge weatherboards painted dark brown. On the front elevation, the slope of the roof continues down to the first story level over the three center bays to form a porch, supported on two wood posts with gunstock brackets; a jerkin-head dormer is set in the roof of the porch. Gable vents pierce the side roof slopes. Windows feature double-hung six-over-six sash.

Building #1 was part of the 1929 construction project. Wendehack based its design on a Norman vernacular building; he saw it as reminiscent of a village building adjacent to a Norman manor house. The building was originally built for staff housing. It is now used for housing, with a workshop on the first floor.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 13.

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TENNIS ASSISTANT’S BUILDING (CONTRIBUTING)

The Tennis Assistant’s Building was part of the 1929 construction, and it, too, is based on a Norman vernacular building. The building continues to serve in its original use. The Tennis Assistant’s Building is a one-bay-by-two-bay, one-story hipped-roofed, frame structure with a poured concrete foundation (photo 4). On the front elevation, the east bay projects beyond the plane of the façade and features a gable roof. The roofing is textured slate, and the building is clad with waney-edge weatherboards painted dark brown. The overhang of the front gable protects the entrance, and the base of the gable is supported on brackets. The windows are horizontally-oriented rectangles with one fixed pane.

ENTRANCE ROAD SHELTER (CONTRIBUTING)

The Entrance Road Shelter is a one-bay-by-two-bay, one-story gable-roofed, cinder-block structure, painted brown, with the ridge parallel to the road (figure 48).¹² A block chimney is centered on the roof ridge at the north gable end. On the front elevation, the slate roof projects with an over-hanging eave, providing protection to the one large door opening that dominates the façade. The opening is currently secured with a garage-type door. Two windows on the south gable end are boarded up.

The original use of the building has not been identified. It is currently used for storage.

THE GOLF COURSES

DEFINITIONS

For readers not familiar with golf courses and golf terminology, the following definitions are offered to make the descriptions more meaningful (figure 67). In general terms, a hole is the assemblage of a tee, a fairway, and a green, with the option of hazards to make play more challenging. A tee or tee box is the flat, mown area where players tee off to start a hole. The fairway is the part of the course covered with short grass that extends from the tee to the putting green. The rough is the part of the course, usually bordering the fairway, where the grass is longer than that of the fairway; the grass in the rough can be only slightly or much longer than that of the fairway. A hazard is an obstacle between the tee and the green that increases the difficulty of the game. Hazards come in three types: a bunker is a hollow, usually comprised of sand; a water hazard can be a lake, pond or stream; a natural hazard is an obstacle such as dense vegetation. The green is the closely mown area where the flag and cup (the actual hole) are located. The flag and cup are moved from place to place on the green, generally on a daily basis.

SUMMARY HISTORY

Ridgewood Country Club is now in the fourth location it has occupied since it was founded as Ho-Ho-Kus Golf Club in 1893. The current three nine-hole courses were designed by A. W. Tillinghast between the time he helped the club select the site in 1926, and the grand opening in the spring of 1929; they remain essentially as they were designed.

A. W. Tillinghast developed and promoted the concept of “the course beautiful,” by which he meant a course in harmony with its natural setting, where natural features are incorporated as greens, bunkers and natural hazards;

¹² The material is true cinder block, not concrete block.

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his regard for natural appearance led to a corresponding aversion for straight lines and right angles. His design for the Ridgewood Country Club reflects the principles he espoused: no artificial mounds, no bunkers built above the ground, fairways and greenside bunkers constructed down into the ground as if placed by nature. Tillinghast's commission at the Ridgewood Country Club gave him a rare opportunity to play a role in choosing the land on which the course he would integrate into nature would be constructed.

Perhaps Tillinghast's greatest contribution to golf course design was his part in the development of the strategic course. In the early decades of golf, courses tended to follow the penal concept, in which there is only one route from tee to green, and a player is penalized for any deviation from that path. Tillinghast and his contemporary Donald Ross were innovators in the strategic layout, where a player must make a decision, weighing perhaps a shorter route against an increased risk of encountering a particular hazard. Tillinghast designed holes where shot-making is paramount, and placement on the fairway is an essential part of the game. This strategic approach affected all aspects of his designs, including the placement and form of tees, the placement of bunkers, the shape of fairways, and the configuration of greens.

One of Tillinghast's innovative ideas was to design tees that were basically large level areas, providing various opportunities for placing tee-markers, instead of the small, mathematically precise tees that were common previously. Tillinghast's tees were sloped very gently into the surrounding landscape so they would blend harmoniously.

In Tillinghast's time greens tended to be flat, sunken areas in the fairways that were not visible from afar, and that collected water. Tillinghast chose to use natural contours wherever possible; he constructed greens that were in harmony with the surrounding topography. As his design career progressed, he developed a preference for small, closely guarded greens, usually sloping from back to front.

Tillinghast's fairways might be wide, but with a right and a wrong side. Landing on the right side facilitates the path to the green, while landing on the wrong side calls into play a carefully-located hazard such as a bunker or tree.

Tillinghast is perhaps best known for his bunkers. Tillinghast disapproved of the then-common placement of bunkers in echelon (parallel lines) and never used them in his own designs. There is no typical Tillinghast bunker; almost every one is a unique design. For Tillinghast, the bunker was an opportunity for an artistic creation, and each was designed to be harmonious with its setting; the pattern of bunkers for each hole was designed for the requirements of that hole. Tillinghast's use of bunkers reflects his belief that a golf course should be designed to provide a challenge to the most skilled players, while at the same time providing an enjoyable experience to the less skilled and beginning golfers. One of his key strategies was the judicious use of bunkers; he called them "duffer headaches." While other designers filled their courses with expensive-to-maintain bunkers, Tillinghast used them sparingly to challenge the best golfers and reduce frustration for the less skilled golfers.

Tillinghast's design for Ridgewood Country Club is a demonstration of a strategic plan. On most holes, Tillinghast allows one opening to the green for a running shot. These are usually at an angle, favoring an approach from one particular side of the fairway. On some short holes, the green is surrounded by bunkers, which must be played over.

Minor changes were made in the first years under Tillinghast's supervision. A salt marsh between 1 East and 9

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East was allowing salt to be tracked onto the greens and fairways by players retrieving lost balls, and causing a soil imbalance. Tillinghast’s solution was to build a pond between the 1 East and 9 East fairways, and use the fill to eradicate the salt marsh.

Golf courses, as all designed landscapes, evolve over time. Mowing patterns over the years gradually change fairway and bunker boundaries; trees grow into unintended hazards, or are lost to hurricanes. At Ridgewood Country Club, since the 1980s, a sustained effort has been made to return the courses wherever possible to Tillinghast’s original design.

Restoration was emphasized most recently in Gil Hanse’s 2001 Master Plan, which called for resurrecting some lost bunkers, and restoring greens, fairways and bunkers based on a 1935 aerial photograph. The bunkers Tillinghast designed were much rougher in appearance than is the custom today; some even had sand worked into the surrounding grass to simulate windblown sand. Over the years, the bunkers at the Ridgewood Country Club had become less organic in shape as a result of routine maintenance. Between 2002 and 2006, almost every bunker on the course was reworked to restore its original shape.

In addition, the game of golf has changed over the past century as modern technology has altered clubs and balls. Equipment was already evolving in the early twentieth century when Tillinghast was designing courses, and he realized that the status quo would not endure. He deliberately laid out his courses so that holes were slightly angled from one another, and tees could be lengthened on one hole without impinging on the green of the hole before; this has allowed Tillinghast’s courses to be kept current with an evolving game in a manner he intended at the time of design. The added tees at Ridgewood Country Club can be considered part of Tillinghast’s original design strategy.

Tillinghast’s philosophy of anticipating change also encompasses the recent relocation of some bunkers, based on the 2001 Master Plan. Driving lengths have increased as a result of modern equipment, and some of Tillinghast’s bunker locations no longer presented obstacles, as they were easily cleared. Some bunkers have been returned to their original intended impact on the hole by moving them further down the fairway, where they once again present the planned impediment.

For championship matches such as the Barclays, a course has been configured out of the most challenging holes from all three of the club courses; it is known as the Championship Course. The 18 holes included in the Championship Course are identified and numbered beneath the par, distance, and name of each hole in the individual course descriptions below.

EAST COURSE

The East Course is laid out with the first four holes running generally southeast away from the clubhouse along the east property line, and holes five through nine looping back toward the north.

HOLE 1 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 380 YARDS) ADAM

(HOLE 1 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Hole 1 East is a straight-forward par 4. The fairway has a generous landing space for tee shots, guarded by a pond and oak trees on the right. A cross bunker stretches across the fairway from the left side about sixty yards from the green. The large green is well bunkered and Tillinghast incorporated a deceptive uphill slope from left

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to right.

The adjacent pond was created by Tillinghast after the completion of the course. It was constructed from a preexisting salt marsh that was causing deterioration of the fairway and green through soil imbalance for this hole as well as 9 East when players retrieving balls tracked salt onto the course.

This hole's proximity to the clubhouse resulted in a change following a 1936 addition to the building; wayward balls from the tee were continually breaking windows in the addition (and going into the swimming pool). As a remedy, the tee was moved forward.

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 2 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 190 YARDS) WATER

(HOLE 2 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This downhill hole is played to a green protected by bunkers to the right and left (photo 6). The contoured green slopes from back to front. The green, with its slope and contours, is characteristic of Tillinghast. Part of his strategic plan here was to make the bunkers on the left deeper and more troublesome than those on the right.

About 1975, a spring that turned the rear left bunker into a small pond was capped by Rees Jones. The high rough that had grown up in front of the green was removed as part of the Hanse Master Plan to restore the course to the Tillinghast design. A new pro tee box was built in 1996, and a new pro tee was added in 2006.

HOLE 3 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 593 YARDS) GORILLA

(HOLE 3 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This is a classic Tillinghast par 5 hole. Though the fairway is close to a line of trees on the left, the ball must be kept to the left on the second shot, as the fairway makes a subtle right turn. The narrow, undulating, multi-tier green is well-guarded by bunkers. Players who keep their ball to the left have the opportunity to bounce a shot onto the green; those on the right have to fly their shot over menacing bunkers.

Tillinghast himself made the first alteration to this hole in 1932, when he moderated the severe back-to-front slope of the green on the lowest tier. Later, one large bunker on the left side was divided into two smaller bunkers. A stream running in front of the tee was routed to a buried pipe in 1979 by Rees Jones. A new forward tee was built in 2002; a new back tee, in 2008; and a new forward tee, in 2012.

HOLE 4 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 444 YARDS) BOG

(HOLE 4 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Hole 4 East features a dogleg to the left, made more difficult to navigate by a deep rough and a line of trees to the left, and a row of large oak trees on the right. The green is another Tillinghast signature design, with a false front and hard-to-read speed and breaks.¹³

¹³ A "false front" is a front portion of a green that slopes down toward the fairway, so called because a golf ball that hits such a false front is most likely to roll backwards, down into the fairway. Therefore, the golfer must carry his golf ball beyond the front of such a green in order to ensure that it remains on the green.

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A new pro tee was been added in 2005, and a new forward tee in 2012.

HOLE 5 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 440 YARDS) KNUCKLE
(HOLE 9 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This uphill hole has a green that slopes sharply left to right and back to front. The fairway is guarded by a bunker on each side, and more bunkers protect the green. Both perceivable and imperceptible breaks in the green make putting a challenge. A dramatic false front challenges golfers on the second shot, as balls often come to a stop on the front third of the green, pause, and then begin a slow, frustrating descent off the front of the green.

The tees have undergone some changes. Rees Jones added a new one which in 2005 was replaced by another tee that was part of Gil Hanse’s Master Plan. A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 6 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 229 YARDS) COBRA
(HOLE 10 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

At two hundred yards downhill, this is a difficult par 3 hole. At the green, a small bunker on the left and a cross bunker on the right create a challenge to carry the tee shot the right distance. Shots hit to the back of the green, which slopes toward the front, make putting fast and difficult.

Rees Jones added a new back tee, and in 2002 a new forward tee was built. Trees protecting the front left of the green were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

HOLE 7 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 467 YARDS) STOCKTON’S LAIR
(HOLE 11 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Uphill and doglegged to the left, this hole is made more difficult by a fairway sloping from left to right. A prominent oak tree guarding the left rough challenges the most skilled golfers to fly their tee balls over the tree. For most golfers the need to keep their tee shot to the right of the tree reduces the available landing area in the fairway.

The fairway is protected by five bunkers lining both sides, and the plateau green is protected by additional deep bunkers to the left and right. The green, which is built into a hillside, slopes sharply from left to right and from back to front.

A right-side fairway bunker has been built into the back of the 3 East green. The grass bunker to the right rear of the green was once a sand bunker, and a bank at the back right of the green has been removed. A new forward tee was built in 2012.

HOLE 8 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 411 YARDS) GYPSY’S CURSE

This straightforward hole has a deep rough on the right, and a heavily-wooded area on the left. A slight rise in the fairway makes judging the distance to the flag difficult, a favorite trick of Tillinghast. The green slopes left-to-right and toward the back. The green is also guarded by two large bunkers, with the front right one being steeply-faced. Approach shots played to the left side of the green are given an opportunity to roll onto the green; those to the center and right side feed into a bunker.

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A bunker on the right side of the fairway, nearer the tee, was removed as it was no longer an obstacle with modern equipment. A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 9 (PAR 4, 381 YARDS) SWIMMIN' HOLE

The last hole on the East Course, this one has a direct, panoramic view of the clubhouse from the tee (photo 7). The fairway has a left-turning dogleg at the far end; a long shot veering to the right ends up in the pond. The wide, deep and level green is protected by four bunkers.

The sand bunker to the right of the green was probably added as part of the 1936 pond construction. Robert Trent Jones enlarged the green and moved it to the left of the newly-created pond, and Rees Jones introduced a new back tee. A fairway bunker in front of the green has been removed. This is the only green which is not part of Tillinghast's original design.

CENTER COURSE

The center loop of nine holes reaches the south end of the property through two long holes, then swings to the west for one hole and doubles back along the south property line to the east for the next two. Between Holes 5 and 6 the course crosses to the west and the last four holes lead back to the clubhouse to the north, just west of Holes 1 and 2.

HOLE 1 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 388 YARDS) BIG CARRY

Considered the hardest of the three opening holes, this is a classic Tillinghast design (photo 8). The player has a choice of following the fairway on the right as it doglegs to the left around the pond, or attempting to play over the pond to the left to the green. The farther left a tee shot is played, the longer the carry over the pond. Long hitters aiming directly at the green are challenged to hit their tee shot over a tree which is on a small peninsula in the pond. There is a cross bunker on the right side of the fairway near the green. The green itself slopes from back-to-front and right-to-left.

In 2004, as part of Gil Hanse's Master Plan, the green area was restored and the high rough in front of the green was reduced in coverage to return the fairway to its original design. In 2005 the pond was enlarged to restore the level of difficulty for more skilled players to that envisioned by Tillinghast, with the secondary benefit of storing more water for irrigation purposes.

HOLE 2 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 568 YARDS) FINGAL

(HOLE 12 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This hole is a long par 5 that puts a premium on length and accuracy. The fairway climbs steadily uphill for over three hundred yards. It requires a strong tee shot and a second shot to the left side of the fairway to achieve the best angle for a third shot to an elevated green. The green slopes sharply from back to front and from right to left.

Players missing their approach shot to the right of the green face a major challenge in stopping the ball on the sharply-sloping green.

A very deep bunker protects the front of the green, and additional bunkers protect both sides and the back of the green.

HOLE 3 (CONTRIBUTING)

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(PAR 4, 462 YARDS) GLADE
 (HOLE 6 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The downhill-uphill contours of this fairway are further complicated by its dogleg swing to the left at the end of a plateau in the fairway (photo 9). The left corner of the dogleg is protected by a stand of oak trees. Tee balls on the fairway beyond the plateau usually result in a challenging side-hill lie while playing the second shot to the green. The large raised green deceptively appears to be flat.

A forward tee was added by Rees Jones, and in 2012 a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 4 (CONTRIBUTING)
 (PAR 5, 536 YARDS) BRIARS
 (HOLE 7 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This hole is also known as the “Cemetery” hole, as it runs along the border with George Washington Memorial Park. It’s an uphill fairway, and a shot too far to the right becomes out-of-bounds in the cemetery. The small green is surrounded by bunkers, and its flat appearance is deceiving.

A bunker on the left of the fairway near the mound was removed, and in 2011 a bunker was added on the upslope to the left rough by Gil Hanse to enhance the visual of the hole. Hanse also restored the fairway on the left side at the top of the hill where the rough had encroached. Second shots played to the left side of the fairway are rewarded with the opportunity to bounce a shot into the small, firm green.

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 5 (CONTRIBUTING)
 (PAR 3, 217 YARDS) BROOK
 (HOLE 8 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The long downhill par 3 provides a great view from the tee, but the green slopes away from the tee and is protected by extensive bunkering (photo 10). A thick rough surrounds the green. A right side fairway bunker and bunkers on the left and right side ring the green. Shots hit too far risk being lost in a waste area beyond the green. A new forward tee was built in 2002, and a new pro tee added in 2005.

HOLE 6 (CONTRIBUTING)
 (PAR 4, 291 YARDS) SCOONIE
 (HOLE 5 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This hole is also known as the “Nickel and Dime.” It is only 291 yards uphill from the back tees, but it’s one of the most difficult holes at the Ridgewood Country Club (photos 11 and 12). The relatively short yardage tempts the longest hitters to drive to the green.

The approach is a tricky shot that must be played accurately up to a small and narrow plateau green, built into a hillside, surrounded by six bunkers. The two-tier green has subtle and not so subtle breaks that are difficult to read.

This hole has been included in the *Golf Digest* “Top 500 Best Holes in the World” as well as in the *Sports Illustrated* “Top 18 Tillinghast Holes,” and the *Met Golfer* “Dream 18.”

A cross bunker was removed to lessen the difficulty from the forward tee, and a new forward tee and a new forward tee were built in 2012.

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HOLE 7 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 398 YARDS) POSSUM

The fairway is wide, and doglegs left around giant oak trees, with an expansive fairway to the right. However, a huge fairway bunker on the right presents an obstacle to a shot that falls short. The green slopes severely front-to-back and left-to-right.

The tee was widened by Rees Jones. Also, the right side fairway bunker was moved toward the green to increase its impact on longer shots. In 2002 a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 8 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 148 YARDS) TOPSY

A short hole, with the green surrounded by sand bunkers, 8 Center is deceptively difficult. The green slopes sharply uphill from front-to-back and runs quickly downhill from back-to-front. Along with 6 West and 6 Center, this is one of just three forced carries on the course, providing no opportunity to balance a ball onto the green. A tee shot hit into the sand bunker behind the green presents an extreme challenge in getting the next shot to stop on the green before rolling off.

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 9 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 385 YARDS) INSPIRATION

This creatively challenging finishing hole offers a wide fairway for the tee shot, but requires strategic accuracy to the correct side of the fairway, depending on pin placement. Large overhanging trees protect the green from approach shots on both the left and right sides. The back-to-front and left-to-right slope of the green makes putting extremely difficult.

Approach shots hit to the left side of the green are afforded an opportunity to bounce on but the window is narrow, as the sharply-sloping left-to-right fairway feeds shots into a green-side bunker.

The back-to-front slope of the green on the right side was slightly reduced to allow for easier playability in 2002, at the same time a new forward tee was built.

WEST COURSE

The first three holes of the west loop run south. The fourth swings west, the fifth east, and the sixth and seventh west again. The course returns north to the clubhouse with Holes 8 and 9.

HOLE 1 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 380 YARDS) ANTE

The oaks lining the fairway give it the appearance of an allée. It is preferable to keep shots to the left side of the fairway to avoid the left-to-right slope. Deep bunkers guard approaches to the green from the right side.

HOLE 2 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 393 YARDS) MOAB'S VINEYARD

The tee shot must clear a cross bunker on the left side, or avoid the forest of oaks at the right side of the landing area. The green is protected by an encircling ring of bunkers. The green slopes left to right. A hump running vertically the length of the green demands that the approach shot be hit to the upper or lower shelf where the pin

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is placed. Expansive size and numerous undulations and levels make the green a distinctive putting surface.

Tillinghast's false front on the green was restored recently as part of the Master Plan, at the same time the high rough in front of the green was also removed as part of the restoration. A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 3 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 209 YARDS) DUPPY

The uphill hole has a green protected by deep bunkers lining the right side. The green slopes to the right toward the bunkers, presenting further difficulties. Tee balls have the opportunity to bounce on the green, but this is made more difficult by a sharp up-slope to the putting surface.

A new forward tee was added in 2002.

HOLE 4 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 624 YARDS) MUCKLE

(HOLE 13 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The first shot is downhill to a fairway that has a bunker on the right and dense trees on the left (photo 13). Beyond is a series of moguls covered with deep rough that run on an angle at mid-hole. The green is tucked into a narrow corner of the course and protected by bunkers. The design as a whole is a good example of Tillinghast's design principles, and is among the "Top 18 Tillinghast Holes" as determined by *Sports Illustrated*.

Rees Jones noticed that two of the four tee boxes in Tillinghast's original design had never been built, and he supervised their construction to complete Tillinghast's own concept. He also added a new forward tee. The fairway bunker was reduced somewhat in size to lessen drainage issues.

In 2006, a new back tee was added. As part of Gil Hanse's Master Plan, in 2009 the connecting fairways of 4 West and 5 West were restored to the original design; over time, their connection had been lost. At the same time, a new pro tee box was built for the Championship Course farther back toward 7 Center.

HOLE 5 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 412 YARDS) NUB

(HOLE 14 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

This is one of the most challenging holes on the course (photo 14). The fairway provides a generous landing area for tee shots, but longer hitters need to avoid the cross bunker on the right and the deep rough on the left. The elevated triple-tier green has a severe slope from back-to-front and left-to-right, and it is common for putts to roll downhill off the front of the green onto the fairway. A narrow strip of fairway between the left and right green-side bunkers affords an opportunity to bounce an approach shot onto the green. Downhill putts are treacherous while uphill putts often present difficulty in stopping on the correct tier.

The original false front, as well as the connecting fairways of 4 West and 5 West, mentioned above, was restored as part of the Hanse Master Plan. In 2006, a new forward tee was built.

HOLE 6 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 3, 155 YARDS) BEECHES

(HOLE 15 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

A superb example of golf course architecture, this hole features a small, front-to-back, left-to-right sloping green, slightly uphill from the tee and surrounded on three sides by bunkers. A trademark Tillinghast feature is the

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inclusion of a small grass area of rough immediately in front of the center of the green. A straight shot has the opportunity to bounce on, versus being caught by the bunkers to the right and left. From the tee, the green appears to rise up from the landscape, and the lack of trees near the green subtly contribute to the challenge of determining the distance to the green.

In 2012, a new forward tee was built.

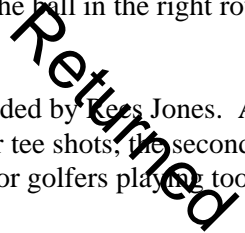
HOLE 7 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 422 YARDS) SNEAK
 (HOLE 16 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

Inaccuracy is penalized with heavy rough along the fairway. The tee box is elevated, and a good opening shot leaves the player with a blind approach to a green that sits below the fairway. The green is protected by bunkers short and left of the green deep right, and along the right corner and side of the green.

The hole presents one of Ridgewood Country Club’s narrower fairways. Careful aim is required as playing the tee shot directly at the flag stick will result in the ball in the right rough, or worse, on this slight left-to-right dogleg.

A new back tee and a new forward tee were added by Kees Jones. A new bunker was added in the left rough to increase the difficulty for golfers hitting longer tee shots, the second shot is best played from the left side of the fairway, and this bunker presents an obstacle for golfers playing too far to the left.



HOLE 8 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 5, 593 YARDS) TIPPERARY
 (HOLE 17 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

A long, dogleg hole, this is considered a great 5 par. The most efficient tee shot is hit down the left side of the fairway, but woods without-of-bounds claim shots too far to the left. Tee shots played too conservatively to the right find deep rough and can be blocked in a grove of trees.

The fairway is a sharp left. The second shot is challenged by a cross bunker on the left side of the fairway, and a tulip tree on the corner of the right side.

The third shot faces a sharply-sloping right-to-left fairway that will feed errant shots into a fairway or green-side bunker. Playing too conservatively to the right poses the challenge of chipping downhill, and trying to stop the ball on the sloped green. The small green has a false front and a sharp right-to-left slope that can send a ball downhill into a steep-faced bunker.¹⁴

A new forward tee was built in 2002.

HOLE 9 (CONTRIBUTING)

(PAR 4, 470 YARDS) GABRIEL’S HORN
 (HOLE 18 OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE)

The dog-legged fairway is lined with oak trees on the left and right. The left side of the fairway provides the best angle to the green. The green is guarded on the left by deep bunkers and features a putting surface that swings

¹⁴ A "chip shot" in golf is a shot played from close to the green, usually within a few yards of the putting surface, that results in the ball popping into the air, then hitting the ground and rolling forward.

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right-to left and also slopes to the back to front. The sharply-sloping right-to-left fairway short of the green offers an opportunity to bounce a ball onto the green, but only from the right side. Shots to the center and left feed down a steep slope to a green-side bunker.

This is Ridgewood Country Club’s only hole that rewards a fade (left-to-right) tee shot.

A new pro tee was added in 2005.

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

There are fifteen buildings and four structures at Ridgewood Country Club that are considered non-contributing because they were built after the period of significance. The buildings are all small in relation to the clubhouse, and support the operation of the club through housing utilities, maintenance operations, and additional member amenities.

BUILDING #2

Building #2 is a two-story, six-bay, wood-shingle clad hipped-roof frame building with brick veneer at the first story on the east (front) façade (figure 56). A chimney pierces the center of the ridge.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #3/4/5

Maintenance Building #3/4/5 is a one-story gable-roofed concrete-masonry-unit building, constructed in three sections arranged in linear fashion (figure 52). The roof is fiberglass-shingle clad, and the ridge of each section is parallel to the front (north) façade; the ridge of the center section is lower than those of the two end sections. Along with the other maintenance buildings (#6, #7, and #8) the building faces into a paved courtyard in the approximate center of the property; the maintenance complex is buffered from view from the surrounding courses by berms and landscape plantings.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #6

Maintenance Building #6 is a concrete-masonry-unit building with a fiberglass-shingle-clad hipped roof (figure 49). The storage building has a phalanx of overhead garage doors along the east (front) façade.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #7

Maintenance Building #7 is a two-story stucco-clad hipped-roofed building with decorative stucco quoins (figure 50). The personnel door on the south (front) façade is accessible by means of a barrier-free access ramp.

MAINTENANCE BUILDING #8

Maintenance Building #8 is a tall one-story metal-clad storage building with garage over-head doors on the south (front) façade (figure 51). The gable roof is clad with metal.

IRRIGATION PUMPHOUSE

The Irrigation Pumphouse is a small concrete-masonry-unit gable-roofed structure located between the fairways of 7W and 8W (figure 54).

TENNIS PRO SHOP

The Tennis Pro Shop is a one-story frame building with a pyramidal roof surmounted by a small cupola (figure 58). The siding is vertical wood boards. On the west side, the building is set back under the roof line, providing an open protected area.

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PLATFORM TENNIS BUILDING

The Platform Tennis Building, constructed in 1973, is a frame structure with a low-slope shed roof (figure 60). The building is clad in vertical wood boards. Large windows face onto the platform tennis courts on the east side, and a stone chimney is centered on the west elevation.

RESTROOMS 1

Restrooms 1 is a masonry building clad in stucco and brick veneer with a gabled hipped roof (commonly known as a Dutch gable roof) surmounted by a small cupola with a weather vane at the apex (figure 55). A wide roof overhang provides open shelter on all sides of the building.

RESTROOMS 2

Restrooms 2 (figure 66) is identical to Restrooms 1.

PUMPHOUSE 1

Pumphouse 1 is a stucco-clad masonry building with faux half-timber detail on a stone base (figure 57). The fiber-glass-shingle-clad gable roof has a pent running across each gable end; above the pent, the gable is clad with shingles. A large round vent is centered on the south (primary) façade.

IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 1

Irrigation Structure 1 is a small frame building clad in vertically-scored wood paneling. The gable roof is clad with fiberglass shingles.

IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 2

Irrigation Structure 2 is a small flat-roofed masonry structure (figure 64).

WELL STRUCTURES FOR POND FEED (2)

The two identical well structures for feeding the pond are concrete-masonry-unit pyramidal-roofed buildings (figure 62). The buildings are concealed from view on all sides by a high hedge.

NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

STORM SHELTER

The Storm Shelter is a pyramidal roof supported on four brick piers (figure 53). Parallel wood benches run between piers on two sides.

TENNIS COURTS

The four Tennis Courts, constructed in 1977, are surrounded by a high chain-link fence (figure 59).

PLATFORM TENNIS COURTS

The four Platform Tennis Courts, constructed in 1973, are raised above grade and surrounded by a high open fence (figure 61).

IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 3

Irrigation Structure 3 consists of a rectangular well set in the ground and containing irrigation controls and piping, protected by a gable roof clad with fiberglass shingles (figure 65).

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Ridgewood Country Club has significance under Criterion C for the design of its golf courses and clubhouse by two master architects. The courses, designed by Albert Warren Tillinghast, and clubhouse, designed by Clifford Charles Wendehack, were conceived as a single project and completed in 1929. A. W. Tillinghast, one of the first designers of “strategic” courses, as opposed to the traditional “penal” courses, was a seminal figure during the Golden Age of course design in the first third of the twentieth century; he was one of the first golf architects to integrate the golf course into nature, and one of the first Americans to become a prominent golf course architect in a profession that had previously been dominated by practitioners from Great Britain. Tillinghast’s twenty-seven-hole design for Ridgewood Country Club is particularly noteworthy because of his continuing close involvement with the property over the seven years following its construction, and the surviving integrity of his original design. Equally significant is the design of the clubhouse by Clifford C. Wendehack, the most internationally-prominent clubhouse architect at work during the 1920s. Wendehack, a noted author on clubhouse design as well as a practitioner in North and South America, selected the Norman revival style because he thought it particularly appropriate for the rolling landscape on which Tillinghast was designing the courses. Ridgewood Country Club’s combination of course design by Tillinghast and clubhouse design by Wendehack, one of only three surviving resources that possess an integrated design by these two master architects, makes the property particularly important.¹⁵

Two of Tillinghast’s courses have previously been nominated to the National Register: Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, NJ, and Johnson City Country Club in Johnson City, TN. None of Wendehack’s clubhouses are on the register, though three residences he designed in his hometown of Montclair, NJ have been nominated.

Though Ridgewood Country Club’s history begins with its founding as Ho-Ho-Kus Golf Club in 1893 and continues through its 1901 move to Maple Avenue in Ridgewood as the Ridgewood Golf Club, and its second move, in 1912, to Lincoln Avenue in Ridgewood as the Ridgewood Country Club, its significance commences in 1929 with the completion of the golf courses and clubhouse at its present site in Paramus.¹⁶ Tillinghast continued to be involved with the fine-tuning of the course for several years, and the end of his participation coincided approximately with Ridgewood’s entrance into the national and international arena with the hosting of the Ryder

¹⁵ The other two properties with Tillinghast courses and Wendehack clubhouses are Winged Foot and Bethpage both located in New York.

¹⁶ The club had its origins in 1890, when William Dayton Rosencrantz (1852-1915) and a small group of friends starting Experimenting with golf balls and two rudimentary holes on the grounds of the Hermitage, Rosencrantz’s home in Ho-Ho-Kus. The men formed the Ho-Ho-Kus Gold Club in 1893, the first such entity in the state. The club moved to Maple Avenue in Ridgewood as the Ridgewood Golf Club in 1901 to be closer to members’ homes. Development pressure forced a move to Lincoln Avenue in Ridgewood in 1912, where the golf club was reorganized as the Ridgewood Country Club. The final move to Midland Avenue in Paramus in 1929 was instigated by the rising value of land in Ridgewood, caused by increased development. There was also a growing danger to players because of increasing vehicular traffic on Lincoln Avenue: players were required to cross the road multiple times in one round on the course (William Quirin, *The Ridgewood Country Club: A History*, Franklin, Virginia: Q Publishing, 2009, p. 25-55). The grand opening at Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus occurred on May 30, 1929.

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Cup in 1935. The courses were documented at this time through aerial photography. For these reasons, the Ridgewood Country Club Board of Directors determined that 1935 is the date to which the restoration prescribed in the Master Plan will be based, and it is considered to be the end of the Period of Significance. Following a 2001 Master Plan by Gil Hanse, the twenty-seven holes have been restored to their historic appearance, while taking into consideration alterations in the interim mandated by changes in equipment.

A. W. Tillinghast was one of the first designers of “strategic” courses, as opposed to traditional “penal” courses,¹⁷ and he was particularly adept at harmonizing course design with the natural landscape. Tillinghast helped the Ridgewood Country Club Board of Directors select the site for the relocation of the club, and used to great advantage its natural features such as trees, rolling hills and natural springs, to create greens and hazards.

Tillinghast (1874 – 1942) was the indulged son of an affluent Philadelphia family; he never finished a single school he attended. As a young man he lived the life of a dilettante until golf became his passion, giving him a purpose in life. He involved himself in all facets of the developing world of golf: he honed his natural talents to become a gifted photographer, a published author of humorous fiction about golf, an entrepreneur of miniature golf courses and driving ranges, and a very accomplished player of the game itself. Finally, at the age of thirty-five, he found his true calling as a golf course architect when he was invited by a wealthy family friend to lay out a course for Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, located in Pennsylvania on the Delaware River just north of the Delaware Water Gap.¹⁸ Over the next decade he designed several notable courses, which gathered national recognition. He designed the Brackenridge Park municipal course in Texas, which became a regular fixture on the professional golfers’ tour, hosting the Texas Open, and, in California, he designed the highly-rated San Francisco Golf Club. He also designed several courses in Florida. In New Jersey he designed Shackamaxon and Somerset Hills, which is rated as one of the best in the world.

In the early 1920s, he was just hitting his stride as an architect when he obtained the commission for what became the Upper and Lower Courses at Baltusrol. This thirty-six-hole project made his reputation, and for the rest of the twenties his services were in great demand. In addition to Ridgewood Country Club, notable courses from this period include Winged Foot, Mamaroneck, NY; Quaker Ridge, Scarsdale, NY; Five Farms East, Lutherville, MD; Newport, Newport RI; and Bethpage Black, Farmingdale, NY.

When the Depression brought golf course construction to a virtual standstill, Tillinghast had to scramble to make a living. In 1930, only one year after completion of the Ridgewood courses, he opened an antiques store, Wister Antiques Tillinghast Inc., out of his house in Harrington Park, New Jersey, and he began to devote more time to writing. He had one last masterpiece to design, however, which was Bethpage Black, commissioned in 1933 by

¹⁷ There is only one path from the tee to the hole in a penal course design; any deviation from this course is “penalized” by confrontation with a hazard such a bunker or pond. There is more than one path in the strategic course, each having advantages and disadvantages. For example, the most direct route might play over a bunker, while the safer route around the bunker would be longer. On strategic courses, often the most direct line is rewarded with an easier approach to the green. The player must strategize which route best suits his abilities.

¹⁸ C.C. Worthington, of the Worthington Pump Company and original developer of Shawnee, was a friend of Tillinghast’s father. Reportedly the elder Tillinghast suggested to Worthington that his son would like to try his hand at designing the new course to be added to the original nine holes and thus secured him the commission.

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Robert Moses, president of the Long Island State Park Commission.¹⁹

In 1935 Tillinghast announced his retirement from golf course design in order to be a consultant for the PGA of America, of which he had been one of the founders.²⁰ Ironically, Tillinghast's work helped save the fledgling PGA. With golf courses across the country struggling financially, many questioned the need to have paid professionals, members of the PGA, on staff. Tillinghast's consultation was a valuable service available for no charge and only to PGA member courses. The service was unexpectedly popular, and he ended up visiting hundreds of courses across the country over the next two years.

When the Harrington Park house was lost to foreclosure in 1936, he and his wife moved to California, where they and a partner operated an antiques shop in Beverly Hills. Tillinghast Authentic Antiques was partially stocked with the contents of their former home. While in California he again tried to make a living as a golf course architect, in association with William P. "Billy" Bell; the attempt had limited success. In 1940 he suffered a heart attack, following which he moved to Toledo, Ohio to live with his daughter. He succumbed to a second heart attack in 1942 at the age of 68.²¹

Tillinghast is best remembered for his contribution to the design of the strategic course. Tillinghast's design for Ridgewood Country Club is a demonstration of such a plan. For example, on many holes Tillinghast provided wide fairways, but each has a wrong side and a right side. The player must determine what strategy he wants to use to set up a favorable approach shot to the green.

On most holes, Tillinghast allows one opening to the green for a running shot. These are usually at an angle, favoring an approach from one particular side of the fairway; 8 East is one example at Ridgewood Country Club. On some short holes, such as the renowned 6 Center, the green is surrounded by bunkers, which must be carried.

Not long after completion, Tillinghast's design for Ridgewood Country Club received international approbation when it was selected as the site for the 1935 Ryder Cup Matches, the fifth edition and the third to be held in the United States.²² The professional golfers participating in 1935 were outspoken in their appreciation for the course, with player Paul Runyan calling it "really a magnificent golf course" and British captain Charles Whitcombe noting "I think you have a fine course here."²³

Other notable national tournaments that have been held on the courses over the years include the 1957 United States Golf Association (USGA) Senior Amateur; the 1981 Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Coca Cola Classic; the 1990 USGA Senior Open; and the 2001 Senior PGA of America Championship.

¹⁹ Philip Young, *A. W. Tillinghast: Creator of Golf Courses*, Pearl River, NY: Classics of Golf, 2005, pp. 116-130.

²⁰ Professional Golfers Association of America. The PGA was losing member clubs as a result of the economy, and in an effort to retain them offered Tillinghast's services on a complimentary basis to advise on course problems.

²¹ Young, pp. 142-180.

²² The Ryder Cup Matches is a men's golf competition between teams from the United States and Europe held biennially, and alternating between courses on either side of the Atlantic. Before 1979, the European team was selected only from Great Britain. The teams are selected from professional golfers, who receive no prize money for their participation.

²³ Quirin, p. 146.

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The Barclays, which began in 1967 as the Westchester Classic and underwent a number of sponsorship name changes in the ensuing years, took on its current name in 2007 and began rotating among clubs in the New York metropolitan area. It was held at Ridgewood in 2008 and 2010, and is scheduled to return in 2014.

Golf courses are evolving designed landscapes, being modified in response to growing membership and changes in the game and equipment. The Ridgewood courses have been adjusted over the years to keep them current as the game of golf has developed, but alterations have been respectful of Tillinghast's original design. Such changes include constructing lengthened tees for championship play (for example, 5 East, 6 East and 8 Center); construction of forward tees (as on 6 Center and 3 West), and the relocation of bunkers (such as on 4 Center and 7 Center) to positions where they once again become obstacles, farther from the tee than their original settings.

Only three golf course architects have worked at Ridgewood Country Club since Tillinghast retired, and each of the three has been among the very best of his generation. The first was Robert Trent Jones, who was retained in the mid 1930s.

Robert Trent Jones was born in England in 1906, and came with his parents to live in East Rochester, New York at the age of five. He began caddying, and then playing golf, when a teenager.²⁴ "He became the first person to study expressly for a career as a golf designer. He fashioned his own program of study at Cornell University, drawing upon courses in landscape, architecture, agronomy, horticulture, hydraulics, surveying, public speaking and economics."²⁵ Jones was unfortunate in trying to start a career in golf course design at the start of the Depression, and it was not until after World War II that conditions allowed his career to flourish.

Jones worked on Peachtree in Atlanta with Bobby Jones in 1948, which was the first course to manifest the "broad-shouldered, heavily sculpted power golf look that defined the postwar years."²⁶ He called his style the "heroic school" of course design, which he saw as a combination of the "penal school" and the "strategic school."²⁷ He redesigned Oakland Hills – South Course for the 1951 U.S. Open, making his reputation as "The Open Doctor." From his office in Montclair, New Jersey, Jones went on to design 450 courses in forty-five states and twenty-nine foreign countries in a career that lasted into the 1990s.²⁸ He died at his home in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 2000.²⁹

It was Robert Trent Jones who had the pond constructed between 1 East and 1 Center that had been discussed by Tillinghast in his correspondence with the club. He also reworked the green for 9 East, making it larger. At 2 East, he capped the spring that bubbled up and created a pond between 2 East and 8 East greens. When the alteration was made to the east end of the clubhouse in 1936 that became a hazard for 1 East tee, it was he who moved the tee forward to avoid broken windows in the club.

²⁴ American National Biography Online website: <http://www.anborg/articles/19/19-00941-article.html>.

²⁵ Sports Illustrated website: <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/golfonline/travel/architects/rtjones.html>.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ American National Biography Online website.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Dave Anderson, "Robert Trent Jones Sr., Golf Course Architect Who Made Mark on U.S. Open, Is Dead at 93," *New York Times*, 16 June 2000.

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In the next generation, it was Rees Jones (1941 -), son of Robert Trent Jones, whom Ridgewood Country Club hired to maintain and restore the courses. Rees Jones' goal at Ridgewood was to return the courses as far as possible to their configuration in Tillinghast's original design. Rees Jones was educated at Yale and Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, then joined his father and older brother Robert Trent Jones, Jr. in their firm, Robert Trent Jones Incorporated. He worked with his father on many courses before leaving to form his own firm in 1974. He has a portfolio of over one hundred designed or redesigned courses. He is also an environmentalist, and has championed the cause of environmentally-friendly golf courses. He was the recipient in 2004 of the Old Tom Morris Award, the highest award given by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Rees Jones was brought to Ridgewood Country Club in 1978 when it was discovered that greens were suffering from lack of sunlight and air flow. He proceeded to restore the greens to their original dimensions, and facilitated their growth by cutting back many trees and removing others. He also had built two tees on 4 West that Tillinghast had planned, but that had never been constructed.

For a new computerized irrigation system constructed in 1985, he widened the pond at 1 East and 9 East, narrowing the approach to the 9 East green. He also built new tees at 5 East, 6 East, and 7 Center, and added forward tees at 3 Center, 3 West, 4 West, and 7 West.

The most recent golf architect to work at Ridgewood Country Club was Gil Hanse, who was retained in 2001 to prepare a Master Plan for the three courses. Again, Hanse's aim has been to honor Tillinghast's original design and restore each hole to his original intention, making only those changes necessary for enjoyable play with twenty-first-century equipment.

Gil Hanse, with a Master of Landscape Architecture from Cornell University, is founder and president of Hanse Golf Course Design, Inc. (Malvern, PA). While he was at Cornell, he received the William Frederick Dreer Award, enabling him to spend a year in the United Kingdom studying historic golf course architecture. While there, he interned with the firm of Hawtree and Son, founded in 1912 and possibly the oldest continuously practicing golf course architectural firm in the world. Before starting his own firm in 1993, he was an associate and later a design partner in Renaissance Golf Design in Traverse City, Michigan.

Two of the most outstanding of his completed courses are the Boston Golf Club, in Hingham, MA, and Castle Stuart Golf Links, in Inverness, Scotland. He has been selected by the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games to design the golf course for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, over competition from the leading designers in the world, including Robert Trent Jones II, Gary Player, and Jack Nicklaus.

Of his restoration work at Ridgewood, he has said "With a restoration, you try to focus on the original design and restore aspects of it. At Ridgewood, the goal is to focus on Tillinghast, and to restore his characteristics without leaving our fingerprints. It's almost like an archaeological site. We look for old buried bunkers. We dig and find the old sand sometimes."³⁰

³⁰ <http://www.forbes.com/sites/monteburke/2012/04/04qa-with-golf-course-designer-gil-hanse/> Retrieved 21 January 2013.

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Among Hanse's undertakings at Ridgewood were restoration of Tillinghast's false fronts on the greens at 2 West, 5 West, and 5 East. He also removed high roughs that had developed preceding greens at 2 East, 1 Center, and 2 West.

The clubhouse is the second element in the equation that provides Ridgewood Country Club's design significance. The design of the clubhouse by Clifford Charles Wendehack proceeded in concert with the design of the courses, making the completed complex an integrated whole.

Clifford Charles Wendehack (1885-1948) was the leading architect of golf clubhouses in the Western Hemisphere in the 1920s. Wendehack was born in New York City, and studied in Italy, France and England. He did not receive a professional degree in architecture, as was not uncommon at the time, but learned the profession through years of apprenticeship. He began his apprenticeship about the age of seventeen, as a draughtsman with the atelier of Donn Barber, a leading Beaux Arts architect of the day. He continued to work for Barber over a period spanning the first twenty years of the twentieth century, interspersed with short interludes of work in the offices of W. W. Bosworth (MIT campus, restoration of Palace of Versailles and Notre-Dame de Reims); Pell & Corbett (Maryland Institute College of Art, 1908 building), and Wilder & White (Washington State Capitol campus plan and Temple of Justice). He apparently moonlighted with his own architectural work from 1905 until 1921, working by himself under his own name, and, for four years between 1911 and 1914 with a partner. When he was in his early thirties, he opened his own office on a full time basis; the office was located in the Architects' Building at 101 Park Avenue, New York City.³¹

Barber's atelier designed primarily civic buildings (Connecticut State Library and Supreme Court Building; New Castle County (Delaware) Court House; Wilmington (Delaware) City Hall and banks (Fletcher Savings and Trust Company, Indianapolis; National Park Bank, 250 Park Avenue, New York City). When Wendehack struck out on his own, he specialized in clubhouses, as well as residences.

In 1911, Wendehack married Daisybelle Frances Rinck, a teacher. By 1920, they were living at 124 Gordonhurst Avenue, Upper Montclair, NJ, in a house that he appears to have designed; he lived there for the rest of his life. The couple apparently had no children.

Starting in the teens, throughout the 1920s, and even into the Great Depression, Wendehack was the leading designer of clubhouses in both North and South America. His major commissions during that period, with their approximate dates of construction, were:

- Norwood Country Club (West Long Branch, NJ) 1919;
- North Jersey Country Club (Wayne, NJ) 1923;
- Winged Foot Golf Club (Mamaroneck, NY) 1923;
- Rock Springs Country Club (West Orange, NJ) 1926;
- Park Country Club (Buffalo, NY) 1927;
- Douglaston Park Golf Course (formerly North Hills Country Club, NY) c. 1927;
- Hackensack Golf Club (Oradell, NJ) 1928
- Caracas Country Club (Caracas, Venezuela) 1928;

³¹ Clifford Wendehack's "Application for Membership" in the American Institute of Architects, 15 April 1921, facsimile available from the online AIA Historical Directory of American Architects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Ridgewood Country Club

Name of Property
Bergen County, NJ

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 7

- Forsgate Country Club, (Monroe Township, NJ) 1930;
- Bethpage State Park Golf Courses (Farmingdale, NY) 1935;
- The Pennhills Club (Bradford, PA) 1937.

Wendehack was also an authority on early Dutch architecture, writing “An Architectural Monograph: Early Dutch Houses of New Jersey” in the White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs, in 1925. In the 1930s, after the collapse of his clubhouse design practice due to the economy, he became involved in the Better Homes in America movement, which had been initiated by the Butterick Publishing Company after World War I to improve housing conditions. In 1934 he was co-designer of a demonstration house constructed at the corner of Park Avenue and Thirty-Ninth Street in New York City, a project in which Dr. Lillian Gilbreth was also involved.³²

Wendehack was designing the Ridgewood Country Club complex at the same time he was writing his guide to clubhouse design, *Golf and Country Clubs: A Survey of the Requirements of Planning, Construction and Equipment of the Modern Club House*, published in 1929. His work at Ridgewood exemplifies the concepts and ideas he developed throughout the 1920s. The layout reflects the knowledge acquired over numerous previous projects, and is a consummate response to the requirements of country club members at that time.

His design for the clubhouse is a masterful combination of materials that captures both the authority and the informality of a Norman manor house, and the wealth of detailing reflects Wendehack’s goal of replicating the appearance of organic evolution which was a defining characteristic of the Norman architecture that he was referencing. Its asymmetry and the use of stone and slate allow it to fit into the landscape in much the same way that Tillinghast’s courses do. The contemporary auxiliary buildings, Building #1, the Tennis Assistant’s Building, and the Entrance Shelter, continue the architect’s Norman village theme. Wendehack’s design for Ridgewood Country Club is truly the confident and creative effort of a talented, experienced architect at the height of his powers and his career.

Ridgewood Country Club continues to honor and preserve the legacy of its Tillinghast courses and Wendehack clubhouse. Historic illustrations and photographs are displayed throughout the clubhouse, and the intent is to continue to maintain the courses as closely as possible to their original design, while continuing to keep them challenging for today’s players using modern equipment.

³² Walter Rendell Storry, “Tables Set in the New Way,” *The New York Times*, 18 November 1934.

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

ILLUSTRATIONS

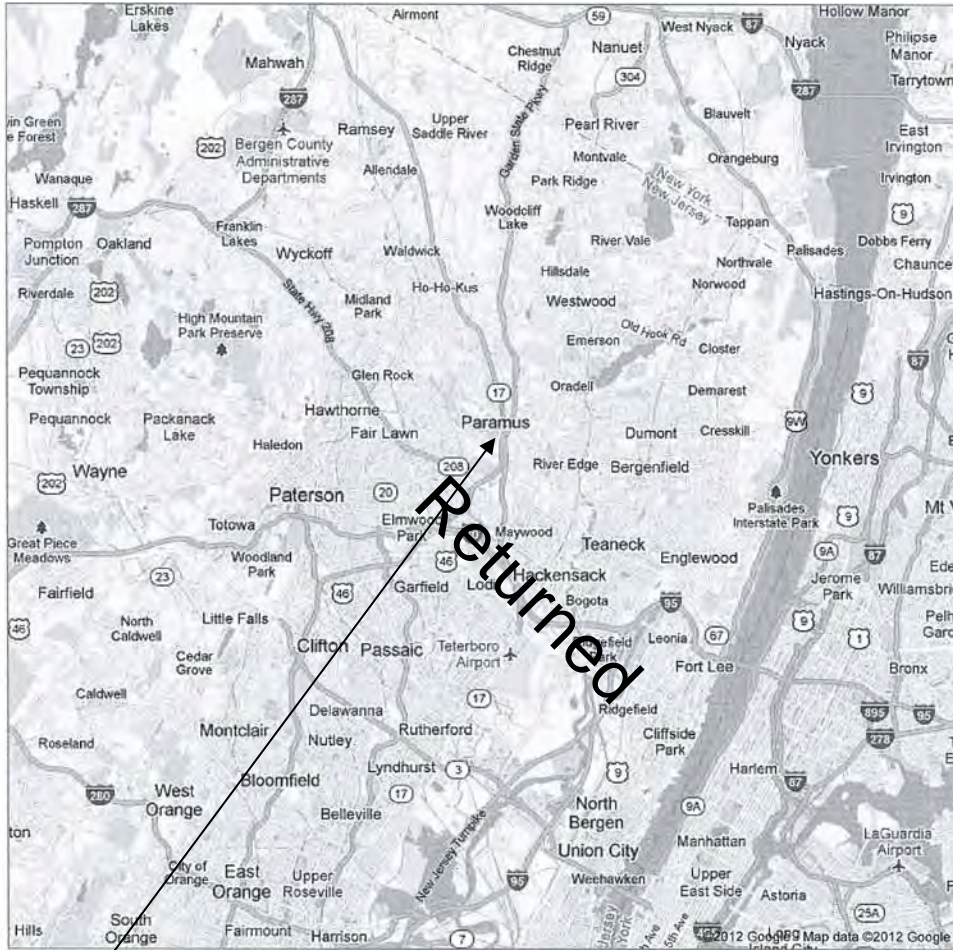
Figure 1	AREA LOCATION MAP
Figure 2	USGS MAP HACKENSACK QUADRANGLE
Figure 3	TILLINGHAST'S AS-BUILT PLAN FOR RCC COURSES
Figure 4	1931 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
Figure 5	1953 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
Figure 6	1966 AERIAL PHOTO FO SITE
Figure 7	1979 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
Figure 8	1987 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
Figure 9	1995 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
Figure 10	2005 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE
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Figure 14	SECOND FLOOR PLAN 1929
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Figure 18	ORIGINAL EAST AND NORTH ELEVATIONS BY WENDEHACK, 1929
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Figure 20	DETAIL OF LOBBY AND GRILLE (NOW BAR) BY WENDEHACK, 1929
Figure 21	DETAIL OF DINING ROOM WEST WALL BY WENDEHACK, 1929
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Figure 29	MEN'S LOUNGE CA. 1929
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Figure 31	MAIN DINING ROOM 1940
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Figure 46	CONTRIBUTING: BUILDING #1
Figure 47	CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS BUILDING 1
Figure 48	CONTRIBUTING: SHELTER ON ENTRANCE ROAD
Figure 49	NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #6
Figure 50	NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #7
Figure 51	NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #8/9
Figure 52	NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #4/5
Figure 53	NON-CONTRIBUTING: STORM SHELTER
Figure 54	NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION PUMPHOUSE
Figure 55	NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOMS 1

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

Figure 56	NON-CONTRIBUTING: BUILDING #2
Figure 57	NON-CONTRIBUTING: PUMPHOUSE 1
Figure 58	NON-CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS BUILDING 2
Figure 59	NON-CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1977)
Figure 60	NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS BUILDING (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
Figure 61	NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
Figure 62	NON-CONTRIBUTING: WELL STRUCTURES FOR POND FEED
Figure 63	NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 1
Figure 64	NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 2
Figure 65	NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 3
Figure 66	NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOM 2
Figure 67	GOLF COURSE TERMINOLOGY

Returned

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



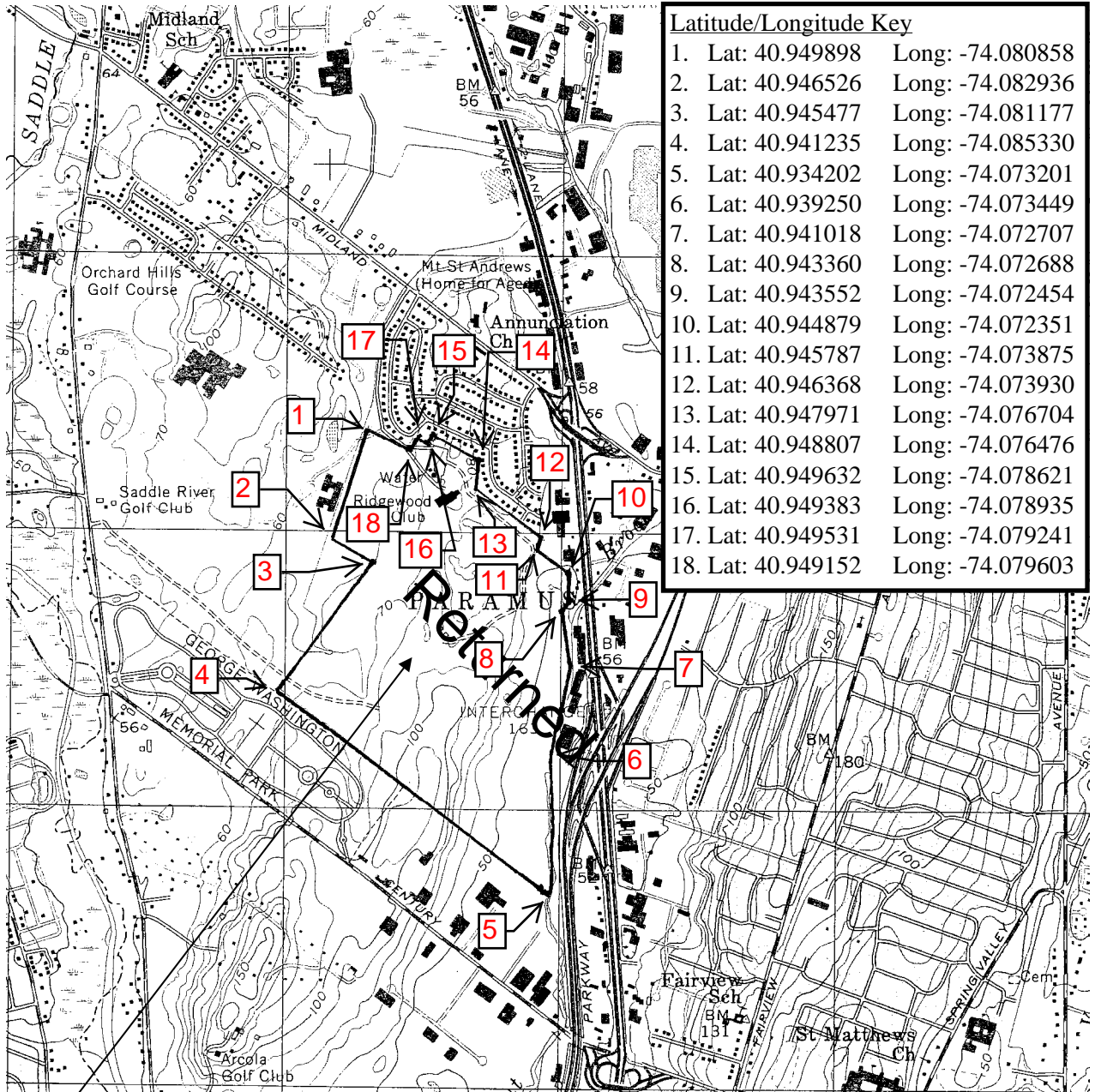
Site

Figure 1

AREA LOCATION MAP

Scale: 1 inch = 4 miles

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**

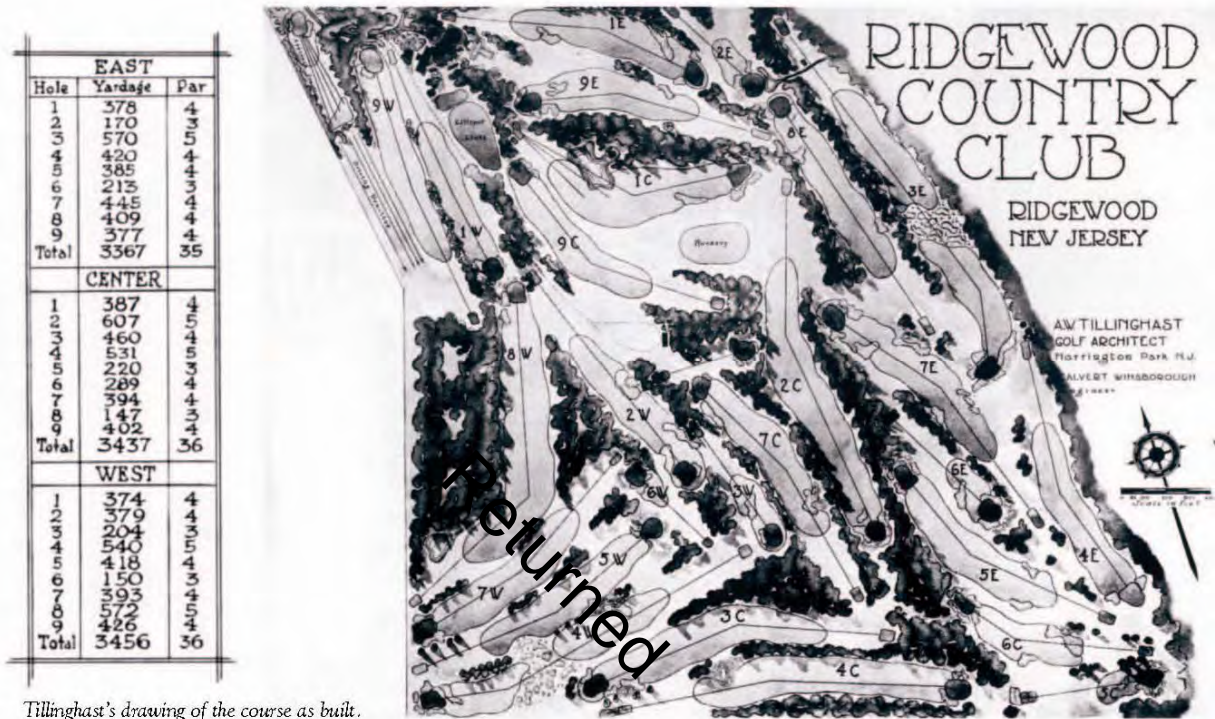


Site

Figure 2

USGS MAP HACKENSACK QUADRANGLE
New Jersey, Bergen County, 7.5 Minute Series
Scale: 1:24000

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



Tillinghast's drawing of the course as built.

Figure 3

TILLINGHAST'S AS-BUILT PLAN FOR RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB COURSES



Figure 4

1931 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE



Figure 5

1953 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE



Figure 6

1966 AERIAL PHOTO FO SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 7

1979 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE



Figure 8

1987 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE



Figure 9

1995 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 10

2005 AERIAL PHOTO OF SITE

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 11

ARCHITECT'S RENDERING OF RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CLUBHOUSE
CLIFFORD C. WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

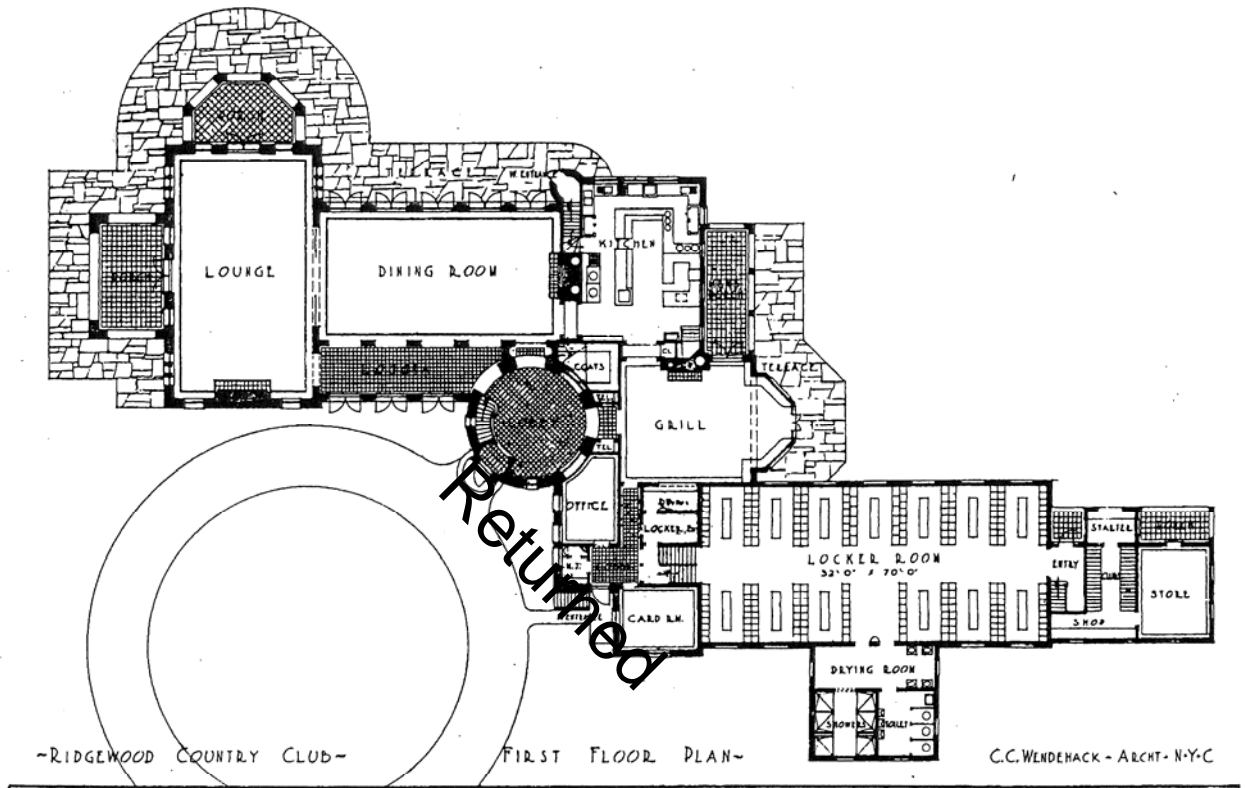
RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



Figure 12

SOUTH ELEVATION, RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CLUBHOUSE
CA. 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



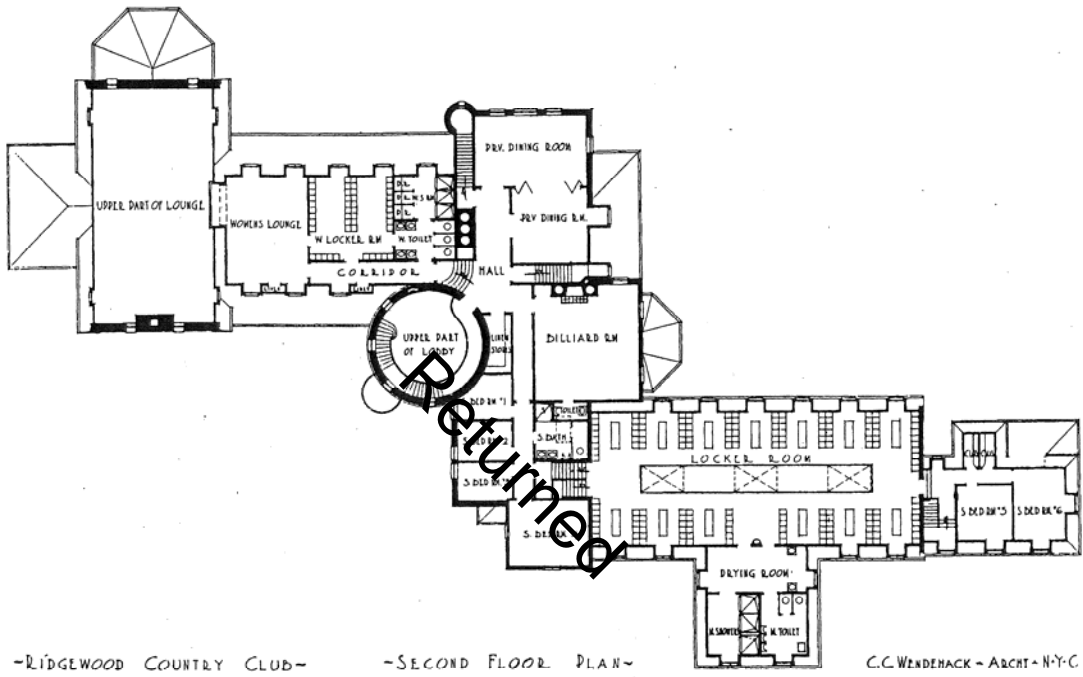
First Floor Plan

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB PARAMUS, N. J.
Clifford C. Wendehack, Architect

Figure 13

FIRST FLOOR PLAN, 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



-RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB-

-SECOND FLOOR PLAN-

C.C. WENDENACK - ARCHT - N.Y.C.

Second Floor Plan

Figure 14

SECOND FLOOR PLAN, 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

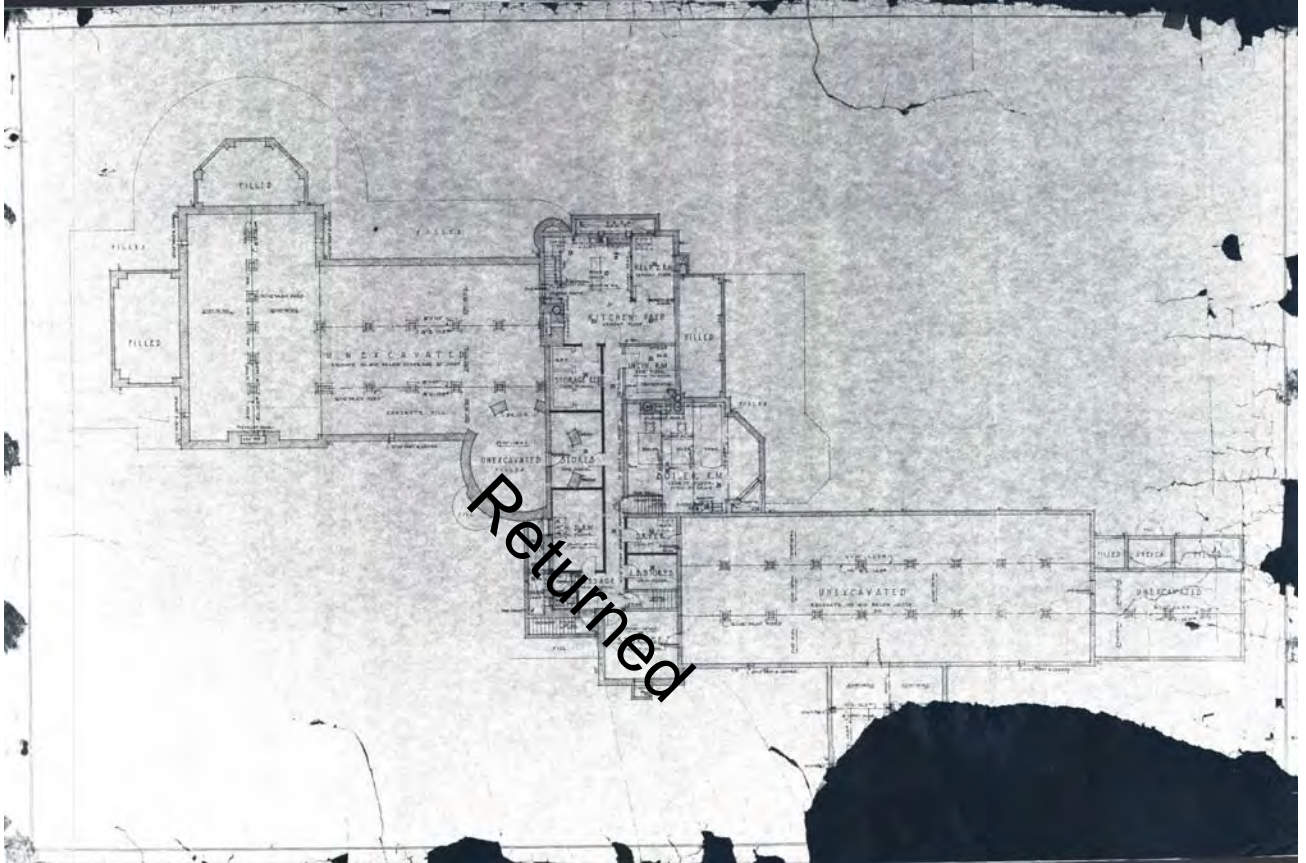


Figure 15

ORIGINAL BASEMENT PLAN BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

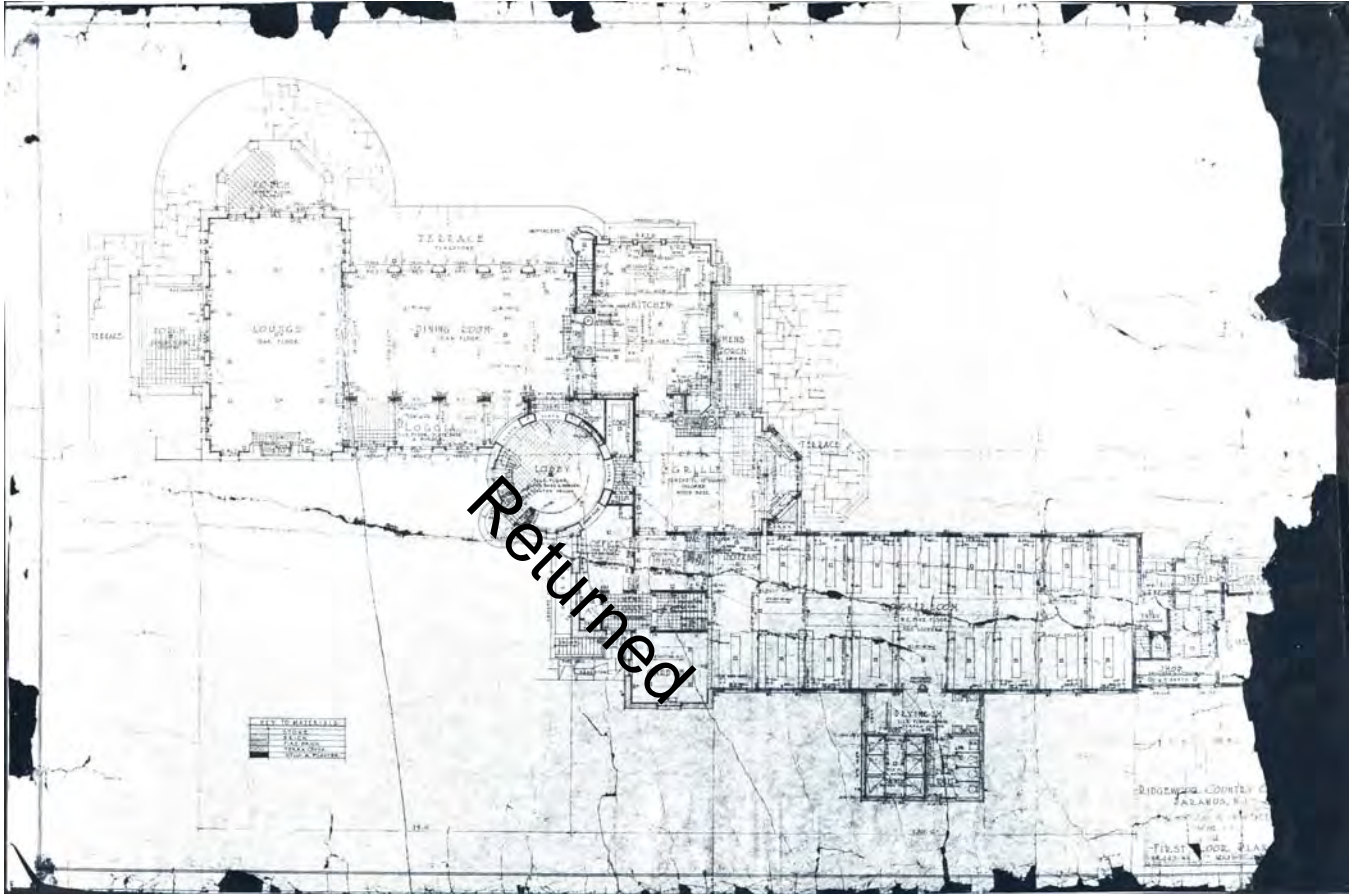


Figure 16

ORIGINAL FIRST FLOOR PLAN BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

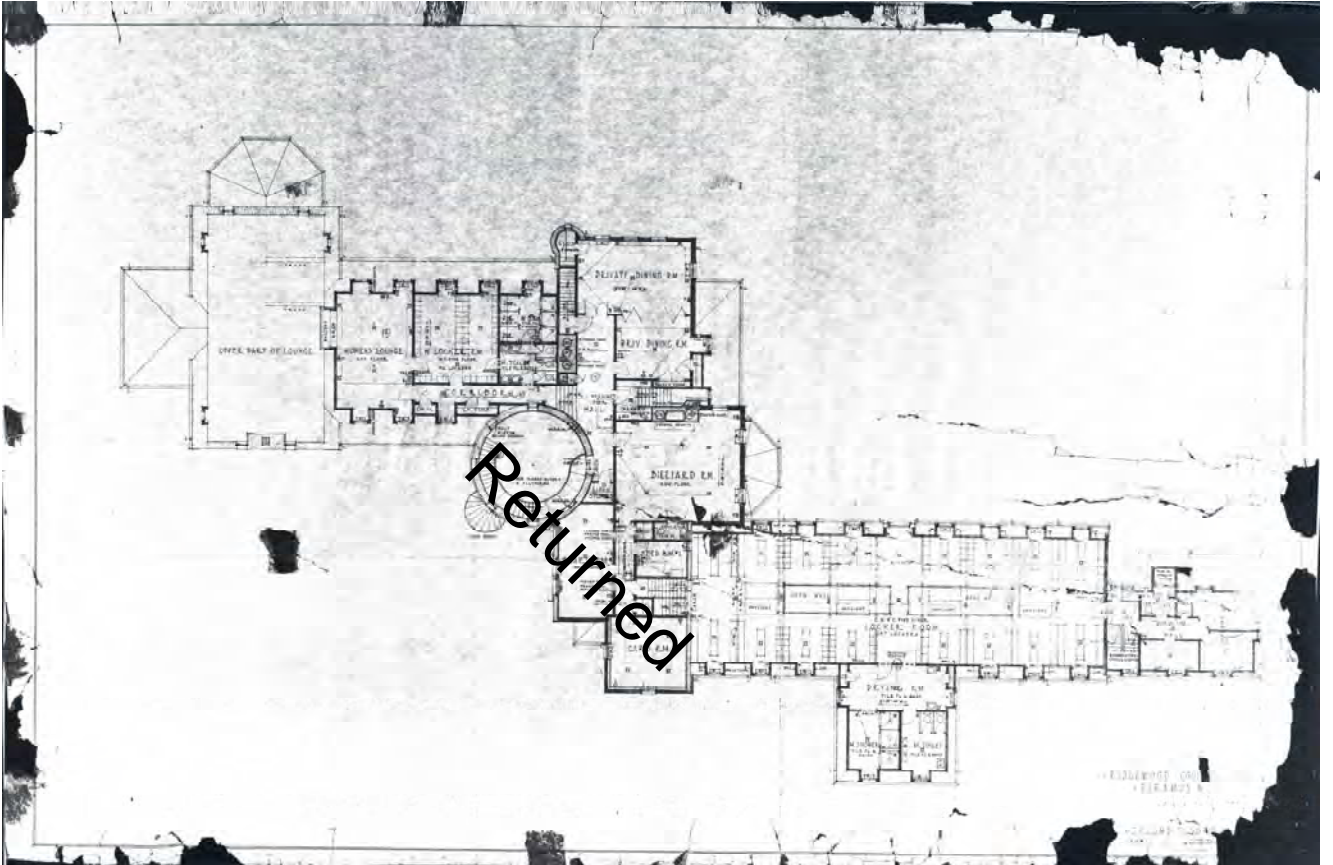


Figure 17

ORIGINAL SECOND FLOOR PLAN BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

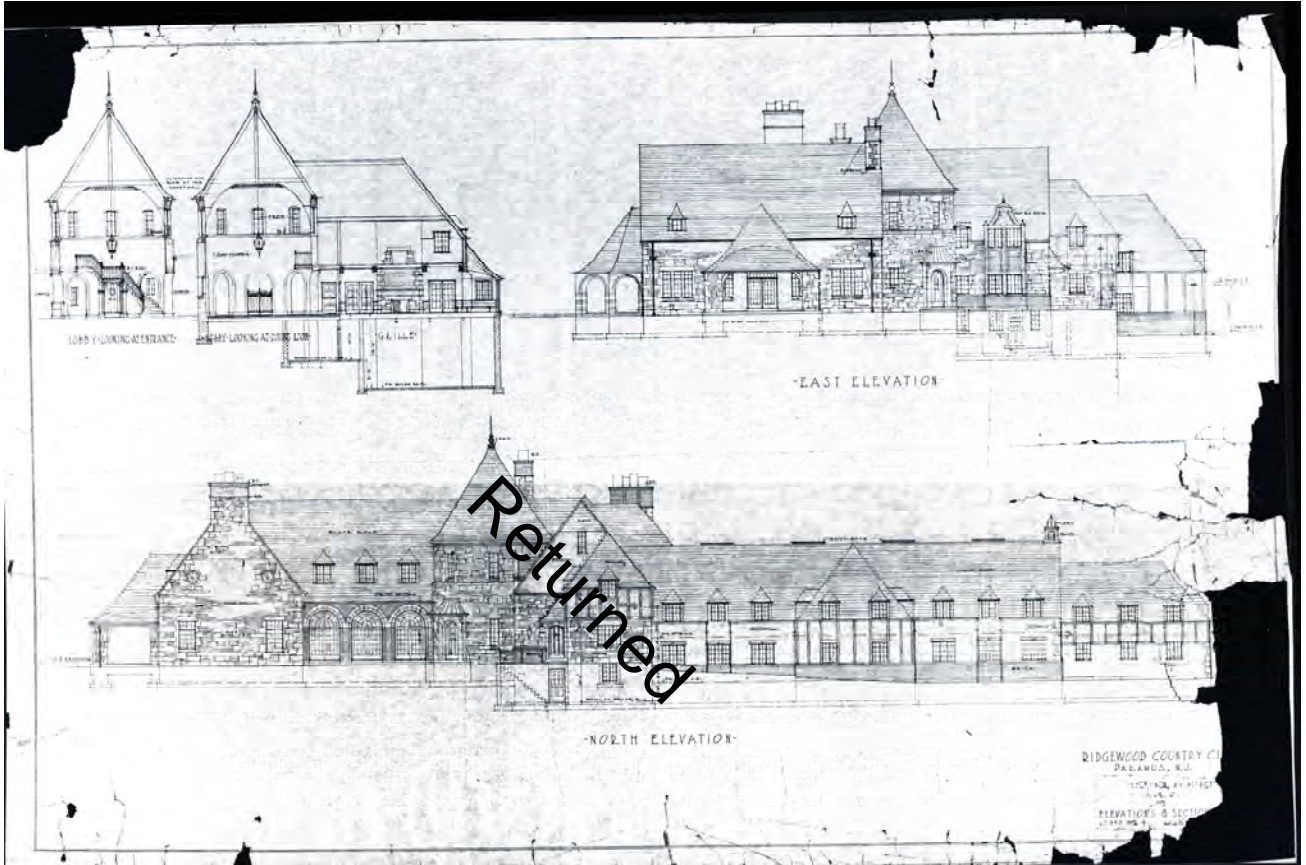


Figure 18

ORIGINAL EAST AND NORTH ELEVATIONS BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

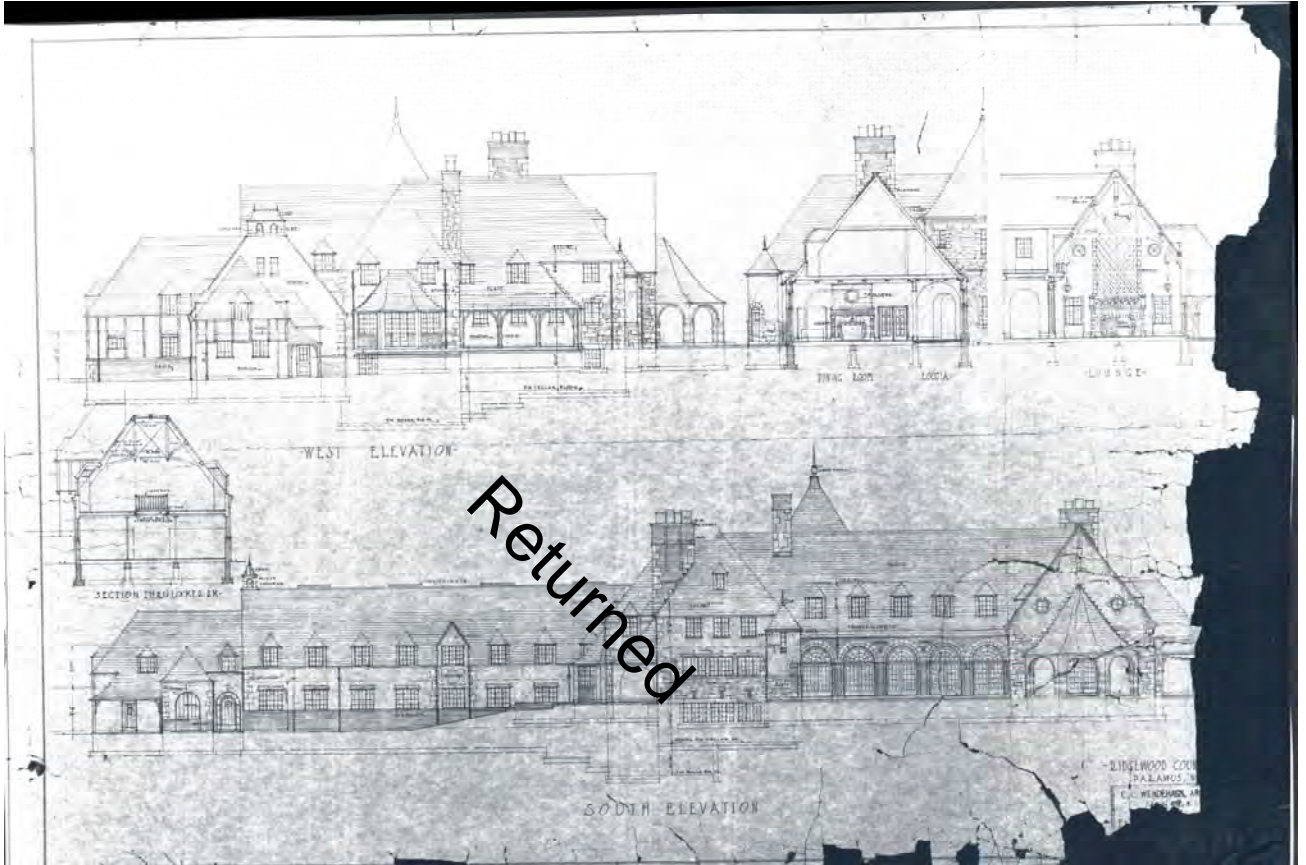


Figure 19

ORIGINAL WEST AND SOUTH ELEVATIONS BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

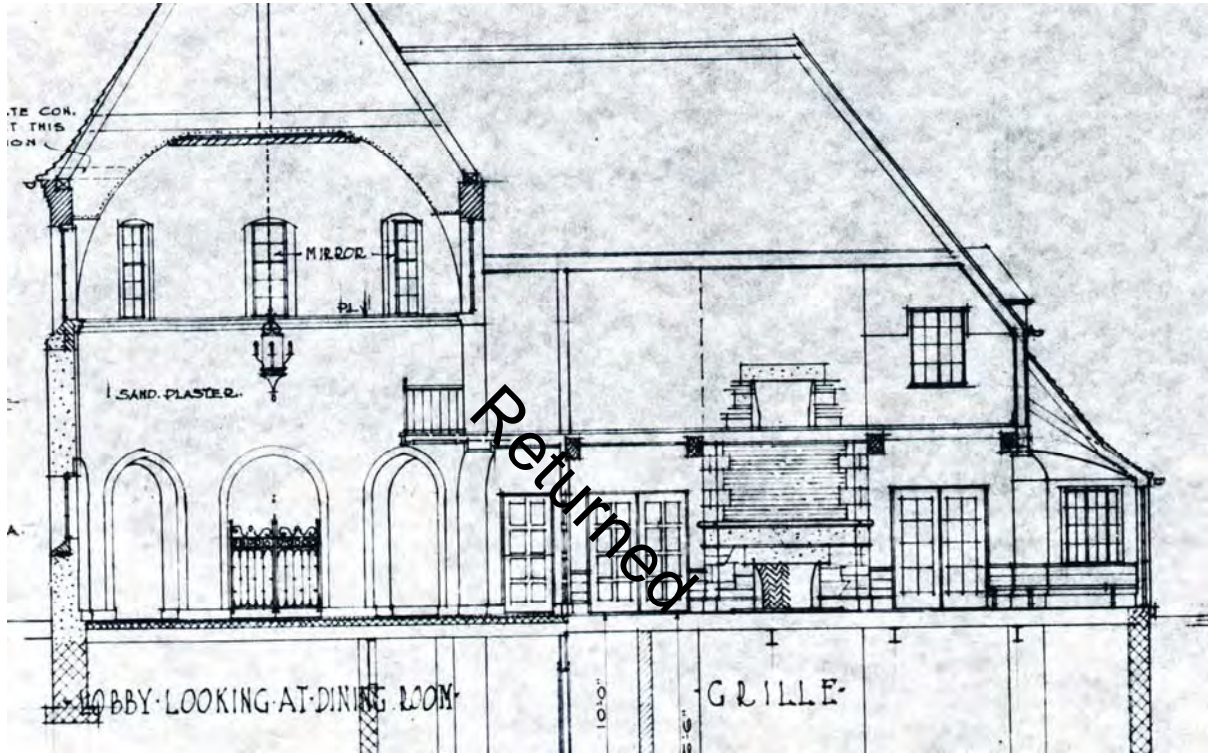


Figure 20

DETAIL OF LOBBY AND GRILLE (NOW BAR) BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

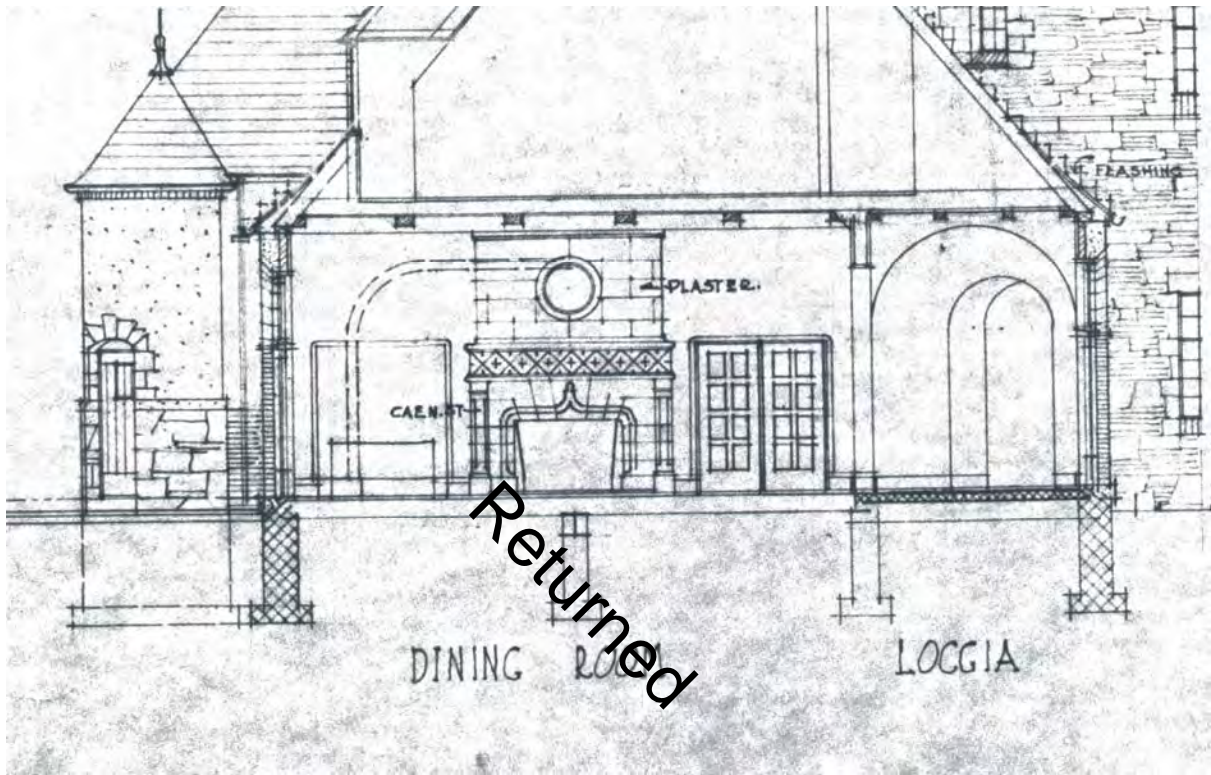


Figure 21

DETAIL OF DINING ROOM WEST WALL BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929

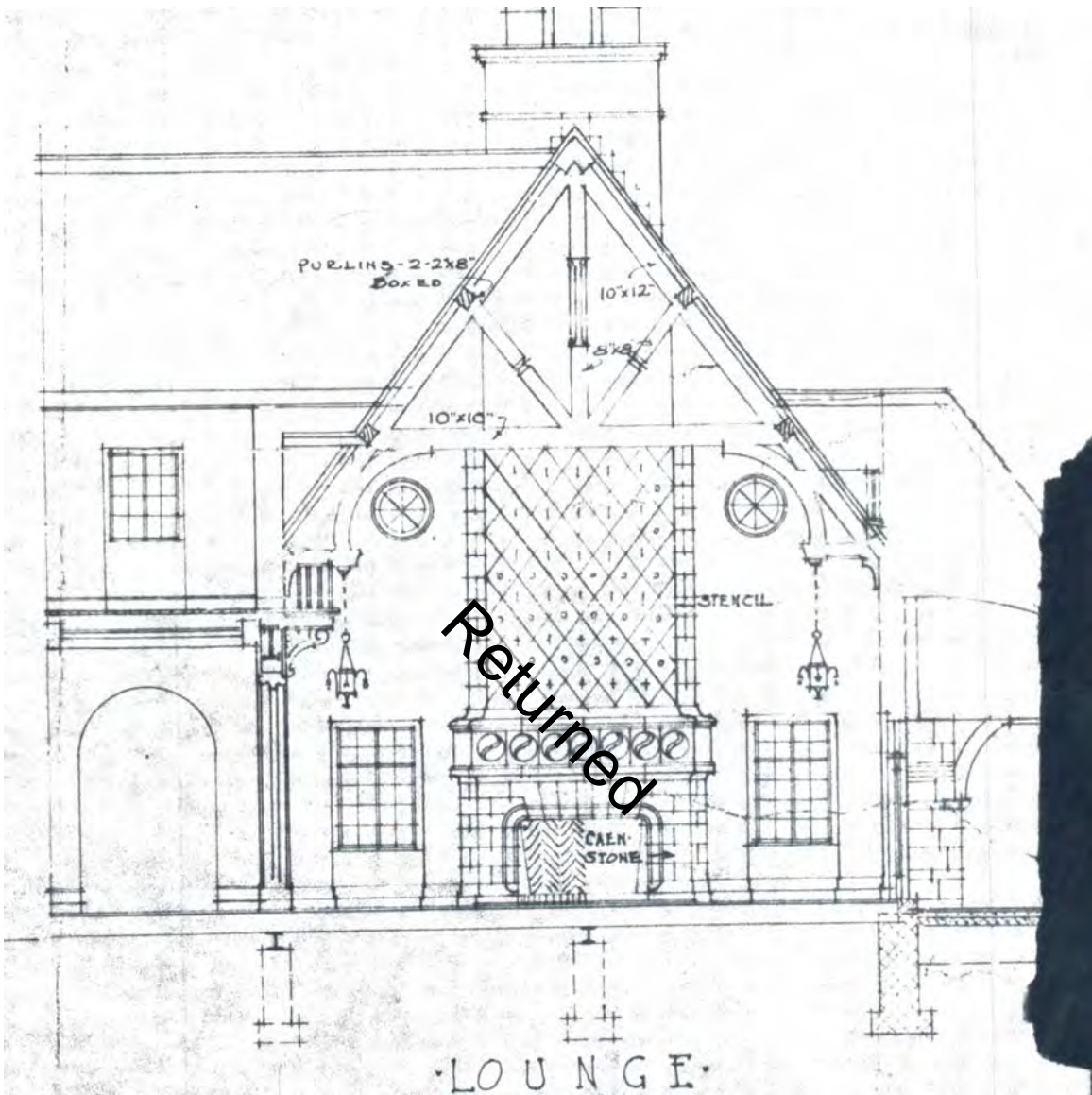


Figure 22

DETAIL OF LOUNGE NORTH WALL BY CLIFFORD WENDEHACK, ARCHITECT
1929



Figure 23

VIEW TOWARD THE SWIMMING POOL
CA. 1929



Figure 24

ENTRANCE LOBBY
CA. 1929



Figure 25

LOUNGE
CA. 1929



Figure 26
MAIN DINING ROOM
CA. 1929



Figure 27
GUEST BEDROOM
CA. 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



Figure 28

WOMEN'S LOUNGE
CA. 1929

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ



Figure 29

MEN'S LOUNGE
CA. 1929

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 30

ENTRANCE
CA. 1940



Figure 31

MAIN DINING ROOM, WITH PEACOCK ALLEY THROUGH ARCHES TO THE LEFT AND
LOUNGE THROUGH WIDE ARCH ON THE RIGHT
1940



Figure 32

ENTRANCE LOBBY

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates 2013



Figure 33

ENTRANCE LOBBY BALCONY AND CEILING

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates 2013



Figure 34

PEACOCK ALLEY (FORMERLY LOGGIA), 2009

Photo by Dan Demetriad from The Ridgewood Country Club: A History



Figure 35

TILLINGHAST LOUNGE IN LOWER PORTION OF ORIGINAL LOUNGE

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates photo 2013



Figure 36

WOMEN'S LOCKER ROOM IN UPPER PORTION OF ORIGINAL LOUNGE, 2013
NOTE DECORATIVE ROOF FRAMING

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 37

MAIN DINING ROOM, 2009

Photo by Dan Demetriad from The Ridgewood Country Club: A History



Figure 38

TICKET FOR 1935 RYDER CUP MATCH



Figure 39

RYDER CUP MATCH, 1935, GARY SAREZEN ON 9 WEST



Figure 40

J. CLARK ESPIE AT 1957 USGA SENIOR AMATEUR



Figure 41

KATHY WHITWORTH, WINNER OF THE 1981 LPGA COCA COLA CLASSIC



Figure 42

LEE TREVINO, WINNER OF THE 1990 USGA SENIOR OPEN

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 43

5 EAST, 1935



Figure 44

5 WEST, 1940

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 45

CONTRIBUTING: CLUBHOUSE



Figure 46

CONTRIBUTING: BUILDING #1
(AT PARKING LOT)

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 47

**CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS ATTENDANT'S BUILDING
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 48

**CONTRIBUTING: SHELTER
(ON ENTRANCE ROAD)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 49

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #6
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 50

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #7
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 51

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #8
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 52

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: MAINTENANCE BUILDING #3/4/5
(CENTRAL MAINTENANCE COMPLEX)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 53

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: STORM SHELTER
(BETWEEN 5W AND 7W FAIRWAYS)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 54

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION PUMPHOUSE
(BETWEEN 7W AND 8W FAIRWAYS)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 55

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOMS 1
(BETWEEN 4E AND 5E HOLES)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 56

NON-CONTRIBUTING; BUILDING #2
(ON ENTRANCE ROAD)

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 57

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: PUMPHOUSE 1
(BETWEEN 9E HOLE AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 58

**CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS PRO SHOP
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 59

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1977)
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 60

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS BUILDING (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 61

NON-CONTRIBUTING: PLATFORM TENNIS COURTS (CONSTRUCTED 1973)
(NORTH OF CLUBHOUSE)

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 62

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: WELL STRUCTURES FOR POND FEED
(BETWEEN 2E AND 9E HOLES)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 63

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 1
(BETWEEN 9E GREEN AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 64

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 2
(BETWEEN 9E GREEN AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013



Figure 65

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: IRRIGATION STRUCTURE 3
(BETWEEN 9E GREEN AND 1C FAIRWAY)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

**RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
BERGEN COUNTY, NJ**



Figure 66

**NON-CONTRIBUTING: RESTROOM 2
(BETWEEN 2C HOLE, 3C TEE, AND 6C HOLE)**

Photo: Watson & Henry Associates, 11 January 2013

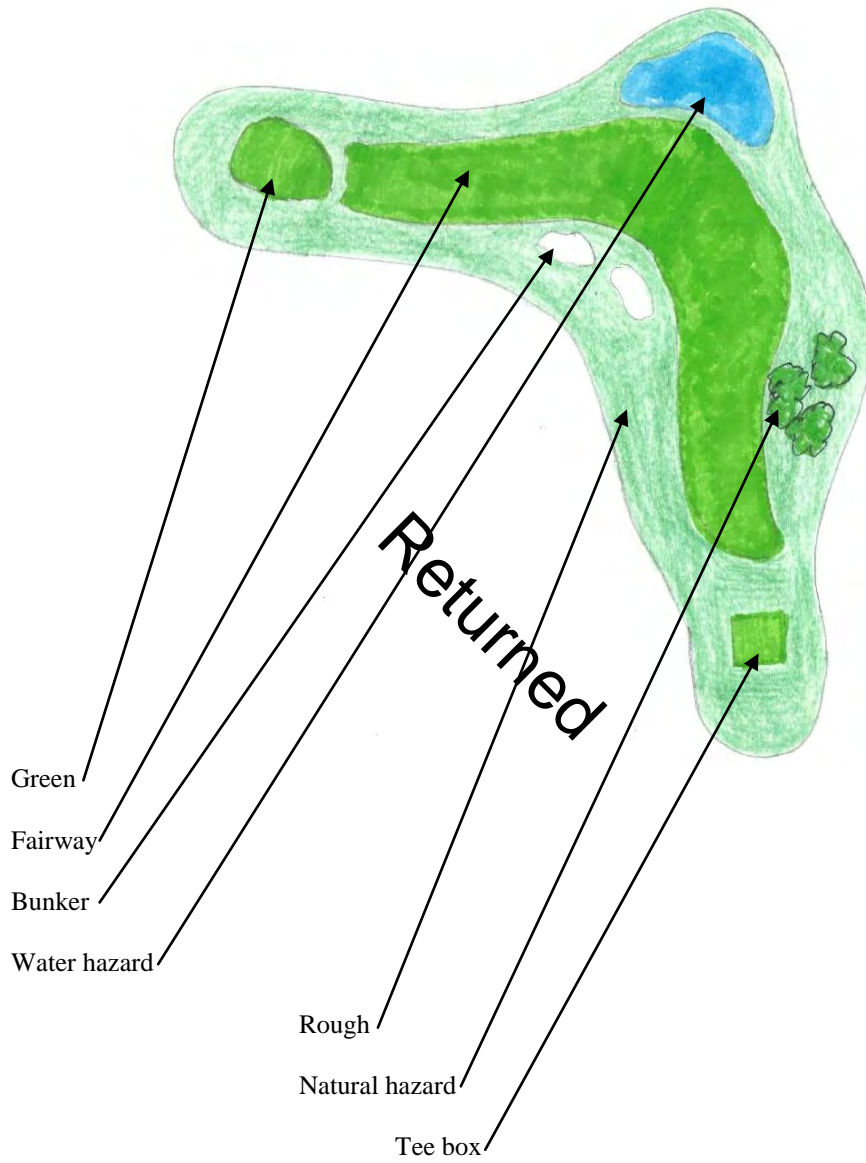


Figure 67

GOLF COURSE TERMINOLOGY

Watson & Henry Associates



Original configuration



Current configuration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Ridgewood Country Club

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Bergen

DATE RECEIVED: 3/31/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/25/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/12/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/17/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000222

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/14/14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER Wendeline / Tom J. Abbott

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 5/14/14

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Comments Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: Ridgewood Country Club
Property Location: Bergen County, NJ
Reference Number: 14000222
Date of Return: 5/14/14

Nomination Summary

The Ridgewood Country Club nomination is being returned for substantive and technical issues. The 220-acre golf course and country club is being nominated under the areas of significance of landscape architecture, architecture, and entertainment/recreation at the local level under Criteria A and C. The period of significance is 1929 – 1935.

Substantive Issues

Section 8

The nomination is submitted at the local level under Criterion C. However, the summary paragraph states that it is of statewide significance in architecture and landscape architecture as the work of masters. Is it local or state level? The nomination provides a list of things designed by Wendehack, but does not convincingly define him as a “master.” In this case, the nomination should concentrate on the design of the clubhouse itself, either as an example of Norman Revival or as a type of clubhouse. In either case, the nomination should explain what are the salient components of the property archetype (either the stylistic characteristics of the style or the design characteristics of a clubhouse) and address how the Ridgewood Clubhouse exemplifies either (or both). As it is, the nomination does not address why this is an important building.

The same is true about the golf course. While Tilinghast is considered a master, the nomination doesn't explain why he is considered a master. It does explain his design philosophy and how the course

demonstrates that philosophy. After the summary paragraph, provide at least one paragraph for architecture and one for landscape architecture that makes the argument for why this property is significant under these areas.

Section 8 also has “Entertainment/Recreation” noted as an area of significance, but this is not addressed anywhere in the nomination nor is Criterion A checked. Either drop this area or explain why the property meets this area of significance.

Technical Issues

Section 7

On page 8, describing Hole 2(E), it notes that a spring was capped in 1975 by Rees Jones. Later, on in Section 8, page 4, it says that the same spring was capped by Robert Trent Jones. Please reconcile.

On page 12, Hole 8, replace the word “balance” with “bounce.”

On page 14, Hole 8, second paragraph, insert the word “dogleg” after the word “sharp.”

Section 8

Page 2, fourth and fifth paragraphs, Tillinghast designed more than just the Black course at Bethpage, he designed the whole complex. Please clarify.

Throughout the nomination there are track change “marks” in the margins, beginning in Section 7, page 1. Please remove these marks.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Lisa Deline and James Gabbert, Historians
National Register of Historic Places
Lisa_Deline@nps.gov