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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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name CITY OF ST AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF COURSE

other names/site number St. Augustine Mini Golf Course

2. Location

street & number 111 Avenida Menendez N/A not for publication

city or town St Augustine N/A vicinity

state Florida code FL county St Johns code 109 zip code 32084

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Robert F. Benders 10/3/14
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper [Signature] Date of Action 11-19-2014

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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

(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)

RECREATION and CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation/
 Miniature Golf Course

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION and CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation/
 Miniature Golf Course

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

NA

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls CONCRETE

roof

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1949-1964

Significant Dates

1949, 1963

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Parker, Boyd/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

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Section number 7 Page 1 **ST. AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF
COURSE, ST. AUGUSTINE, SAINT
JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The City of St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course is located in downtown St. Augustine, 111 Avenida Menendez, in St. Johns County, Florida. The golf course was constructed in 1949, and is situated east of the historic seawall at the edge of the Matanzas River and south of the Bridge of the Lions (NR 1982). The golf course consists of eighteen holes arranged in a variety of geometric designs and a non-historic clubhouse. All features are constructed of a poured concrete with coquina shellstone aggregate, and the fairways are surfaced with green synthetic carpeting. Low trimmed hedges border the eighteen holes and define the circulation pattern. With the exception of the replacement of fairway carpeting, all features are original and the course retains a high level of integrity.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

General Features

The site of the St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course is an irregularly shaped parcel, located east of the historic c.1840 seawall. The area was filled during the 1920s during construction of the Bridge of Lions. It is part of the City of St. Augustine Marina complex and is just north of the City Yacht Pier (Photo #1). Hedges, scattered cabbage palms and small trees are landscape features of the course. The hedges are a genus of the conifers, and are planted in beds around the holes to guide players around the course. The course is lit with pole lanterns to allow for night play.

The course consists of eighteen holes with rectangular, ell or dogleg, triangular, and irregular shapes (Photos #2-5). Many greens have octagonal forms (Photo #6). The fairways are sloped, some with terracing, and all holes are surfaced with green, synthetic carpet. Tees consists of rubber mats with three small holes designed to hold a ball in a choice of positions. Each hole is marked by a metal flag pole with the corresponding number on the flag, similarly striped round poles approximately three feet tall with fixed plates are placed nearby for recording shots on score cards. The age of flag poles is unknown but they appear similar to flag poles found in historic photographs at the time the course opened.

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All holes, including fairways, greens, curbing, retaining walls, steps and connecting sidewalks, are constructed of coquina concrete (Photo #6). Coquina is mainly composed of mineral calcite, often including some phosphate in the form of seashells or coral. Coquina is usually a porous stone and easily breaks into component shell or coral fragments, which can be substituted for gravel. Coquina concrete used throughout this course is produced from coquina gravel mixed with sand and Portland cement.

The non-contributing clubhouse that serves as the ticket booth, located on the southwest corner of the course, and was built c. 1970 (Photo #7). It is a one-story Mediterranean Style building with an exterior stucco finish and hip roof covered with barrel tile. The corners are marked with quoins and fenestration consists of aluminum sash windows. It is strategically located near both the 1st hole where the course begins, and the 18th hole, where the course terminates. The facade faces north toward the first hole and features a porch supported by square, wood columns and covered by an extension from the main roof. The front entrance here opens to the interior where fees are paid and equipment is provided. The porch wraps around to the east elevation of the building to provide covered access from the 18th hole.

Individual Holes

The **1st hole** (Photo #2) is located just north of the clubhouse parallel with Avenida Menendez. It is a straight level fairway leading to a level green. The **2nd hole** (Photo #3) features a dogleg or ell plan that sharply angles to the left. The curbing transitions into a raised coquina concrete wall at the corner of the ell. The fairway leads to a narrow, raised green at the far end of the hole. The **3rd hole** (Photo #4) begins with a 45 degree angled approach to a main, straight fairway. The fairway and hole are both level. There are raised coquina walls at the juncture of the approach and main fairway and around the green. The **4th hole** (Photo #8) is level throughout and has the form of an irregular T with the longer side of the fairway extends east leading to the green. There is raised triangular shaped protruding wall at the juncture of the T shape, designed to direct balls toward or away from the hole. The **5th hole** (Photo #1) has a triangular form with the approach facing the Bridge of the Lions and the hole approach turned south. It is level throughout and has a raised

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coquina concrete wall at the apex of the V-shape. The hole terminates with an octagonal shaped green. The **6th hole** (Photo #5) is S-shaped and level throughout. There are raised coquina concrete walls at the outside corners of the fairway. The **7th hole** has a gently sloped fairway rising to a platform, where a tube hole delivers balls to a grade-level, octagonal shaped green. The **8th hole** (Photo #9) has a short, level fairway with a circular green featuring a raised pen placement.

The **9th hole** has a level dog-leg right fairway leading to an octagonal shaped green. There is a raised coquina concrete wall on the outside corner of the dog-leg. The **10th hole** is located just east of the clubhouse. It is a straight, level fairway leading to a narrow, raised green. The **11th hole** is ell-shaped with a sharp 90 degree angle to the left and a level fairway and green. The curbing transitions into a raised coquina concrete wall at the corner of the ell. The **12th hole** (Photo #10) is a hairpin shaped hole with a level fairway and green. A segmented, angled coquina concrete wall is located at the head of the hairpin. The **13th hole** (Photo #5) is a multi-angled hole with a level fairway and green. The approach and green are at 45 degree angles to the main fairway. Raised coquina concrete walls are located at the corners where the approach and green intersect the fairway. The **14th hole** has a straight, level fairway and green. The **15th hole** (Photo #11) has a sloped fairway with a drop at the crest of the fairway leading to a level, octagonal shaped green. The **16th hole** has a straight, level fairway leading to an octagonal shaped green. The **17th hole** has a short, sloped fairway with a drop at the crest of fairway leading to a round shaped green. The **18th hole** (Photo #7) has a long straight, level fairway leading to a raised octagonal shaped green. The green has a bottomless hole which returns balls to the ticket booth.

ALTERATIONS

The integrity of the St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course is excellent. Historic aerial maps and photos indicate that little has changed since it was originally constructed. Other than periodic replenishment of outdoor carpet all original features remain. The course is well maintained under a lease agreement between the City of St. Augustine and Ripley's Believe it or Not Museum.

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COURSE, ST AUGUSTINE, ST JOHNS
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The City of St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course is **locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation** for its association with golf, an important recreational activity in the city since the 1890s. The course opened in 1949, and it is the oldest extant miniature golf course in Northeast Florida. It is **locally significant in the area of Social History** for its association with the Civil Rights Movement in St. Augustine, from the years 1963 to 1964. In 1963, following protests by the local chapter of the National Association for the advancement of Colored People, it was the first public facility in the city to be desegregated. The St. Augustine Civil Rights Movement would later prove important in a national context to the passage of the 1964 Public Accommodation Act. The course is **locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Landscape Architecture**. It is an excellent example of a geometric shaped, standardized miniature golf course designed for competitive play. Moreover, it is constructed of coquina concrete, a distinctly local building material.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT/Entertainment/Recreation

The origins of miniature golf stem from an adaptation of regulation golf played on a much smaller scale, whereas golf evolved from Scotland in the 15th century, as a game played over a course with eighteen designed fairways and holes. The first known short course for putting only was built for the St. Andrews Women's Putting Club in 1867.¹ The use of putting courses, that were the foundation for mini golf, built into the natural landscape, spread throughout Great Britain and then later to the United States and the United Kingdom.

Miniature golf courses in the United States developed in the early 1900s, with courses built into the natural landscape to recreate regulation courses with a country club atmosphere. The pioneering course is believed to be "Thistle Dhu," built in 1916 on the estate of James Barber at Pinehurst, North Carolina. Amateur landscape architect Edward H. Wiswell designed the course as a realistic mini-version of a standard course. A key to popularizing the sport was the development of an artificial surface. This invention is credited to

¹ "Putt-Putt's 60th Puts Spotlight on Mini-Golf," USA Today, June 11, 1014.

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Fairburn in 1922. Fairburn, a cotton planter in Mexico, was unable to maintain a natural grass surface in the arid climate. He created and patented an artificial surface from cottonseed hulls, sand, oil and green coloring. Fairburn's invention liberated the game from natural grass and its attendant maintenance issues and made the game commercially viable.

By the mid-1920's there were an estimated 150 courses located just on New York City rooftops.² By the 1930s there were approximately 30,000 courses in the United States. It was a popular, leisurely game played by both genders, at any age, without concern for athletic ability or handicap, much as it is enjoyed today.

One of the prototypes for the miniature golf course was developed in 1926 at Lookout Mountain, Tennessee. Garnett and Frieda Carter were the owners of the Fairyland Inn at the summit of Lookout Mountain. The course developed around the theme of the resort and featured sculptures of fairytale characters such as gnomes and elves along with structural hazards. Although initially intended for children, the course quickly attracted adults. The Carters seized on the popularity of the course, patented the design, and secured the rights to Thomas Fairburn's artificial turf. The course design, known as the "Tom Thumb," was soon franchised, mass produced and constructed throughout the United States. While the Tom Thumb course was the model, hundreds of individually owned courses were constructed on vacant lots, rooftops and basements. By 1930 annual attendance for the attractions was estimated in the millions.³

Miniature golf courses were innovative. Early courses were often adjacent to lighting sources that allowed for night play, and later had installed lighting. Courses by the 1930s

²Susan R. Chandler, "Lilli-putt-ian Landmarks, History and Significance of Miniature Golf Course." CRM Magazine, CRM Vol. No. 23, No. 10-2000, pp. 22-24; Jesse F. Gelders, "Why Midget Golf Swept The Country", November 1930, Popular Science; • Robert T. Englert (June 2002). "National Register of Historic Places Registration: Tall Maples Miniature Golf Course". New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

³Susan R. Chandler, "Lilli-putt-ian Landmarks, History and Significance of Miniature Golf Course." CRM Magazine, CRM Vol. No. 23, No. 10-2000, pp. 22-24; <http://www.terrastories.com/bearings/miniature-golf> article by Jonathan Haerber, ed. Bearings; Englert (June 2002). "National Register of Historic Places Registration: Tall Maples Miniature Golf Course".

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often included novelty obstructions to make the playing more amusing. These courses typically featured bottomless final holes which returned balls to a clubhouse. The clubhouse provided balls, putters and scorecards and was the place where fees were collected. Curbing, which controlled putts, could be used like bumpers on a billiard table and added a dimension not found on conventional courses. Garden scale landscaping was also common.⁴ But, due to the Great Depressions most mini golf courses in the United States were closed by the end decade. A rare surviving example from this period is the Parkside Whispering Pines Miniature Golf Course located near Rochester, New York and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.⁵

Following World War II, miniature golf experienced a revival in popularity, and mechanized hazards such as windmills, and musical entertainment were added. During the 1950s, it was promoted as a popular family activity. It was often associated with auto related activities like drive-in restaurants, motels, and drive in theaters. In the 1970s, courses were built using exotic themes with elements such as waterfalls, pools, mountains, caves, and light and sound effects.⁶

Golf, in various forms including miniature golf, has been a significant recreational activity in St. Augustine for over one hundred years. Golf in St. Augustine dates to 1895 when the St. Augustine Golf Club was organized. The Club operated a course on the San Marco Lot, west of San Marco Avenue, where the present St. Augustine Civic Center is located, and on the Fort Marion Green, now the grounds of the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument. Sometime between 1916 and 1921 the Club went out of existence and the courses of the San Marco Lot and Fort Green were removed.⁷

⁴<http://www.terrastories.com/bearings/miniature-golf> article by Jonathan Haerber, ed. *Bearings*

⁵Susan R. Chandler, "Lilli-putt-ian Landmarks, History and Significance of Miniature Golf Course." CRM Magazine, CRM Vol. No. 23, No. 10-2000, pp. 22-24; <http://www.terrastories.com/bearings/miniature-golf> article by Jonathan Haerber, ed. *Bearings*; Englert (June 2002). "National Register of Historic Places Registration: Tall Maples Miniature Golf Course".

⁶Susan R. Chandler, "Lilli-putt-ian Landmarks, History and Significance of Miniature Golf Course." CRM Magazine, CRM Vol. No. 23, No. 10-2000, pp. 22-24; *Ibid.*

⁷St. Augustine Historical Society, Vertical Files, Golf.

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Another early manifestation of miniature golf started in 1898 as "Little Links," located south of the Lincolnville neighborhood in an area known as Dupont Park. A nine hole course was constructed there and the course was used by the St. Augustine Country Club until 1946. The course and its surrounding area became a park for African Americans. No vestiges of the Little Links Course remain.⁸

A third course, St. Augustine Links, was built north of the city in 1915, opening for play in December of 1916. It was owned by the St. Augustine Golf Development Company, a subsidiary of the Flagler System Corporation. In 1950 the name was changed to the Ponce de Leon Golf Course. The Ponce de Leon Course remained in operation until 2003 but has since been closed and converted to a housing development.⁹

The St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course was constructed along the bay front in 1949. Construction of the miniature golf course was supervised by Boyd Parker. A.H. Tomlinson was the original manager of the course. The course clearly has a formal design but the designer is as yet undocumented.¹⁰ In a national context, its construction was part of the revival in popularity of the sport following World War II.¹¹ After the War local hotel operators approached the City Commission about building parks and facilities that would provide recreational activities for visitors to the Ancient City.¹² Improvements were made to the St. Augustine Marina and on June 28, 1949 the City Commission approved a lease for construction of shuffle board courts and the miniature golf course.¹³ The Miniature Golf Course was formally opened on Saturday July 15, 1949 by hosting a tournament featuring Art Manucy the Club Pro at the St. Augustine Golf Links and the brother of historian Albert Manucy, the former United States Miniature Golf Champion W.I. Drysdale, and E.L. Madigan, a prominent amateur golfer and owner of the St. Augustine Alligator Farm.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ St. Augustine Record July 15, 1949, page 10; St. Augustine Record July 18, 1949, page 10..

¹¹ St. Augustine Record July 15, 1949, page 10; St. Augustine Record July 18, 1949, page 10..

¹² St. Augustine Record January 14, 1947, page 8.

¹³ St. Augustine Record June 28, 1949, page 1.

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As such, the St. Augustine Mini Golf Course is the only golf property in the city and surrounding Northeast Florida meeting the age, integrity and other eligibility requirements for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. There were miniature golf courses constructed throughout Florida from the 1920s through 1950 but none in areas near St. Augustine are known to survive. Popular courses were at Jacksonville, DeLand, Tampa, Key West, Sebring, Hollywood by the Sea, but are demolished.¹⁴

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Social History: Local Civil Rights Activities

Protests relating to the Civil Rights Movement occurred in St. Augustine, Florida during the years 1963–1964. It was part of the wider, national African American Civil Rights Movement. It was a major event in St. Augustine's long history and had a significant role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. While St. Augustine had a long standing policy of segregation, the city became the focus of civil rights protest in large part because of the 400th celebration as the nation's oldest continuous settlement planned for 1965.¹⁵

A local dentist and NAACP representative named Robert Hayling initiated protests that eventually ended segregation in St. Augustine. In 1963, Dr. Hayling, a resident of the historic Lincolnville neighborhood, organized campaigns against local segregated public facilities and discriminatory policies.¹⁶ On January 8, 1963, White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger announced President John F. Kennedy's appointments to the St. Augustine Quadricentennial Commission to promote the celebration of the founding of St. Augustine. Upon the announcement, Dr. Hayling questioned why no African Americans were included. On February 23, 1963, the NAACP formally requested that Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, who was scheduled to swear in the members of the all-white National Quadri-centennial Commission, not visit St. Augustine. On March 7, Vice President Johnson wrote to local NAACP leaders, promising that "no event in which I will

¹⁴ Florida State Archives, Florida Memory Project, see City of Jacksonville, Miniature Golf Course, Baby Links Golf Course, DeLand

¹⁵ St. Augustine Civil Rights Movement: Web: <http://www.crmvet.org/tim/tim63b.htm#1963staug>

¹⁶ http://augustine.com/history/black_history/dr_robert_hayling/activism.php

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participate in St. Augustine will be segregated.” Johnson’s aide George Reedy consulted with Dr. Hayling to ensure a smooth visit, promising all events would be integrated and that the White House would arrange a meeting between black and white leaders of St. Augustine the day after the vice president’s visit. On March 11, Vice President Johnson visited St. Augustine to swear in members of the Quadri-centennial Commission. Only a dozen African-Americans, including Dr. Hayling, were allowed tickets to the gala for Johnson at the Ponce de Leon Hotel. They were confined to an alcove table in the back, out of sight, and were guarded by Secret Service agents. The next day Dr. Hayling and other members of the NAACP in St. Augustine arrived for their anticipated meeting with city commissioners, but instead were escorted to an empty room. Vice President Johnson had by then departed St. Augustine.¹⁷

When Dr. Hayling’s efforts failed to integrate the public accommodations and the 400th anniversary celebration, he and other local civil rights leaders appealed to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) for help. Civil rights activities in St. Augustine subsequently became of national interest.¹⁸ The SCLC efforts in St. Augustine included participation from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Reverend Ralph Abernathy, Reverend Andrew Young, Hosea Williams, C.T. Vivian and Fred Shuttlesworth - all national figures of the American Civil Rights movement. The SCLC called on New England universities to send volunteers to the city for March, 1964 demonstrations. By the end of one week of protests, police had arrested hundreds of demonstrators, including a delegation of rabbis and the 72-year-old mother of Massachusetts governor Endicott Peabody. White vigilantes terrorized local businesses that dared to serve African Americans.¹⁹

In early June, Martin Luther King, Jr., came to St. Augustine and took part in a sit-in at Monson's Motor Lodge. The same month, the SCLC arranged for baseball star Jackie Robinson to address a civil rights rally in Lincolnville. The publicity surrounding these two events hastened Congress' passage of the Civil Rights Act on June 20, 1964. President

¹⁷ <http://civilrightslibrary.com/collections/timeline/>

¹⁸ Bryce, Shirley (2004). "St. Augustine Movement 1963-1964". *Civil Rights Movement Veterans*. www.crmvet.org/tim/timhis64.htm#1964staug.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

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Johnson signed the Act into law on July 2. Local segregationists initially refused to comply with the new Act, but opposition soon ended. The end of segregation in St. Augustine demonstrated that communities could not uphold segregation in the face of determined resistance and federal legislation.²⁰

While much of the protests in St. Augustine, particularly in 1964, focused on public accommodations such as hotels, motels and restaurants, early desegregation efforts initially were aimed at government owned facilities and programs. For example, by the fall of 1963, despite the 1954 Supreme Court ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education*, St. Augustine still had only six black children attending white schools.

CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE ST. AUGUSTINE MINI GOLF COURSE

In June, 1963 segregation of the municipally owned miniature golf course became an issue.²¹ A scheduled meeting between the NAACP and the St. Augustine City Commission on June 21, 1963 was to focus on City of St. Augustine racial policies. The meeting became informal when only two commissioners, Harry Gutterman and H.L. McDaniel, appeared and the commission failed to reach a quorum. Despite assurances the previous night from Harry Gutterman that all facilities under control of the city were integrated, on June 22 a group of blacks were turned away from the municipal mini golf course leased to Bert Stone.²²

On June 28, 1963 the St. Augustine City Commission met in regular session. The St. Augustine Branch of the NAACP delegation, headed by Dr. Robert Hayling and represented by Henry Twine, a future city commissioner, presented a petition concerning discriminatory policies of the city.²³ Attorney Leander J. Shaw, Jr. of Jacksonville spoke

²⁰Ibid.

²¹Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, June 28, 1963, Jacksonville Field Office Report to FBI Director.

²²Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, June 20, 1963, Jacksonville Field Office Report to FBI Director.

²³*St. Augustine Record* June 30, 1963, p. 8B. City of St. Augustine, City Commission Minutes, Friday, June 28, 1963, Regular Meeting.

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on behalf of the NAACP. Leander Shaw was to become one of Florida's most distinguished jurists. He served appointments under Governor Rubin Askew, and Governor Bob Graham, and served a Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court.²⁴

The NAACP petition presented on June 28th addressed six areas of concern. The second area concerned desegregation of all city owned facilities. City Attorney Robert Andreu, later a county judge, addressed the petition stating the City had no ordinance restricting or prohibiting the use of municipal facilities based on race. Attorney Shaw stated that a black citizen had been told that he could not use the mini golf course. Attorney Andreu concurred that the request had been refused and that access to the Public Library had also been denied. Upon hearing these reports Andreu contacted the administrators of both facilities and received letters which he read into the record. The first letter was from E.J. Cosgrove, Treasurer of the Free Public Library Association, enclosing a letter from himself to the Librarian, Mrs. Flesher. Mrs. Flesher's letter stated that the library's facilities were open to anyone regardless of race or color. Andreu then read into the record a letter from Earl Masters, Chairman of the Community Playground Association. Masters stated that there were no restrictions based on race for the facilities operated by the Council on Bay Street (now Avenida Menendez). Attorney Shaw asked if Negroes could be denied the use of the golf course. Attorney Andreu stated that they could not be prevented from playing based on race. The only restriction, he said, would be if they were not properly dressed, intoxicated or for some other legitimate reason not based on race. Andreu clarified that the City of St. Augustine did not own the library but contributed funds to it, but did own the golf course which was managed by the Recreation Council.²⁵

Through its action, the City of St. Augustine in June, 1963 ended an informal policy of segregation of the golf course. This was the first desegregation of a public facility in St. Augustine. Desegregation of public schools did not occur until the fall of 1963. Moreover, desegregation of public commercial accommodations in St. Augustine would not be so easily achieved and would lead to much negative publicity for St. Augustine in the coming

²⁴See Leander Shaw Biography at <http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/justices/retired/shaw.html>.

²⁵St. Augustine Record June 30, 1963, p. 8B. City of St. Augustine, City Commission Minutes, Friday, June 28, 1963, Regular Meeting.

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COURSE, ST AUGUSTINE, ST JOHNS
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

year. In March of 1964, prominent women from Massachusetts were arrested in St. Augustine, including the Massachusetts governor's seventy-two year old mother, Mrs. Mary Peabody, which made national and international news. On June 11, Martin Luther King was arrested in the Monson Motor Lodge restaurant, and a week later, June 18, a contingent of Jewish Rabbis from across the United States were arrested. Then on the same day, June 18, James Brock, manager of the Monson Motor Lodge and president of the Florida Hotel and Motel Association, poured muriatic acid into a pool occupied by black and white protesters. The event made national and world-wide headlines, and worked to change public opinion about segregation practices. These Civil Rights activities in St. Augustine greatly influenced the passage on July 2nd of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.²⁶

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

In the post-World War II era, particularly the 1950s, mini golf experienced a resurgence. Miniature golf design during that period was divided into two schools. One of the design schools exhibited the widely known goofy golf, crazy golf, and wacky golf-styles. Whimsical features serving as course focal points were the signature images for these types of courses. The larger, the better, to attract the most attention. Features such as a sphinx, castle, windmill, or gold mine were common features of these courses.²⁷ These whimsical courses had par set between two to six strokes.

The second school of design considered the course to be used as a competitive sport rather than a strictly recreational activity. Course design following this concept was more simple, regular and geometric, and depended on skill rather than chance. This type of course was franchised in 1955 by Putt Putt Golf of Fayetteville, North Carolina.²⁸ The Professional Putters Association (PPA) was started in 1959 by the founder of Putt Putt Golf, Don Clayton. Originally started as the Professional Putt-Putt Golfers Association in 1959, the name was changed in 1960 to the Professional Putters Association (PPA). The organization formed to provide tournaments and competition for those who viewed putting as a sport.

²⁶ Bryce, Shirley (2004). "St. Augustine Movement 1963-1964". *Civil Rights Movement Veterans*.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Putt-Putt_Fun_Center

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Since 1959, the PPA has held a National Championship Tournament on a standardized Putt Putt course which has become the model for competitive miniature golf.²⁹

SIGNIFICANCE

The St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course is significant for its design. It is an early and excellent example of a standardized, geometric course designed for skillful competitive putting which was the original intent of the sport, and returned to popularity following World War II. Appropriately, the course was inaugurated in 1949 by E.L. Madigan, former United States Miniature Golf Champion in a friendly match with a local golf pro, Art Manucy, and a skilled local amateur golfer, E.L. Madigan.³⁰

The St. Augustine course embodies the standardized, competitive course in a number of ways. It has a Spartan look with no embellishment or thematic design. All holes on the St. Augustine course are par 2 and a hole-in-one is possible on every hole. Obstacles on the St. Augustine Course are minimal and largely limited to rising and declining fairways. The St. Augustine course is appropriate for competitive miniature golf tournaments because their standardized features made play more a game of skill than luck. Although the St. Augustine Mini Golf Course did not originate the concept, it was constructed prior to the Putt Putt franchising in 1955.

The St. Augustine Course is significant for its coquina concrete construction material. St. Augustine is known for its pioneering use of poured concrete as a durable, fireproof, rot resistant and economically feasible building material. First used by Franklin Smith in 1883 to build Villa Zorayda, it was also used by architects Carrere and Hastings used poured coquina concrete for their commissions for Henry Flagler. It has remained a popular material for foundation construction and landscape features such as sidewalks well into the 20th century.³¹ The coquina concrete material at the St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course is partially the reason for its longevity of materials and design.

²⁹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Putt-Putt_Fun_Center

³⁰ *St. Augustine Record*, July 15, 1949, page 10; *St. Augustine Record* July 18, 1949, page 10.

³¹ William Adams, et al, "Historic Sites and Buildings Survey of St. Augustine, Florida," ms. on file at the Florida Division of Historic Resources, Tallahassee (St. Augustine: Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board, 1980), pp. 159-162.

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http://augustine.com/history/black_history/dr_robert_hayling/activism.php

<http://civilrightslibrary.com/collections/timeline/>

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**CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF
COURSE, ST AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(6-1) City of St. Aug – PT of Seawall Property Lying S of Bridge of Lions-Carpet Golf.
111 Avenida Menendez, Saint Augustine 32084-0000.
Tax Parcel No. 1962000010
Acre 0.38

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the property historically associated with the St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course.

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Section number Photos Page 1 **ST. AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF
COURSE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

PHOTOGRAPHIC LIST

1. St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course, 109 Avenida Menendez
2. St. Johns County, Florida
3. Paul Weaver
4. July 2014
5. Mini Golf Course overlooking the marina, looking northeast
6. Photo #1 of 11

The information for 1 – 4 is the same for all remaining photographs.

5. Rectangular fairway, hole #1, looking north
6. Photo #2 of 11

5. Ell shaped fairway, hole #2, looking south
6. Photo #3 of 11

5. Triangular shaped fairway, hole #3, looking northeast
6. Photo #4 of

5. Irregular shaped fairway, hole #13, looking southwest
6. Photo #5 of 11

5. Octagonal shaped green, hole #7, looking southwest
6. Photo #6 of 11

5. Club House (non-contributing), looking west
6. Photo #7 of 11

5. Hole #4, looking northeast
6. Photo #8 of 11

5. Hole #8, looking southwest
6. Photo #9 of 11

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COURSE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

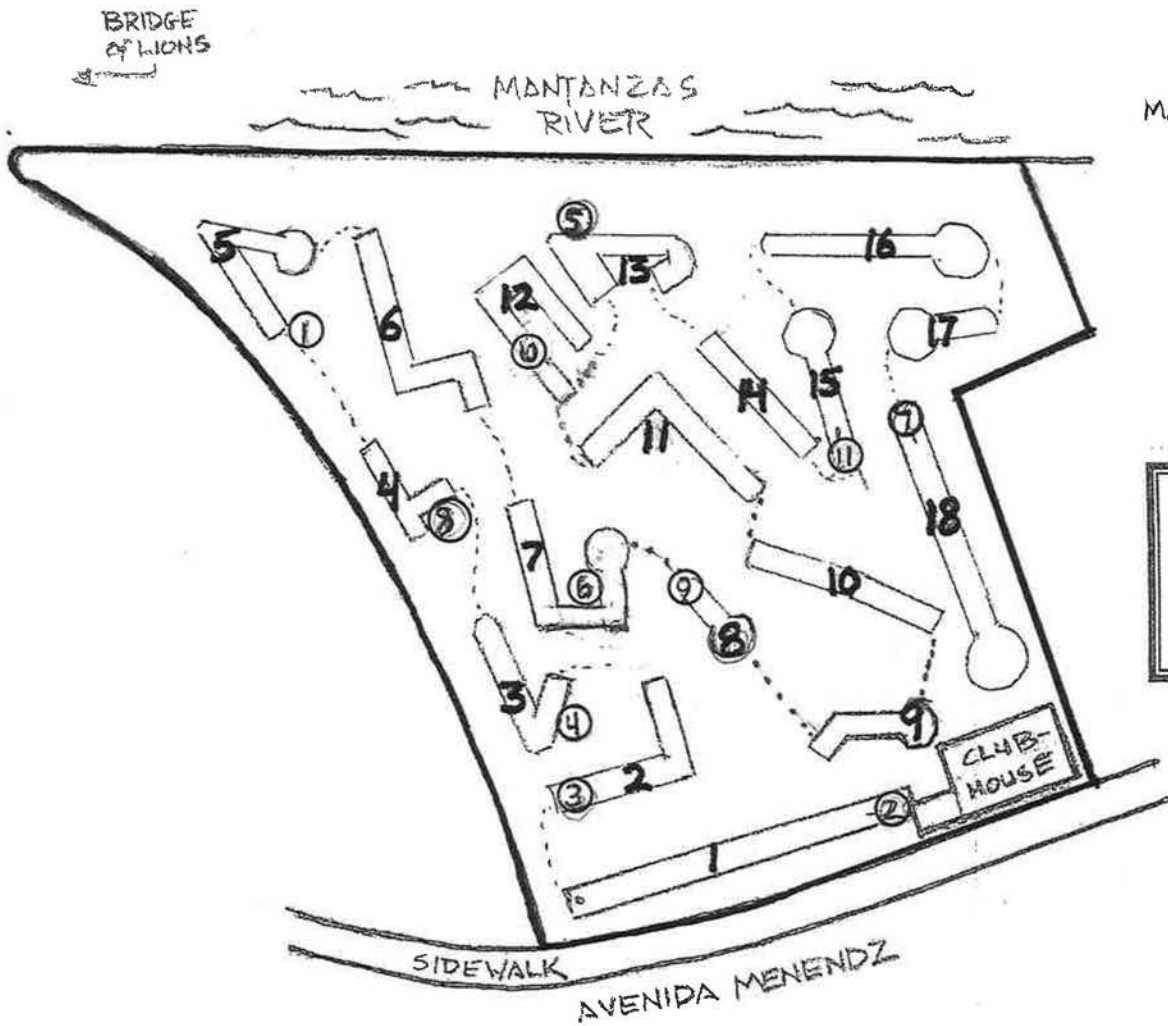
- 5. Hole #12, looking east
- 6. Photo #10 of 11

- 5. Hole #15, looking east
- 6. Photo #11 of 11



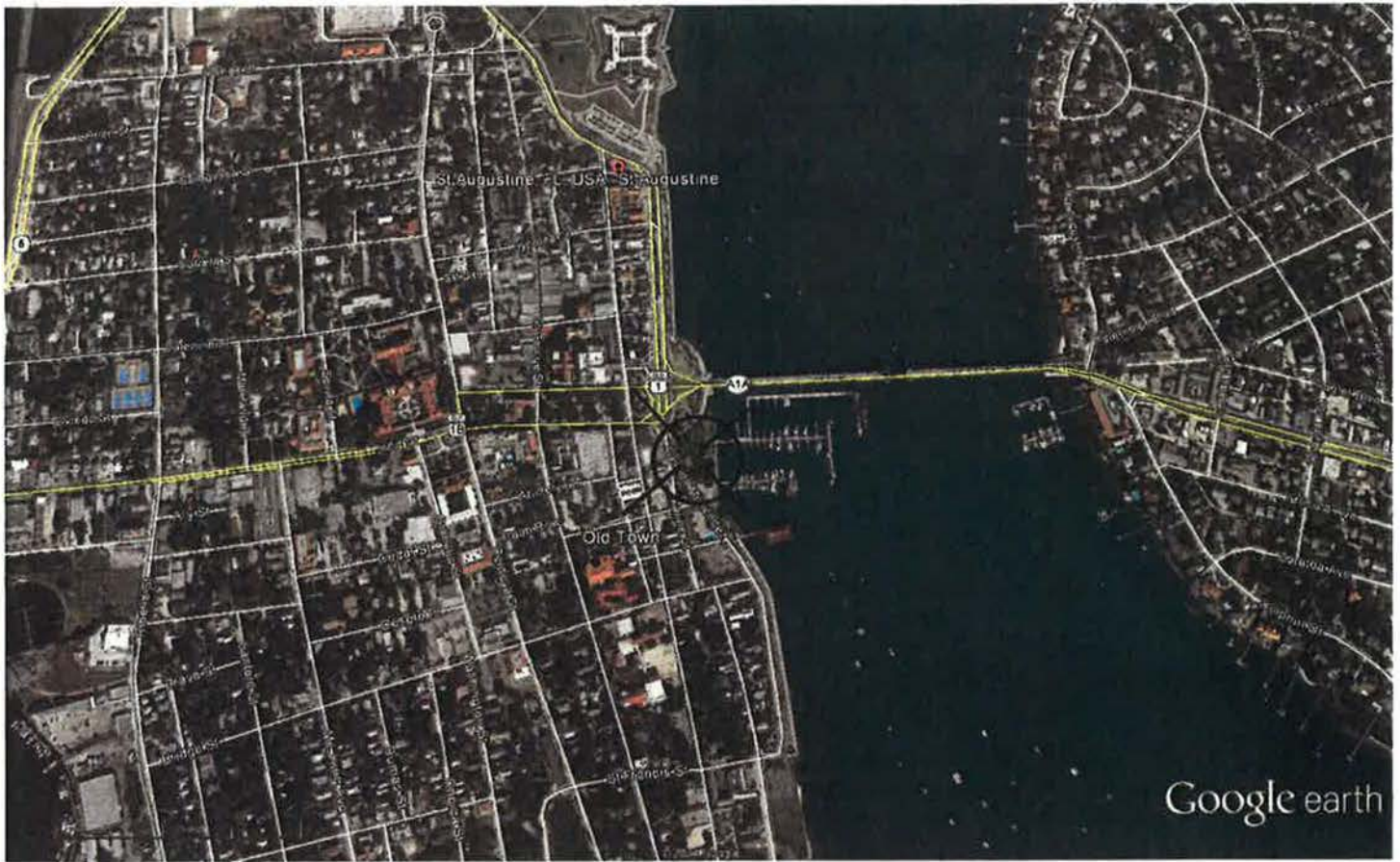
ST AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF COURSE
St Augustine, St Johns County, Florida

LOCATOR MAP



ST AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF COURSE
 St. Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida

Site and Photo Diagram



Google earth

feet
meters

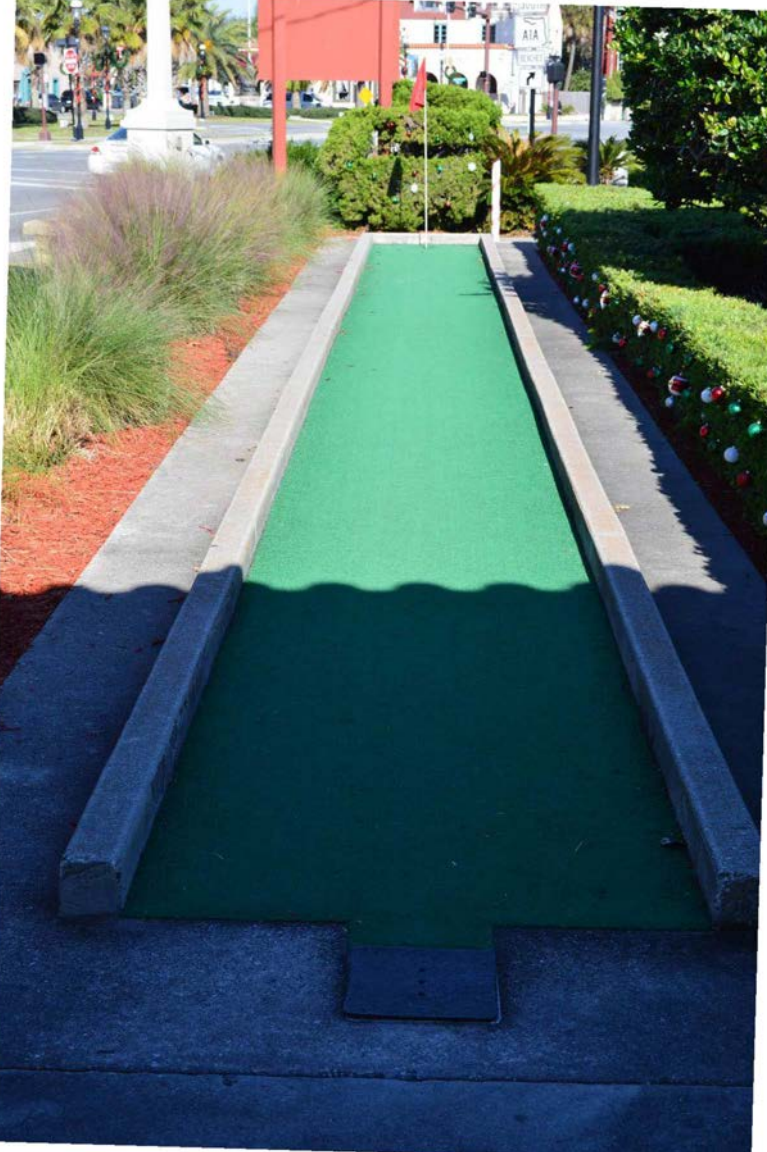
3000
900



ST AUGUSTINE MINIATURE GOLF COURSE
St. Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida

Zone 17
Easting 470015
Northing 3306861



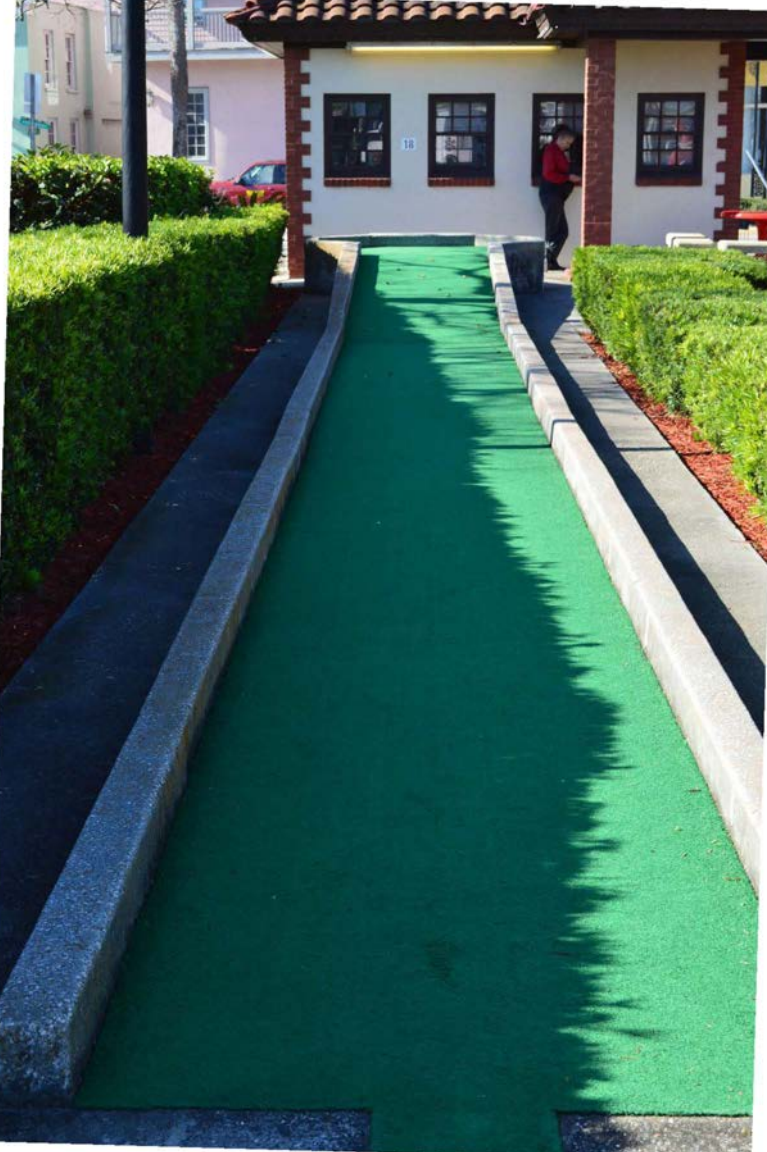


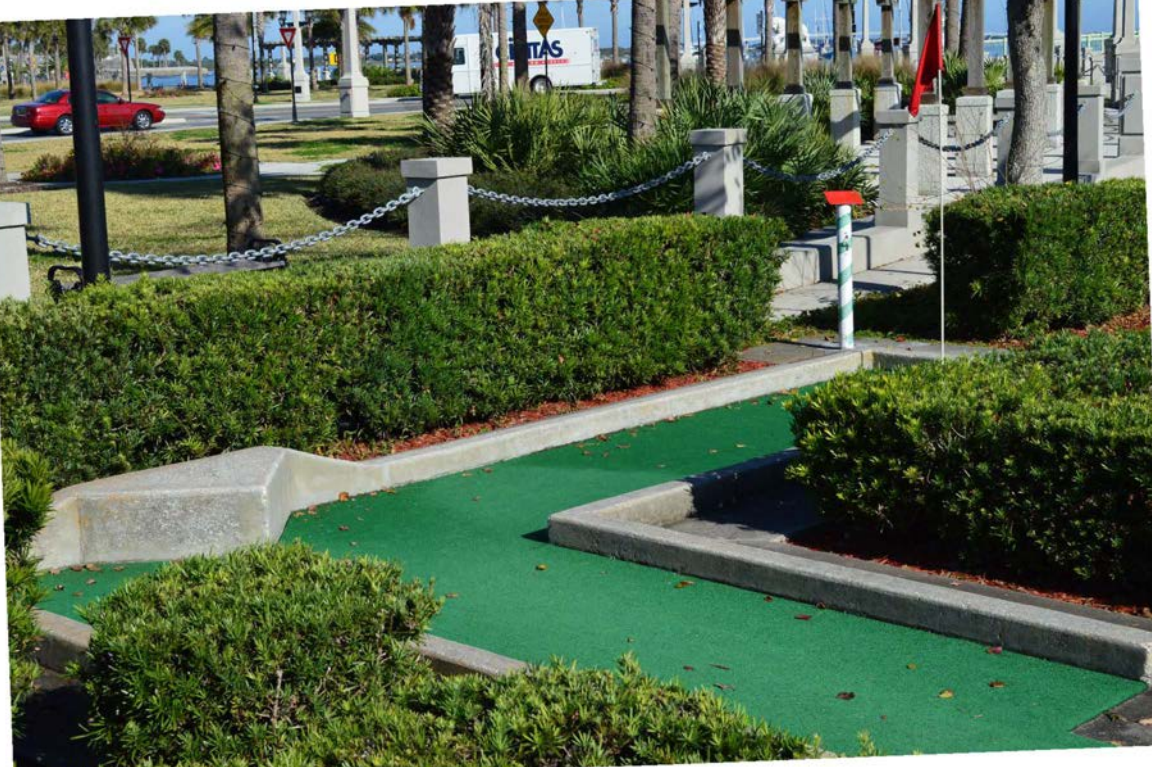






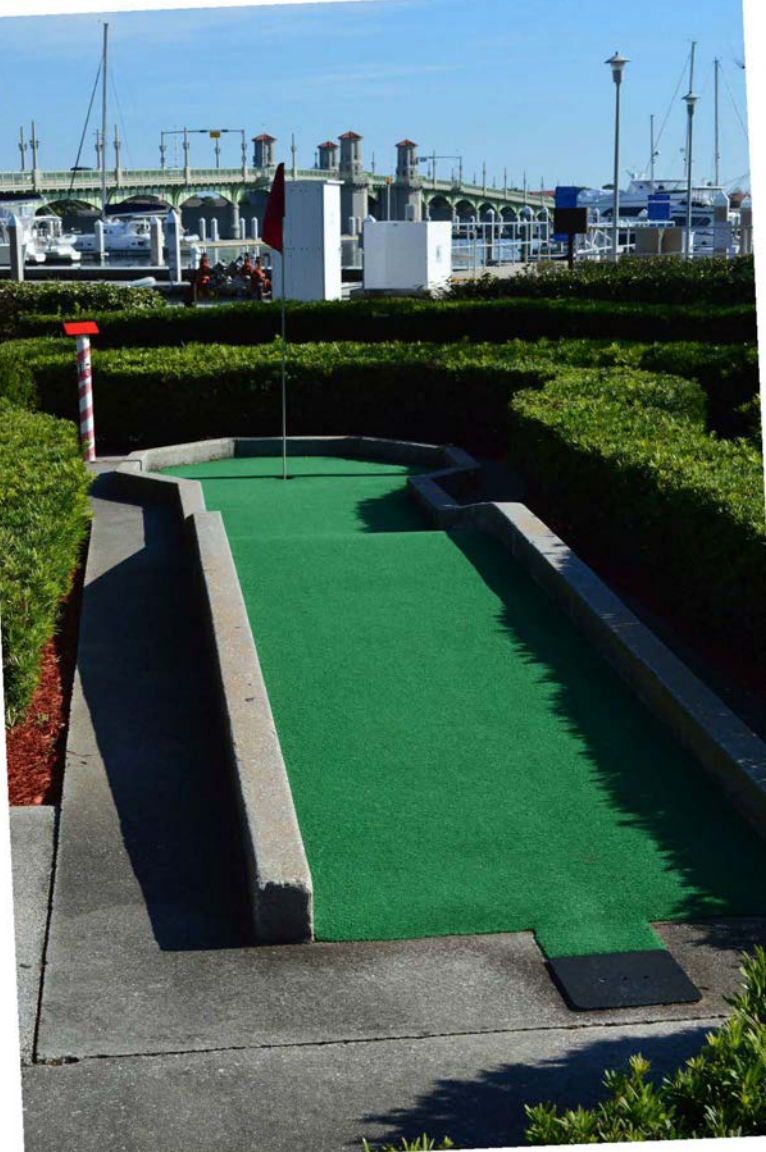












UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY City of St. Augustine Miniature Golf Course
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: FLORIDA, St. Johns

DATE RECEIVED: 10/10/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/03/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/18/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/26/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000953

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11-19-2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Example of the Post war Revival in mini golf. Adopted the
Strategic (versus "goofy") golf ideal, with minimal par + Geometric shapes
& Solid walls.
Tangentially involved in local desegregation in 1963-64 period.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A+C

REVIEWER J. Gilbert DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RICK SCOTT
Governor

KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State



October 3, 2014

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
1201 Eye Street, N.W., 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is a submission of the nomination and additional materials (nomination form, continuation sheets, site plan, GIS data, digital images and disk) for:

St. Augustine Mini Golf Course (FMSF #8SJ5636, St. Johns County)

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 245-6333 if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Desiree Estabrook".

Desiree Estabrook
Historic Preservation Supervisor, Survey & Registration
Bureau of Historic Preservation



Division of Historical Resources
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Promoting Florida's History and Culture VivaFlorida.org

