

# The Early History of Golf in New Haven, Connecticut

A Paper Read

Before

THE NEW HAVEN COLONY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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By

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# The Early History of Golf in New Haven, Connecticut

*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

I thank you, Mr. President, for your kind introduction and I can assure you it is an honor and a pleasure tonight to give you the history of the beginning of Golf in New Haven, Connecticut.

I had always hoped sometime to do something tangible for Golf and I can think of no better service to render to my adopted City and State, than to give the early History of Golf and collection of Golf Clubs as my contribution to the Royal and Ancient Game. I also wish this collection to be regarded as an offering of gratitude on my part for all the kindness extended to me by its citizens since my adoption as one of her sons over fifty-five years ago.

The opportunity of rendering helpful service imparted to my life a deep joy and satisfaction in the pursuit of the fascinating game of Golf. If this, and future generations follow the game with enthusiasm there is no doubt but that it will bring out the best that is in them.

Let me start with this admonition—

“Keep your eye on the ball”.

A familiar phrase almost always neglected, causing ninety per cent of our trouble in playing the game.

A member of Parliament came down from London, England, to a famous golf course in North Berwick, Scotland, and immediately went out to play the course. When he had finished his game he entered Ben Sayers' shop, and said: “Ben, I don't know what was the matter with me today, but I was topping my balls.” Ben said: “You must have been taking your eye off the ball,” but the Englishman said: “No, I didn't do that, but when I played the second and fifth holes I topped my ball into the rough,” and Sayers again said: “You took your eye off the ball.” The Englishman's reply was “Nonsense, I did not take my eye off the ball.” Whereupon Sayers said: “I'll tell you what I will do with you. I will bring out a dozen balls and for every one you top I will give you a new ball.” The Member of Parliament, in his endeavour to top the balls kept his eyes firmly fixed on the ball and every one went off the club perfectly, as clean as a whistle. This demonstration spoke louder than words.

I have divided my talk into three headings :

- 1) The Early History of Golf in New Haven.
- 2) The Clubs that were used at that time and their evolution.
- 3) The players who excelled with the Clubs now in the Collection.

When I was a boy I always enjoyed a minister who started out with a certain number of headings for his sermon. I could always tell where he was at, and could anticipate the finish which was most important, but when he added lastly and finally, my patience got well nigh exhausted. I assure you that I will follow my text : firstly, Early History of Golf in New Haven.

It is a generally accepted fact that Golf was introduced in the East here in 1888 by John Reid and his group known as the "Apple Tree Gang", at Yonkers, New York. The old Apple Tree was where the group hung their coats preparatory to playing golf. This served as a clubhouse until the St. Andrews Golf Club was organized at Yonkers, New York.

Professor Theodore S. Woolsey, Professor of International Law at Yale University, and Justus S. Hotchkiss, a retired business man, had come in contact with the game in the spring of 1895 and they decided it would be a good idea to start the game in New Haven. Just at this time Justus S. Hotchkiss decided to have a cherry wardrobe built to match a similar one in his home at the corner of Wall and Church Streets, This location is where Trinity Parish House now stands, and, accordingly, Mr. Hotchkiss made arrangements with David H. Clark, cabinet maker and builder, to have this work done. It so happened that I was the fortunate tradesman, employed by David H. Clark at that time, selected to carry out this special work. During the process of erection, Mr. Hotchkiss asked me if I came from Scotland and upon learning that I did then asked me if I knew anything about Golf, and my reply was "Yes". I played the game when I was serving my apprenticeship in Scotland, and the making and repairing of golf clubs was one of my special duties in the shop.

After our talk, Mr. Hotchkiss immediately went out and brought in Professor Theodore S. Woolsey, who lived in the second house nearer Grove Street. Then I was called into the drawing-room and advised of their ambition to get a location where they could play Golf and asked if I, with my knowledge of the game, would help them. The next day, we found suitable ground for a nine-hole course between Prospect Street and Winchester Avenue from Division to

Goodrich Streets. Arrangements were then made to rent the property for a golf course. During the next few days, in my spare moments, I was busily engaged in the laying out of the course and a plan was thus prepared so that the work could be intelligently carried out. When the cherry wardrobe was completed, I started in to build the course and it was ready for play when College opened in the fall and, from that time on, Golf has been my life work.

The Club was organized in 1896 under the name of the New Haven Golf Club with Joseph T. Whittlesey as president. Membership started with a few of the professors and a goodly number of Yale undergraduates who became interested in this new game. Business and professional men's names were lacking on the early membership list, as they did not have any time at their disposal for games in those days. Saturday afternoon off was unheard of at that time. The Chapel Street stores were open every week day until 8 P.M. and on Saturday until 10 P.M.

The undergraduates took to Golf as easily as a duck takes to water. They liked the game and we soon had some good players to form the Yale team. As time went on, the students began to flock out to the course in increasing numbers, so much so, that when Thomas Hooker, famed for his pitching at Yale; Mahon H. Marlin, who excelled as a football player; Joseph T. Whittlesey, the first president of the New Haven Golf Club and Secretary of the National Tennis Association at that time; Frank Beach, who later was Postmaster in New Haven; Leonard M. Daggett and Professors Beebe, Reynolds, and Hadley were ready to play, the Course was well filled with undergraduates. It was in 1898 that a movement was started to get another location whereby the professors, business and professional men could play in a less crowded condition by themselves.

When I saw that the game was to be a success in New Haven, Connecticut, I said to Professor Woolsey: "Would it not be a good idea to buy in this property which we are now renting, so that we could be assured of a permanent place for a golf course?" Professor Woolsey replied: "Golf is a new game to the Americans and it may not appeal to them for very long."

During the preliminary plans for the New Haven Country Club, in Whitneyville, Connecticut, Professor Woolsey advised his associates that a sum of \$6,000 would be needed to build a clubhouse. Some of those who were interested in forming a new club pledged

\$500 for this new venture but the subscriptions came in so fast that \$20,000 was soon subscribed and those who agreed to take \$500 had to be satisfied with considerably less.

Professor Woolsey was President of the Park Board in New Haven, Connecticut, from January 1, 1914 to November 30, 1928 when he retired because of illness. He strongly favored building a municipal Golf Course. This was under construction while he was President of the Board and was opened in the summer of 1929. Professor Woolsey passed away in California just a few weeks before the course was opened.

Professor Woolsey was cautious, with good judgment, and his opinions were greatly sought and respected for their conservative quality. He was always an enthusiastic lover of Golf and to him should belong the major credit of starting Golf in New Haven, Connecticut. I shall always prize the memory of my association with him.

There was soon a great demand for golfs clubs and balls. It was difficult to get clubs and balls as they were all imported and took time to come from Scotland, where they were manufactured. A New York sporting goods house, headed by Julian Curtiss, had, in the meantime, sent over one of their representatives to Scotland to find out about the manufacturing of clubs and balls and he cabled back that the shafts were made of hickory and the heads were made of beech. They at once commenced manufacturing clubs since there was abundance of both woods here, hickory being native to this country. When I got the finished clubs from the factory the drivers and brassies sold for \$2 and \$2.25 each, but often at the first drive off the heads went to pieces.

There is a big difference between the beech grown here and that in the colder climate of Scotland. The faster growth in this warmer climate makes the wood soft and spongy while the beech in the colder climate is of slower growth and is very tough. It had a spring in it that helped the ball get away. You can realize the difficult situation it placed me in after selling a club for \$2 or \$2.25 to have it break immediately, so I at once set about getting a tougher wood to stand the blows given to the gutta balls.

Just at that time they were experimenting with wood rims for bicycles, and as they were bent in New Haven, Connecticut, by the Shepard Company, I interviewed them to find out if it were possible to bend hickory  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " thick and 4" wide. They assured me it could

be done and then and there I commenced the manufacturing of golf clubs with hickory heads bent to shape. The shafts I bought from the Wheel Shop which was located then at the corner of Ashmun and Grove Streets where Yale's electric light plant now stands. They were in  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " squares and a local turner turned them down by hand to the required size and shape, a tedious job on account of their length and small dimensions. I then had the satisfaction of selling a club that would not go to pieces. Later on I found out that the hickory grain was stringy and sometimes when a ball hit near the top edge would string off or loosen the grain of the wood. This difficulty was overcome by inserting a piece of sole leather in the face of the club.

The next step was making a one-piece club. For convenience a piece of hickory long enough was bent at both ends, then afterwards sawed in two pieces and shaped from a pattern, then the rest was hand work. It took time to make those clubs, and we found out later that they were not too satisfactory as each piece of hickory had a different spring, and it might turn out in the finished club as too stiff or too springy.

I have tried everywhere that I can think of to get a one-piece club for the Collection, but so far I have failed. I am still looking, and hope to find one, but if my quest is not successful I have plenty of samples of the bent hickory heads in the Collection.

We discovered that by having a springy wood for the club head it was most helpful in driving the gutta ball and we kept on importing the clubs from Scotland with the Scotch beech heads. The drivers were \$2, brassies \$2.25 and the irons were \$1.50. I had to pay 35% duty on them and was perfectly satisfied with my profit.

About this time, a man in Albany developed a shoe last machine to form a head by following a metal pattern. All we had to do was to make a finished head by hand as a pattern, then a metal casting was made from it and put into the machine on one side and on the other a block of wood and the head was turned out the exact size and shape of the pattern. And by reversing the machine it made a left-handed head. This was a great help and saved a lot of labor.

Persimmon wood has now supplanted beech and hickory for heads. It is native in this country and is found in abundance around Memphis, Tennessee.

The balls I bought direct from an importer in New York who had a varied line of imports. I recall one time I was in his office, when he

came back from a trip to Scotland. He told me how many balls he had brought with him and I was surprised at the quantity being so small. As I was then selling them rapidly, I asked him why he didn't bring more balls. His answer, I will always remember, was that "He thought some American would get out a ball as good as the imported balls." I thought at the time that statement was heresy for, after a nation had developed a ball for the game which started with a feather ball, and now was a gutta ball, it seemed to me at that time that that ball was the last word. However, I lived to see the day when his words became true, for it was in 1901 that Mr. Haskell developed a rubber filled ball which is in use today and is far superior to the gutta ball. It drives much farther and goes off the club more quickly making it much pleasanter to play with.

In 1901 the Amateur Championship was held at Atlantic City, New Jersey, and M. H. Marlin and I were there as spectators. Mr. Haskell was at the tournament and had brought a quantity of rubber-filled balls for the players to try. They liked them and many adopted them to play in the tournament, but some thought they were too lively for approaching and putting and still played the gutta ball. Before the tournament was over, all were using the rubber-filled balls who could get them.

I was interested in a boy by the name of Holabird who was expecting to enter Yale University and I wanted to see him play. Mr. Marlin and I followed a match in which he played with Mr. Lockwood, of Alston, Massachusetts (who is now or was at French Lick Springs as their professional), and in playing a hole 475 yards long they were both hole-high on their second shots with a drive and a brassie, one to the right of the green and the other to the left of the green. These were, up to that time, the longest two shots I had ever seen and naturally I realized that the ball had a good deal to do with it. The markings on these first Haskell balls were smooth and did not fly true, but we remade them in our ball moulds with deep impressions and they were then much better in carrying power.

The Haskell balls were \$5 a dozen and a charge of \$1.50 was made for remaking and painting. When I was selling the gutta ball, a student by the name of Huntington Wilson, who now lives in Middlebury, Connecticut and was formerly a Cabinet Officer, would buy three new gutta balls every time he came out and that was usually daily. They were \$.35 each or 3 for \$1. I was rather proud to have

such a good customer. It may seem insignificant now but a dollar was a lot of money in those days.

While that tournament was in progress, President McKinley was shot and the finals were postponed for a week. Walter J. Travis and Walter Egan were the finalists and a story is told of Walter Egan's father, Colonel Egan, who came on from Chicago, Illinois, to see the finals. He was a large, pompous man and always appeared in the front rows. One of his friends said to him: "Colonel, you should not be in such a prominent position especially around the green. Your son will see you and it may possibly make him nervous. Why don't you go over to the clubhouse verandah and you can see the next two holes from there." The Colonel was standing on the verandah which was close by a green and Walter had a down-hill putt. The ball was going very slowly towards the hole and the Colonel was leaning against the rail and kept leaning farther forward, seemingly trying to help the ball on its way, so that he overbalanced himself and fell into the shrubbery. Walter J. Travis won 5 and 4 and the Haskell ball proved a great help to him as he was not a long player.

### *Golf Clubs*

The shape of the heads of clubs about the time golf was started in this country assumed a rounder shape in place of the long narrow heads of the early golfers. This allowed more wood against the striking surface of the ball. Then larger heads were made and they were called "Dreadnaughts" having very whippy shafts to aid in getting a longer ball.

Walter J. Travis conceived the idea that a longer shaft than 40" would drive a longer ball, so with a larger head we made the clubs as long as 48". This only lasted a short time, as it was difficult to be accurate with such a long shaft.

When Harry Vardon came here in 1900 his clubs were short with very small heads. They were copied here and made by A. G. Spalding and Bros., and there was a great run on the Harry Vardon Clubs, naturally being shorter, they were more accurate to hit with. Each one thought that the clubs used by such a good player would be the right thing for them, with the result that the clubs were in general use for some years. As the heads were very small we again got away from them and increased the size, taking care not to get them as large as the "Dreadnaughts." The heads were fastened to the shafts with

a long splice and glued and wound with waxed thread. While these stayed together a long time dampness would often make them come apart and every day there were a number of heads left at the shop to be reglued and wound.

When John Kendrick Bangs, one-time writer and lecturer gave a lecture in one of the university extension courses then held in the College Street Church, opposite the Taft Hotel, where the Roger Sherman Building now stands, it was in the early days of Golf. He told about a writer friend of his who resided and played Golf with him at Newport, Rhode Island. Both had boys about ten years old, and they got their sons to caddie for them, as caddies were very scarce in those early days. After the game was played, the fathers heard the boys use exclamations that they had used when they were playing golf, but it did not sound very well to hear the boys use the same forcible language. So the fathers got together and decided on a list of exclamations commencing with "tut tut" as No. 1 until they got a list and numbered them up to 24. The idea was to use the numbers instead of the expressions. When a poor shot was made, the player would shout No. 1 or No. 4 or whatever expression he felt like but always by number.

The match was all even and in playing the last hole over a pond, J. Kendrick Bangs got off a good drive, but his friend, when he hit the ball the head of the club came off and the string kept unwinding following the head until it sunk in the pond in front of the tee. Then he exclaimed No. 1 and No. 24 and all the others in between. I can assure you that these boys' morals were preserved, as I had John Junior in college for four years and he turned out to be a very fine man. "Necessity is the Mother of Invention" held good then even as now.

Some bright mind developed the socket head which had the hole to receive the shaft, making it much stronger and more durable as the dampness did not reach the glue through the wood. Then this only required a small piece of winding with wax thread to protect the feather edge of the head where it was worked down to meet the shaft.

These clubs were made for Walter Stickney, a good player at Yale University in 1903. As these were amongst the first of the socket clubs, great care was used in designing these models. When Walter left college, he presented his set of clubs to his caddie, Oscar E. Koehler, who is now Chief Engineer of the Greenfield Tap and Die

Corporation in Greenfield, Massachusetts. He carefully kept them, and when I told him about the Collection he gladly offered to have them included.

All clubs have since been of the socket type, making a much neater and stronger club. Novelties such as brass inserts in the heads were introduced on the back of the head in place of the lead weight, and it was surprising how this type of club proved to be very popular and a great many were sold.

The flight of the golf ball is described by Professor Tait, of Edinburgh, Scotland, as follows: He says, "We have all watched and admired the inexplicable way in which it suddenly unfurls its invisible wings, and proceeds to float along as though the law of gravitation had been temporarily laid off duty." Before 1900, Professor Tait contributed two articles to *London Golf* (this was in the days of the solid gutta ball) and his theories fit the facts. It is a matter of observation that a well-hit ball leaves the club head at a comparatively low angle of projection and then almost immediately begins to soar as though it were entirely independent of gravitation. It floats along and its path for nearly half the total range is upward.

Professor Tait says: "The distance depends entirely upon the ball's rotation, but this rotation must be the result of a direct underspin." "Without underspin, a ball to carry 250 yards would have to leave the club head at a velocity somewhat greater than that of sound." It is easy to put the wrong kind of spin upon the ball but then, instead of a good drive, we achieve a marvelously bad drive.

A good drive is undercut only, and there are three chances to one against putting the right kind of spin so it is not so remarkable that the bad drives outnumber the good ones. It is the rotations that produce deflection from the line of flight.

The mathematical problems entering the flight of a golf ball are complicated but this rotation of the ball in the air is set up by the head of the club upon the surface of the ball when they meet. The practical deduction from this seems to be that underspin is necessary to good driving and that to put it on, the ball must be struck a little below the center with a free follow through.

To carry out this idea I patented a club with a reversible type of brass weight with a tongue running towards where the ball was hit, on the top of the club. This would tend to keep the ball low when it was hit, and if the weight was put in the bottom of the club it would

tend to raise the ball off the ground. These heads had a tremendous sale, and Robert Forgan & Sons of St. Andrews, Scotland, was a great help in supplying the demand as they made the heads and we finished the clubs here. At this time, it took about two thousand clubs each year to supply the demand and this kept up for 25 years.

The shafts were made of hickory, but green heart, lancewood and ash were tried but none could come up to the hickory. It took a special hickory to be stiff enough at a certain size to give us the quick steely spring, absorbing the blow, when the ball was hit.

Playing with the gutta ball and afterwards with the rubber-filled ball, it was an everyday occurrence to have a dozen shafts to put in, mostly broken in iron play. A wrong swing digging into the ground was the chief cause of the breakage and sometimes a concealed stone would do it.

When the steel shafts came in, we did not take kindly to them for a long time because the shafts were poor. They had no feeling and for years we stuck to the hickory. Now the steel shafts are so good that it gives one a feeling of power to use them and besides, every club with a steel shaft has a good feeling in one's hands. The art of making golf clubs in the hickory shaft days was in working down the shaft to get the desired spring in the shaft. This was all done by men who could play golf and sense the feeling required. Now all clubs are made in factories and the professional sells the finished club. His business of clubmaking is gone forever.

#### *Clubs in the Collection*

No. 1—This club I got in Toronto. It is a fine model of the clubs of the early days made by J. Morris in Hoylake, Scotland, about 1870.

This club is similar to the first club I made about 1885 when I was an apprentice. I was fortunate in having the acquaintance of R. B. Wilson, of St. Andrews, Scotland, who was a professional and clubmaker for a short time in the United States, as he was instrumental in getting Nos. 2, 3, 5 for me.

No. 2—Driver. Used by Bob Martin, twice British Open Champion, 1876 and 1885.

No. 3—Driver. Made by J. Wilson, used by Jimmie Anderson.

Jamie Anderson was the British Open Champion in 1877-78-79. In winning the 1878 Championship at Prestwick, Scotland, he played

the 17th hole in one stroke. The Golfer's Handbook for 1938, published in Great Britain, records the following about this hole in one:

"The circumstances were extraordinary. Anderson was playing the next to last hole, and though it seemed then that he was winning easily, it turned out afterwards that if he had not taken this hole in one stroke he would very likely have lost. He was just about to make his tee shot when a girl remarked he was standing outside the teeing ground, and that if he played the stroke from there he would be disqualified. Anderson quietly picked up his ball and teed it in a proper place. Then he holed in one. The circumstances prior to this feat were almost as extraordinary. At the "Burn" hole Anderson holed a full iron shot. At the next hole, he ran down a 15 yards putt, and as related above at the second last, the short hole at that time, he holed in one. He won the Championship by one stroke. It is the most dramatic sequence of events in the winning of the Championship."

The Golfer's Handbook gives the following biography of Jamie Anderson:

"As a winner of three Championships, and in consecutive years, his claims to rank as a great professional are indisputable. Born at St. Andrews, Scotland, in 1842, he was the son of 'Old Daw', a St. Andrews caddie and character. Jamie began golf when 10 years old, and rapidly developed into a fine player. He was the very embodiment of machine-like accuracy, and when properly on his game conquered his opponents by waiting for their mistakes. Anderson's method was to go steady, and never play for fireworks, and on one occasion at St. Andrews, Scotland, he remarked that he had played 30 consecutive holes without a bad shot or one stroke made otherwise than he had intended, and it was this dead level of steadiness which brought him to the front. Without being gifted with an extraordinary power, he was, nevertheless, always straight and far, and as a putter his skill was proverbial. He was for a period professional to Ardeer Club, but returned to St. Andrews to follow his vocation of playing professional."

No. 4—Putter. Made by J. Anderson about 1870. Donated by William Paterson.

No. 5—Iron. Used by Jimmie Anderson. Champion 1877, 1878, 1879.

No. 6—Iron. Made by J. Gray in 1880. Donated by James Norval.

Nos. 12 and 13—Driver and Brassie. Early socket models made in 1903.

- No. 16—Wry-neck Brassie. Model brought from Scotland, 1910.
- No. 20—Driver with laminated hickory and bamboo shaft.
- No. 26—Schenectady Putter. Patented 1903. Banned from play in Great Britain after W. J. Travis won the British Amateur Championship.
- No. 38—J. H. Taylor Mashie. J. H. Taylor says, "Each time you make a poor shot it is the fault of the mind and not of the muscle."
- No. 39—A niblick of the early days. Donated by Tom Donahue.
- No. 40—Black Spin Face. Banned by U.S.G.A. in 1921.
- No. 52—Clubs designed by Henry B. Sargent. 65 degrees left, 120 degree angle, weight 9 oz. (Stamped on sole of club.)
- No. 57—Feather ball and Gutta ball. Used in match in 1935. Balls were made by Val Flood.
- No. 58—The first golf picture taken in America.
- No. 59—Picture of the first golf clubhouse in New Haven.
- No. 62—Branch from the original apple tree.
- No. 63—Niblick. Made by George Nicoll of Leven, Scotland. Used by Buckingham P. Merriman in winning the Connecticut State Amateur Championship in 1908 and 1909.
- No. 64—Club used by Charles C. Clare in winning the New England Amateur Championship, 1934.
- No. 65—Club used by W. Parker Seeley in winning Connecticut State Amateur Championship 1914, 1922, 1924.
- No. 66—Club used by Charles C. Clare in winning Connecticut State Amateur Championship 1931, 1933, 1935.
- No. 67—Club used by Frank D. Ross in winning Connecticut State Amateur Championship 1926, 1930.
- No. 68—Club used by Robert M. Grant in winning Connecticut State Amateur Championship 1932.
- No. 69—First Club made in New Haven, Connecticut, 1896.
- No. 70—William Acker Rice Club used for 40 years.
- No. 71—M. Harry Marlin Aluminum Brassie.
- No. 73—Dr. C. H. Zimmerman Putter used for 40 years.
- No. 74—Man's chair from first clubhouse in New Haven, Connecticut.
- No. 75—Woman's chair from first clubhouse in New Haven, Connecticut. Selected by a committee consisting of Mrs. William Lyon Phelps and Miss Sarah Whittlesey, later Mrs. Percy A. Walden.
- No. 76—Club used by W. K. Shepard in winning Connecticut State Amateur Championships 1905-1907.
- No. 77—The golf coat in this Collection belonged to Mr. James T. Soutter of Greenwich, Connecticut, and was in use when he was a student in the Pomfret School. He was a member of the School Golf Team, 1899-1900.

I imported these coats from London, England, and had the monogram, Yale University Golf Club, put on the pockets and sold them for \$9.00. It cost 35% duty to import these coats.

In the early days of golf in Scotland, the players wore bright red coats. You will find an oil painting in the St. Andrews Golf Clubhouse in Mount Hope, New York, of John Reid, the enthusiastic early pioneer golfer in this country. The coat in the portrait is a bright scarlet color and it makes a most interesting picture. These coats vary in the trimmings and are symbolical of the different clubs. The wearing of these coats was compulsory in Scotland, in the early days and punishable by fine, if a player went out on the course without wearing the uniform coat. It is not now compulsory to wear these coats on the golf course but to this day, when any golf banquet is held these coats are always worn.

I cannot conclude this talk without reference to David R. Forgan who gave one of the clearest definitions of Golf I have ever heard. Mr. Forgan was a banker in Chicago, Illinois. I knew his father and brother very well but it was a long time before I met him. In 1925 I attended the International Senior's Match in St. Andrews by the Sea, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and there I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Forgan. He was a very solid type of an individual and an enthusiastic golfer.

I had long admired him for an article which he had written about golf and when we met I complimented him about the article and I said: "It must have taken you a long time to put those beautiful words together." "On the contrary," he said, "I played golf one afternoon, then went home. After dinner, I sat in the library and the thought came to me and I immediately wrote out the words just as they are today." This is what he wrote:

"Golf is a science, a study of a lifetime in which you may exhaust yourself, but never your subject.

It is a contest, duel, or a melee, which calls for courage, skill, strategy and self-control.

It is a test of temper, a trial of honor, and a revealer of character. It affords the chance to play the man and act the gentlemen.

It means going into God's out of doors, getting close to nature, fresh air, exercise.

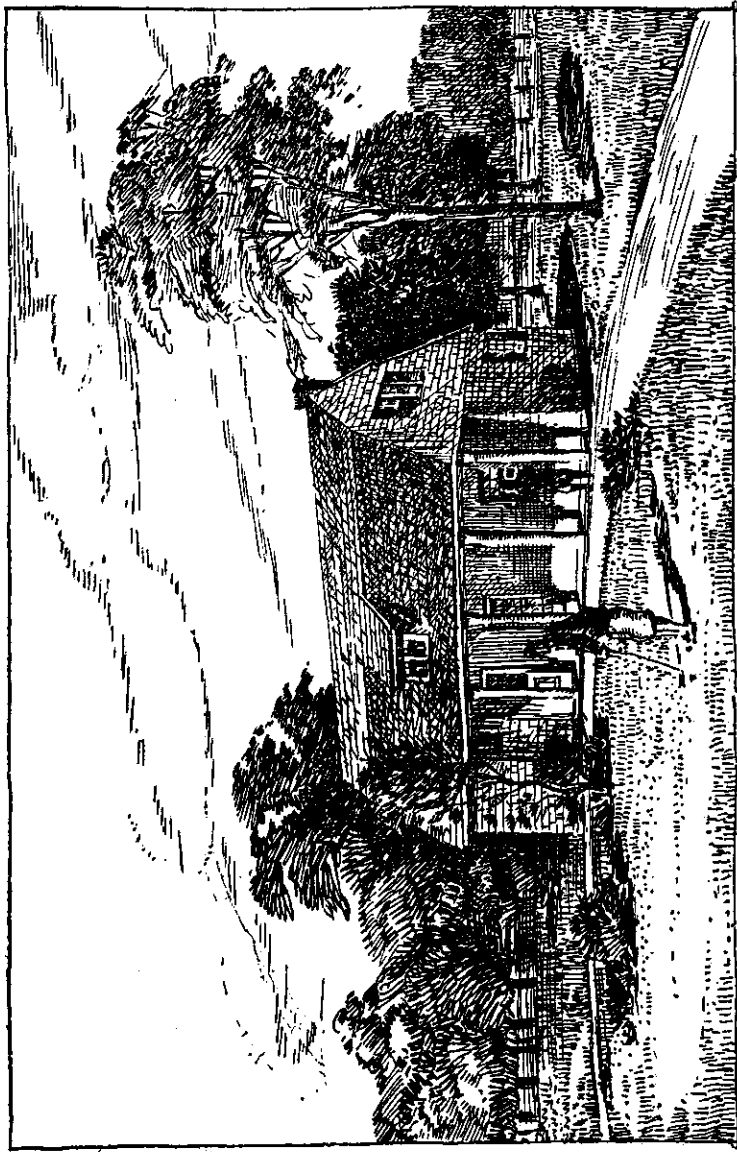
A sweeping away of the mental cobwebs and a genuine reaction of the tired tissues.

It is a cure for care, an antidote for worry.

It includes companionship with friends, social intercourse, opportunities for courtesy and kindness and generosity to an opponent.

It promotes not only physical strength but moral force."





R. H. Robertson, Architect, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York City

ERECTED JANUARY, 1899

**THE NEW HAVEN GOLF CLUB**

May be reached by trolley from the N.Y., N.H. & H. R.R., the cars running  
directly to the Grounds on Winchester Avenue.

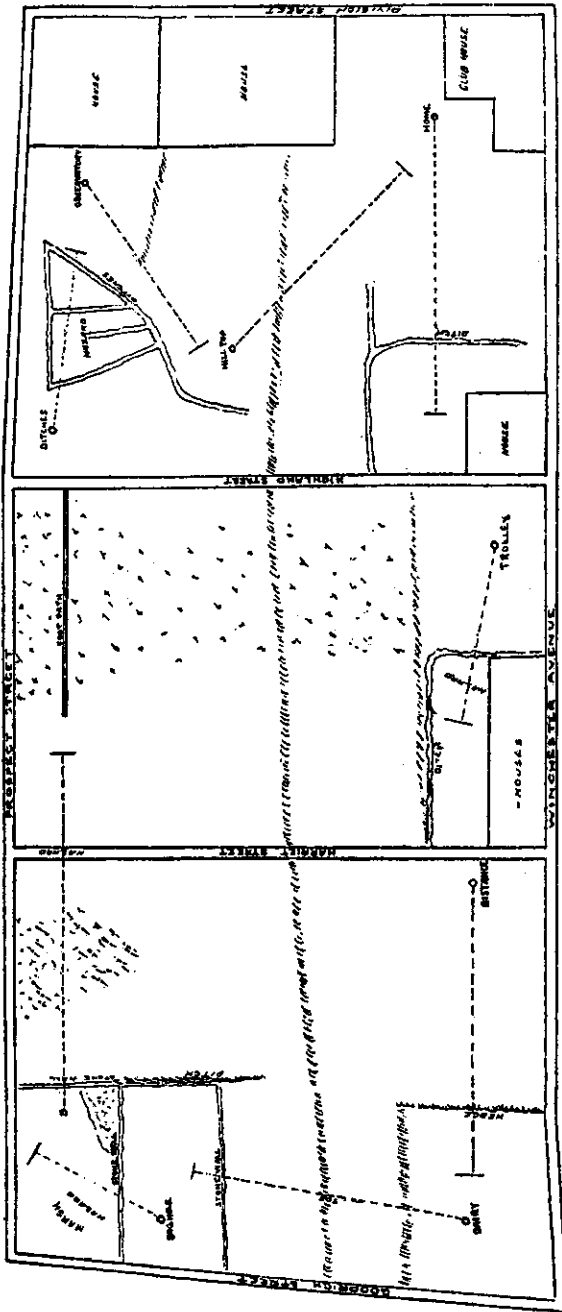
# New Haven Golf Club

(Allied Member of the U. S. Golf Association)

1900



Organized April 15th, 1895  
Incorporated Nov. 22d, 1899



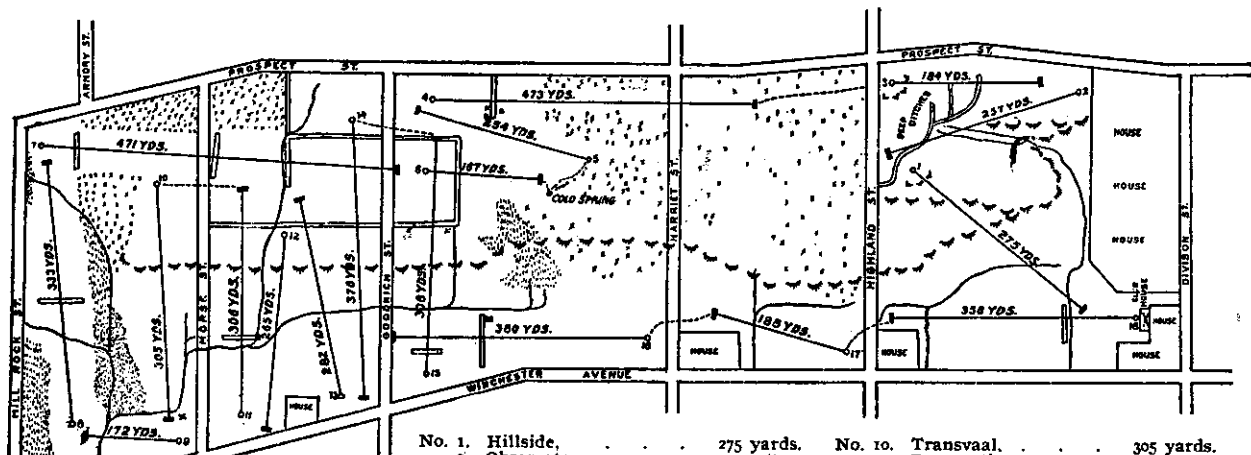
New Haven Golf Course

## NEW HAVEN GOLF CLUB LINKS.

No.	NAMES	Yds	BOGEY
1	HILLTOP	244	4
2	OBSERVATORY	207	3
3	DITCHES	184	3
4	WOODS	400	5
5	BOGHOLE	136	3
6	DAIRY	251	4
7	DISTANCE	380	5
8	TROLLEY	188	3
9	HOME	356	5
	TOTAL	2346	35

TOTAL 18 HOLES 4692

ROBERT D. PRYDE,  
*Greens Keeper.*



DOTTED LINE. BRUSH  
 SWIRLS SWIRLS BRUSH  
 WALLS or BUSHES.  
 PATHS.  
 DITCHES

No. 1.	Hillside,	275 yards.	No. 10.	Transvaal,	305 yards.
2.	Observatory,	257 "	11.	Desperation,	306 "
3.	Ditches,	184 "	12.	Waterloo,	265 "
4.	Woods,	473 "	13.	Homestead,	282 "
5.	Cold Spring,	254 "	14.	Due East,	376 "
6.	Bog,	167 "	15.	Westward Ho,	308 "
7.	Mill Rock,	471 "	16.	Distance,	380 "
8.	Shanty,	333 "	17.	Trolley,	188 "
9.	Bunker Hill,	172 "	18.	Home,	356 "

5,352 yards.