

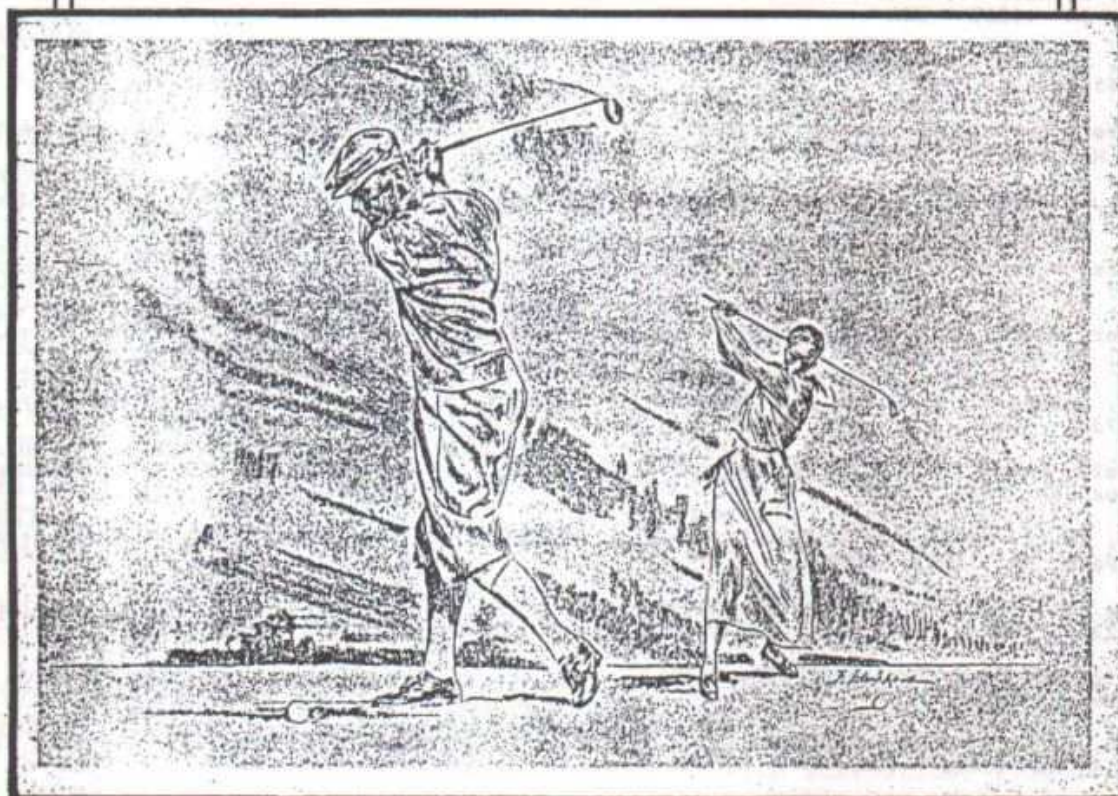
Tee Time

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC GOLF SOCIETY

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EDITOR _____ STUART R. MACKENZIE

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JUNE N° 24

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SOCIETY AUCTION CLOSING DATE AUGUST 31

It is DUES TIME once again! This issue contains a dues reminder with instructions to send U.S. dollars to C. Collins and British sterling to S. MacKenzie. Your assistance in taking care of this right away will be most appreciated. Reminders take a lot of volunteer time and society postage. We would rather be spending our time and the society's money on projects which will benefit you, the golf philatelist! Help out by sending your dues check (payable to IPGS) today.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1993-94

APRIL 14, 1993

DEAR FELLOW GOLFER/PHILATELISTS;

I SEND THIS LETTER TO "TEE TIME" IN HOPES THEY MIGHT PRINT IT IN THE NEXT ISSUE. I HOPE I AM NOT OPENING PANDORA'S BOX HERE BUT I HAVE AN IDEA THAT MAY NOT EVEN BE NEW. I AM A GOLFER AND A STAMP COLLECTOR WITH A SIDE HOBBY OF GOLF TOPICALS. I LIVE IN HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, ARKANSAS WHICH IS A SEMI-PRIVATE VILLAGE HEAVILY INTO GOLF. WE HAVE FIVE GREAT GOLF COURSES WITH MORE TO COME IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AT A FEW STORES IN THE VILLAGE ARE POSTCARDS FOR SALE WITH SCENES FROM OUR GOLF COURSES. WOULD ANYONE OUT THERE WISH TO TRADE, CARD FOR CARD, THEIR GOLF COURSE POSTCARDS FOR MINE?? I'M TALKING ABOUT THE COMMON 25c ON THE COUNTER POSTCARDS YOU SEE IN THE DRUGSTORES. ANYONE OUT THERE INTERESTED?

Richard Jetter
RICHARD JETTER

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GOLF and The OLYMPICS

by Stuart MacKenzie

It has been decided that Golf, which was to have been a demonstration Sport at the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, has now been dropped. It was thought that The Augusta National Golf Club would have been a suitable venue for the event. However, with strong opposition from members of the I.O.C., who disagree with the attitude of the Augusta's Membership Rules - no Women Members and only one Black member - it was decided that no further sports events should be added to the Games.

Golf was an Official event in two Games - 1900 II Olympic Games, Paris (May 14 to October 28) The Mens Single Champion was Charles Sands USA and the Ladies Champion, Margaret Abbot USA. The 1904 III Olympic Games St. Louis (July 1 to October 29) was the last time Golf was represented. The Mens Champion was George Lyon Canada and Runner-up Charles Egan of the USA.

The Post Card shown on the Front cover is, I think, the only example of a card produced with Olympic Games connection. I contacted Franceska Rapkin, who is a World authority on the 1936 Games. Her reply is as follows:



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

Affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation

Eaglewood
Oxhey Lane
Hatch End
Middx HA5 4AL

Dear Stuart

Thank you for your note and the photocopy. Yes, I do know about this card. I agree, it is strange that they used a non-Olympic sport, particularly one where the Germans were not particularly proficient. Golf was, of course, an Olympic sport in Paris in 1900, when one of the first gold medals was won by a woman.

The card is one of a series taken from a book of illustrations entitled "Sport and State". This was the main series of cards produced by the Reichssportverlag, the publishing arm of the German sports federation. Other series of cards were produced by the German Olympic Committee and other sporting organisations. The first card in the series, numbered 1 shows a portrait of Hitler, and the last, numbered 30 shows a portrait of Hans von Tsannner und Osten, who became the Minister of Sport in Germany. The cards are all numbered on the message section, and I have not seen all of them, but I believe that thirty are known to exist. The proceeds from the cards went towards benefitting German sport. The cards were reissued and renumbered after the Games. The difference between the originals and the reprints is a lack of the Olympic rings. However, I do not know much about the later cards, whether they show only the same themes, or also others. I only know that they exist.

I hope that the above helps. Hope to see you sometime.

With kind regards

Sincerely yours
W. A. A. A.

THE OPEN SANDWICH-BELL'S SCOTTISH OPEN GLENEAGLES

It is with regret that the Post Office will not be attending this year's Open (July 16-20th) at Sandwich. Owing to this the R & A, St. Andrews will not be promoting the special handcancel and that the special cover is not available. The main reason for this is the high rental charges for space in the Tented Village but, with the very high profit margin the British Post Office makes you would think they would attend such a high prestige event such as the Open.

However, it is with pleasure to inform the members that a special cover and handstamp have been prepared for this year's BELL'S SCOTTISH OPEN-to be played over the King's Course, Gleneagles from 6 - 10th July.

The special cancel will be used on the First Day. An Illustration of the proof for the cover and postmark is shown below.



BELL'S SCOTTISH OPEN 6TH - 10TH JULY 1993

GLENEAGLES AUCHTERARDER



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GOLF ROAD POST OFFICE

by Graham Winters

Just before Christmas last, Graham phoned me and asked did I know of any post office with 'Golf' in the legend. I said that I knew of two todate. Wellhe said 'I have found another', and went on to tell me how he came about the find! As school holidays were imminent we arranged that, as he was the nearer, he would visit the Post Office to service some covers, take photographs and try to find out when and how - GOLF ROAD POST OFFICE came into being. (Ed.)

The building, as you will see from the photograph, dates from about the late 1920's, early 1930's, but it has not always been a sub-post office. The present postmaster is Mr S.Cox, and he has been there for five years. Before that his father was sub-postmaster for about six years.

The Post Office originally came under the Head Office, Grimsby, then moved to Doncaster, and it is now going to be Sheffield District. Mr Cox does not know exactly when the Office was opened, but believes that it was some time in the 1950's. I have written to various authorities and am waiting replies.

The name, Golf Road, apparently originates from a plan to build a Golf Course in this part of Mablethorpe; a plan which never came about. However, as you may see from the other photo illustrations, golfing names are common in the immediate vicinity. The Fairway (a modern estate of bungalows: 1960-ish) Golf Estate (an estate of post-war pre fabs) St.Andrews Road, larger road with 1920's-30's housing, Jacklin Avenue, a much more modern 1970's housing estate. The photograph of the latter did not 'come-out'. (try again next visit)

The Office has two cancellations, and the present Postmaster knows of no others having been used. The No. 2 is the older (original?) one, and is now used when two people are working the counter. The * is the one commonly in use, and is of more recent manufacture.

I hope in the near future to have more information and readers of THE TIME will be kept informed.





Golf Road Post Office

Some familiar names!



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(For Cash on Delivery parcels, enter also the reference number of the Despatch/Inpayment Document.)

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Postcode



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'Caberfeidh'
Riverside, Poolewe

The Post Office

Certificate of Posting

for inland ordinary letters and parcels
and overseas ordinary letters



Received 1 items as listed

Accepting
Officer's
initials *L*

Date stamp

Enter below in ink the name and full address as written on each item, and present them in the order listed.
(For Cash on Delivery parcels, enter also the reference number of the Despatch/Inpayment Document.)

Post

Postcode



STUART R. MacKENZIE
'Caberfeidh'
Riverside, Poolewe
Ross-shire IV22 2LA

GOLFER'S LAND. CANONGATE. EDINBURGH

by Stuart MacKenzie

The Picture Post Card illustrated below shows 'Golfer's Land' in the Canongate, Edinburgh. It is one of the cards from the 'Knox Series' (Old Edinburgh Views) which was available during the 1950's.

On a recent visit to Edinburgh I thought I would pay a call to the Edinburgh Room at the National Library of Scotland to see what was available about this building. With a very helpful Porter I managed to find several books and a most interesting scrap book of cuttings from various Edinburgh Newspapers.

The following pages give an insight to this old building, which alas is no more - I hope that readers will find it of interest in that a simple picture postcard could have so much history about it.



**Golfer's Land
rebuilding to
cost £30,000**

Edinburgh Corporation yesterday received permission to carry out a £30,000 demolition and reconstruction scheme at historic Golfer's Land in the Canongate.

In addition to the reconstruction of this famous seventeenth century building, a petition approved by the Dean of Guild Court also provided for clearance of sub-standard properties further westwards, including Brown's Close, Campbell's Close, and a part of Reid's Court—a total frontage of 160 feet. At Golfer's Land, six houses will be provided, four flats and two maisonettes.

The corporation, as owners, find themselves with no alternative but to demolish Golfer's Land. Structural measures to restore the property have proved impracticable.

DELICATE TASK

But, because of the historical and architectural significance, every effort will be made to retain the front wall, although this will be an involved, delicate task. The wall will be preserved while demolition and re-building of the badly-dilapidated structure behind are carried out.

Encased tubular steel scaffolding and shoring will be used to preserve this facade, and to reduce vibrations during these operations traffic will either be directed or restricted to the south side of the thoroughfare.

Golfer's Land is reputed to have been built in the seventeenth century for family property by a Canongate shoemaker, from his share of the stakes in a famous royal golf match. After the First World War the Scottish Naval, Military and Air Force Veterans' Residence demolished part of the building, destroying much of the original architectural character—and the remainder was re-roofed in an attempt to halt decay.

The latter is an anagram on the name of "John Paterson," while the quatrain was the production of Dr. Pitcairn, and is referred to in the first volume of Gilbert Stuart's *Edinburgh Magazine and Review* for 1774, and may be rendered thus:—"In the year when Paterson won the prize in golfing, a game peculiar to the Scots (in which his ancestors had nine times won the same honour), he then raised this mansion, a victory more honourable than all the rest."

According to tradition, two English nobles at Holyrood had a discussion with the royal duke as to the native country of golf, which he was frequently in the habit of playing on the Links of Leith with the Duke of Lauderdale and others, and which the two strangers insisted to be an English game as well. No evidence of this being forthcoming, while many Scottish Parliamentary edicts, some as old as the days of James II., in 1457, could be quoted concerning the said game, the Englishmen, who both vaunted their expertness, offered to test the legitimacy of their pretensions on the result of a match to be played by them against His Royal Highness and any other Scotsman he chose to select. After careful inquiry he chose a man named John Paterson, a poor shoemaker in the Canongate, but the worthy descendant of a long line of illustrious golfers, and the association will by no means surprise, even in the present age, those who practise the game in the true old Scottish spirit. The strangers were ignominiously beaten, and the heir to the throne had the best of this practical argument, while Paterson's merits were rewarded by the stake played for, and he built the house now standing in the Canongate. On its summit he placed the Paterson arms—three pelicans *vulned*; on a chief three mullets; crest, a dexter-hand grasping a golf club, with the well-known motto—*FAR AND SURE*. Concerning this old and well-known tradition, Chambers says, "it must be admitted there is some uncertainty. The house, the arms, and the inscriptions only indicate that Paterson built the house after being victor at golf, and that Pitcairn had a hand in decorating it."

In this doubt Wilson goes further, and believes that the Golfers' Land was *lost*, not won, by the gambling propensities of its owner. It was acquired by Nicol Paterson in 1609, a maltman in Leith, and from him it passed, in 1632, to his son John (and Agnes Lyel, his spouse), who died 23rd April, 1663, as appears by the epitaph upon his tomb in the churchyard of Holyrood, which was extant in Maitland's time, and the strange epitaph on which is given at length by Monteith. He would appear to have been many times Bailie of the Canongate.

Both Nicol and John, it may be inferred from the inscriptions on the ancient edifice, were able and successful golfers. The style of the building, says Wilson, confirms the idea that it had been rebuilt by him "with the spoils, as we are bound to presume, which he won on Leith Links, from 'our auld enemies of England.' The title-deeds, however, render it probable that other stakes had been played for with less success. In 1691 he grants a bond over the property for £400 Scots. This is followed by letters of caption and horning, and other direful symptoms of legal assault, which pursue the poor golfer to his grave, and remain behind as his sole legacy to his heirs."

The whole tradition, however, is too serious to be entirely overlooked, but may be taken by the reader for what it seems worth.

Bailie Paterson's successor in the old mansion was John, second Lord Bellenden of Broughton and Auchnoulle, Heritable Usher of the Exchequer, who married Mary, Countess Dowager of Dalhousie, and daughter of the Earl of Drogheda. Therein he died in 1704, and was buried in the Abbey Church; and as the Union speedily followed, like other tenements so long occupied by the old courtiers in this quarter, the Golfers' Land became, as we find it now, the abode of plebeians.

Immediately adjoining the Abbey Court-house was an old, dilapidated, and gable-ended mansion of no great height, but of considerable extent, which was long indicated by oral tradition as the abode of David Rizzio. It has now given place to buildings connected with the Free Church of Scotland. Opposite these still remain some of the older tenements of this once patrician burgh, distinguishable by their lofty windows filled in with small square panes of glass; and on the south side of the street, at its very eastern end, a series of pointed arches along the walls of the Sanctuary Court-house, alone remain to indicate the venerable Gothic porch and gate-house of the once famous Abbey of Holyrood, beneath which all that was great and good, and much that was ignoble and bad have passed and repassed in the days that are no more.

This edifice, of which views from the east and west are still preserved, is supposed to have been the work of "the good Abbot Ballantyne," who rebuilt the north side of the church in 1490, and to whom we shall have occasion to refer elsewhere. His own mansion, or lodging, stood here on the north side of the street, and the remains of it, together with the porch, were recklessly destroyed and removed by the Hereditary Keeper of the Palace in 1753.

"Golfer's Land" Appeal



"The Golfer's Land," as seen in an old print.

AFTER surveying the passing scene in historic Canongate for almost three centuries, the coat of arms of the Paterson family, which has reposed on the frontage of Golfer's Land, was taken down yesterday by workmen now engaged on the demolition of this property which has its legendary place in the history of the game of golf. The heavy stone coat of arms is thickly encrusted with the grime of Edinburgh's atmosphere, but the tablet is to be cleaned up and, like others on the property, will find a new place in one of the other parts of the Canongate which are being reconstructed by Edinburgh Corporation. The architect for the Golfer's Land work, Mr T. Waller Marwick, told me that one of the tablets may well finish up at Barnton, for the Royal Burgess Golfing Society are anxious to acquire the stone bearing the motto "Sure and Far" which is the motto of the club.

Edinburgh Evening News
May 12, 1960



First International

Some years ago an official of the United States Golf Association proposed that they should have a tablet similar to that which has adorned Golfer's Land explaining the historical significance of the property, placed in the Association's golf museum in New York.

Golfer's Land derives its name from the time when John Paterson, traditionally a poor shoemaker, and the son of a Canongate Bailie, partnered the Duke of York, later James VII, in a match which became a matter of national prestige, against two English noblemen, at Leith Links. The Duke and Paterson triumphed and so delighted was the former that he gave a substantial share of the stakes to his partner, enabling him to rebuild the family mansion in the Canongate.

Edinburgh Evening News
May 13, 1960



Efforts To Restore The Historic Golfer's Land Abandoned

Site Now Being Cleared For New Houses

Edinburgh Evening
News, Wednesday,
April 20, 1960

The facade of historic Golfer's Land in Edinburgh's Royal Mile will soon be nothing but a memory. Efforts to save and rehabilitate a major portion of the old building, with its seventeenth-century associations, have proved impracticable, and demolition has now begun.

The site, when cleared, is to be used for residential re-development and will add a further instalment to the big programme of structural improvements in the Royal Mile.

Edinburgh Corporation had to abandon their original plan to preserve the property, not only on account of its intricacy, but the large expense.

After tenders had been taken for the reconstruction plan the Corporation reported, indicated to the Secretary of State for Scotland that they were not prepared to incur all the expense involved, and recommended demolition of the property.

The Secretary of State took the advice of the Ministry of Works and when, a few months ago, it was intimated that the Historic Building Council were not prepared to recommend a grant towards the preservation of the property, the Corporation were also notified that no objection would be taken to the abandonment of their original plan for reconstruction.

"BUNKERED!"

"It looks as though we have been bunkered," was Councillor Patrick Rogan's laconic comment when the decision of the Historic

Building Council was reported to the Housing Committee of Edinburgh Town Council.

But Councillor Rogan, who spent his boyhood in the Royal Mile, and who represents the Holyrood Ward in Edinburgh Town Council, said today that he was really pleased to see that the demolition had started. He thought that there was sometimes a danger of concentrating too much on the preservation of the old to the detriment of progress.

The form of new residential development for the Golfer's Land site has not finally been settled.

The City Architect, Mr A. Steele, stated today that the matter was still under active consideration. The Housing Committee recently asked him to report on the development of the cleared site in conjunction with a revised development of Lochend Close.

ROYAL WAGER

The Golfer's Land property is traditionally associated with a famous golf match played at Leith Links, in which one of the competitors was the Duke of York (afterwards James VII).

During the period from 1679, when the Duke was residing at the Palace of Holyroodhouse he often sought recreation of the golf links.

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