Architects of Distinction Prior to ASGCA debuts with Thomas Bendelow (1868–1936)

The Turfgrass Information Center (TIC) is pleased to announce that Thomas Bendelow is the first entry in the Architects of Distinction Prior to ASGCA, a new online resource which parallels the ASGCA Architect’s Gallery. The Architects of Distinction Prior to ASGCA will profile notable golf course architects whose body of work pre-dates the founding of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in 1946. Thomas (Tom) Bendelow (1868-1936) was perhaps the most prolific golf course designer during the earliest era of American golf course design and growth. Please see: http://golfarchitects.lib.msu.edu/pre-ASGCA/bendelowt/ to view a list of golf courses designed by Tom Bendelow either alphabetically, by location, or by year of design.

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Golf Course Management magazine is now completely digitized

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) members and TIC subscribers now have access to the entire archive of Golf Course Management (GCM) magazine and its predecessor publications dating back to 1933 through an agreement with GCSAA and TIC. Through this online digitized archive, which can be accessed on the GCSAA Web site at http://www.gcsaa.org/GCM/Archive.aspx or from within TGIF, members can browse year-by-year or they can do a search by term to retrieve the PDF files from 1933.

In the past, GCSAA readers could search for and read articles on the GCM archive which only went back to 1996. Subscribers to the TIC’s Turfgrass Information File could search for articles but then needed to find a paper copy in a library or elsewhere.

Clifford Haka, Director of Michigan State University Libraries, said the new archive changes all that. After a search GCSAA members can now see a PDF of the article they are looking for. “The digitization makes a much more usable tool for any of our subscribers. It takes out the step of having to go and physically find a particular issue of GCM, assuming they even had access to that issue,” he said.

The addition of the full content of GCM into the TGIF database was the result of cooperation and dedication of TIC and MSU staff and students, and involved more than 70,000 pages of material.

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Number of TGIF Records: 130,000+
Number of turf-related theses and dissertations: 1,854
Academic Institutions: Great deal on subscriptions to TGIF database

If your academic institution isn’t already a subscriber that provides access to TGIF on behalf of its faculty, staff, and students (see list of current subscribing institutions at: http://www.lib.msu.edu/tic/starserv/foundstu.html), now is a great time to finally implement a perpetual subscription.

For the remainder of 2007, the prices are:
I. Perpetual
   • “ARL Institutions” — $3,000.
   • non-ARL university or college (4 year) — $2,000.
   • Two-year or community college — $1,000.
II. Annual
   • Any institution — $500.

Prices will be increasing January 1, 2008 so take advantage of the 2007 perpetual subscriber fee and become an ongoing subscriber now.

Donation of Korean Journal of Turfgrass Science

Dr. Ki Sun Kim, head of the Department of Plant Science at Seoul National University in Korea stopped at TIC to donate to the MSU Libraries’ James B Beard Turfgrass Library Collection bound copies of the Korean Journal of Turfgrass Science on behalf of the Turfgrass Society of Korea. This donation includes all issues from its inception in 1987 to present. Among the 3,000+ member libraries within the WorldCat network it appears that none of the libraries yet own this title. TIC is in the process of creating TGIF records for the turf research reported in the Korean Journal of Turfgrass Science.

Persian Rug Inscription Translated

During a recent visit to TIC and as a subsequent follow-up to a previous SWARD article featured, Dr. Ali Harivandi, University of California Cooperative Extension, provided the following translation of the inscription woven in the rug in TIC, and it reads as follows:

"By the order of his highness
Sultan Morad Khan, the most honorable"

The date inscribed is 1321 Hejri-e-Ghamari (the lunar Islamic calendar), which corresponds to a date on our calendar of 1903 A.D. – making this carpet 104 years old.

Two calendars were used in Iran 100 years ago – one being the lunar Islamic (the calendar most commonly used in all Arabic countries currently) and the other the Persian or solar Islamic calendar. It is definitive that the date woven into the rug is the lunar year 1321, as the solar year 1321 would correspond to the Roman calendar of 1942, making it impossible for that to be the correct date, as it is known that the rug was in Dr. Kellogg’s possession in the early 1900s. Dr. Kellogg later donated the rug to MSU.

Dr. Harivandi believes the weaving of the carpet to have been done in 1903 as a response to and order by a Sultan Morad Khan who, based on the carpet design, was in all likelihood a member of the Ghajar Dynasty, or a military figure, or potentially a governor. Dr. Harivandi based this speculation on the repeated design of the royal Persian crown guarded by 2 lions, one on each side.

Our thanks to Dr. Harivandi as well as other respondents to our request for help about this inscription, who have helped corroborate this translation.
Google project may digitize MSU's Turf Collections

Michigan State University is one of 12 midwest universities that are part of a new agreement with the computer search engine giant Google to digitize the most distinctive collections of the universities’ libraries. As part of the Google Book Search project, the agreement could result in the digitization of as many as 10 million volumes. The agreement between Google and the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) will help preserve and stabilize the libraries’ legacy collections, as well as provide broader and more in-depth access to historically significant print resources. The five unique collections from MSU Libraries that could be considered for inclusion in the project are: Agriculture, Africana, Candiana, Russel B. Nye Popular Culture Collection, and Turfgrass. Google will make the final decision on what to include.

Details of Turfgrass Collection

The MSU Libraries began methodical collecting in the area of turfgrass in the 1960s and has benefited from the donation of the personal collections of key turf agronomists such as O. J. Noer and James B Beard. Materials date back as far as 1790 with expanded holdings in materials published since 1895 and continuing through to the present day. The collection includes more than 3,000 bound volumes of serials, representing more than 300 serial titles and some 1,400 monographs. Three quarters of the cataloged titles are unique within the holdings of the combined CIC libraries.

Local news links relating specifically to MSU’s participation in the Google Project:
- http://newsroom.msu.edu/site/indexer/3110/content.htm print news release from MSU
- http://img.lib.msu.edu/libnews.ram local TV spot including some TIC shots
- http://www.statenews.com/article.phtml?pk=41290 local campus newspaper article

Other news links, from other institutions and green industry sources:
- http://www.athleticturf.net/athleticturf/article/articleDetail.jsp?id=432488
- http://www.landscapemanagement.net/landscape/article/articleDetail.jsp?id=432484&ref=25
- http://live.psu.edu/story/24623

Arthur Jack Snyder Entry now in the ASGCA Architect’s Gallery

An entry for the late Arthur Jack Snyder is now in the ASGCA Architect’s Gallery. Included in this entry are: a biographical sketch, a conversation with Snyder, his philosophy of design, and a listing of courses worked on. Snyder’s design work focused in the Southwestern USA. Featured design plans for his work include The Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale, AZ; Kaanapali Golf Club in Lahaina, Maui, HI; Cave Creek Golf Course in Phoenix, AZ; and Wailea Golf Club Blue Course in Wailea, Maui, HI.

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In addition, a “Philosophy of Design” statement abridged and reprinted from the book Thomas "Tom" Bendelow: The Johnny Appleseed of American Golf by Stuart Bendelow (Williams & Company, Publishers. Savannah, Georgia, 2006) is featured in the entry. The entry also has a link to Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) content by or about Tom Bendelow. Special thanks to Stuart Bendelow, Tom’s grandson, who compiled and made available the data for this entry.

The ASGCA Architect’s Gallery is regularly updated with new content. Visit http://golfarchitects.lib.msu.edu/
700 issues of the magazine, manually splitting nearly 30,000 PDFs, harvesting the citations for more than 10,400 turfgrass-related citations and linking more than 9,700 citations to the PDFs.

“GCM is an outstanding addition to the full-text offerings within TGIF, providing useful and relevant information for superintendents, researchers, students and others in the turfgrass industry,” Haka said of the addition of GCM to the TGIF.

As part of the ongoing cooperative project of GCSAA and the Michigan State University Libraries, as new GCMs are produced, materials will be scanned and made available one month following the date of publication.

Golf Course Management — or GCM — is the monthly publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and is consistently rated as the No. 1 publication in the golf course maintenance industry. The magazine is dedicated to advancing the golf course superintendent profession and helping GCSAA members achieve career success and the success of their golf facility. The magazine provides authoritative “how-to,” career-oriented, technical and trend information from industry experts, researchers and golf course superintendents.

GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas, the association provides education, information, and representation to more than 21,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA’s mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. The association’s philanthropic organization, The Environmental Institute for Golf, works to strengthen the compatibility of golf with the natural environment through research grants, support for education programs and outreach efforts. Visit the GCSAA website at www.gcsaa.org.

For more information contact:

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