

On Course

Current News from Forrest Richardson & Associates, Golf Course Architects

Fall 2007

REINVENTING SAN FRANCISCO GOLF: PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF WILLIAM BELL



(LEFT)
The redesigned 10th green at Peacock Gap (a par-3) as shown during construction. The large green sports quintessential “Bell” bunkering. This green, a plateau, is one of many unusual greens completely re-built as part of the \$5million facelift at the club.

(BELOW)
Several bunkers were added to the 45-year-old course, bringing options and strategy into the challenge. Richardson is shown during one of his many site visits.

Just a short drive north of the Golden Gate Bridge sits a gentle valley affectionately called Peacock Gap.

At the heart of this quiet 1960s era neighborhood is Peacock Gap Golf Club, a design of noted California designer Wm. F. Bell, the son of Wm. P. “Billy” Bell. The younger Bell helped define California with more than 50 courses.

Forrest Richardson is no stranger to Bell designs — the firm has been involved in more than 25 remodels, renovations and master plans of Bell courses.

Work over the past year is now coming to a close. An entire transformation has evolved, with all new tees, greens, bunkers and irrigation.



QUICK NEWS

BULGARIAN SITE SELECTION WORK

In September, Forrest visited Varna, Bulgaria. Along the west coast of the Black Sea multiple coastal sites were evaluated on behalf of the U.K. based Unique Resorts.

LUND, SWEDEN EYES NEW COURSE

Planning efforts are underway to obtain approval for a new layout, S:t Hans Golf Club, to sit at the edge of this historic town in southern Sweden.



Design plan for The Orchard Club, a short 9-hole course planned on just five acres in northwestern Arizona. Greens and aprons will be “planted” with artificial turf, reducing irrigation and maintenance.

ARTIFICIAL TURF: A PASSING TREND?

As of August 2007, Forrest Richardson & Associates was actively involved in four projects that are scheduled to use some degree of artificial turf. Two involve individual golf holes for private residential estates.

“Artificial turf has come a long way since the Astroturf days,” notes Forrest. “Today we can effectively produce green surfaces and fringes that replicate the great surfaces of natural turf without the daily maintenance.”

While certainly not for every project, alternative length courses and small, isolated golf areas are a prime candidate for the new design and engineered “grasses” that have come on the market.

FORREST RICHARDSON & ASSOC.

Phoenix, Arizona | 602-906-1818 | www.golfgroupltd.com

