A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE ASSESMENT OF GLEN GARDEN COUNTRY CLUB IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS

by

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Presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School of

The University of Texas at Arlington in Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements

for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

May 2017

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Acknowledgements

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Professor David Hopman, my thesis chair, for encouragement, guidance, and taking over this effort on such short notice. I would like to express my gratitude for your honesty and leadership in always pushing me to do better. I want to likewise thank Dr. Kate Holliday for your open door, your contributions to this study, and providing wisdom and passion to the subject of history. I would like to thank Dr. Amy Archambeau for your counsel and encouragement and jumping into the fray with such short notice. I honestly do not think I would be writing this acknowledgement without your help.

My deepest appreciation goes to my bride and soulmate Jennifer. Thank you for being my inspiration, thank you for being my advocate, thank you for sacrificing so much for me, thank you for our beautiful babies, and thank you for seeing me through this.

There is not enough paper in this world for the gratitude you deserve. Thank you Wakely so much for teaching me what this life is all about. When you were born, this world changed for the better and I am so proud I get to be a part of it with you. Thank you Townsley for providing the levity in this whole process. Your smiles, giggles and coos gave me peace and tranquility when I would have been stressed. I love you girls endlessly.

Sincere thanks Chris, Jake, and Larry for showing the light in the darkest days of graduate school and unflagging support. Thanks to all my family, friends, and classmates for the laughs and the memories.

April 24, 2017

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Abstract

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In 2014, having just been sold, Glen Garden Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas closed for the final time after being open for over 100 years and producing two of the top ten golfers in PGA history, Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson. This research presents a study in assessing Glen Garden as a cultural landscape.

This research seeks to answer two question: Was Glen Garden Country Club a cultural landscape? What is the perception of who should be responsible for advocacy efforts? This case study was adapted from the Francis model and designed to fit the unique context of Glen Garden Country Club in order to document the club as it was when it closed. The secondary approach to research in this study uses ethnographic interviews to go beyond the baseline data of the case study and identify important concepts.

Glen Garden was created by H.H. Cobb from the O.K. Cattle Company cow pasture land in 1912. In just over a century, this club developed some hall of fame golfers and others, interconnected with the community around it, was sold to a whiskey distillery, and according to the present research, became a cultural landscape.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	iii
Abstract	iv
List of Illustrations	viii
List of Tables	ix
Chapter 1 Introduction	10
1.1 Introduction	10
1.2 Background	10
1.3 Objectives	11
1.4 Research Questions	12
1.5 Definition of Terms	12
1.6 Summary	12
Chapter 2 Literature Review	
2.1 Introduction	14
2.2 Cultural Landscapes	14
2.2.1 Origins of cultural landscapes	14
2.2.2 The influence of J.B. Jackson	15
2.2.3 The National Park Service's role in cultural landscapes	16
2.3 Texas Golf History	20
2.4 Glen Garden Country Club	23
2.5 Golf's Design Principles	26
2.6 Summary	28
Chapter 3 Methodology	30
3.1 Introduction	30

	3.2 Research Design	30
	3.3 Study Participants	32
	3.4 Data Collection Methods	32
	3.4.1 Ethnographic interview questions	33
	3.4.2 Case Study interview questions	34
	3.5 Interview procedures	36
	3.6 Analysis procedures	36
	3.7 Significance and Limitations	38
	3.8 Summary	38
Chapte	r 4 Findings and Analysis	40
	4.1 Introduction	40
	4.2 Recruiting Results	40
	4.3 Themes from the Data	41
	4.3.1 Answering the Research Questions	41
	4.3.1.1 History and Legacy	41
	4.3.1.2 Lack of Interest	42
	4.3.2 Emergent Themes	43
	4.3.2.1 Evolving Connectivity	43
	4.3.2.2 Time & Perception	45
	4.3.2.3 Golf Design Principles	48
	4.4 Case Study	50
	4.5 Summary	67
Chapte	r 5 Conclusion	70
	5.1 Introduction	70
	5.2 Research Findings	70

5.2.1 Glen Garden the Cultural Landscape	70
5.2.2 Sale of Glen Garden	72
5.2.3 Connectivity and Openness	74
5.2.4 Hogan, Nelson, and Everyone Else	77
5.2.5 Cultural Landscape Treatments	79
5.3 Significance to Landscape Architecture	79
5.4 Future Research	80
5.5 Conclusion	82
Appendix A Glen Garden Deed of Sale	84
Appendix B Glen Garden Stock	86
References	88
Biographical Information	93

List of Illustrations

Figure 2.1 Cultural Landscapes Timeline by Author	19
Figure 2.2 Glen Garden Country Club and putting green.	23
Figure 2.3 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson looking at a book	26
Figure 3.1 Saldana's adapted method for coding	37
Figure 4.1 Appropriation due to time and age.	47
Figure 4.2 Glen Garden Entrance, Photo courtesy of Jason Rocha.	49
Figure 4.3 The course in (top) 2001 and (bottom) 2007. Google Earth	51
Figure 4.4 The course in (top) 2014 and (bottom) 2017. Google Earth	52
Figure 4.5 Photo by Author. Copy of charter.	54
Figure 4.1 Cobb Park and Glen Garden.	57
Figure 4.7 Courtesy of Jason Rocha. Glen Garden Layout	57
Figure 4.8 View from 17 tee. Glen Garden Country Club Facebook Page	59
Figure 4.9 Photo by Author, Tower in 12 fairway	60
Figure 4.10 Photo courtesy of Jason Rocha. Honorary sign	63
Figure 4.11 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson playing Colonial	65
Figure 4.12 Photo from Glen Garden Country Club Facebook page	67
Figure 5.1 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson talk together before induction into the Fort	
Worth Sports Hall of Honor.	71
Figure 5.2 Photo by Author, Tom Brown pays for tournament	75
Figure 5.3 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson	83

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	ict.	_nt	Ta	h	\sim
_	เอเ	OI	10	U	55

Table 4-1 Hogan, Nelson, Palmer Career Overview65			
	Table 4-1 Hogan Nelson	Palmer Career Overview	65

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

The purpose of this study is to assess Glen Garden Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas as a cultural landscape. This golf course has a history unlike any other golf course in the world; and is a unique case study demonstrating that when significant people play golf, the courses they play may become cultural landscapes. The country club was formally closed in 2014 after being open just over a century. The course, built on former cattle pasture, was considered unremarkable by some and quirky by others, but it retained the integrity of its original design (Henry, 2014). Glen Garden's main notoriety is it was formative to two of the most important figures in golf, Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson.

The club was bought by Firestone & Robertson Distilling Company, makers of TX Whiskey, and ceased operating as a golf course in December of 2014. This purchase and closing seemingly left a cultural void in the city of Fort Worth's golfing world. This thesis examines the value of this cultural landscape and attempts to define the perception of responsibility for advocacy efforts in preserving this salient landscape.

1.2 Background

Founded by H.H. Cobb in 1912, Glen Garden Country Club opened just outside the city limits of Fort Worth on a pasture of the O.K. Cattle Ranch. Glen Garden opened as an alternative to the city's first golf course, River Crest Country Club ("9 Directors Named...", 1913). Glen Garden became renowned for being the course where Ben

Hogan and Byron Nelson learned how to play golf; two of the most prolific figures of the sport (Henry, 2014).

A cultural landscape is defined as "a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values (Birnbaum, 1994)." Some cultural landscape sites are set aside because they offer something of value which is important to the people they affect. Venues that have previously qualified as cultural landscapes include Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia designed by Dr. Alister Mackenzie and home to the Masters Golf Tournament, and Spyglass Hill Golf Club in Pebble Beach, California designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

1.3 Objectives

There were three objectives to the study. The first was to determine if Glen Garden Country Club is a cultural landscape by interviewing people associated with the club. This study assessed their responses about Glen Garden's history to help determine whether the landscape has cultural value. The second objective was to identify the perception of responsibility for advocacy efforts of Glen Garden Country Club. This provided a data point for projects in similar scenarios. The last objective was to build a case study that provides a familiar and systematic format for documentation and dissemination of information about Glen Garden Country Club (Francis, 1999). Since the course no longer exists as a golf site, examining the characteristics of the landscape is important to how landscape architects approach preservation or other treatments of cultural landscapes going forward.

1.4 Research Questions

- 1. Was Glen Garden Country Club a cultural landscape?
- 2. What is the perception of who should be responsible for advocacy efforts at Glen Garden Country Club?

1.5 Definition of Terms

<u>Case Study:</u> A case study is a well-documented and systematic examination of the process, decision-making and outcomes of a project that is undertaken for the purpose of informing future practice, policy, theory and/or education (Francis,1999). <u>Cultural landscape:</u> At once simple and complex and entails natural and man-made components of the environment and the ways in which they have changed over time. (Longstreth, 2008)

Ethnographic Interview: In depth, open ended interviewing used to collect data and to relate their perspectives and experiences in their own words and provide personal perspectives (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998).

Historic vernacular landscape: Landscapes wherein cultural features reveal the traditions and everyday transactions of human development (Birnbaum, 1994).

Vernacular landscape: Organization of space in communities used in traditional ways governed by common customs, held together by personal relationships. (Jackson, 1984)

1.6 Summary

Cultural landscapes are unique areas layered with history, time, values and other cultural resources. The goal is to examine the layers to gain an understanding of the collection (Goetcheus, 2006). This study addressed the research questions, analyzed the layers of information of Glen Garden Country Club and assessed the club as a cultural

landscape using ethnographic interviews. Next, a case study was prepared to document Glen Garden as it was when it closed. Using these protocols, Glen Garden Country Club was examined as a cultural landscape.

Glen Garden Country Club may not have been a very beautiful or challenging golf course but it played an immense role in golf, producing Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson. The landscape may be closed and reconstructed for another purpose, but it was the site where these two golf greats learned their craft. Cultural landscapes are an important resource of society and Glen Garden should carefully be considered for its value as a cultural landscape.

Chapter 2

Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

This literature review provides a context for this study, and its findings. This chapter reviews the historical context of cultural landscapes, golf's genesis in Texas, the establishment and significance of Glen Garden Country Club, and a primer of golf's five design principles. Glen Garden Country Club affected many people and it played a significant role in the sport of golf, producing Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson. Cultural landscapes, such as Glen Garden, are an important resource of society and Glen Garden is worthy of study for its value as a cultural landscape.

2.2 Cultural Landscapes

2.2.1 Origins of cultural landscapes

The concept of cultural landscapes arose from a sub-field of geography known as cultural geography. Though there were some mentions of the term prior to 1925, cultural geographer Carl Sauer published *The Morphology of Landscape* in which he developed the idea of cultural landscapes (Sauer, 1925). In Sauer's opinion, cultural landscapes were the product of mankind and nature, where nature provides the materials and canvas, and man uses culture to shape the landscape into something meaningful (Sauer, 1925). Sauer believed humanity shaped the landscape as an expression of culture. At this point, Sauer's primary focus was geographical, though Sauer closely associated the terms of landscape and culture. Sauer's landscapes were tangible, visible, and physical (Longstreth, 2008). Longstreth provides an overview of the development of the idea of cultural landscapes and addresses Sauer's focus. Sauer did not address the

intangible values or the underlying meanings of "why", other than the shaping capability of humans and culture. Sauer taught at Cal Berkeley and in 1957 invited another important figure, J.B. Jackson to speak at the university as a guest lecturer.

2.2.2 The influence of J.B. Jackson

Cultural landscapes next development came from the influence of J.B. Jackson. Jackson was part historian, part geographer, part journalist, and the culmination of these interests manifested in the periodical Landscape which he created and edited. From 1951 to 1968, Landscape introduced the notion of cultural landscapes with Jackson's writing and analysis, primarily set in New Mexico and the American southwest. Jackson's work provided exposure of cultural landscape studies to the design fields and introduced the concept of vernacular landscape to the masses (Longstreth, 2008). Jackson embraced the world surrounding him and that association became the basis for his work with vernacular landscapes. Vernacular landscapes are organizations of space in communities that are used in traditional ways governed by common customs, and held together by personal relationships (Jackson, 1984). Research in vernacular landscapes addresses important concepts such as meaning and looks beyond physical features to consider how landscapes have intangible value to inhabitants. Vernacular landscapes are important because they provide meaning to landscapes that would otherwise not be apparent. Context influences reading of the landscape to the same extent as geography and a more complete picture begins to form the panorama (Wilson, & Groth, 2003). Context is referring to the correlation between the tangible layers of the landscape and the uses of landscape itself. Cultural landscapes are impacted by changing layers, such as the impacts of time, climate, population variations or the core values which helped shape the original landscape. A dynamic outlook allowing change, even downfall needs to be considered in the life of a landscape (Jackson, 1980).

Allowing the initial landscape to decay can hasten the rejuvenation of a new landscape which adapts to the needs of the contemporary culture (Jackson, 1980). There can be the temptation to think of landscape as static entities reminding us of a specific place and time. It is the fluidity of the relationship between necessity and landscape that addresses this. A community may need a grocery store instead of an open field, the necessity for a new resource dictates the field transitions to a new use. Jackson's ideas helped to influence the efforts that were adopted by the National Park Service; including vernacular landscapes as one of their four typologies of cultural landscapes.

2.2.3 The National Park Service's role in cultural landscapes

The National Park Service (NPS) turned the theoretical work of Jackson into practice. With the full backing of the United States government, the NPS has done much to preserve the unique and precious lands that are richly dispersed across the nation.

The NPS first used the term cultural landscapes in its 1988 management policies. In 1992, the NPS created a singular standard for analyzing landscapes that needed to be defined and recognized for their culturally significant characteristics. The NPS created their Cultural Resource Management Guidelines which defines cultural landscapes, lists the different types of landscapes, itemizes strategies for inventorying and analyzing landscapes, creates reports documenting progress for landscapes, and finally establishes a standard for preservation by the use of several treatment plan options (Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, 1995). The NPS, by officially recognizing cultural landscapes, validated the previous work of Sauer and Jackson while recognizing cultural landscapes as a specific resource type (Longstreth, 2008).

The NPS characterized four categories of cultural landscapes: historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, historic sites, and ethnographic landscapes (Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, 1995). Historic designed

landscapes are landscapes that were intentionally designed or laid out by a professional such as a landscape architect, master gardener, architect, engineer, or horticulturist according to design principals, or an amateur gardener working in a recognized style or tradition. The landscape may be associated with a significant person, trend, or event in landscape architecture; or illustrate an important development in the theory and practice of landscape architecture (Birnbaum, 1994). An example of a Historic designed landscape would be the National Mall in Washington D.C. The site was design by L'Enfant and includes the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, and a stretch of lawn all the way to the United States Capitol building. Historic vernacular landscapes are landscapes where cultural features reveal the traditions and everyday transactions of human development (Birnbaum, 1994). An example of a historic vernacular landscape is Harper's Ferry National Historic Park. The site was the location of John Brown's abolitionist rebellion that was a precursor to the civil war. Historic sites are landscapes significant for associations with a historic event, activity or person (Birnbaum, 1994). Ellis Island is an example of a historic site in conjunction with the Statue of Liberty National Monument. Twelve million immigrants entered America through the Ellis Island from 1892 to 1954. Ethnographic landscapes are landscapes that contains a variety of cultural and natural resources that people associated with the landscape define as heritage resources (Birnbaum, 1994). An example of this type of landscape is the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve in Alaska. The ethnographic landscape provided a migratory path for humans and animals between the Americas and Asia during this ice age.

These categories are not mutually exclusive; cultural landscapes can be defined by one or more of these categories simultaneously (Goetcheus, 2006). Defining the landscape begins to identify the process by which a landscape is treated for the process of preservation. This analysis is a multidisciplinary process which culminates in a Cultural

Landscape Report (CLR - Birnbaum, 1994). A CLR documents an inventory summary for defining features of, an examining of historical documentation, and an evaluation of integrity and character; thereby providing a holistic view of the entire cultural landscape. Its purpose is to define both static and dynamic landscape features, and to provide context and boundaries for proposed treatments that may occur on site.

The NPS service recognizes four treatment plans for cultural landscapes: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, reconstruction. Preservation focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time. Rehabilitation acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character. Restoration depicts a property at a particular period of time in its history, while removing evidence of other periods. Reconstruction re-creates vanished or non-surviving portions of a property for interpretive purposes (Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, 1995). A treatment is an intervention using the management plan adopted according to the CLR to achieve preservation outcomes (Goetcheus, 2006). Each treatment has a varying degree of impact on the landscape and the use of the CLR provides the context and boundaries necessary to address the constraints.

Preserving cultural landscapes is a dynamic process and key decisions should be made based on a wealth of information to support recommended actions. Community stewardship benefits projects by providing continuity between professionals and the identity of the people affected by the project for future generations. Community buy-in will not guarantee project success, but it ensures there is a dialogue to address potential shortcomings.

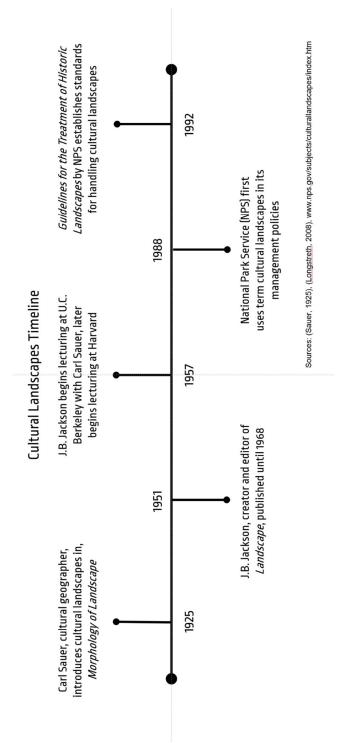


Figure 2.1 Cultural Landscapes Timeline by Author

2.3 Texas Golf History

Golf was initially brought to the United States by way of large seaports on the east coast. The first American course was Saint Andrews Golf Club in Hastings-On-Hudson, New York, built in 1888 (McAlester, Winters, Mackintosh, and Clicque, 2008). The game came to Texas in the 1890's, about 30 years after it began in the United States (Nichols, 2010).

Texas had a disadvantage in terms of growing the game of golf; distance. Golf developed in Texas around the major city centers of the state, yet with rail and ship being the primary means of transportation, many of the amateurs trying to learn to play the game had a geographic problem with the size of the state and the distance travelled from city to city to play other courses and amateurs. Seeing a need, "To promote the playing and advancement of the royal and ancient game of golf in Texas, by bringing the clubs and the players together", several groups combined efforts to form the Texas Golf Association in 1906 (Texas Golf Association, 2016). Golf clubs from Beaumont, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, Waco, Austin, and Galveston addressed the expanse separating amateur players by hosting competitions and advertising courses for amateurs; allowing golf to continue growing. H.L. Edwards was named the first president of the Texas Golf Association because of his familiarity with the game, having brought it to Dallas ten years earlier, and because of his business contacts in Dallas (Texas Golf Association, 2016).

The first chartered country club in Texas was Galveston Country Club which opened its 9-hole course in 1898 (Nichols, 2010). Galveston had three advantages that helped make it the first major golfing center in Texas. First, Galveston was a major shipping port in the early 19th century with major shipments arriving from Europe. There was a cadre of knowledgeable people available to spread the merits of playing golf with the many Europeans coming into the city (Stricklin, 2005). The second advantage was

the number of wealthy people living in the port city at the time of golf's beginnings in Texas. Galveston had a sufficient financial base for people to grow the sport. It was Texas' most important port at the time and had more millionaires per capita than any place in Texas and in the southwest (Stricklin, 2005). The third advantage came from the warm climate for playing golf in Galveston. The long playing seasons allowed many people to take up the game and to keep playing throughout the year. An advantage that many courses on the east coast could not match. Ironically, the weather was also the downfall of the original Galveston Country Club. In September of 1900, the infamous Galveston Hurricane struck killing over six thousand people on the island, completely devastating its economy and decimating the course. Galveston Country Club temporarily closed and moved its location further inland (Stricklin, 2005).

The first public golf course to open in Texas was Brackenridge Park in San Antonio (Nichols, 2010). The course was unique because it opened as an 18-hole layout, common today but rare for the time. The course is also known for being the first Texas course to host a professional event. In 1922 the Texas Open provided a \$5000 prize, the largest of any event in the United States at the time (Texas Golf Association, 2016). Lions Municipal Golf Course in Austin, Texas is another important early golf course. The course was designed by B.F. Rowe, a member of Austin's Lions Club and opened in 1924. The course was donated to the city of Austin in 1936. In 1951 the course desegregated, having the distinction of being one of the first courses to desegregate in the south (Lions Municipal Golf, 2017). Also in Austin is the Hancock Golf Course. Hancock was the first home of the Austin Country Club, established in 1899, and the longest continually operated golf course in Texas (National Register of Historic Places Registration Form Hancock Golf Course, 2014). The club is listed in the National Registry of Historic Places.

Two Britons, H.L. Edwards, the future first president of the Texas Golf
Association, and his business partner in the cotton industry Richard Potter brought a love and knowledge of golf to Dallas. In 1896, two years before the first formal golf course in Galveston, Edwards and Potter built a six-hole course at the corner of modern day Haskell and Cole in Dallas (Nichols, 2010). They had played the game as a pastime in their home country, and the game seemed a natural fit in Texas because of the open spaces and the availability of land. In 1900, the Dallas Golf and Country Club was the first golf course incorporated. In 1912 the club moved into a larger facility at Preston and Beverly built by famed golf course architect Tom Bendelow (Nichols, 2010), (McAlester, Winters, Mackintosh, and Clicque, 2008). The Dallas Country Club was the anchor for the new suburban development in Highland Park (McAlester, Winters, Mackintosh, and Clicque, 2008). The concept of anchoring a development with a country club was in its infancy at the time. Dallas Country Club was chartered the same year Glen Garden Country Club opened their nine hole layout in Fort Worth, Texas.



Figure 2.2 Glen Garden Country Club and putting green. W.D. Smith Commercial Photography (Photographer), UTA Libraries, accessed April 1, 2017, http://library.uta.edu/digitalgallery/items/show/38274.

2.4 Glen Garden Country Club

Glen Garden Country Club opened in 1912, founded by H.H. Cobb on his O.K. Cattle Ranch, 3 miles outside the then city limits of Fort Worth ("9 Directors Named...", 1913). Ten acres of land with three tennis courts had been donated for the site of the clubhouse while the surrounding land was to be leased to construct the golf course. The site was located on the "Glen Garden" stop of the Fort Worth-Cleburne interurban trolley line. This afforded easy access for those working in the city but was far enough outside the city limits that the land was not developed. Glen Garden provided an alternative to the city's first golf course, River Crest Country Club (Holmes, 2014). River Crest was a private country club located west of downtown Fort Worth, which had become quite popular and crowded; additionally, River Crest dues were four times higher than those of Glen Garden (Holmes, 2014).

No course designer is mentioned until April 1914, meaning the initial holes were most likely crudely planned by one of the founders. Course designers were usually from the northeastern United States where golf had been established much earlier. Their usual approach would be to combine their previous knowledge to layout a course with recommendations from the members. Some professionals would then stay on to teach the members how to maintain the course and to play golf. Once funding was established to build the course, several course designers are mentioned being brought in. Charles G. Nieman of Buffalo, New York was the first such expert mentioned to have designed Glen Garden ("Link Expert Hired...", 1914). The next was J.J. Taylor of Canton, Ohio who was mentioned as siting the back nine ("Rock Used in Construction of Building...", 1914). John Bredemus, "The Father of Texas Golf" is most often credited for designing Glen Garden. Bredemus, who received a degree in civil engineering from Princeton University, was accomplished in many areas including Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) decathlon champion, a high school math teacher and vice-principal, and a semi-professional golfer (Stricklin, 2015). In 1921 he added golf course architect to his professional credentials when he designed San Felipe Springs, in Del Rio, the first of many Texas courses he designed.

The first iteration of Glen Garden's course was a rough 9-hole layout with sand and oil greens. The sand was coarsely granulated and the oil came from cleanings of old fuel oil supply tanks from steam engines. The use of sand and oil was common at the time because most courses were built prior to irrigation and the maintenance impact was minimal, having to reapply oil only once per year. The oil kept the sand from being blown off by the Texas winds (Stricklin, 2005). The course was routed through 110 acres of cow pasture which gave credence to the slang of the day calling golf "cow pasture pool" ("Golf Introduced to Fort Worth by Three Men Twelve Years Ago...", 1915).

The course started with a straightforward par 37. The back nine was an eventful par 34. It featured back-to-back par fives, numbers 12 and 13; and back-to-back par threes - twice, numbers 14 and 15 and then numbers 17 and 18. This created the imbalanced 37 – 34 par 71. The eighteen-hole layout that resulted has been described as "curious" (Miller, 2015), "bizarre" (Passov, 2014), "unique and wacky" (Henry, 2014), and "eclectic" (Holmes, 2014).

Glen Garden is most known for two caddies the learned the game of golf in the caddy yard. Byron Nelson, was a well-liked middle class boy whose home was adjacent to Glen Garden. Ben Hogan was a slight young man who had to walk several miles per day to work. He was known to have slept in the course bunkers which allowed him to be the first caddy out and gave him an additional opportunity to carry a bag for late morning rounds. The club caddie tournament in 1927 is where the two future hall of famers competed against each other for the first time. The caddies tied, Nelson eventually winning the tiebreaker to secure a junior membership. Hogan soon left to work at Katy Lake Golf Course because Glen Garden would no longer allow him to practice on its course (Henry, 2014). Although, the match was the first time Hogan and Nelson faced each other, the friendly rivalry lasted for decades. See figure 2.3.



Figure 2.3 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson looking at a book. UTA Libraries, accessed April 1, 2017, http://library.uta.edu/digitalgallery/items/show/21099.

Glen Garden operated for 102 years. After several lean years, dwindling membership, and the number of rounds being played decreasing, the decision was made to sell the course. In December of 2014, Glen Garden closed its doors for the last time after being bought out by the Firestone & Robertson Distillery. The company submitted plans for a \$17 million development which includes repurposing the existing clubhouse, adding production areas and a visitor center, and adding cottages for guests to stay overnight (Baker, 2016). The distillery also purchased memorabilia to maintain a tie to Glen Garden Country Club (Henry, 2014).

2.5 Golf's Design Principles

It would be difficult to understand the value of Glen Garden Country Club without a closer examination of the function it served, 102 years of golf. The golf course changed very little over its life (Henry, 2014). The course, which played as a par 37 front and par

34 back for 71, was characterized as "a course only Tom Doak could have loved" (Passov, 2014) Tom Doak is a golf course architect who owns a company called Renaissance Golf Design. Doak describes five principles for golf course design: playability; strategy; naturalness; aesthetics; and, originality (Doak, 1992). These principles are common knowledge to golf course designers and go back to the Old Course of Saint Andrews in Scotland. Doak consolidates the strategies used in course design and presents them in his book *Anatomy of a Golf Course* (1992).

Playability is the arrangement of a course to allow all players the chance to demonstrate skills regardless of their ability. (Doak, 1992) A golf courses distinct purpose as a sport is to challenge each person to the limit of their own abilities. Therefore, golf is played against the course in competition with someone else or in an attempt to best your own best previous efforts.

Strategy is design that prompts decision making. (Doak, 1992) Strategy is golf's mental challenge that accompanies the physical challenge. The very essence of golf is selecting, then executing the most efficient route to the hole, avoiding hazards along the way.

Naturalness is the opportunity to route the 18 holes to take the greatest advantage of a property's natural assets (Doak, 1992) It is important to consider all natural features in order to provide a setting where the course puts forth the best performance to challenge the golfer. The context will then be memorable and enjoyable.

Aesthetics is design that enhances the beauty of the property, by directing the golfer around the property to see it in all its aspects, and by adding elements that blend into the landscape while helping to focus the golfer's view. (Doak, 1992) The principle is perhaps the most basic of all the other principles. Striping away the other facets, golf could still be a good walk in a nice setting.

Originality is the defining or guiding principle of the site design (Doak, 1992).

Originality comprises the features that make a course standout or become memorable. A designer may add their signature style to a design or the course may have a distinct feature that sets itself apart.

Glen Gardens liabilities were a lack of design balance, lack of sufficient aesthetic appeal, and lack of shot values (Passov, 2014). The design principles are an inexact process, but working in concert, help create an interesting golf course.

2.6 Summary

This chapter discusses the context this study is based on. This literature review serves as an outline for this study and provides a foundation for the findings in chapters four and five.

Cultural landscapes began in the field of geography with concepts introduced by Carl Sauer. In Sauer's Morphology (1925), cultural landscapes were the product of mankind and nature, where nature provides the materials and canvas, and man uses culture to shape the landscape into something meaningful. Sauer's work inspired J.B. Jackson to begin writing about cultural landscapes. J.B. Jackson's vernacular landscapes are places in communities that are used in traditional ways governed by common customs and held together by personal relationships (1984). Jackson created and served as editor for *Landscape*, the journal that influenced many designers and played an important role in guiding the efforts of the NPS. The NPS created a singular standard for analyzing landscapes that need to be defined and recognized for their culturally significant characteristics. The NPS has a vast portfolio of spaces that were important, but did not meet criteria for inclusion as a national park. The standard provides

the tools for landscape architects and other professional practitioners to assess sites and document landscapes in order to begin the process of making preservation decisions.

Golf developed in Texas around the major city centers of the state. The problem Texas presented was the vast distances between those city centers. Amateurs faced difficulties having to travel such long distances to other amateurs and courses. Difficult conditions were another limiting factor. Many of the amateurs trying to learn the game faced challenges because courses were not designed by professionals until golf was rooted in the cities. This includes Glen Garden Country Club. Glen Garden was never the most challenging or visually appealing course; it was the prolific careers of Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson that made the course noteworthy. The course was chartered in 1912 and built by H.H. Cobb on his lands just outside the city limits. The course was built with function in mind over design. Cobb and the other directors most likely used a rudimentary siting to lay out the course instead of formal design principles. Golf's design principles are used to maximize the natural resources of a course in order to produce the most challenging and fun experience for golfers of every ability.

Chapter 3

Methodology

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the qualitative methods used in assessing Glen Garden Country Club as a cultural landscape. In depth, open ended interviewing is the primary method of collecting data. Face-to-face interviews allow informants to express experiences in their own words and to provide personal perspectives (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998). These techniques were chosen to analyze qualitative data about Glen Garden Country Club and discover themes based on these data. A modified version of Francis case study method was used to construct a case study to serve as the basis for an organized analysis (Francis, 1999). This chapter includes the approach to documenting Glen Garden in the case study, recruitment criteria for interviews, interview questions, interview procedures, challenges and limitations of the study, and a summary of methodology for research.

3.2 Research Design

The rationale of this research design is guided by the two research questions:

- 1. Was Glen Garden Country Club a cultural landscape?
- 2. What is the perception of who should be responsible for advocacy efforts to save Glen Garden?

This research used qualitative techniques so that descriptive data could emerge through people's own voices and experiences (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998). Qualitative research provides the flexibility to produce knowledge from various emergent data and to put context in perspective, even in diverse settings and with diverse study populations.

Qualitative interviews were used to go beyond the baseline data of the case study to find different layers of meaning. In-depth interviews capture the experiences in the informant's life and how the informant defines those experiences (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998). The interviews revealed a range of themes that will be more difficult to find later as the Glen Garden site becomes less topical and is redeveloped for other uses. The qualitative interviews asked the same open-ended questions of each informant, though there was flexibility in the order the questions were asked to fit the flow of the interview. This format permitted the relevant topics to be discussed and allowed emergent data to be revealed. The interviews were recorded and later transcribed to analyze the data.

Data collected from the interviews were transcribed and analyzed with the grounded theory approach as outlined by Taylor and Bogdan (1998). The goal of this approach was to allow emergent knowledge to be addressed systematically in order to begin to build grounded theoretical understanding (Deming and Swaffield, 2011). More simply, this approach aims to find relevant data, categorize it into themes, and to compare the information to one another and against the research questions. The combination of the grounded theory method and content analysis supports validity of the findings to the research questions posed.

One of the most effective methods for research in a graduate thesis is a descriptive case study which provides direct and effective results (Deming and Swaffield, 2011). Building case studies is regularly practiced in the field of landscape architecture and has served as a tool for the documentation of projects going back to the work of Frederick Law Olmstead (Francis, 1999). A case study provides a familiar and systematic narrative to document baseline descriptive data. The data can then be used for future research, historical records, and to provide context for development surrounding a site. This case study was adapted from the Francis model and modified to

fit the unique context of Glen Garden Country Club to document the club as it was when it closed.

3.3 Study Participants

A pool of prospective interview participants was initially formulated using newspaper articles that were written during the sale of Glen Garden Country Club. The individuals in the articles were associated with the club in various capacities, interviewing them provided an opportunity to speak to individuals uniquely associated with the club. These key informants were well informed on the club and the surrounding landscape as a group, comprised a purposive sample (Deming and Swaffield, 2011). Random sampling would not be as effective in this research as the field of knowledge of golf is limited in the population. The club being for members only for the majority of its existence further limited the perspective pool, despite the notoriety of golf hall of famers Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson. Many outside of the club do not fully grasp the breadth of their contribution to the world of golf. The scope of research lent itself to a smaller informant group which increased the opportunity for relevant data. To remain within that scope, participants were asked to identify others who might also be well informed in a process known as "snowballing" (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998).

3.4 Data Collection Methods

This study addresses two distinct and intricate problems in addition to the research questions. The first was the need for addressing complex issues that are associated with cultural landscapes. The second is a systematic baseline documentation of Glen Garden Country Club. The two primary approaches used to execute this research required two different qualitative approaches.

Using an ethnographic approach, the interviews address the research questions and other cultural landscape research. This interview was designed to build a grounded theoretical understanding for the phenomena not associated with the empirical data.

The case study interview uses a multidimensional data collection approach adapted from the Francis case study method in addition to in-depth interviews research included: reviewing archival material, literature reviews, web searches, and site visits. The questions for the case study interview address both specific facets related to the contextual information of the course and the research questions outlined previously. This interview was designed with the key informant in mind, the person that is the primary source of information (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998).

3.4.1 Ethnographic interview questions

- 1. When did you begin your association with Glen Garden Country Club?
- 2. What was your favorite hole and what made it stand out?
- 3. What were some criticisms of the course?
- 4. How would you describe the course layout?
- 5. What was the significance of the course to you or what made the course unique?
- 6. How did the course relate to the neighborhood surrounding it?
- 7. How would you describe the membership make-up?
- 8. Can you describe how the membership make-up changed throughout the decades until the course closed?
- 9. When did it become clear the course could not remain open?
- 10. Do you think the city of Fort Worth or the PGA buying or taking over operations would have been a viable option?
- 11. In your perfect scenario, what do you wish would have happened to the course?

- 12. What are some lessons that could be learned for courses facing similar situations?
- 13. What are your thoughts about the uniqueness of Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson getting their start at Glen Garden?
- 14. How did Glen Garden change over time for the better, what changes were made that were not so positive?
- 15. Did you notice any changes when the club went semi-private?
- 16. What did Glen Garden mean to you?
- 17. Does Glen Garden have a place in Fort Worth's cultural heritage?
- 18. How would your assessment of Glen Garden change without the contributions of Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson?
- 19. What were your experiences at Glen Garden outside of the course like, and how did they shape the way you see Glen Garden?

Both interviews have elements within to ease transition from question-toquestion, though questions were rearranged to fit the flow of conversation. The case study approach makes sure that the significant topics are addressed, but it acquires data specific to the key informant.

3.4.2 Case Study interview questions

- 1. When did you begin your association with Glen Garden Country Club?
- 2. Who designed the course at Glen Garden Country Club?
- 3. How was the site for the course picked?
- 4. How was the course sited or situated?
- 5. How long did the course play at 9 holes when it was opened?
- 6. How long did the course play when it updated to 18 holes?

- 7. What year did the course go to 18 holes?
- 8. Did any changes happen with the course since it was made into 18 holes? If so, by who?
- 9. What was your favorite hole and what made it stand out?
- 10. What were some criticisms of the course?
- 11. How would you describe the course layout?
- 12. What was the significance of the course to you or what made the course unique for you?
- 13. Who maintained the course and grounds and how much did it cost to maintain the course?
- 14. How did the course relate to the neighborhood surrounding it?
- 15. Was there ever any thought to move the course?
- 16. What was the membership make-up?
- 17. Can you describe how the membership make-up changed throughout the decades until the course closed?
- 18. What was your membership retention rate?
- 19. When did it become clear the course could not remain open?
- 20. Did the city of Fort Worth ever offer to buy or take over operations?
- 21. Do you think that would have been a viable option?
- 22. What do you wish would have happened to the course in your perfect scenario?
- 23. What are some lessons that could be learned for courses facing similar situations?
- 24. What are your thoughts about the uniqueness of Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson getting their start at Glen Garden?
- 25. Did you play any other courses, any similar to Glen Garden?
- 26. How did Glen Garden change over time for the better, what changes were made that were not so positive?

- 27. What year did the club decide to go semi-private?
- 28. Did you notice any changes when the club went semi-private?
- 29. What did Glen Garden mean to you?
- 30. Does Glen Garden have a place in Fort Worth's cultural heritage?
- 31. How would your assessment of Glen Garden change without the contributions of Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson?
- 32. What were your experiences at Glen Garden outside of the course like, how did they shape the way you saw Glen Garden?

3.5 Interview procedures

An approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) was required for data collection according to research protocols overseen by The University of Texas at Arlington, and was acquired prior to recruitment of interviewees. Consent from each interviewee was obtained before beginning the in-depth interview. A brief introduction of the researcher and the study was given to the interviewee followed by the interview questions. Interviews were digitally recorded during the interview on the researcher's cellular device using the application, TapeMachine. Later, the interviews were transcribed, coded and the recordings of the interviews were deleted. The transcripts are kept on file with researcher's thesis advisor at The University of Texas at Arlington.

3.6 Analysis procedures

Once the interviews were conducted, they were transcribed so the data could be analyzed. Given the scope of the project, it was decided to code using Saldana's (2009) elemental methods, of descriptive coding, In Vivo coding, and initial coding. Saldana states descriptive coding assigns basic labels to data providing a list of topics. In Vivo

coding quotes directly from the respondents own words in the transcript for codes. Initial coding is an open-ended examination of the data and a stage of grounded theory approach (Saldana, 2009).

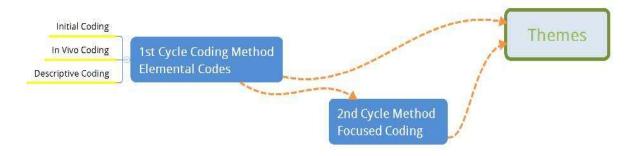


Figure 3.1 Saldana's adapted method for coding

The second cycle of coding used focused coding as the approach. This strategy reduced the codes from 97 in the first cycle coding to 26 in the second cycle. Focused coding was used because it is suitable for most qualitative studies, and principally for studies employing grounded theory methodology, helping to develop themes in the work (Saldana 2009). The data collected yielded several themes regarding cultural landscapes and helped address the research questions.

The data and themes were further analyzed to exercise the grounded theory approach as outlined by Taylor and Bogdan (1998). The examination of data derives themes that show plausible support for theories. The original purpose of the study was to address the research questions, however other themes emerged during the process and will be presented.

3.7 Significance and Limitations

This research provides a case study of Glen Garden Country Club's life cycle, which to the researcher's knowledge, had never been completed previous to this study. The case study provides documentation of the landscape that existed and may be used as a framework to organize and explain phenomena associated with the club's existence and eventual closure. The additional research seeks to find theory equal in complex understanding of cultural landscapes, within the same context of the club's existence and closure. By addressing these topics, the research base in landscape architecture is expanded and can help future professionals replicate success and avoid failures (Francis, 1999).

As with any research, there were various limitations affecting the study. Normal time constraints and a limited number of participants apply. The reason the study was chosen for a thesis was due to the closure of Glen Garden Country Club. Therefore, research was conducted within the scope of an evolving use of space. Site visits were difficult given the course had been sold and closed when the study began. Trespassing was not allowed and construction on the new development eventually began. The closing of the club also limited access to information that may have been previous available. Finally, in interpretive research, actively "making sense" of phenomena can never be totally independent of the researcher (Deming and Swaffield, 2011).

3.8 Summary

This qualitative study uses grounded theory techniques so that descriptive data emerges through people's own voice and experiences (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998). There were two approaches used to execute this research strategy. An ethnographic interview with informed participants to provide detail, context, and personal perspectives, and an

adapted version of Francis' case study model to provide a straightforward narrative of Glen Garden's lifecycle. A pool of prospective interview participants was created using individuals having a unique associations with the club. Interviews were conducted, transcribed, and the recordings of the interviews were then deleted. The transcriptions were put into the program Dedoose and coded using methods as described by Saldana (2009). Dedoose is a computer application for analyzing qualitative research data. Limitations included limited access to the site and a small participant pool. Despite limitations in methodology, the research base in landscape architecture is expanded by this study. It can help future professionals who review this research replicate success and lessen the possibility of failure of future projects in similar situations (Francis, 1999).

Chapter 4

Findings and Analysis

4.1 Introduction

This chapter analyzes the data collected to address the two research questions; whether Glen Garden can be considered a culturally significant landscape and the perception of responsibility for advocacy efforts at Glen Garden Country Club. An aim of this research is to find interesting and pertinent information, categorize it into themes, and compare those themes to the research questions.

Ethnographic interview was the primary method of collecting data for the study. The purpose of these interviews was to find different layers of meaning in the perspectives of the study participants. The in-depth interview captures the experiences in the informant's life and how the informant defines those experiences (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998).

A modified version of Francis case study method was constructed using data obtained from the case study interview of key informants (1999). The case study interview included the same questions as the ethnographic interview and adds specific questions for key informants. The purpose of these interviews is to address the analysis needed to prepare the case study. Further information was collected in historic documents, literature reviews, and correspondence with golf historian Frances Trimble in order to fill any gaps of information associated with Glen Garden.

4.2 Recruiting Results

The researcher identified a pool of potential interview participants by finding newspaper articles that were written during the sale of Glen Garden Country Club in 2014. From that initial pool of 13, survey data was collected from seven participants. Two

of the participants were given the more extensive case study interview because of their history with the course and knowledge of details that occurred behind the scenes. The case study interview participants were:

- 1. The course professional of 12.5 years, and
- 2. a member of the course for over 60 years having first served as a caddy Five ethnographic interviews were conducted. Interview participants included:
 - 1. A recent resident in the Glen Crest neighborhood,
 - 2. a civic leader in the neighborhood association,
 - 3. the daughter of a former member that went on to build his own country club,
 - 4. a resident of 50 years whose home is adjacent to the club, and
 - 5. a hall of fame golf writer

The interviews were conducted between January-March 2017. Five interviews were conducted face-to-face and two over the phone.

- 4.3 Themes from the Data
- 4.3.1 Answering the Research Questions
- 4.3.1.1 History and Legacy

The first question the findings seek to answer is: Was Glen Garden a cultural landscape? To find this answer the interviewer asked the question: Does Glen Garden have a place in Fort Worth's cultural heritage? The question was reworded to use verbiage the respondents would know better and to link the concept of culture to the location and Glen Garden, within the context of Fort Worth. Six of the seven respondents affirmed Glen Garden as a cultural landscape. The theme here is "History and Legacy". The theme represents the eventful past and the many things Glen Garden passed on to others. Regarding the history:

"... Cobb moved here and he had various business dealings including the OK Cattle Company. He used part of that land to open Cobb Park and used another part of that land to open Glen Garden Country Club. It's part of the complex composition of what makes up Fort Worth. You have Nelson and Hogan a part of the history. There's the Texas spirit of if I don't like your country club, I'll go start my own. All of that history goes, when Glen Garden goes (Respondent 5)."

Regarding legacy:

"... a club that has three pro players come from the same place, you would think that's phenomenal. But it goes so much further than that. Those people laid the groundwork for people like me. It's incredible what they brought to us. And, Hogan and Nelson did so much for DFW because of golf and outside of golf for this city. They touched so many lives here and they meant so much to this city (Respondent 7)."

The respondents most often cited the history of the club or a facet of the history in their responses. Some also mentioned a way the club's history affected them in some personal ways. Specifically, the importance of golf over the course of their lives and how Glen Garden was a part of that. History or a subcode of history was the second most used code in this study and directly assessed an aspect of cultural landscapes.

4.3.1.2 Lack of Interest

The second question the findings intend to answer: What is the perception of responsibility for advocacy efforts at Glen Garden Country Club? The researcher asked: Do you think the city of Fort Worth or the PGA buying or taking over operations would have been a viable option? The question was asked so that two options were given, one public: the city of Fort Worth, one private: Pro Golfer's Association (PGA). Again, the question was asked so that the research question would be addressed indirectly. The researcher presumed the study participants had knowledge of the PGA and knew it to be a private organization. The question did not consider the desires of the Glen Garden owners to sell to whichever buyer they wished to do business with. The theme here is

"Lack of Interest". This theme represents the lack of regard or enthusiasm for Glen Garden Country Club from both the public and private perspective.

"We tried to sell it to the city and they said; "no and we have courses better than Glen Garden". They didn't want to have anything to do with it, they just were not interested...It was tried several times to sell to the right person. It was finally decided to sell to whoever they could (Respondent 6)."

The members and owners knew they had a unique landscape that needed to go to the "right person". Going with the city provided the best chance for the course to remain as is, preserving the history and continuing to be an asset for the city. Going private presented the opportunity to add money and rehabilitate the course. There was just not enough interest to make anything happen that would preserve the landscape.

"The municipal courses are struggling and golf in general is struggling. Nike got out of the business, if they can't sustain business something is going on...You can't say it any other way, it takes money in order to sustain it, you've got to run courses like a business or you can't keep them open (Respondent 3)."

Five of the respondents preferred private money backing the club. Of the five, three were adamantly against the city having any part of the course. On the other side, two respondents preferred that the city take over the course. One of those suggested the city take over and partner with the neighborhood in a public/private partnership. Private funding may have changed the result. However, the lack of interest by all participants affected the outcome.

4.3.2 Emergent Themes

4.3.2.1 Evolving Connectivity

When the club was being sold, the community protested the distillery's purchase of the property. The researcher sought to find out more about the relationship of the country club to the community. What came about was a theme of "Evolving Connectivity".

The theme responds to the relationship of Glen Garden to the surrounding neighborhood that was once interconnected, became disassociated, and eventually coexisted amicably.

"The Rolling Hills neighborhood, the houses west of the 12th teebox, were put in during the 1960's. Lot of members moved into there and the membership jumped up when those houses came in. The houses to the south of number 12 were there in the 20's. A lot of those houses are still standing. They gave Sandra Palmer membership and she grew up right behind #3 green (Respondent 6)."

The course and the neighborhood existed together and Byron Nelson, like Sandra Palmer, grew up adjacent to the course. It is important to note, the neighborhoods around the course in the early days of Glen Garden were majority white, middle class. This remained the case until the mid-1960's and 1970's when a predominately minority middle class population began moving in.

"Another resident (a Glencrest Civic League board member) moved into the neighborhood in the mid-70s. At that time, the neighborhood was predominately white. African Americans were not allowed in the golf club, no membership, no receptions. Once the shift occurred "white flight", the club continued to be closed off to African Americans and the club didn't seem very open or welcoming to the community that moved in (Respondent 2)."

This assessment is echoed by another respondent.

"It seemed over time, the value the course brought to the community shrunk. The community may have gone downhill over time but the course didn't seem to bring a lot to the community (Respondent 7)."

The respondent also touches on another variable in the changing nature of the relationship between the club and neighborhood. The neighborhood changed social classes and went from a middle class to a working class community.

"It was hard for the club to survive as a once good neighborhood around it began to decay (Respondent 1)."

This shows how Glen Garden's past was tied to the neighborhood. The dwindling membership necessitated a change in club operations. Glen Garden went semi-private in

the mid 1990's. The club softened its private club regulations and the neighborhood benefited.

"The clubhouse opened their restaurant to non-members so you could eat and look over the golf course. There weren't too many sit down restaurants in the community and the clubhouse filled the function... On Sundays, our church would show up and fill up the place and used is as our own little private country club (Respondent 5)."

Eventually the neighborhood fought unsuccessfully to keep the course and the relationship between Glen Garden and the neighborhood was once again connected.

"The relationship changed over time. When I first came here, I don't think there were any black members. That slowly changed when they opened the course to non-members. You would see more black players...They had a big pond at the center of the golf course, my son and the neighborhood kids would sneak through the fence and go fishing on it. Nobody cared that they were fishing, it was just part of the experience growing up in this neighborhood. The kids interacted with the course on a different level, especially the boys (Respondent 5)."

4.3.2.2 Time & Perception

A theme seeming obvious on the surface was the correlation between the amount of time exposed to Glen Garden Country Club and the perception of the club. The theme emerged while examining a question asking of the amount of time the respondents had been associated with the course in relation to a question of significance and meaning.

"...moved to the area 4 years ago and knew it from then...The downside in recently moving to the neighborhood, I see an empty golf course that's been somewhat maintained (Respondent 2)."

The respondent had no prior knowledge of the course and was only around it in the last few years it was opened. She perceived it as not very active.

The next respondent worked at the course for 12.5 years. He expressed a congenial association with the course and the response shows the desire for it to still be in operation.

"I was an assistant pro in spring 1997 until 2002...as head pro in 2006 and stayed until the club closed in 2014. With the two stints 12.5 years... It's natural to wish it was still open and operating. I don't know in what capacity or with what owners, I just wished it was still open (Respondent 7)."

The next respondent has had a 35+ year association with the course. He vividly defines the landscape with their description.

"I moved to the Glen Crest neighborhood in 1979...Glen Garden is the heart of our community...The neighborhood is quiet and peaceful and the heart of it is this big park, so to speak. The golf course has a calming effect and it was green and well maintained. It gave a serene essence to everything around it (Respondent 5)."

The final example comes from the person with the longest association with the course, over 70 years. He refers to the club like it is an old friend that has died.

"I was 10 years old in 1939 when I started at Glen Garden...It's amazing that it came and went. We'll get by without it, we don't have to like it...I get upset every time I think about it, I've had bad dreams about it (Respondent 6)."

From someone recently associated with the club to someone with a long emotional tie, there is a change of depth in significance and the correlation of time and perception, see figure 4.1.

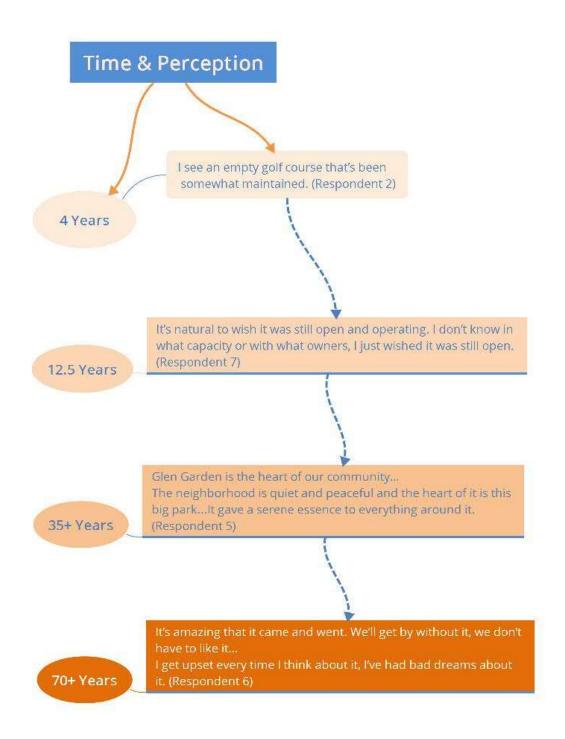


Figure 4.1 Appropriation due to time and age.

4.3.2.3 Golf Design Principles

Golf courses have been traditionally designed using five design principles. These principles are: Playability, Strategy, Nautralness, Aesthetics, and Originality (Doak, 1992). The design elements are used to challenge players and test their abilities against the challenges of the course. There are no requirements for how course should be designed according to these principles, but all course design is influenced by them. No questions were asked in this study about the principles but they were brought up repeatedly. Respondent 7 speaks about the challenges of playing number 17 highlighting playability:

"I would have to say 17. It was the signature hole, pretty and had a good view. It was an elevated teebox and the green sat down below. From the teebox you could overlook the course, it had a view of downtown Fort Worth and it was one of the most challenging greens. With the elevation change, having to deal with crosswinds, and a very fast playing green; with a hole only 148 yards, very challenging shot (Respondent 7)."

Respondent 6 talks about using different strategies as he got older making number eight one of his favorite holes:

"Number eight because I could usually play the shot I wanted, I could play the long way and have a wedge into the green. In my later playing years I played it the short route which would have me drive it to 160 yards out. You had to play it smart (Respondent 6)."

Respondent 5 speaks about features that made Glen Garden unique to him. He emphasizes the naturalness:

"It's not laid out like your typical modern course. It's got natural hills and valleys. Not manipulated or contoured by heavy equipment or anything. It's wide open, no tree lined fairways, no barriers keeping you from going out of bounds...Its just more natural (Respondent 5)."

Glen Garden is not going to be remembered for its design balance or aesthetic appeal (Passov, 2014). Respondent 7 has a similar opinion of the club's aesthetics:

"It didn't have aesthetics of some of the prettier courses that are opening. It had some rolling hills but it was for the most part flatter and naked to the eye. You didn't get on the teebox and say, "Oh man look at that!!" There were no interesting bunkers or creative lines to bring features out (Respondent 7)."

Glen Garden may not have been the most aesthetically pleasing course but it did have memorable features. The twelfth fairway contained an electrical tower and number ten played uphill severely from tee to green (Miller, 2015; Passov, 2014). Respondent 1 talks about how the originality made the course special:

"The par-five 12th hole had a huge electrical tower in the middle of the fairway. Most unique hazard in all of golf. The whole damn course was incredibly unique, which makes its demise all the more painful (Respondent 1)."

Design principles were mentioned 37 times in the data. Playability was mentioned 13 times and represented the most prolific topic in design principles. Naturalness was mentioned the fewest at 2 times. The tone of usage was mostly negative.



Figure 4.2 Glen Garden Entrance, Photo courtesy of Jason Rocha.

4.4 Case Study

Project Name Glen Garden Golf & Country Club

Location 2916 Glen Garden Dr. So., Fort Worth, Texas 76119

Date Opened Spring 1912

Cost \$25,000 for the land, \$12,500 for the original clubhouse

Size 110 Acres

Context. Glen Garden was the second golf course to open in Fort Worth, following River Crest Country Club. Located just over 4 miles south/southeast of downtown Fort Worth, the club was erected on the former grounds of the O.K. Cattle Company on land first donated and later sold to Glen Garden by H.H. Cobb. In addition to Glen Garden, H.H. Cobb donated the land for Cobb Park which connected to Glen Garden on its northwest border. The club was at the center of two neighborhoods that were built up around the course. The Glen Crest neighborhood is located on the south and east side of the course and was the first housing development, built in the 1920's, to come after the course was built. In the 1960's, the Rolling Hills neighborhood was developed on the west side of the course. Both neighborhoods provide a soft barrier around the course.

The club remained open for 102 years before being sold and shuttered in 2014 by

Firestone & Robertson Distilling Company. Figure 4.3 shows the club as it appeared in

2001 and at in 2007 when a natural gas fracking site was placed on the grounds. Figure

4.4 shows at top, the course as it appeared in October 2014, two months before closing

and on bottom the development for the Firestone & Robertson Distilling Company.

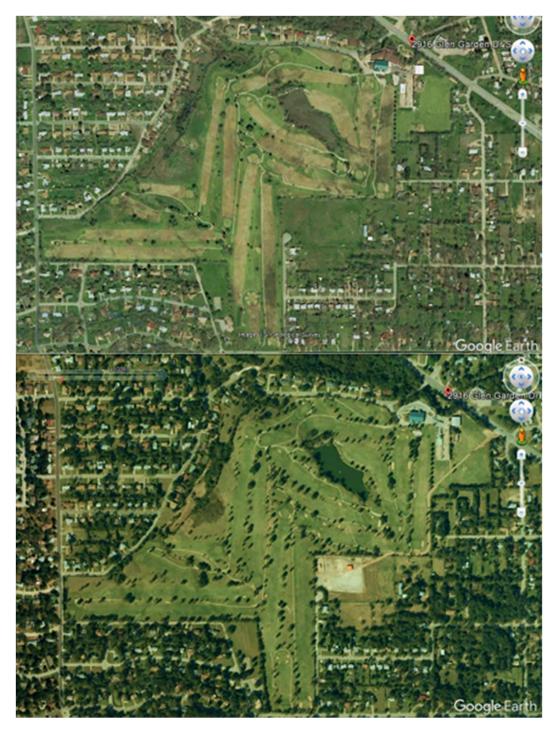


Figure 4.3 The course in (top) 2001 and (bottom) 2007. Google Earth



Figure 4.4 The course in (top) 2014 and (bottom) 2017. Google Earth

Site Analysis. Glen Garden sits on 110 acres of former cow pasture that was split giving the northern section to the city of Fort Worth for Cobb Park. The southern portion that would become Glen Garden, was not situated in the same Sycamore Creek floodplain and takes advantage of the rolling hills on the site. On the southwest corner at the corner of Fairway Drive and Old Mansfield Road, the elevation is at its highest of 685 feet above sea level. The lowest point of the course is nearby, along Glen Garden Avenue where the site runs out toward Sycamore Creek at 625 feet elevation. This gives that area of the course an average slope of 6.4%.

There is a single lake on the course. The water is pumped into the lake from a well and held for irrigation of the site. There were 4 pump houses on the course to accommodate irrigation prior to the course switching over to city supplied water.

The original clubhouse fell into disrepair and was replaced by a new 10,000 square foot clubhouse in 2001. The facility had men's and women's locker rooms, a café, and a pro shop servicing the playing membership.

History and Background. The genesis of Glen Garden is somewhat unclear.

H.H. Cobb was denied membership to River Crest Country Club, Fort Worth's first golf facility, so Cobb went out and started his own club (Hanna, 2014). There have been inquiries into the subject and the line between what is said and what is known is blurred. Cobb held stockholder certificate No. 21 and can be found listed in River Crest's roster in October, 1914 (Hanna, 2014). Cobb owned a large section of land, which at the time,

was just out of the city limits to the southeast, and was also home to his brick company.

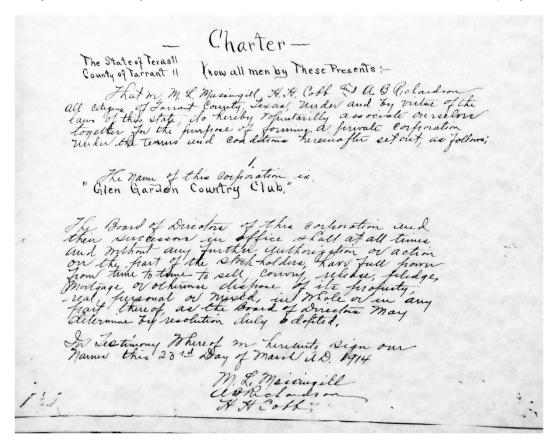


Figure 4.5 Photo by Author. Copy of charter.

In December of 1912 Cobb, among others, chartered their new country club and named it Glen Garden after the nearest stop on the interurban trolley line that went to Cleburne, Texas ("Another Country Club Now Being Organized..., 1913). The club opened in April 1913 with tennis courts and a nine hole golf course with sand greens. In March 1914, Glen Garden Country Club officially purchased the land the club was built on for \$25,000. The clubhouse was completed in November 1914 using rock that was quarried on site, resources most likely provided by Cobb and his brick plant ("Rock Used in Construction of Building..., 1914). Figure 4.6 shows the Cobb Brick Plant to the

northwest, Cobb Park in red centered, and Glen Garden adjacent to the park site. The figure also shows the interurban line running north-south along the eastern side of the map. The figure also shows the initial development of the Glen Crest neighborhood to the south of the course, before the Rolling Hills neighborhood came in.

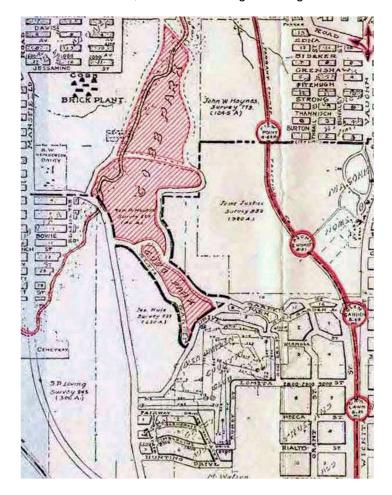


Figure 4.6 Cobb Park and Glen Garden. Charlton, Pete. 1000+ Lost Antique Maps of Texas & the Southwest on DVD-ROM

Development and Elements. The topic of Glen Garden's design shares as many aspects as the course's founding. The attribution to John Bredemus' design is an accepted fact. The principal problem with this is Bredemus was serving as athletic

director of a preparatory academy and competing in city golf tournaments in New York
City during the time Glen Garden was being chartered and opened (Trimble, 1991). In
fact, Bredemus did not arrive in Texas until 1919 and did not build his first course until
1921. There is another big discrepancy, Bredemus never designed a course using sand
greens (Stricklin 2005). An engineer by training, he designed irrigation systems that
supported grass greens in all his designs. Glen Garden opened with sand greens that
were used for many years. Another is that, the state of Texas was not strident in record
keeping in the early 20th century. Bredemus was also known for not keeping very good
records of the projects he was working on (Hauser, 2010). Whether by purpose or by
convenience, Glen Garden appears often on Bredemus' ledger and Texas myths are
hard to disprove.

As a matter of public account, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram brings two people to light. Charles G. Nieman was mentioned in April 1914. As a links expert, he was hired to lay out the new 18 hole circuit, superintend the course work, and instruct the members on how to play ("Open Bids Today...", 1914). Before there was a pro golfer governing organization, the definition of professional was much looser than what is recognized as today. A professional could be the longest serving employee in the golf shop, or the person that won the club's tournament. To his credit, Nieman did build 15 golf courses and some of those were built in the south. However, in November of 1914 the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported J.J. Taylor in from Ohio to add the additional nine holes and become golf instructor ("Rock Used in Construction...", 1914). This is the last account in public records or newspapers found of anyone building Glen Garden.

Nichols mentions another possibility, a contemporary of Nieman and Taylor who was also doing work in Texas and had some renown; Scottish American Tom Bendelow (Nichols, 2010). Having designed over 500 courses across America, Bendelow certainly

could have worked on Glen Garden because he was so prolific in the golf course design field. It seems improbable though because his reputation would have certainly lasted the test of time.



Figure 4.7 Courtesy of Jason Rocha. (2013). Glen Garden Layout

When the course closed in 2014 it played at a length of just 6166 tightly woven yards in 110 acres. Glen Garden had a mix of holes, almost all of them being straight. Numbers eight and ten had slight doglegs which helped add something different to the mix. The holes were mainly oriented due north/south or east/west. There were never

layout changes once the course was routed because there was not extra space to expand the course. Most of the proposed changes were quickly dismissed by the board, usually citing safety reasons (Respondent 6). Bunkers were added and taken away throughout the years because of maintenance cost. The bunkers that survived were not tough tests and provided little in the way of hazard. The lake came into play on holes seven, eight and partly on hole ten with an extremely errant drive. Glen Garden had the ubiquitous bermuda grass throughout its course. The club tried many types of grass on the greens from stolonic bermuda, to delicate and finicky bent grass. The course finally settled on MiniVerde and used the grass on its greens until closure (Respondent 7).

The front nine was a par 37, the longest hole being number five playing at 504 yards. It was a favorite because its short length meant a birdie was not uncommon. The shortest was the par three fourth playing at 147 yards. Hole number eight was also a favorite because it provided golfers with two options (Respondent 6). Taking the risky shot over the lake meant a shorter route to the hole, but it brought the hazard into play. You could play around the lake but it meant two precise shorter shots and the possibility of hitting out of the fairway on your drive. You had to play the hole smart.

The back nine was a par 34 and was the signature of the course layout. It features back-to-back par threes, twice; and has back-to-back par fives. Byron Nelson is famously quoted, "Glen Garden's back nine was the most unique golf layout in the world."



Figure 4.8 Hayes, Kim. (Photographer). View from 17 tee. Glen Garden Country Club Facebook Page

Number 17 was a favorite and considered a signature hole (Respondent 7). It had an elevated teebox with a postage stamp green and played at 150 yards. From the teebox you could overlook Glen Garden and have a view of downtown Fort Worth, see figure 4.8. The back nine also had one of the most interesting obstacles in all of golf. Standing directly in the middle of the fairway is a 100+ foot high tension electrical tower that must

be navigated, see Figure 4.9.



Figure 4.9 Photo by Author, Tower in 12 fairway.

Though not considered a true hazard, a ball gets to be dropped on either side without penalty if the ball is in the fairway past a marker that stands 150 yards from the teebox.

The short layout did have an advantage to many other courses, three hour rounds. Glen Garden attracted golfers that wanted "to play shorter rounds and play a course that would not beat them up (Respondent 7)."

Management and Maintenance. Glen Garden was a private country club from 1912 to some time in the 1990's when, out of necessity for rounds, it became semi-private (Respondent 6). More rounds correspond to more money which the club was always in more need of. The club elected board members and nearly all decisions were

board driven. Towards the end of Glen Garden, the club's decisions were taken over by the club's owners (Respondent 7).

Glen Garden was never flush with cash. Many of the major decisions about the course were made with this in mind, including the maintenance. The club budgeted \$225-250 thousand per year in maintenance cost from the 2000s to Glen Garden's closure (Respondent 7). The most it ever rose to was \$300 thousand in a year. All maintenance and projects were done in house, managed by the course's superintendent. Bunkers and other features were put in and taken out due to maintenance decisions and poor quality.

Glen Garden ultimately benefited from its small size which helped keep the maintenance cost more manageable. The course could function with a dated irrigation system and older equipment on a small budget.

User/Use. The membership was always fluctuating from up in the 700s in the 1960s to between 100-120 members when the club shuttered. The membership consisted of both blue collar workers such as mechanics, electricians, landscapers, truck haulers, and foreman, and those that worked in law, medicine, real estate, and education.

As mentioned above, in the late 1990s the club decided to move to semi-private status in order to get more use in (Respondent 7). The membership had at the time taken up 90% of the rounds on the tee sheet. When the course closed, the membership made up 30% of the rounds and the public had 70% (Respondent 7). Glen Garden was not a place that took the peripherals of golf overly seriously. The membership and later the public just wanted a fun place to play.

The membership structure changed through the years, but a membership cost \$500 for the one-time initiation and \$90 per month. Public tee times were between \$23-34 during the week and between \$29-40 on the weekend depending on age and time when teeing off.

Peer Reviews. It was a small course and to the membership, a fun little track where you had to place your shots in the right spot and play to the hole precisely or face difficult short shots around small greens.

Glen Garden did not follow typical golf course design. The front nine par was 37, the back nine had par at 34, which is not found on any other course anywhere (Respondent 1). The imbalance made the course very unique.

Whether the front nine was fairly straightforward or the back nine was so different that it received the bulk of attention, most of the reviews focus on the finishing nine. The back nine having back-to-back par fives, then finishing with four of the last five holes as back-to-back par threes can gently be described as different. It has been called bizarre (Passov, 1914), eclectic (Holmes, 2014), fun and dinky (Respondent 6). Glen Garden did not have some of the aesthetics of other courses (Passov, 2014). It had some rolling hills, but for the most part the course was flatter and plain. There were no interesting bunkers or creative lines that brought features out (Respondent 7). Also, there was no way to lengthen the course. Glen Garden was never able to evolve with where golf was going; longer courses, longer and more challenging shots (Respondent 7).



Figure 4.10 Photo courtesy of Jason Rocha. Honorary sign.

To the membership and to many others, the course was considered sacred ground (Henry, 2014). Glen Garden was home to many people who played together throughout the 102 years it was open. Hall of fame golfers Ben Hogan, Byron Nelson and Sandra Palmer were considered homegrown, just a few of the many members Glen Garden considered family, see Figure 4.10.

Criticism and Limitations. By its very nature, a private country club is exclusive and closed off to others. Outside of the park like setting, the course was not able to relate to the neighborhood around it (Respondent 7). Glen Garden was exclusive in the beginning, but eventually allowed outsiders in towards the end of operation. If the club would have allowed the community to take a stronger interest in it sooner, the outcome

might have been different (Respondent 7). This mostly had to do with race relations. The club opened accommodating to whites only and grew in a neighborhood that was predominately white. In the late 1960's the white neighborhood moved away and a predominately minority community moved in (Respondent 6). The club did eventually integrate, but the perception of being closed off to minorities persisted. When the club went semi-private the neighborhood saw the club was willing to be more inviting, and consequently the community made a huge effort to save the club (Respondent 5).

Aside from the evolving race issues, the club was mostly seen as a positive for the community (Respondent 6). Some complained about traffic and parking during tournaments or other events. Such complaints are common problems for communities built around golf courses.

The golf course itself was plain and short. Many golfers like to play wide fairways and courses that provide an assortment of strategies and test shot-making. Clubs that show originality and naturalness attract golfers looking to play in a beautiful setting (Respondent 7). Glen Garden did not provide these things. It was an unambiguous course and the club saw this as their advantage (Respondent 7).



Figure 4.11 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson playing Colonial. UTA Libraries, accessed April 1, 2017, http://library.uta.edu/digitalgallery/items/show/12612.

Significance and Uniqueness. The prominent attribute the club will forever be associated with is being the place where Ben Hogan, Byron Nelson, and Sandra Palmer learned to play the game of golf (Miller, 2014). To have one significant professional coming out of a course is a feat. To have three hall of fame players come from a tiny, mostly unremarkable course is legendary (Respondent 6). The course likely would not have survived as long as it did without being able to market those three (Respondent 7). Glen Garden used the association as their pitch and a way to sway potential members to come tour the course.

Golfer	Wins	Major Wins	Hall of Fame Year
Ben Hogan	64	9	1974
Byron Nelson	52	5	1974
Sandra Palmer	19	2	1985

Table 4.1 Source: pgatour.com, lpga.com

Glen Garden did have other history. It was the location for Byron Nelson's 18th win in the 1945 PGA season, the same season in which he won 11 tournaments in a row. Both records are unlikely to be broken (Henry, 2014). That same tournament, another tour player, Harold "Jug" McSpaden, flew his airplane in and landed on the first fairway before the tournament began (Henry, 2014).

For many years the club held a Glen Garden Invitation tournament that drew all of the best amateurs from around the state of Texas (Holmes, 2014). Amateur golf was a big deal in early 20th century Texas, being so far away from the epicenter of golf in the northeast. Hosting such a tournament brought in many visitors and increased the reputation of the game.

Lessons. From the golf perspective, the lesson is; know what you have and know your users (Respondent 7). Learn the standard and meet it within the scope of the finances. Glen Garden showed it could operate a course on a small budget and older equipment if it maximized the resources it had in the course and its style. It found the selling point, developed interest and exposure, and shared that as much as possible, although too late.

From the community viewpoint Glen Garden needed to provide something to take pride in. The club needed to bring value to the neighborhood and to be a resource embracing the residents. Glen Garden needed to be involved more in the community despite being a private club. (Respondent 7)

Future Plans. Glen Garden Country Club was sold to Firestone & Robertson Distilling Company and closed in December of 2014. According to Baker (2016), the distillery submitted plans that show the development is to cost more than \$17 million. The article states their plan repurposes the 10,000 square foot clubhouse as office space and

adds whiskey production buildings, visitor facilities, and cottages for overnight accommodations (Baker, 2016).



Figure 4.12 Photo from Glen Garden Country Club Facebook page.

In public interviews, the owners have mentioned preserving some holes and saving some of the history of the course (Homes, 2014). The sale placed no clauses that would require Firestone & Robertson to do so. No date is set for opening.

4.5 Summary

The data collected from interviews answered the research questions and yielded other themes related to the study about Glen Garden Country Club.

Was Glen Garden a cultural landscape? Six of the seven respondents said yes based on history and legacy of the course. The course had a lengthy history being open over 100 years and had a robust legacy producing three hall of famers, an unprecedented feat.

What is the perception of responsibility for advocacy efforts? Five of the seven respondents cited the private funding was the way to save Glen Garden. The theme discussed was lack of interest. There was a lack of interest from the public side to save the course and, there was a lack interest on the private side. The right person could not be found who could take over ownership and keep the course open for play, the owners had to sell to the people that would buy it.

There was a dynamic relationship between Glen Garden and the neighborhoods around it. A theme of evolving connectivity emerged from the data. The data showed how the course and neighborhood interacted from the Glen Garden's beginning to the sale of the club. The association started close and remained close for many years. The neighborhood changed from a predominately white middle class neighborhood, to a predominately African American working class group. The course and the neighborhood had difficulties relating to each other. The club eventually went semi-private, opened up to the outside, and allowed what were former outsiders to become insiders. The renewed association between the community and club warmed to the point that, the neighborhood tried to save the club at the end.

The relationship with individuals and the club was also ever evolving. The theme that surfaced from data was time and perception. The respondent with the least amount of exposure spoke of an empty course. The person with the most experience spoke of the club like it was a person. The data showed the correlation between time and perception.

Golf design principles were not the main focus of the study which sought to find attributes of significance and meaning. The principles emanated from the data and provided a different perspective of why the course may have closed.

Chapter 5

Conclusion

5.1 Introduction

The objective of this study was to analyze the history and attributes of Glen Garden Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas, and to determine its status as a cultural landscape. It also examined the perception of responsibilities for advocacy efforts of the club. This chapter will examine the interviews and the findings and expand on the results in Chapter Four. This chapter will also discuss the significance of the findings to the field of landscape architecture, concluding with topics for future research.

The study shows Glen Garden was created from the O.K. Cattle Company cow pasture by H.H. Cobb. In over a century, this club developed some hall of fame golfers and others, interconnected with the community around it, was sold to a whiskey distillery, and according to this research, became a cultural landscape.

5.2 Research Findings

5.2.1 Glen Garden the Cultural Landscape

This study addressed a topic with many perceptions. Cultural landscapes are an imprecise term mixing meaning, significance, natural elements, physical boundaries, history, and time (Longstreth, 2008). The contextual nature of these places can be difficult to measure. When is a place a cultural landscape? What is the first consideration; time, beauty, worth? One respondent had a 70-year association with the club, even sleeping at the club when he was going through a divorce. How is reliability measured in a landscape? One respondent's father learned to play golf at Glen Garden because his doctor told him he would die if he continued to work endlessly every day. How is life

saving measured? This is the essence of what makes the vernacular landscape. An organization of space and "stuff" intertwined with people, values, and more "stuff" over time. It is a way of processing the life of a place by emotions and perceptions.



Figure 5.1 Ben Hogan, left, and Byron Nelson, golf legends, talk together before induction into the Fort Worth Sports Hall of Honor. Hoefer, UTA Libraries, accessed April 1, 2017, http://library.uta.edu/digitalgallery/items/show/21101.

This research asked the question, was Glen Garden a cultural landscape? The themes of history and legacy were chosen from the responses. The answers given to the question were mostly rooted in two areas. The first was long historical connections between respondents and the club. The second was long historical connections with Fort Worth citizens and the club. The triune association with Glen Garden, the respondent, and Fort Worth was the basis for legacy, all three being interrelated in some form.

Legacy was also represented by Ben Hogan, Byron Nelson some of the respondents.

"It did belong when it was open, but its not going to any longer. As long as the course was there people could say that's where Hogan and Nelson played but that won't be the case anymore...The property will always have that history to it but not the same as if it were Glen Garden (Respondent 3)."

The researcher initially hypothesized the Hogan and Nelson connection to be the principal reason to consider Glen Garden as a cultural landscape. The study showed the history of the course, the personal history of the respondents, and the history of golf associated with the club combined to create a legacy that perpetuated until the course was sold. The legacy may find some opportunities to present in exhibits at a museum or in a park honoring Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson. It does not have to cease now that the club has closed.

5.2.2 Sale of Glen Garden

The second research question involves the perception of responsibility for advocacy efforts. The preferred action per the interviews was that private funding would save and preserve the course. This research indicates that the owners grew weary of the responsibility of running a business that was barely viable. They sought buyers to assure that the course would be run in the same capacity as it had been for the past century. They were not able to find buyers that would accommodate those wishes. The owners then searched for buyers that would at least compromise toward the goal of preserving the historical aspects of the club and the imperative to be relieved of the financial obligations and responsibility of owning a business in the volatile golf industry. Firestone and Robertson Distilling Company's offer for the course property addressed both of those concerns.

The distillery provides half of what the research question addressed. They are a private entity but are under no obligation to preserve the course. They have mentioned publicly their desire for keeping some elements of the course and its history intact. It is to be seen if that will hold true. The Glen Garden owners received other offers to buy the course. There has been no comment publicly why the distiller's offer was accepted while others were not.

"I didn't realize how ready the owners were to sell the club and there was probably more resources available to take over operations. After the sell process was starting, there was someone who came in and said if the deal doesn't work out, they were willing to take over operations or purchasing. There were always whispers of possibilities after the fact that showed there were other options. The owners probably could have looked for a little more help and said how desperate they were to get the property out of their hands (Respondent 7)."

The membership felt aggrieved by the sale in a few different ways. First, by the owner's decision to keep the transaction process private and to not tell the membership. Respondent 7 indicated above there was money available that could have been adequate to purchase the course. Another respondent indicated that associations linked to Byron Nelson or Ben Hogan would have likely stepped up and either bought the course or provided enough capital to maintain the course until a more desirable and permanent solution could have been found. The membership never indicated that a sale was imminent so those resources could be pursued. Second, some members had their own resources tied in with the club or at some point used their own resources to help the club.

"Many of the members blame the owners, but it's difficult to do that. It was their own money that they put up. When the club sold, the members were not compensated for their various contributions they had made out of their own pockets. A lot of us felt this wasn't right (Respondent 6)."

Ownership did not address this in the sale and members were not recompensed for their contributions during the club's lean times. Last and perhaps the most personal, the ownership had torn down the historic first clubhouse and built a second smaller one in its place. The investment came at a tipping point when the membership knew that the course needed to be updated and the original clubhouse could be repaired for a fraction of the cost of a new clubhouse. Despite the wishes of membership, the board voted to build the new clubhouse and not to update the course. The researcher speculates the money the owners put into the clubhouse represented a legacy building. Something they

could put their name on. It is more difficult to have your name attached to a golf course that is already associated with three golf hall of famers. The original clubhouse represented the spiritual home of the Glen Garden, the course was the sacred grounds for the home and both were not given enough consideration. Respondent 6 indicated that this was the point the club was no longer solvent.

"I wished I could have stopped the clubhouse from being built. I was the only one that voted against it and they rode me hard for it. One morning I was walking from the parking lot to go play, membership hadn't picked up, one of the owners walked up with me and I asked him where were all the members the new clubhouse was supposed to bring. The course was getting back into pretty decent shape but the membership hadn't grown. I continued this for several months, I rode him pretty hard on that decision (Respondent 6)."

Respondent 7 agrees with the sentiment.

"A lot of us felt like the money put into the clubhouse should have been put into the course. If you want people to come out and enjoy the golf course put the money there, not the club (Respondent 7)."

5.2.3 Connectivity and Openness

One of the major emergent themes is related to the evolving connectivity of the club to the neighborhood around it. It demonstrated at the beginning the connection was strong, and that Glen Garden and the neighborhood grew and prospered together. At some point, there was a shift of socio-economic classes and a split occurred between the club and the new ethos of the neighborhood. The fracture eventually mended enough for the neighborhood to both use the club and to protest the decision to close the club. This theme carries over to three other areas in the story of Glen Garden.

From the very beginning, the club had financial issues. Various people came along and assured the survival of Glen Garden, including Tom Brown who worked for Coca-Cola. See Figure 5.2.

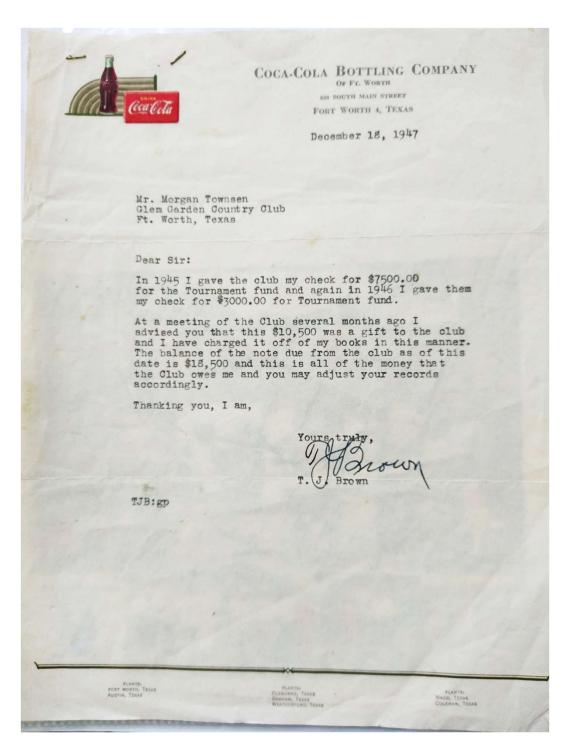


Figure 5.2 Photo by Author, Tom Brown pays for tournament.

Through this, the board always had a part in the decision making of the club. This remained true up until the final club owners took over operations. They put less emphasis on the board of directors, instead preferring to split the decision making between the two.

"The changes being made were once board driven. Once D and T took over, they were making those decisions. T. oversaw the grounds and pro-shop, D. looked after the finances and personnel (Respondent 7)."

One of the owners handled the staff and in-house decisions. The other owner made decisions regarding the grounds and golf course. The board's purpose had become primarily ceremonial. Without the representation, the membership was not made aware of the sale as previously discussed. The lack of connectivity ultimately altered the relationship between ownership and membership.

The second area that suffered from poor communication was the relationship between the city of Fort Worth and the neighborhood regarding the sale. The property was put up for sale and sold before the neighborhood had a voice on the direction of the property. A new owner was coming to the center of the neighborhood and changing the usage from a park like setting to an industrial use. During zoning meetings, the majority of participants spoke out against rezoning and against the distillery, yet the city still went forward in accommodating the distillery's needs. The neighborhood perceived the city was ignoring their concerns.

The third area where connectivity was an issue is Firestone & Robertson's lack of open communication. Few details have been made public since the distillery was granted zoning approval. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram indicated the city had an approved site plan from the distillery. However, the city has not yet provided the plans for the Firestone & Robertson development after an open records request. Several attempts were made to contact the distillery's owners and representatives. The group's personal relations firm declined to answer the researcher's questions and requested that attempts to contact the

group cease. If the distillery is unwilling to provide information to the community where they are building and the city cannot provide information about a project that is being built, the new landscape will likely lose the connectivity to the neighborhood.

5.2.4 Hogan, Nelson, and Everyone Else

Regardless of what happens after the distillery goes into operation, there will always be a Glen Garden Country Club. In one hundred years, whether the distillery is still producing whiskey and bourbon, or has shuttered and become an alternate use, the name Glen Garden will persist. This will be because of the Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson association. Both grew up on the course as caddies and eventually learned the game of golf together. They first competed against one another in a caddy tournament that has become part history and part legend. They both went on to have enormous careers, setting or breaking many of golf's records and both earning hall of fame honors. It is difficult to overstate the impact of Hogan and Nelson. This is the equivalent of a J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis friendship, had they grown up in the same neighborhood and learned to write at the same schools. For this reason, Glen Garden will live on, if only in name.

Hogan and Nelson's relationship with Glen Garden and how they were perceived took two different paths. Nelson was seen as more affable even from their first days at the club. Nelson was more approachable and charismatic, even earning the nickname, "Lord Byron" for being such a gentleman to those he came in contact with. Hogan was serious and measured and known as "The Hawk" for his focus. In 1946 Nelson semi-retired after his successful but brief golf career and moved to his ranch in Roanoke, Texas. He would return to Glen Garden for events and play the occasional round. He was known for remembering members and employee names after initial meetings. Byron Nelson even attended the opening of the new clubhouse in 2001. Hogan's golf career

lasted much longer until his retirement in 1971. He followed his mentor Marvin Leonard over to Colonial Country Club, then on to Shady Oaks Country Club in west Fort Worth. Hogan rarely made appearances outside of his home and did not make appearances at Glen Garden. One Respondent 6 labeled Hogan as a person who was "chasing the money".

It's undeniable how generous both Hogan and Nelson were with their time and money. Nelson's tournament, the first PGA tournament to take the name of a professional golfer, has donated more than \$149 million for the Momentus Institute; an organization that helps kids' social and emotional health. He was also a benefactor of Abilene Christian University. Hogan started the Ben Hogan Foundation that funded programs that help children in need by connecting them with golf. It works in concert with the Ben Hogan Learning Center, home to Fort Worth's First Tee program that helps kids and teens learn life skills and values by golfing. Ben Hogan's name is also associated with the Texas Health Ben Hogan Sports Medicine of Fort Worth. This research showed Hogan and Nelson did far more for Dallas, Fort Worth than the area did for the golfers.

While Hogan and Nelson cast a large shadow, there was another hall of famer associated with the course. The researcher intentionally left off Sandra Palmer in the study to keep the scope of the study narrowed. She learned how to play golf at Glen Garden just like Hogan and Nelson and within the club she is celebrated as an equal. The respondents made sure she was mentioned with the same status as the other two. The researcher tried to contact Sandra Palmer and was told she is focusing on teaching golf.

The golf designer John Bredemus is discussed in Chapter Four with the findings indicating he was not in Texas when Glen Garden was being built and did not have a part in the design. Bredemus does have a loose association with Glen Garden through

another designer and another course in Fort Worth. Ralph Plummer is a regional golf course architect that designed or remodeled over 100 courses in Texas. He was born in Fort Worth and was introduced to golf in the caddy yard of Glen Garden like Hogan and Nelson, though a few years earlier. He went on to help build Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth with John Bredemus. Plummer also helped Byron Nelson build Preston Trail and Great Southwest golf courses.

5.2.5 Cultural Landscape Treatments

This study is a cultural landscape assessment of Glen Garden Country Club. As part of the process, a case study was put together in Chapter Four as a means of providing a familiar and systematic format to document a baseline data set. Since data can be used for future research, historical records, and to provide context for development around a site, the respondents were asked in a perfect scenario, what they wish would have happened to the course. They were asked indirectly their preferred treatment plan as outlined by the National Parks Service. Based upon their answers the researcher narrowed their choice to the closest category: Preservation, Rehabilitation, Restoration, Reconstruction. Within the seven respondents, six answered with various degrees of preservation. The seventh respondent was in favor of new construction. The respondents believed that preserving the course as is was the best treatment for Glen Garden.

5.3 Significance to Landscape Architecture

Cultural landscapes come in many shapes, sizes, colors, and classes.

Landscape architects tend to gravitate towards the high design, the beautiful, and the popular. It is becoming more important to elevate the personally sacred and the

meaningful. There is room for both perceptions and the landscape architect has the training to discern both.

Golf is currently on the downturn and many courses are closing as a result. Two problems facing golf are time invested in a single round and the cost to play. Glen Garden was a short course with rounds lasting around three hours and it provided great value at under \$40 during peak times (Respondent 7). The next wave in golf course architecture will be shorter courses with flexible tee and pin placements (Warren, 2015). There is a large pool of older courses that can be preserved or rehabilitated to address these latest trends. Golf course architects need to evaluate these courses as resources and share their history with future players.

Not every golf course or cultural landscape will persist. Glen Garden Country

Club closed after 102 years of operation. The evolution in cultural landscapes, their

values and significance, change during the course of time. So does the organization of

space (Jackson, 1980). Landscape architects will need to realize that significance and

changes occurring to places can be an important function and often a beautiful outcome

as well.

5.4 Future Research

The following are recommendations for further study that have been derived from findings of this study:

A theme that arose during the study is a correlation of amount of time
exposed to the course and to how the course is perceived. There should be a
further study of the correlations between the time exposed to cultural
landscapes and the perceptions of the cultural landscapes.

- 2. During the study, the five design principles of golf emerged as a theme. The lack of positive design attributes was a key factor in lack of perceived enjoyment for playing the course. There should be an analysis of the performance of golf courses using perception of the five design principles of golf course architecture in order to gauge how closely the principles should be followed to affect the outcomes of course functionality.
- 3. There is a void in the number of golf courses associated with being cultural landscapes, apart from those that are viewed as culturally significant because they have strong design backgrounds and associations with notable golf course architects. Lions Golf Club in Austin, Texas is listed because it was one of the first courses to desegregate in the south. Brackenridge Park is another listed because it was the first public course open in Texas but it also was designed by A.W. Tillinghast, a famous golf course architect. Older courses in Texas are getting to the age suitable for listing them as cultural landscapes or historic landscapes so they can be recognized for their significance. In order to continue the proliferation of golf cultural landscapes, it is necessary to further establish a list of golf courses such as Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth, Memorial Park in Houston, and Glen Garden in the National Registry of Historic Places.
- 4. Glen Garden needed more rounds in order to stay open so the club went semi-private in the mid-1990s. This move helped remove a social divide that occurred decades earlier when the course was segregated. There should be an analysis of social impacts of private courses or club courses going public and the social impacts of golf courses once segregated, desegregating.

- 5. Glen Garden Country Club was closed in 2014 leading to a development of another business. With the recent downturn in golf and their landscapes being developed for other uses, there is an opportunity for further analysis of community satisfaction of golf courses that transitioned to other uses.
- 6. In this study, several of the respondents indicated the city was not interested in purchasing Glen Garden or taking over operations. An analysis of the perception of city government to municipal/public/private courses would be an opportunity to show the suitability of local governments running golf courses and how that affects the course's performance.
- 7. Ralph Plummer can best be described as a regionally significant golf course architect. He first was exposed to the golf industry as a caddy at Glen Garden Country Club. He would later go on to design, or help design over 100 courses in Texas. A study or historical exploration of Ralph Plummer's career would benefit future golf course architects.
- 8. There should be an examination of ways to extend features of closed golf courses into new development in order to help preserve them.

5.5 Conclusion

This chapter includes a discussion about several other topics that faced Glen Garden Country Club as a cultural landscape. It addresses the sale of the club to Firestone and Robertson distillery, the relationship of Glen Garden to the Glen Crest and Rolling Hills neighborhoods, and the people that set Glen Garden a part. The significance to landscape architecture was revealed through the analysis of the data and literature reviews. Recommendations for further study were also formulated from the data and literature reviews.



Figure 5.3 Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson, photo by David Woo, Dallas Morning News

Appendix A

Glen Garden Deed of Sale

O.K. Cattle Company
By H.H. Cobb, President,
to

Glen Garden Country Club.

Warranty Deed.
Dated March 2nd, 1914.
Filed May 9th, 1914.
Escorded in Book 431, p. 183,
Theel Records, Tarrant
County, Texas.
Vendor's Lien Retained.

Consideration; Twenty Five Thousand (\$25,000) Bollars secured to be paid by the Glen Garden Country Glub as follows: \$5000 on January 1st, 1919, as evidenced by five bonds of \$1000 each, and \$10,000 on January 1st, 1924, as evidenced by ten bonds of \$1000 each and \$10,000 January 1st, 1929, as evidenced by five bonds of \$2000 each, with six per cent semi-annual interest on each of said bonds payable on January 1st, and July 1st, according to coupons attached thereto, all of said bonds dated March 2nd, 1914, and payable to the W.C. Belcher Land Mortgage Company or order.

Grant, Sell and Convey and by these presents do grant, sell and convey unto the said Glen Garden Country Glub of the County of Tarrant and State of Texas, all those certain tracts of land described as Blocks Nos, Six (6) Seven (7) and Fight (8) of the Glen Garden Addition to the City of Fort Worth, Texas, according to the records of plat of said addition, said tracts containing 99-3/4 acres of land by actual surgey and being parts of M. W atson and J. Huie

of land by actual surgey and being parts of M. W atson and J. Huie Surveys in Tarrant County, Texas, bounded as follows:

Beginning at the S.E. corner of Block No. 7, a stake in the East line of said Huie Survey, 500 feet from its most Easterly S.E. corner; THENCE Enorth to the middle of Glen Garden Avenue; THENCE Westerly along the middle of Glen Garden Avenue to a point, N. 10° W. from the N.W. corner of Block No. 8; THENCE Southerly along the west line of Block #5, and to the middle of Braeburn Street:

THENCE Westerly along the middle of Braeburn Street to the middle of Glen Garden Ave; THENCE South Westwardly along the middle of Glen Garden Ave. to the East line of the Mansfield road; THENCE Southerly along said East line to the North line of Coleman Street; THENCE East along said North line to its intersection with the East line of Lisman Street; THENCE SOUTH \$20 feet (295.2 vs.) THENCE East 415 feet (150 vs); THENCE North 1871 feet (673.56 vs.) THENCE East 977 feet (351.72 vs); THENCE North 500 feet (180 vs); THENCE East 240 feet (26.4 vs) to the beginning.

This conveyance is made with restrictions as follows:
No interest in the land hereby conveyed shall be sold or transferred
to any person of African descent, nor shall any intoxicating liquors
be sold on said premises, and for ten years from the date of this deed
said premises shall be used only for Country Club purposes. A persist
tent failure to observe any of said restrictions shall cause a forfeith
ture of title to said land, which titles shall revert, in that case to
the City of Fort Worth, Texas for Park purposes.

To have and to hold......unto the said Glen Garden Country Club......Warrant and Forever Defend......unto the said Glen Garden Country Club.....

(Seal)

O.K. Cattle Company By H.H. Cobb, President.

Acknowledgment in statutory form by H.H. Cobb, in the capacity stated before Andrew Reed, Notary Public, Tarrant Co. Texas, on the 29" day of April, 1914. (Seal).

HOME ABSTRACT CO.

PAGE No.

ABSTRACT NO._

Appendix B

Glen Garden Stock



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Biographical Information

Anthony Wade was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. While in high school he fell in love with golf, working course maintenance at Shady Oaks Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas. During his time at the club, he graduated from high school and subsequently earned his BA in Comparative Religion from Texas Wesleyan University. After college, he married and lived in Alaska, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and all over Texas. He received his Masters of Landscape Architecture from The University of Texas at Arlington in May 2017, and he hopes to begin a career in the National Park Service.