

## WEST KILBRIDE GOLF CLUB

### GOLF COURSE CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Prepared by

*RENNIE DESIGN*  
*GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS, December 2012*





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Fantastic natural links landscape character on 13th and 14th.



Links landscape character has been lost in areas.



The scale, shape and bunker style is not consistent form hole to hole.



## INTRODUCTION

Rennie Design Golf Course Architects have been commissioned by West Kilbride Golf Club to undertake an analytical review of the existing 18-hole golf course within the overall facility. The study will be carried out in order to develop conceptual ideas and views of how the club can move forward in a sustainable, environmental and economical manner. West Kilbride is one of the top ten golf courses in Ayrshire & Arran currently sitting 9th and concurrently 56th in Scotland, with careful design and maintenance direction there should be nothing to stop West Kilbride Golf Club climbing to the heights it once enjoyed becoming the most desirable course to play on the West Coast of Scotland.

### Golf Course Architecture

Rennie Design offers International Golf Course Architecture services based in Scotland the home of golf. We are lead by an aspiring young award winning Golf Course Architect Stuart Rennie who is the Toro Sponsored European Institute of Golf Course Architects (EIGCA), Student Architect 2009. He was fortunate to have won this award after studying on the coveted Post Graduate Diploma in Golf Course Architecture run by the EICGA and was also successful in passing the course with Distinction.

Having studied many 'Classic' courses and the works of historical Golf Course Architects such as Old Tom Morris, Donald Ross, James Braid and Alistair Mackenzie, besides many of the modern day Architects, Rennie Design are proud to offer specialist restoration, renovation and design improvement services which respond to the classic design principles incorporating modern day Rennie Design philosophies.

The Rennie Design philosophies integrate the historical golf architecture principles of designing with nature and strategic play, and combine them with analytical, environmental and contemporary approaches to design.

### Golf Course Architect

Stuart Rennie is a qualified professional golf course architect & landscape architect and an Associate member of the European Institute of Golf Course Architects. Stuart has worked for Peter Thomson's design practice in Australia over the past number of years and continues to do so on a contract basis with the London office. This experience has seen Stuart work on projects throughout Australia, New Zealand, China, Middle East and the UK.

Stuart formed Rennie Design in 2011 his specialist international design practice based in Glasgow Scotland, focusing on Golf Course Architecture & Landscape Architecture as well as Private/Public Garden Design and Environmental Consultancy. The varied professional experience and expertise allows us to carry out projects of any size from inception to completion. Rennie Design believes in building a strong professional relationship with the client team, which helps develop the optimum design solutions.



The well maintained course could be improved in areas such as green surround, improving fairway cut lines and regaining some green shapes and sizes.



Select Experience

Stuart Rennie of Rennie Design has in recent times assisted Thomson Perrett & Lobb golf course architects with successful projects of a similar manner such as the likes of Bury St Edmunds, Woking GC, Wimboldon Park GC, Buckinghamshire GC and Richmond GC. Further afield we have carried our similar studies at Royal Jersey GC and Yarra Bend Melbourne. Closer to home Stuart has also carried out work for the Carnoustie Golf Links Committee and is currently working with The Highland Council on the relocation of one of Inverness's golf courses.

Rennie Design are delighted to follow in the footsteps of historical father figures in professional golf and golf design in Old Tom Morris, Willie Fernie and James Braid who all had a part to play in the development and progression of the West Kilbride golf course design.

Great natural bunker shape.

New bunker construction with drainage issues.

Poor shape and non visible bunker.



PROCESS

The analytical process in any given project is of paramount importance to the success of the project. An in-depth analysis has been carried out across the West Kilbride Golf Course to provide an overall understanding of the existing set up studying areas such as the landscape character, vegetation, landform, health and safety aspects, playing strategy, playability for all categories and levels of golfer, key playing angles, bunker placement and positioning, maintenance, path network, slope, drainage and the like. Numerous and continual site visits will be carried out along with meetings with the committee and golf course manager/greenkeepers, note taking, photographic studies and desk study research before preparing presentation documentation for different work stages the first being this analytical study.

Variety of different shaped bunkering.

Blind bunker and elongated shapes.

Unnatural shape with water running into the bunker.



One of the main objectives is to assess the challenge of the golf course for all categories of golfer looking at areas where the course can become an improved challenge for the better player without making it any more difficult for the average, or high handicap player and ladies. If fact, making an objective to ensure certain characteristics of the course and its playability are easier for the higher handicap player whilst increasing the challenge for the better player.

The initial analytical study has been undertaken through both field and desk studies assisting in the evaluation and production of robust concept development. The report is set out with initial hole-by-hole analysis documenting analytical descriptions and a hole plan view which the notes relate to, the Concept Development sketches and notes stands alongside this.

This report will be presented to the committee for discussion to reach agreement before moving onto the next stage where photomontage visualisations of the agreed concepts will be produced. This overall presentational documentation can then be presented to the membership.



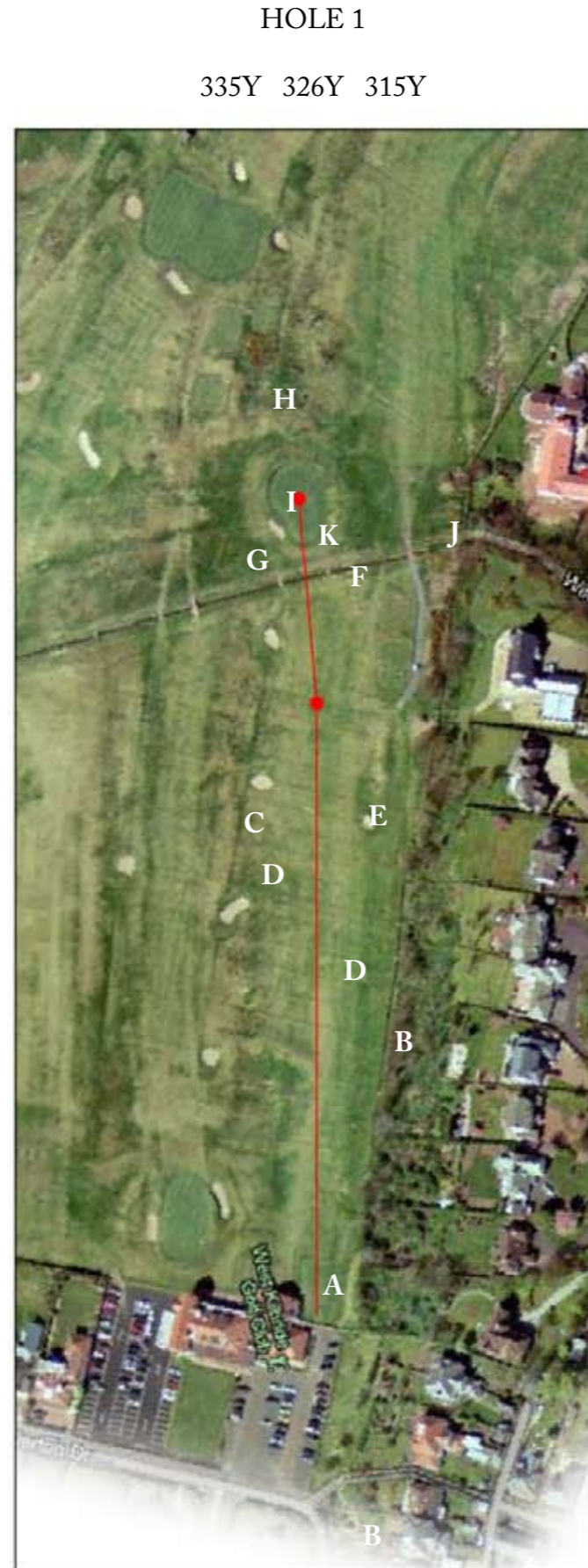
GOLF COURSE PLAN





HOLE 1 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A Good size teeing area in close proximity to the clubhouse is compromised for space, interesting use of space where front right nose of tee merges into larger back tee which is easier to maintain when cutting.
  - B The first hole sits adjacent to the boundary line on the right side of the hole; this is a health & safety hazard for the stray slice ball. The potential impact is mitigated with a thick tree and shrub buffer along with a significant slope up to property gardens, the houses are also set back.
  - C The first left hand side fairway bunker is not visible from the tee, lacks shape and visual interest.
  - D The fairway cut lines are extremely straight and lack visual interest. The fairway line is cut inside the line of the bunkers which reduces the hazards intent where the running ball is less likely to run through the second cut and fall into the hazard.
  - E The right side fairway bunker has poor visibility from the tee and is quite a deep pot with a steep face making the second shot excessively difficult for the lesser player.
  - F A raised burn dissects the hole in front of the green, which does not take its natural course and is not overly visible when playing the hole. This pushed up engineered burn does create an interesting drop off approach to the green. There may be an opportunity to explore the enhancement of the burn to create a more natural look, which could improve the visual and strategic aspect of the hole.
  - G The left greenside bunker is not overly visible when paying the approach shot.
  - H There is quite a bit of space behind the green.
  - I Good size green with interesting movement, the drop off areas to the back and left side could be improved to enhance playability. Can we improve the fine turf quality extending the apron from the front down to the left and around the back?
  - J There is a public access across the golf course on the first hole following the burn down to the beach. This is a health and safety hazard, which may require more signage making the non-local golfer aware.
  - K There is a slight drainage issue where original burns natural course would have cut across the front portion of the green.
- The first hole is a fairly simple but challenging hole, which could merit some improvement.

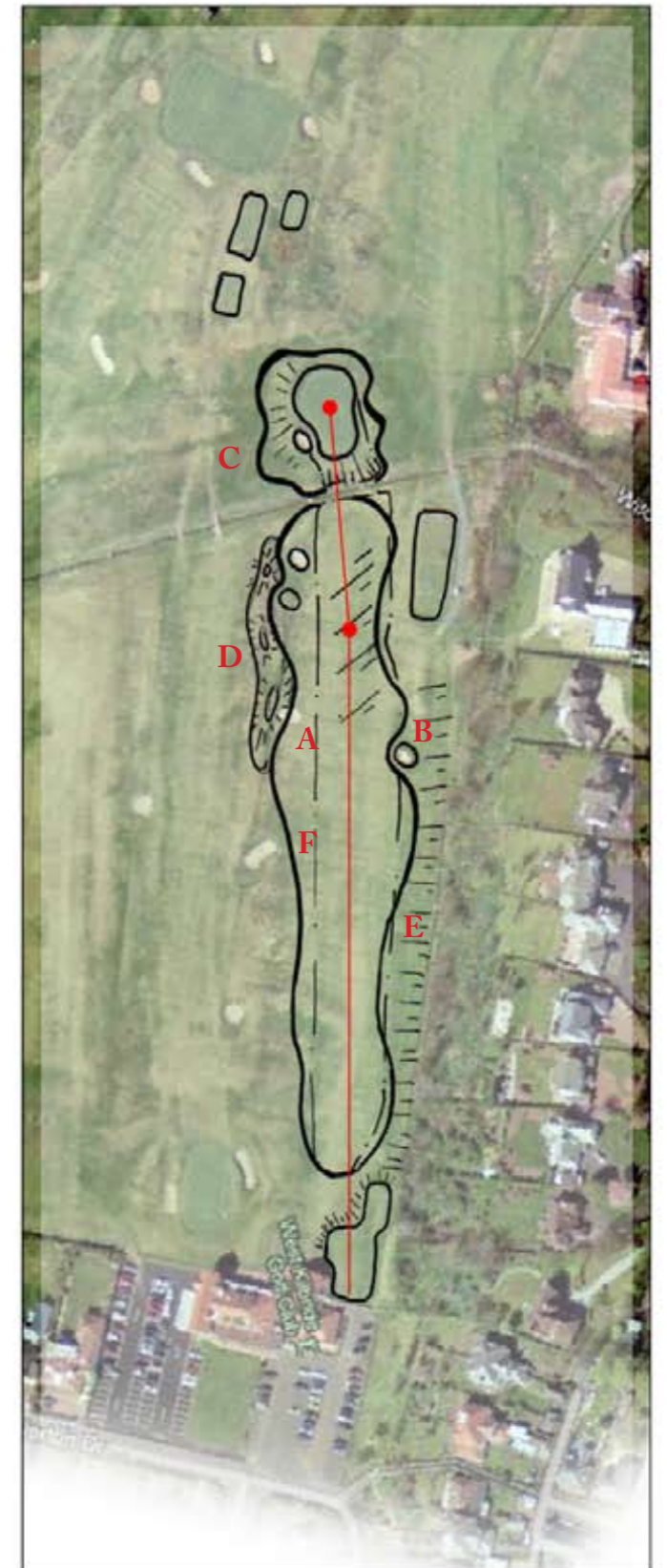


Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 1 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Relocate first left hand fairway bunker, which is not visible from the tee and currently in a penal location for the shorter player. An additional bunker closer to the next left bunker will improve visual and strategic interest.
- B The right hand fairway bunker could become more playable as it is currently quite deep.
- C The approach apron is in fantastic condition; this should be extended around the left side of the green to create quality turf surrounds enhancing the playability for all players.
- D Create some division between the 1st hole and the 18th with the introduction of some small mounding between the holes.
- E There is also an opportunity to reinstate some patches of links grassland to the right side rough.
- F Improve the fairway cut line, which will assist in creating more visual interest and add further strategy to play and positioning of shots.
- G See sketch below: There is an opportunity at the first hole to create length, improve strategy and create more natural landscape features such as the slight re routing of the burn and introduction of mounding. This would make the green more visible and playable, alleviate a slight drainage issue and improve the second shot on the first hole. There is an opportunity to gain up to 35yards in length depending on the health and safety parameters.

HOLE 1 - CONCEPT GREEN EXTENSION



Scale, 1:2500@A4



HOLE 2 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A Good teeing area with plenty of options.
  - B The construction of the gravel path is of high quality but the aesthetical look of the dark rubber and gravel makes the path stands out visually.
  - C The blind tee shot lacks visual interest and direction with not much to aim at, this needs to be explored and improved.
  - D Looks like there may have been an old bunker to the left side of the fairway turn point.
  - E There is also evidence of two old bunkers above the existing bunkers on the right side of the green approach, which may have presented a different strategic intent when historically designed. Further exploration will be required.
  - F At the moment there is no specific strategy the way the hole is set up. The strategy of the hole is likely to have developed and evolved to what it is today due to the building of the house near the second hole tee. It looks like the area of grassland up near the marker post may have been in play?
- Due the blindness of the tee shot it may be beneficial to set the hole up to force the player to play to the corner where a good angle into the green will be achieved. At the moment the hole looks fairly open and having watched a number of groups on this hole every player (not local) took driver and went for the green resulting in leaving the ball slightly short left with a fairly simple shot onto the elevated green.
- G The location of the marker post does not help with the health and safety aspect of the hole as the next teeing area is located slightly right of this.
  - H Really interesting split level fairway with little room on the upper right side to work with if trying to play the running ball.
  - I Quite wet on the lower area left of the green.
  - J The two newly re-constructed bunkers to the right of the green are full of water, this should not be the case if drained properly.



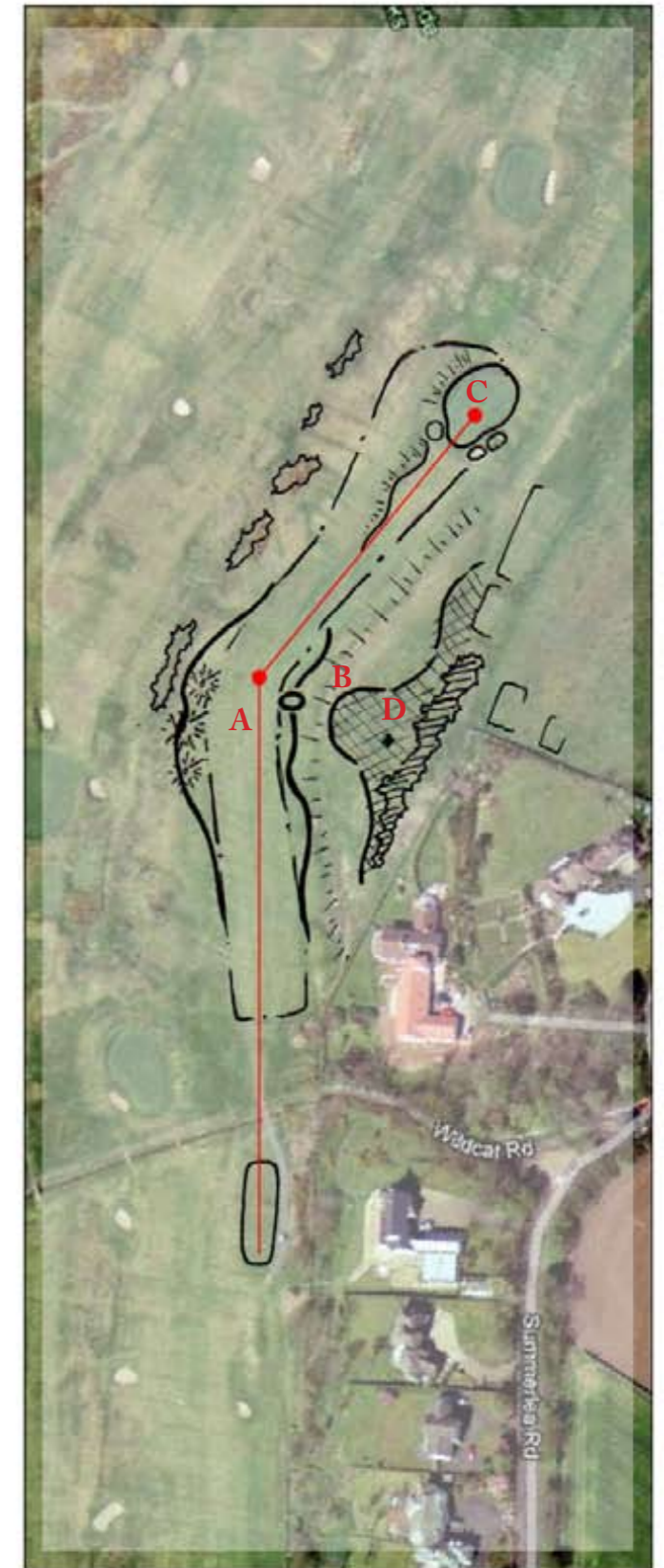
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HOLE 2

347Y 341Y 317Y

HOLE 2 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A To improve the strategy from the tee there is a requirement to create some form of direction of play on the 2nd hole. A directional bunker on the right at the corner of the dogleg along with some more emphasis on mounding to the left of the fairway will enhance the direction of play visually.
- B The links land wispy fescue grasses should be reinstated on the banking to the right side to force the player left but cut in a strategic manner to create a challenge for the players taking the corner on.
- C The green sits in a fantastic location with interesting sloped surrounds, there is an opportunity to add a bunker to the left side slope to create a more difficult and strategic approach for the long player. Playing long and left does not really challenge the player taking the corner on.
- D Explore the location of the post: Line of play rather than line of green. The introduction of gorse planting up the slope may also enhance the direction of play.



Scale, 1:2500@A4



HOLE 3 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A There is quite a wide variety of teeing area in varied locations that changes the playing angles of the tee shot. Are all of the tees used and necessary?
- B The back right tees create a dog leg from left to right in comparison to the left teeing areas which create the opposite dogleg from right to left working better with the camber of the landing area. A straighter and more precise tee shot is required from the far back right tee.

From the back right tees there is a lack of visual interest and no real feeling for direction of play, the fairly open aspect of the panoramic view across the course accentuates this. The relationship between the adjacent field and fairway could be improved. More lush grassland is located in this area due to water/fertiliser runoff onto the fairway.

- C There is a drainage issue at the landing area turnpoint short of the left hand side fairway bunker.
- D The first left side fairway bunker has poor scale and shape.
- E Scale and shape of middle fairway bunkers look slightly out of character.
- F The par 5 second shot looks interesting and intimidating with well positioned bunkers along with the elongated horizontal mounding which dissects the hole short of the green (is this an old track to beach?) making the green surface look deservingly further away.
- G There is very little trouble to the right side of the green, which promotes the player to aim at this area hitting towards the 4th teeing zone.
- H The shape of fairway looks quite interesting and could be improved short left of the horizontal mound bringing the hollows & mounding in this area into play.
- I There is an interesting sloping approach of fine turf running into the green from the horizontal mounding. This fine turf could be extended in areas around the apron creating drop offs.
- J The area just short right of the green and short of the 4th tees lacks interest, some small mounding in this area could create more interest and division.

HOLE 3  
520Y 479Y 434Y



Scale, 1:2500@A4

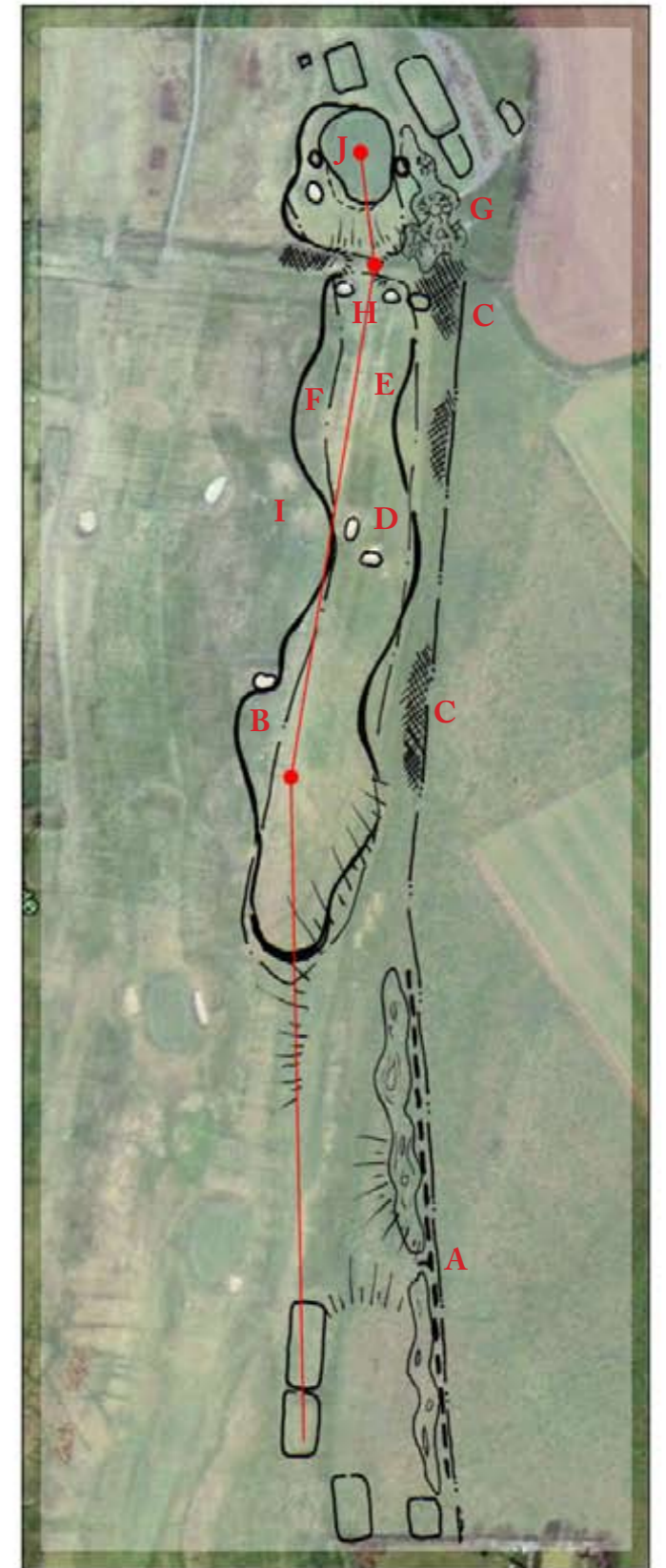
HOLE 3 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A To enhance the driving experience from the back tee and improve the landscape character, drainage issue and relationship with the adjacent fields, the installation of a cut off drain along the fence line and the introduction of some interesting textured links land mounding should be carried out.
- B Improved drainage at the landing area short of the first left hand fairway bunker is required.
- C Scope to improve the rough links textured grassland to the right side rough between the course and adjacent field adding visual interest and depth to the hole.
- D Improve bunker shapes and scale throughout.
- E Enhance fairway cut lines to improve strategy and visual aspect.
- F There is scope to open up the left fairway approach to bring the existing mounding and movement into play.
- G Introduce mounding to the right side approach between the ridge and the next tee improving the challenge to the bale out area. An additional bunker to the right on the ridge will also force the player further left away from the next tee.
- H The ridge cutting across the hole approach could be saddled ever so slightly to open up a view of the green, see sketch below.
- I Some gorse planting in select areas could improve the vertical interest.
- J A portion of the front left green could be reinstated where over time it has reduced in size.

HOLE 3 - CONCEPT APPROACH SKETCH



SADDLE RIDGE TO GAIN A VIEW OF GREEN & CREATE MORE NATURAL LINK STYLE GRASSLAND



Scale, 1:2500@A4





HOLE 4 - ANALYSIS NOTES

HOLE 4

178Y 163Y 147Y

This is a visually attractive quality par 3, which could be improved with some simple proposals.

- A The hole is currently quite open aspect and with significant open views of the 8th hole which brings the right hand side bunkers on the 8th into view and play. The view of these bunkers detracts the visual appeal of the 4th.
- B From tee to green the grass is maintained at quite a low cut lacking interest and difficulty for the short player.
- C Good sized large teeing areas promoting variety of teeing locations. Line of sight to the green from the blue tee is slightly obscured with a tree.
- D The path network around the teeing area is visually obtrusive, is it necessary to have so much path network especially up in front of the blue tee?
- E Ornamental shrub planting between the tees looks out of character and could be improved by removal and the introduction of textured link grasses.
- F The green has quite an open entry and not very well guarded by the bunkering, which seems slightly detached from the green.
- G Really like the slope and movement from the back of the middle bunker towards the green however as previously mentioned there is quite an open aspect to the green entry.
- H Right hand greenside bunker and middle bunker short lack shape and visual appeal.



Scale, 1:1000@A4

HOLE 4 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A There is a fantastic opportunity to improve the links land character on the 4th hole by the introduction of low lying dune mounding between the tee and green similar to the 12th hole.
- B Remove ornamental shrub planting at the tee and create more natural link grassland setting. The path network could also be improved visually.
- C A mature tree obscures the line of play from the back tee; either remove the tree or investigate the relocation of the tee.
- D Introduce mounding to the left of the green between the 4th and 8th to create separation and improve the visual aspect and character of the hole.
- E Improve the bunker shapes and tighten up the entry to the green slightly.
- F Introduce gorse planting in select areas.



Scale, 1:1000@A4



HOLE 5 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A One tee of good size provides variety of teeing positions but has a drainage issue.
- B Left and right fairway bunkers look quite far apart with no real shape to the fairway. Both bunkers are poorly shaped and quite different in character.
- C Water flowing into right hand side fairway bunker, drainage improvements required.
- D The hole is fairly open with little vertical or visual interest.
- E On the approach well short of the green an old bunker has been filled in, the reinstatement of this historical bunker would improve the visual aspect of the hole immensely reintroducing some of the courses design heritage and strategic quality.
- F Both left and right green side bunkers are not visible from the 150y marker. These bunkers also lack shape and look as if the sand slopes from the back towards the green.
- G This is quite a tricky raised green with poor quality turf surrounds, which could be improved by creating fine turf drop offs.

HOLE 5  
392Y 384Y 376Y



Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 5 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Introduce some mounding to the right side creating better division between the 5th fairway and the 8th tees. There is potential to create an additional forward tee.
- B Improve the fairway cut line shapes to add strategy and visual interest on a currently very open aspect fairway.
- C Additional gorse planting will improve the vertical visual character and define the hole in a more interesting fashion.
- D Reinststate the approach bunker to reintroduce the original strategy of the hole; this bunker will come into play creating a forced carry challenge for all catagories of player.
- E Bunker strategy at the green could be improved through tightening up the entry, improving shape, scale and visibility.
- F Improve small mounding and movement to the right side of the green approach.
- G Extend the good quality surrounds to the right side and back of the green to enhancing the playability for all players.



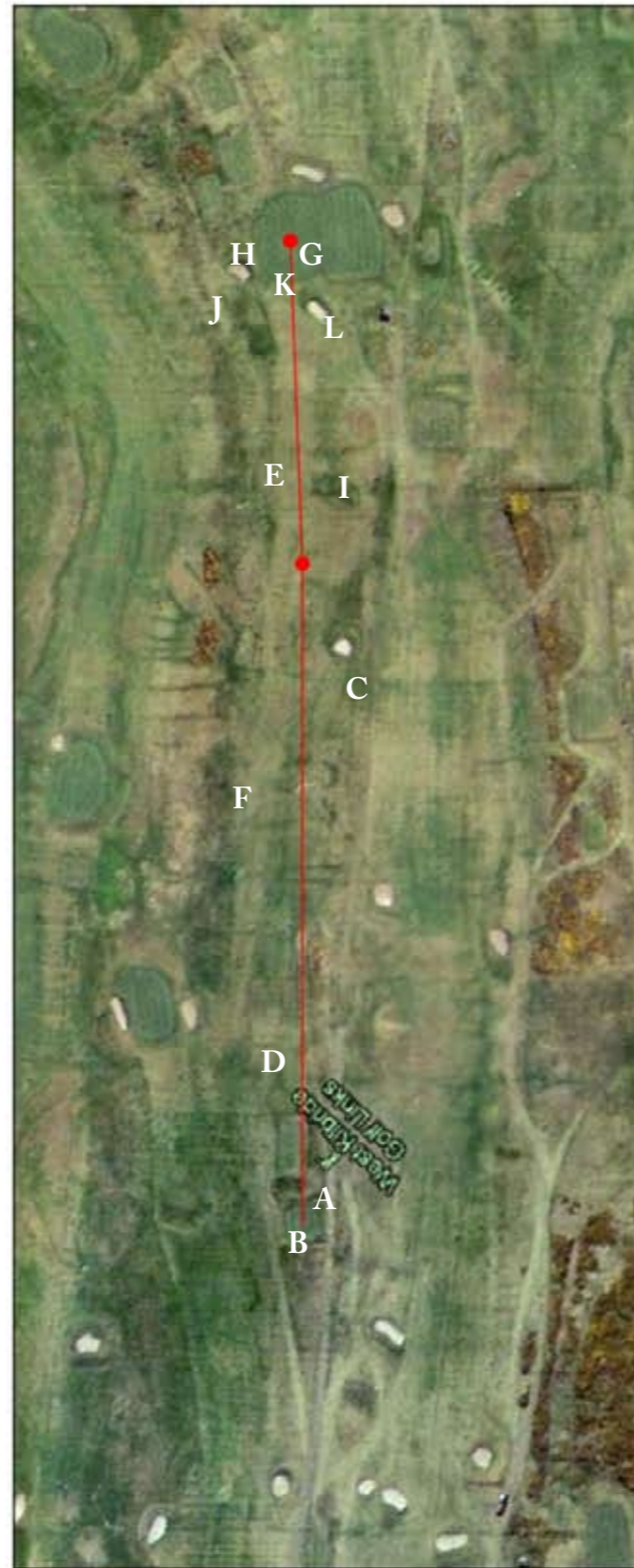
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HOLE 6 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A Really interesting textured grassland between the tees creates visual interest, this should be replicated where possible throughout the course.
- B The shot angle from the blue tee is slightly left of the line of play.
- C The right hand fairway bunker is not visible from the blue tee due to gorse planting.
- D Create a more interesting playing window.
- E The 6th hole is a risk and reward hole but there is no real hazard to the left side of the fairway to make the longer player think about holding back from any risk. The open aspect will entice the better player to go for the green. A directional bunker to the left side could make this hole more interesting visually and strategically.
- F Fairway cut line on left side is straight which lacks in visual and strategic interest, however the fairway cut line on right side has some better shape.
- G The double green is a great concept probably originating from St Andrews although this double green is much smaller, the slight change in level works well creating distinctive green areas for both the 6th and 17th.
- H The green is quite open around the left and towards the back, which could be improved by the introduction of small textured mounding and hollows.
- I Interesting but uncharacteristic mounding to the right side of the approach and left of the green, the mounding could be made to look more natural with the potential for creating textured link grass mounds acting as typical links hazards.
- J Left green side bunker is not visible from 150y marker and does not really come into play fully at the moment. The fairway cutting lines could come round the left side of the mound.
- K There is a drainage issue on the front right portion of the green and to the front apron area, there is currently nowhere for the water to go but by creating a swale this could be rectified and make for a more interesting approach.
- L The front right bunker is quite deep with a high face, the bunkers supporting mounding shape and size could be improved to look more natural. Drainage is flowing towards this bunker when it should be directed away.

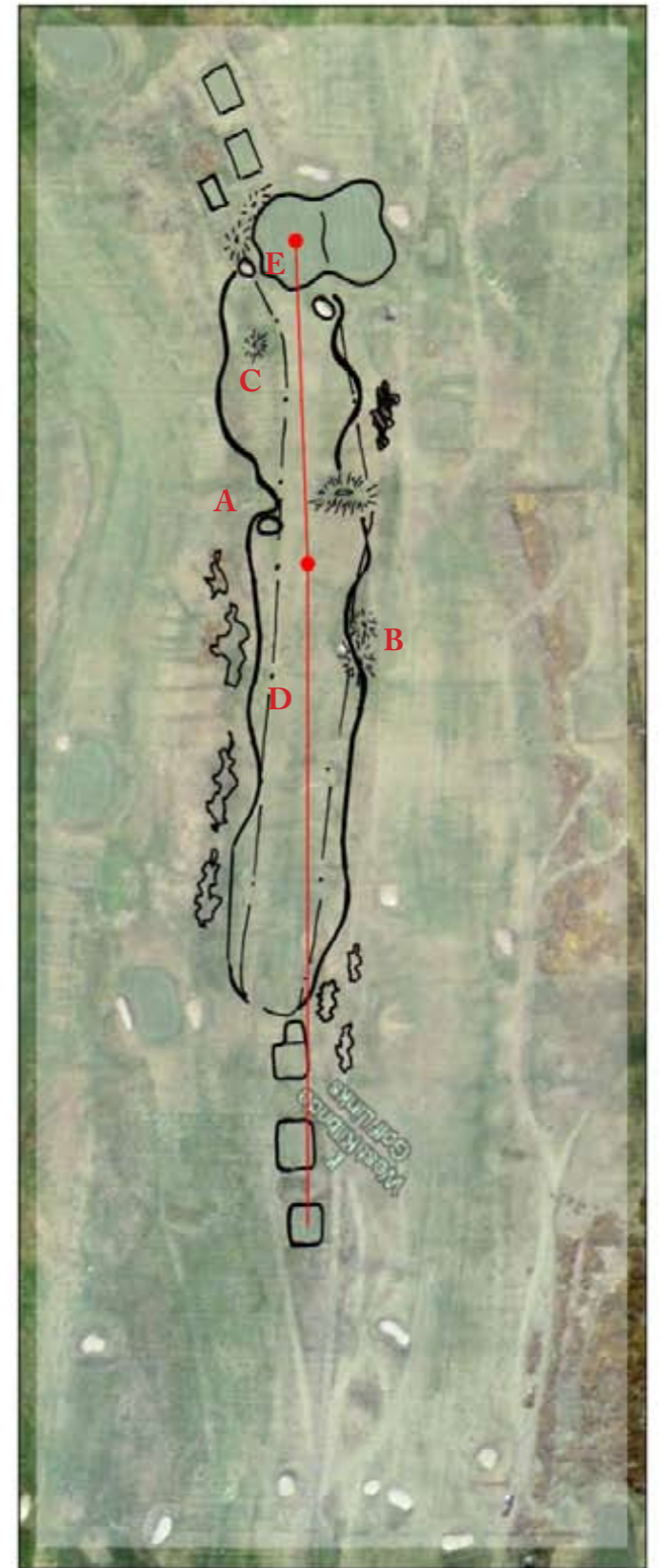
HOLE 6  
371Y 345Y 267Y



Scale, 1:2500@A4

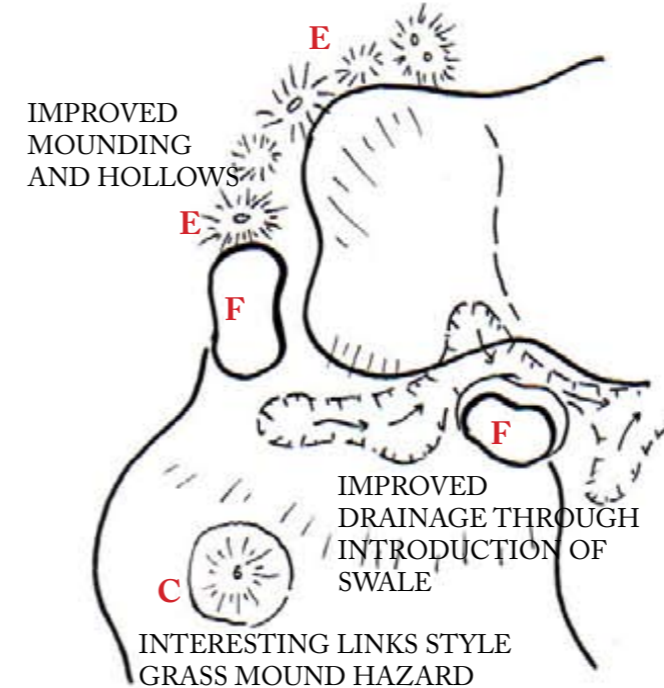
HOLE 6 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Improve the direction of play and risk and reward through the creation of a directional bunker to the left side of the fairway.
- B The right fairway bunker is quite penal on the short slice side and could potentially become textured links grassland mounding.
- C Improve the links texture grasses on the mounding short right and on the mound front left of the green.
- D Add more visual and strategic interest through improved fairway cut lines where the fairway line could be cut to the left of the mound at the green.
- E The creation of a swale to the front of the green and behind the right hand bunker will remove the drainage issues and create interesting shape and movement. Refer to sketch below.
- F Improved bunker shape, scale and style to the greenside bunkers.
- G Introduce some small mounding and hollows to the left and back of the green to improve the relationship with the green and 18th tees.



Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 6 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH

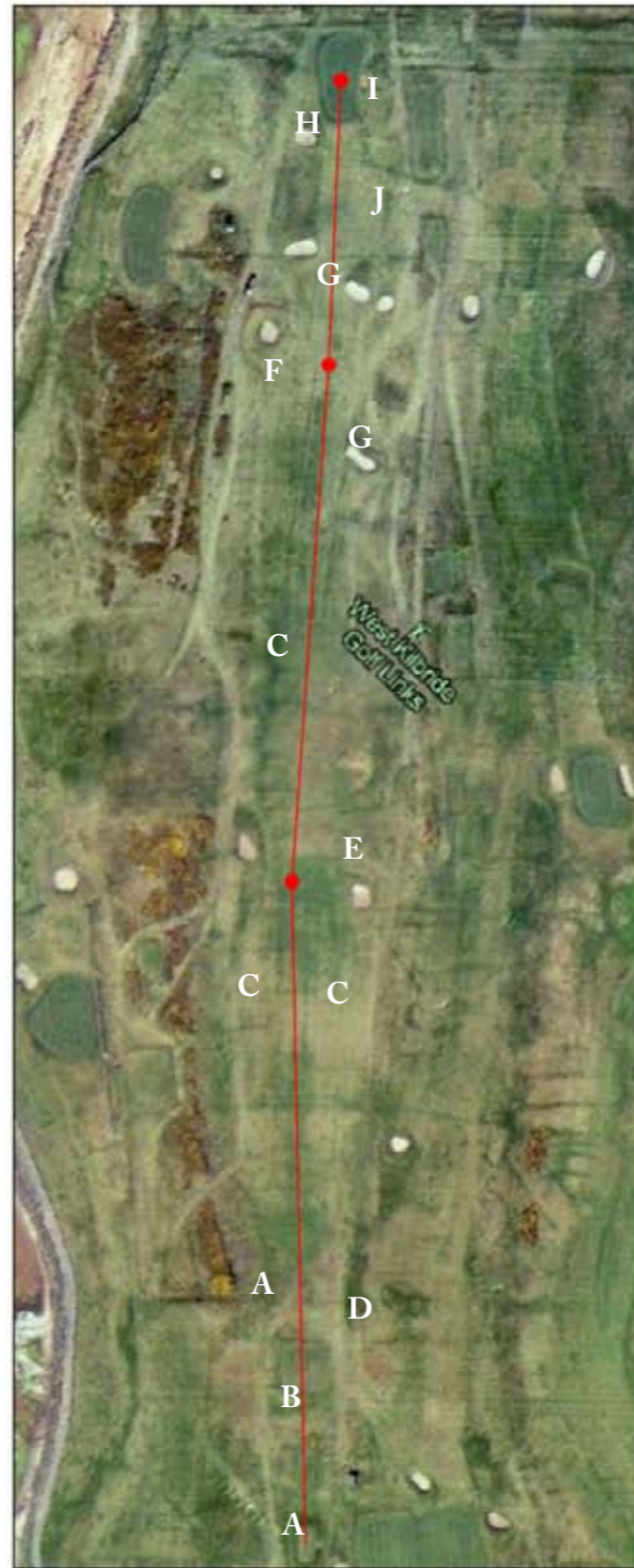




HOLE 7 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A Quite a number of good-sized tees, maybe the front tee is excessive in size and could be reduced significantly. This is a long and fairly difficult hole for the ladies, an additional tee slightly down the slope and further forward may improve the strategy for ladies.
- B Throughout the West Kilbride Golf Course tee complexes are all split up making maintenance more time consuming having to go from tee to tee, it would be nice to see some more tees merged together where possible and fit into the surrounding landscape context better.
- C The fairway lacks shape from the tee making the first fairway bunkers left and right look like they are not really in play.  
The current playing strategy of the hole is quite poor and should be explored further.
- D The stand of gorse to the right just off the tee should be left to grow back to enhance the visual aspect of the playing window and create separation between holes.
- E There is an old filled in bunker now grass hollow behind the first right hand side bunker, this should maybe be in play.
- F The second left hand fairway bunker is not visible at all, when playing the hole it is perceived that this is a grassy hollow. The bunker in this hollow lacks shape and character.
- G The bunkers on this hole are completely out of scale compared to others throughout the course so far. The bunkers are distinctively difference in style with large elongated traps being presented.
- H The front left green side bunker is slightly detached from the green and of poor shape. The green has lost its original size and shape in the area behind this bunker.
- I The right greenside bunker has lost its shape becoming elongated with an unattractive straight back edge.
- J There is no real trouble to the right side of the green, this area is fairly open aspect and lacks movement. The introduction of some small textured mounding in this area will provide separation from the 8th tees and create a more interesting and tighter approach to the 7th.

HOLE 7  
556Y 527Y 495Y

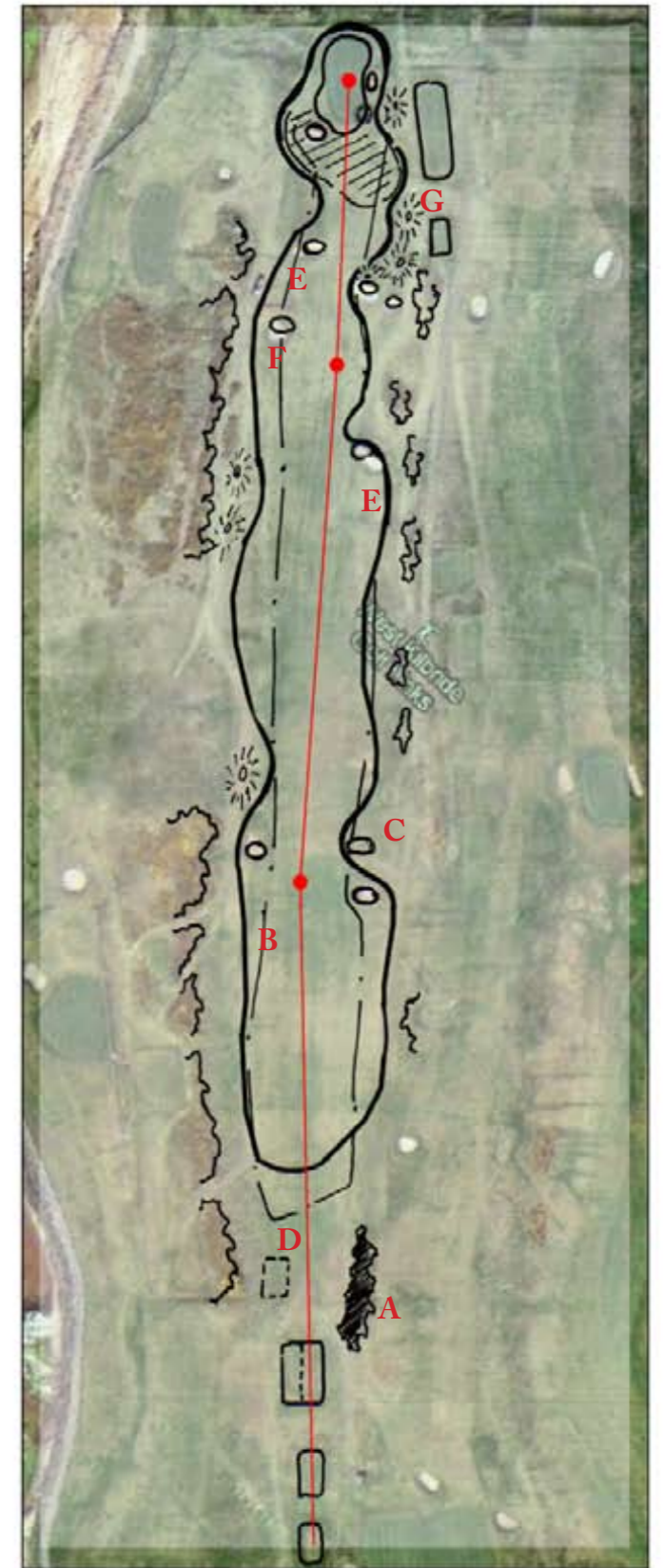
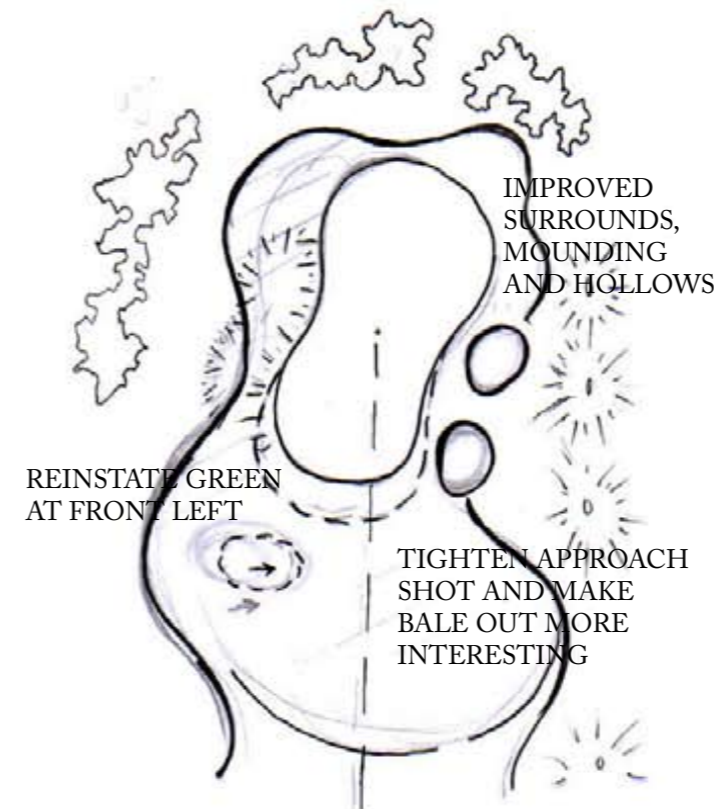


Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 7 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Reinstatement of the gorse planting to the right of the tee to improve the visual aspect of the hole where the playing window has been lost.
- B Improve fairway cut lines to ensure bunkers look in play.
- C Reinstating the second right side fairway bunker will make the drive more difficult for the longer player and will not impact the shorter player. Ensure the bunker will be visible.
- D An additional tee for the ladies down the slope would improve the driving experience on a very long hole.
- E Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout.
- F Rebuild the bunker to the left approach to ensure it becomes visible.
- G Create separation between the 7th hole and 8th tee through the introduction of small textured links style mounds.
- H The example sketch below shows improved quality turf green surrounds and drop offs, mounding to create separation between the 7th green and 8th tees and improved bunker strategy as well as reinstating the green size at the front.

HOLE 7 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH



Scale, 1:2500@A4



HOLE 8 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A Good size teeing areas sitting in fairly open and flat landscape context, some division and texture around these tees will improve their identity.
- B The playing window is quite open and lacks separation from other holes.
- C The bunker style here emphasises the difference in shape size and character to that of the bunkers on the 7th. From the tee the bunkers are visible and look fine but positioning and shape should be reviewed.
- D There is no real strategy from the tee with bunkers sitting out left and right on either side of the straight cut fairway line. This should be improved.
- E A filled in bunker sits in the centre of the fairway, exploring the reintroduction of this historical bunker will reinstate some heritage if it strategically works. Overall strategy of the hole is to be reassessed.
- F Create better separation between the 8th and 4th holes.
- G The relationship between the 8th fairway and the greenkeepers compound is poor, the flat land in this area could be improved with texture, mounding and further shrub planting.
- H There is an opportunity to open the hole up to the left slightly where there are some interesting mounding on the short left approach, bring this mounding into play could improve the strategy of the hole on the second shot.
- I The bunker short left is not visible and looks like a grass bunker until the player approaches. The shape and construction detail is out of character.
- J There is quite a lot happening in the backdrop view behind the green, the rope fence just adds to this clutter. The fence line currently serves a purpose but is it necessary? Some supporting mounding behind this green could improve the context of this green complex and its relationship with adjacent holes and access roads.

HOLE 8

418Y 390Y 385Y

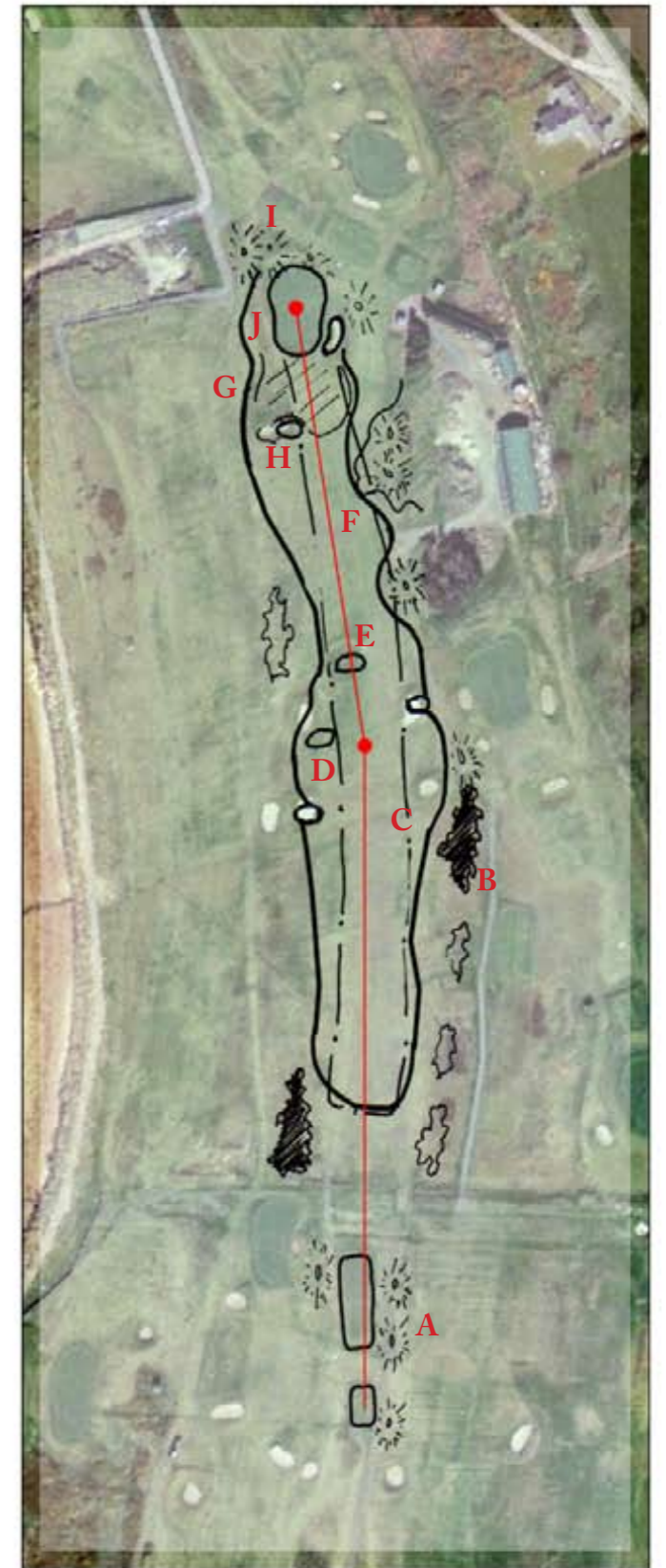
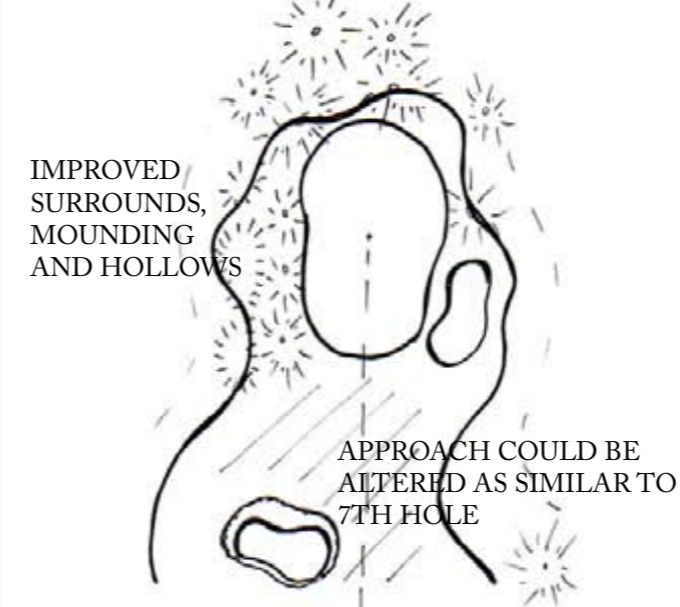


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HOLE 8 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Some mounding around the tee complex will allow for the tees to sit in the landscape in a more natural fashion and create separation with adjacent holes.
  - B Introduce select gorse planting to improve the visual playing window and vertical interest.
  - C Remove the first right hand bunker, which is extremely penal.
  - D Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout.
  - E Reintstate the historical bunker in the centre of the fairway which is completely out of range for the shorter player but creates good direction of play and forces the carry for the second shot.
- Improving the bunkers to the left along with the reintroduction of the fairway bunker will create a really interesting cross bunkering formation adding visual and strategic quality to the hole.
- F Some mounding in the right side rough on the approach to the green will improve the relationship with the adjacent greenkeepers compound.
  - G Open up the hole to the left slightly bringing the existing mounding and hollows into play. The bunker short left could be pulled into the hole more as it currently sits out in no mans land.
  - H Introducing textured links style mounding to the back and right of the green will improve the backdrop and relationship with the road and create separation.
  - I Improve the good quality surrounds to the front and left side of the green.

HOLE 8 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH



Scale, 1:2500@A4

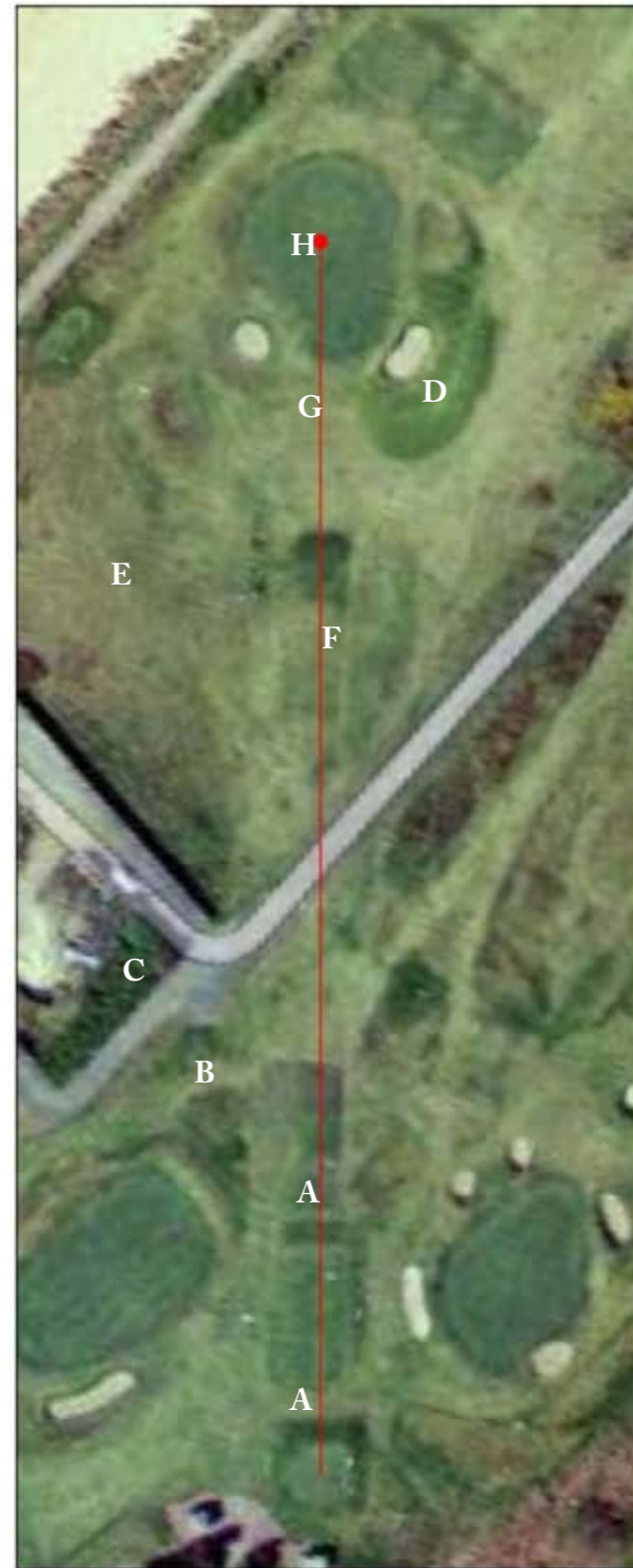


HOLE 9 - ANALYSIS NOTES

HOLE 9

187Y 179Y 159Y

- The 9th hole is another fantastic looking par 3 with an amazing & dramatic backdrop of the Isle of Arran.
- A Good variety and size of teeing area.
- B The rope and post fence currently has a function but is a non-desirable visual impact.
- C The compound to the left of the tee is slightly obtrusive which could be mitigated through the creation of textured mounding behind the 8th green.
- D The right hand green side bunker is not overly visible from the tee. The sand in this bunker is sloping from the back of the bunker down towards the green making the bunker more difficult to play from.
- E The hole is quite open to the left, which may benefit from additional gorse planting.
- F The landform short of the green looks like an old bunker, assess the potential reinstatement or creation of texture. There is currently little texture between the tee and green, the 12th hole provides a fantastic example of low mounding which could be used as a concept here as well.
- G Again the entry to the green is fairly simple and open which should be improved.
- H The green is of good shape and size with interesting movement. The supporting mounding to the back of the green creates a nicely guarded perception.



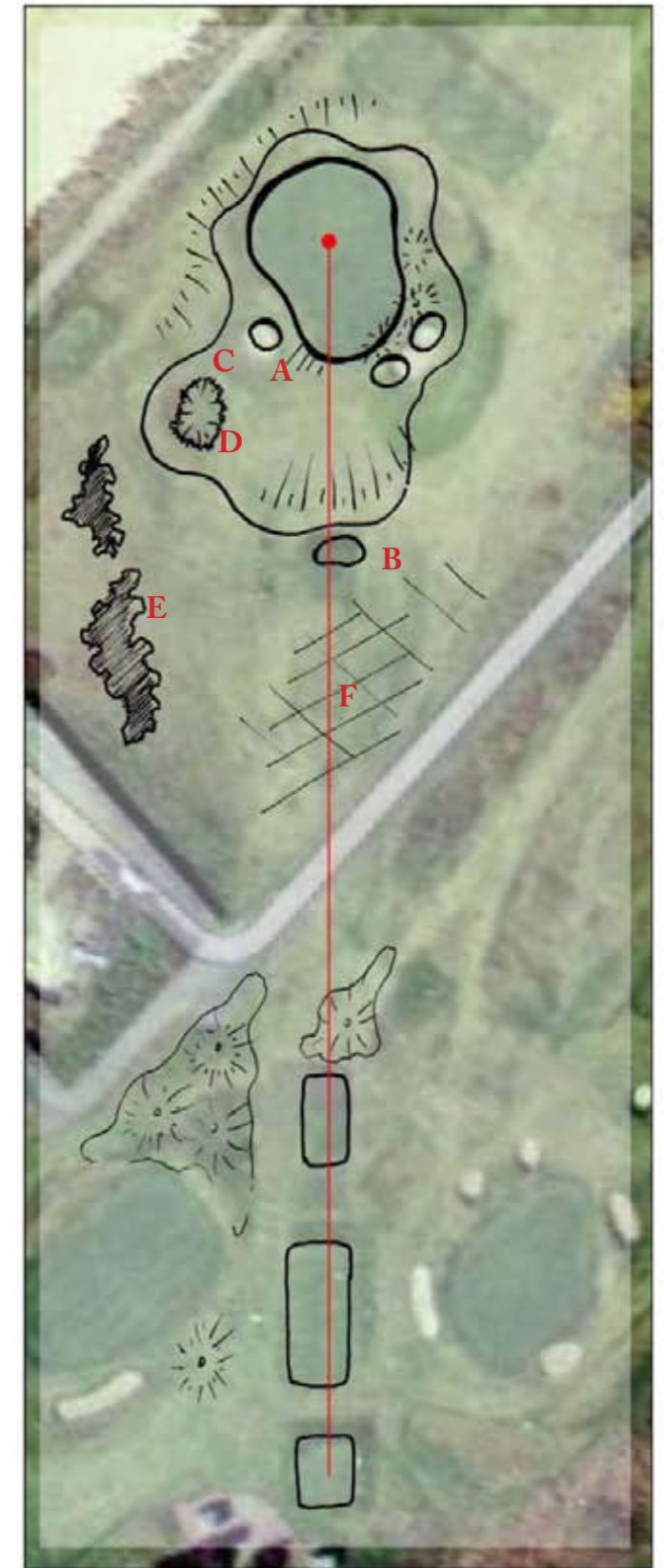
Scale, 1:1000@A4

This is a strong par three which could definitely be improved to become even better.

HOLE 9 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout. The front left bunker is excessive in size, as is the right bunker, which could be split into two.
- B There is an opportunity to reinstate the short central carry bunker, which would re-establish the deceiving sense of distance created by one of the historical architects.
- C Improving the good quality turf surrounds short and short left will create substantial bale out areas.
- D The grass hollow to the left could become a more prominent feature for the player baling out in this direction bringing the hollow much more into play.
- E Some gorse planting to the left side will improve the playing window and along with the mounding to the back of the 8th will enhance the visual appeal of the hole.
- F Some of the mounding to the front right approach could be lowered ever so slightly to ensure the right green side bunkers are visible from the tee.

Fantastic setting with Arran in the back drop which only adds to a great par 3.



Scale, 1:1000@A4



HOLE 10 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A Quite a strong dogleg par 4 that hugs the coastline, good views of the hole can be had from the raised back blue tee. The blue tee sits to the back left of the 9th green, which may be an issue in terms of play as well as a health and safety hazard, a general understanding from the golfer will prevail here through golf etiquette. By the time the 9th green is cleared the next group will be hitting into the par 3, during this time the group on the 10th will also tee off and clear. Golfers should ensure their personal safety whilst crossing the green.
- B The public footpath also skirts the left boundary fence line and runs all the way up the left side. Golfers and the public should be aware of the danger of stray balls through signage. Being able to see the path from the golf course and for walkers to see golfers is an important aspect here.
- C There is an interesting variety of teeing areas, the blue tee is set up well for the longer player but there is little to trouble down the left side. The white tee on the other side of the 9th green maintains this shot angle dogleg from right to left whilst alternative tees to the right change the hole quite significantly to a dogleg playing left to right bringing the right bunkers much more into play. Do these tees get used much as the rotation may be interesting?
- D The fairway lacks shape both left and right with a straight cut line all the way to the green.
- E There is some interesting small mounding just short of the first right bunker, which could be brought into play.
- F There is not much of a challenge for the golfer who goes to the left side of the fairway apart from the obvious out of bounds hazard. The hole plays fairly straightforward, when taking the left shot line a straightforward shot into the green is left. Some landform mounding on the short left approach could be brought into play through the creation of a bunker or some textured grassland.
- G The three fairway bunkers on the right side look quite elongated from the tee, are quite large and out of scale.
- H There is not much division between the 10th and 11th holes with the rough being cut short on this fairly flat landscape context. The only vertical structure is a stand of rose bush.
- I The heavily revetted green side bunkers are slightly different in style to other bunkers.
- J The second left greenside bunker is not visible, this could be improved with supporting mounding and slight relocation.
- K The green has interesting shape, good size and movement.

HOLE 10

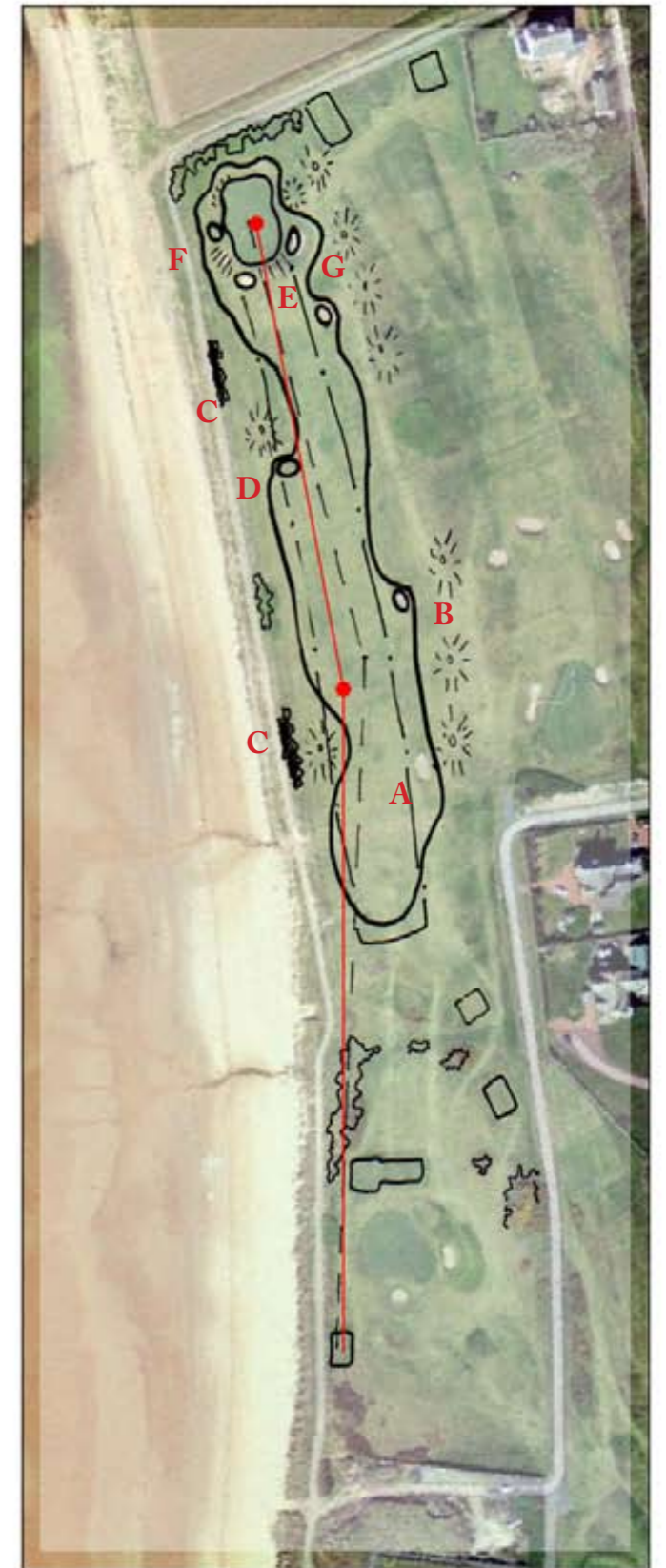
433Y 368Y 367Y



Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 10 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A The short right fairway bunker is quite penal for the shorter player, small mounding should be created bleeding into the fairway.
- B The second fairway bunker provides good direction of play, introducing some small textured mounding on the right side will improve the visual aspect.
- C Some sporadic gorse/rose bush planting along the left fence line will improve the relationship with the boundary.
- D The introduction of a bunker short left will improve the strategy of the hole immensely for the player taking the left line from the tee.
- E Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout. Push the second left hand green side bunker back to become more in play and visible.
- F Enhance the good quality green surrounds improving the playability for all.
- G Create some small textured links style mounding to the right side between the fairway/green and next tee enhancing the sense of separation and re instating landscape character.



Scale, 1:2500@A4

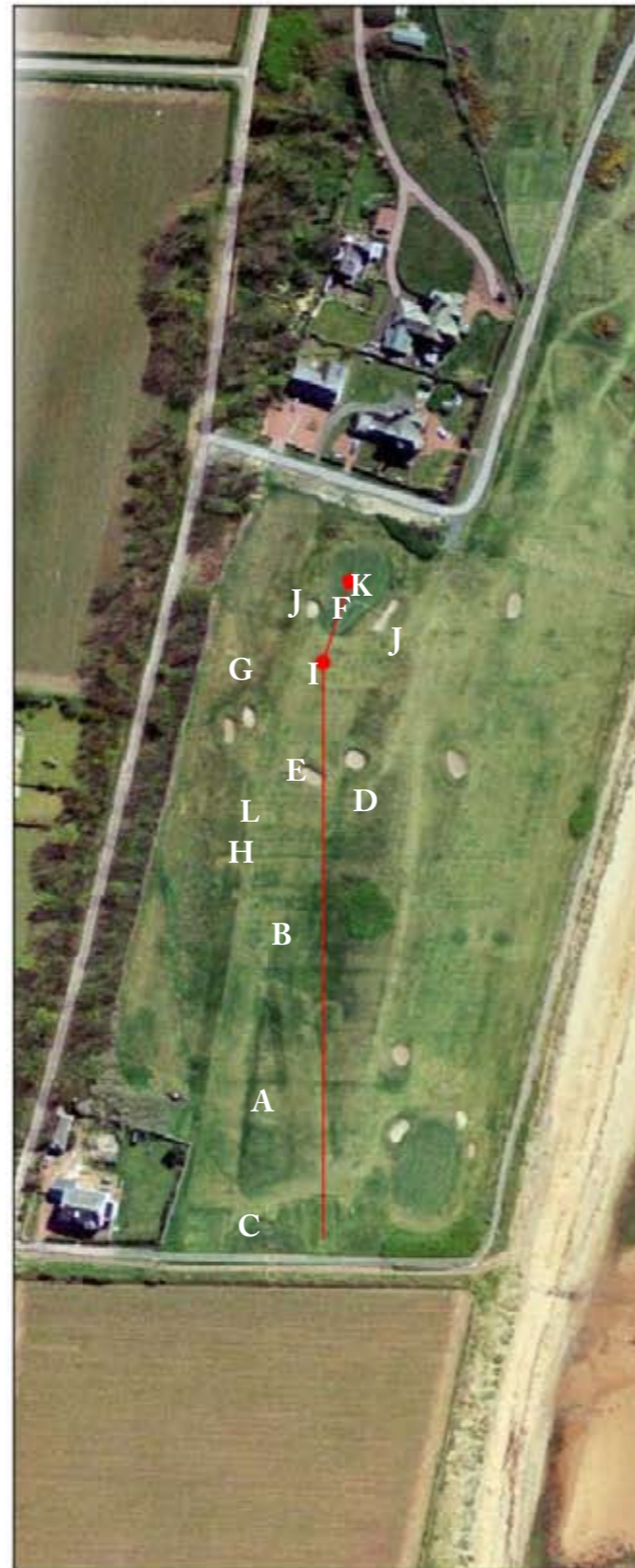


HOLE 11 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A The 11th hole should be a fantastic risk and reward hole with a well-guarded green. The hole currently lacks shape and interest from the tee but has some great qualities for improvement. The mounding on the left side could be brought into play, the greenside bunkers brought tighter around the front, more mounding created and the rough grown in areas, which would reinstating the challenge of risk and reward.
  - B There is currently quite a lot happening on this hole with no real strategy at the moment.
  - C The teeing area is extremely open aspect with the grass being kept low throughout lacking in visual interest. This creates a poor relationship between the tees and fairway as well as with the 10th green.
  - D The bunker short right of the green cannot be seen fully from the right blue tee.
  - E The central bunker has been constructed in a different style to other bunkers losing the continuity in design.
  - F There is nothing to stop the golfer hitting the ball over the rose bushes on the right taking everything out of play and leaving a chip onto the green.
  - G Really interesting mounding to the left side of the fairway should be brought into play.
  - H Fairway cut lines are straight and static.
- When playing this hole with some good golfers there was nothing to stop them hitting straight at the green.
- I Interesting borrows in front of the green where an old bunker may have been positioned.
  - J Green side bunkers lack shape and in both of the bunkers the sand slopes from the back of the bunker towards the green.
  - K Really good size and shape green with minor low point, green surrounds could be improved with fine turf drop offs.
  - L If a more distinctive landing area is created, bunker placement size and shape improved along with green surrounds and additional textured mounding this hole could become a classic.

HOLE 11

255Y 253Y 241Y



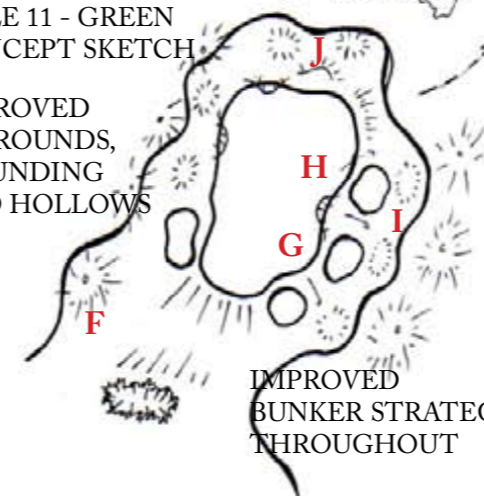
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HOLE 11 - CONCEPT DESIGN

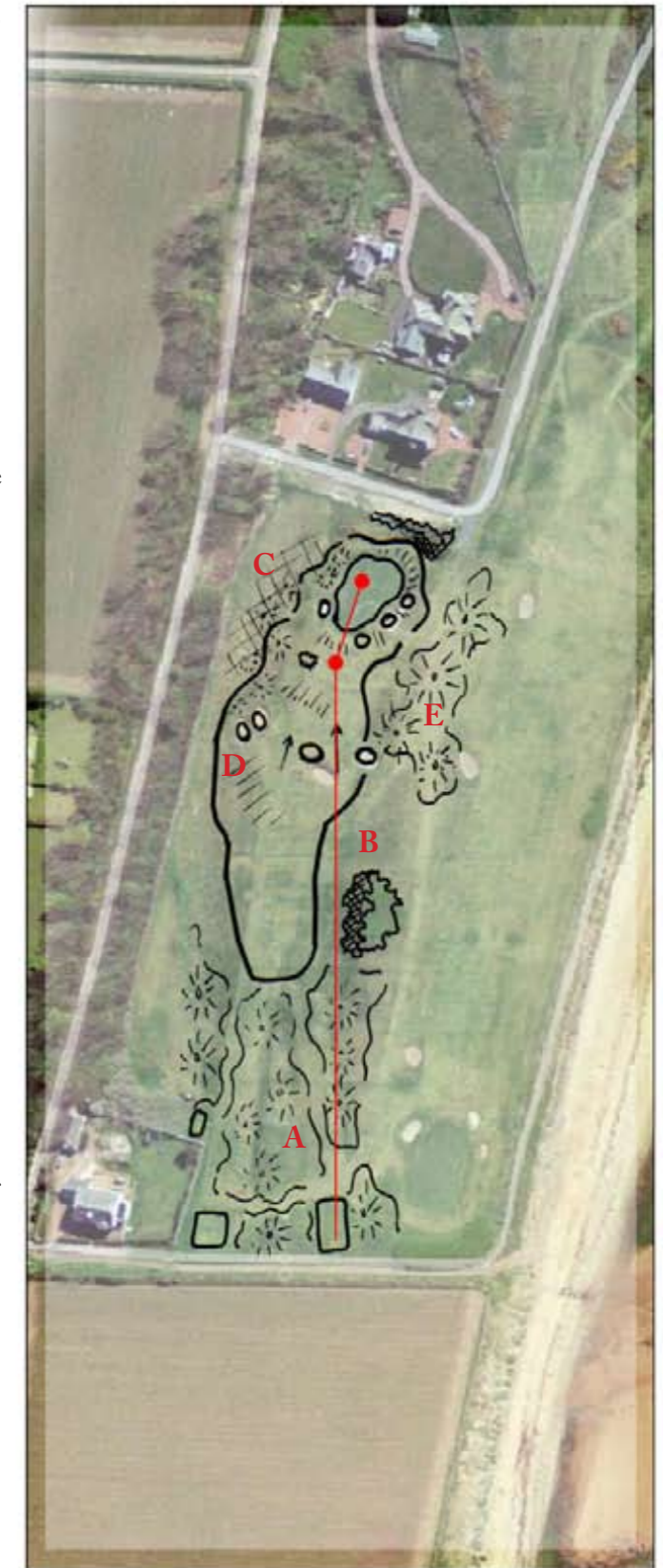
- A There is a fantastic opportunity to improve the 11th hole to reinstate its historical risk and reward strategy.
- B Introduce textured link style mounding between the tee and fairway like proposed at the 4th and existing at the 12th. This will improve the visual aspect if the hole dramatically reinstating the links land character, which has been lost over the years.
- C Selective cutting of bushes on right side to ensure the right side bunker is visible.
- D Open up the hole to the left side bringing the existing mounding and hollows into play.
- E Create a more appealing landing zone to the left side of the fairway.
- F Introduce mounding to the right side between the green and 10th fairway to remove the easy bale out right for the long player.
- G Turn the short central hollow into a rough grassy hollow, which will catch the longer players ball as well as creating strategy for the player playing short off the tee.
- H Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout. The large central bunker should be rebuilt in a slightly better position and improved style to fit in with the rest of the bunkers.
- I Break the right greenside bunker into two and create an additional bunker to the front, making it much more difficult for the player going for the green from the tee.
- J Create good quality turf surrounds, hollows and humps ensuring playability for all.
- K Create some more room at the back by trimming the rose bush back and improving the mounding shapes in this area.

HOLE 11 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH

IMPROVED SURROUNDS, MOUNDING AND HOLLOW



IMPROVED BUNKER STRATEGY THROUGHOUT



Scale, 1:2500@A4





HOLE 12 - ANALYSIS NOTES

HOLE 12

172Y 162Y 137Y

Another good par three of similar length to the 4th. The different orientation of the par 3's shows good variety.

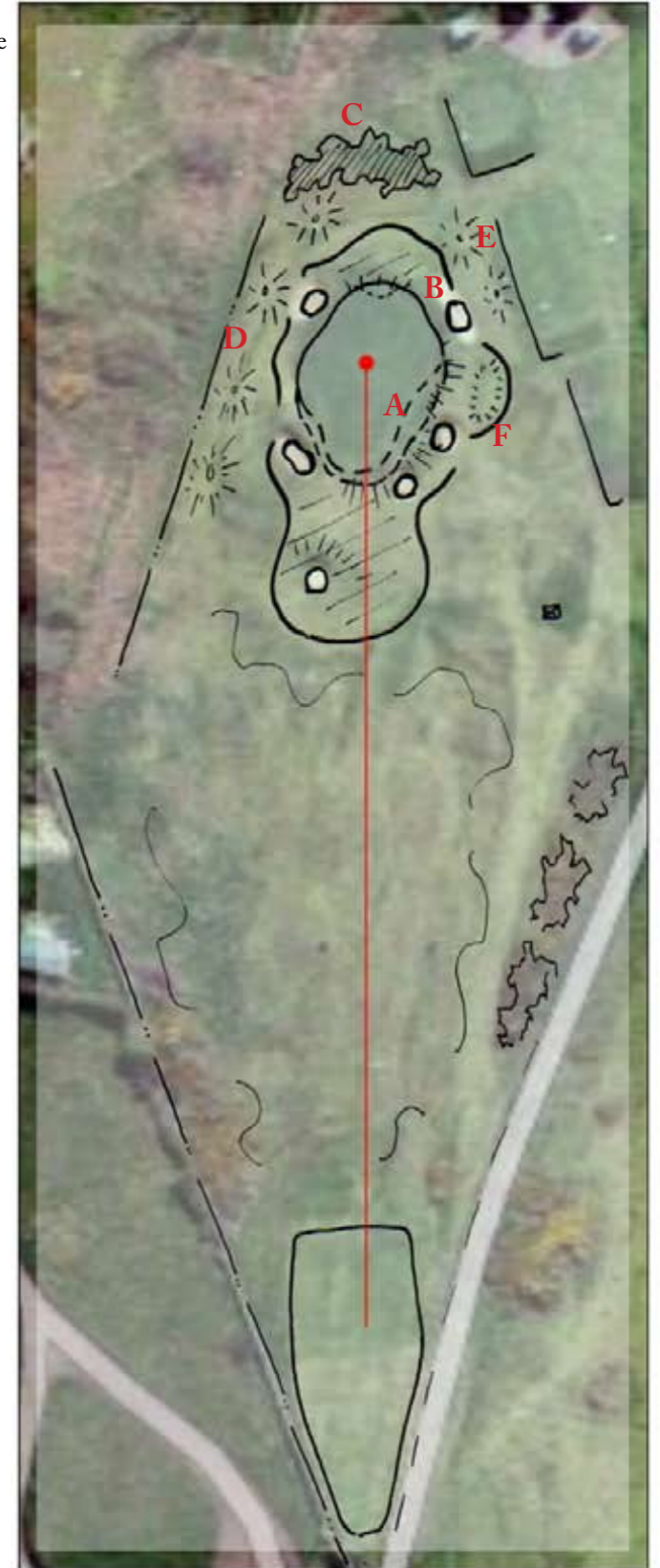
- A Really interesting mounding with quality shape and movement from tee to green that creates a challenge for the golfer through the visual perception. There is a great opportunity to replicate this in other areas throughout the course where the visual interest is poor between tees and green such as the 9th and 11th. This style of textured mounding could also be used in areas to create division between holes and around tees which sit in no mans land such as at the 8th.
- B The green is well guarded by bunkers; the short bunker is a good example of a small well-proportioned pot like bunker, the front left green side bunker and two front right bunkers don't have great shape and again the sand falls from the back of the bunker towards the green in the left bunker.
- C The back left bunker and back right are slightly out of character with others around this green being different in style.
- D The apron cut on approach works really well but could be extended in areas where drop off's could be improved.
- E Good shaped green with a variety of pin locations although the green has lost its size and shape over the years.
- F The grass is fairly short along the back left of the green up to the boundary fence, is this necessary?
- G The backdrop to the green looks untidy and could be improved with structure planting.
- H There are some drainage issues around the front and right side of the green as well as at the back; does this connect to the manhole cover to the right side?



Scale, 1:1000@A4

HOLE 12 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Reinststate the shape and size of green, which has been lost over time to the front left and right side. This will also ensure the right side bunkering comes back into play at the green edge.
- B Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout.
- C Improve backdrop with the introduction of gorse planting.
- D Create some small textured mounds to the left side of the green to improve the relationship with the adjacent fence.
- E Create some small mounds between the back of the green and the 9th tee to reduce risk of the running ball traversing onto the tee.
- F Create good quality turf surround to the green where playability is paramount.



Scale, 1:1000@A4



HOLE 13 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A The planting around the blue tee is completely out of character and should be removed. The creation of textured links like dune structure mounding around the tee will allow the tee to sit in the landscape in a more natural manner. Really like the playing angle from the blue tee but the gorse in front of the tee needs cut back improving the view of the fairway and hole.
  - B The tee in front of the wall is quite large in scale and does not merge into the surrounding landscape context very well. The sleeper construction to the back is starting to fail in areas and may become a hazard if not fixed. There is poor access to and from the tee for ladies with the path forcing the players to walk the long way around. There is also a slight drainage issue on this tee, which should not be the case on a new construction. The far right portion of the tee cannot really be used due to blindness. It looks like there has been a lot of money spent on the construction of this tee which functions but has its flaws.
  - C There is currently no real strategy from the ladies and white tee with a pretty straightforward untroubled line of play.
  - D The gorse on the right side is slightly overgrown and obscures the view, which creates more of a health and safety risk with the public footpath traversing along the right side boundary.
- The playing strategy of the hole could be improved.
- E Really strong natural textured mounding to the left side of the fairway approach and on the right side of the fairway, which could be brought into play with improved strategy. There is a much more interesting natural links character to this hole in areas.
  - F It would be interesting to explore the incorporation of more textured links grassland in areas and improving the apron to the left side approach.
  - G The wall to the right side of the green is a strong visual feature.
  - H The green has reduced in size to the front hence the current distance from the pop up sprinkler; the green is still quite a good size sloping from back to front. There is quite a low point with drainage issues at the front where the green used to extend to which should be rectified, this approach apron is quite soft in front of the green stopping the ball quickly in its tracks instead of playing firm and fast like links should.
  - I The fairway cut lines are poorly shaped.

HOLE 13  
428Y 406Y 413Y

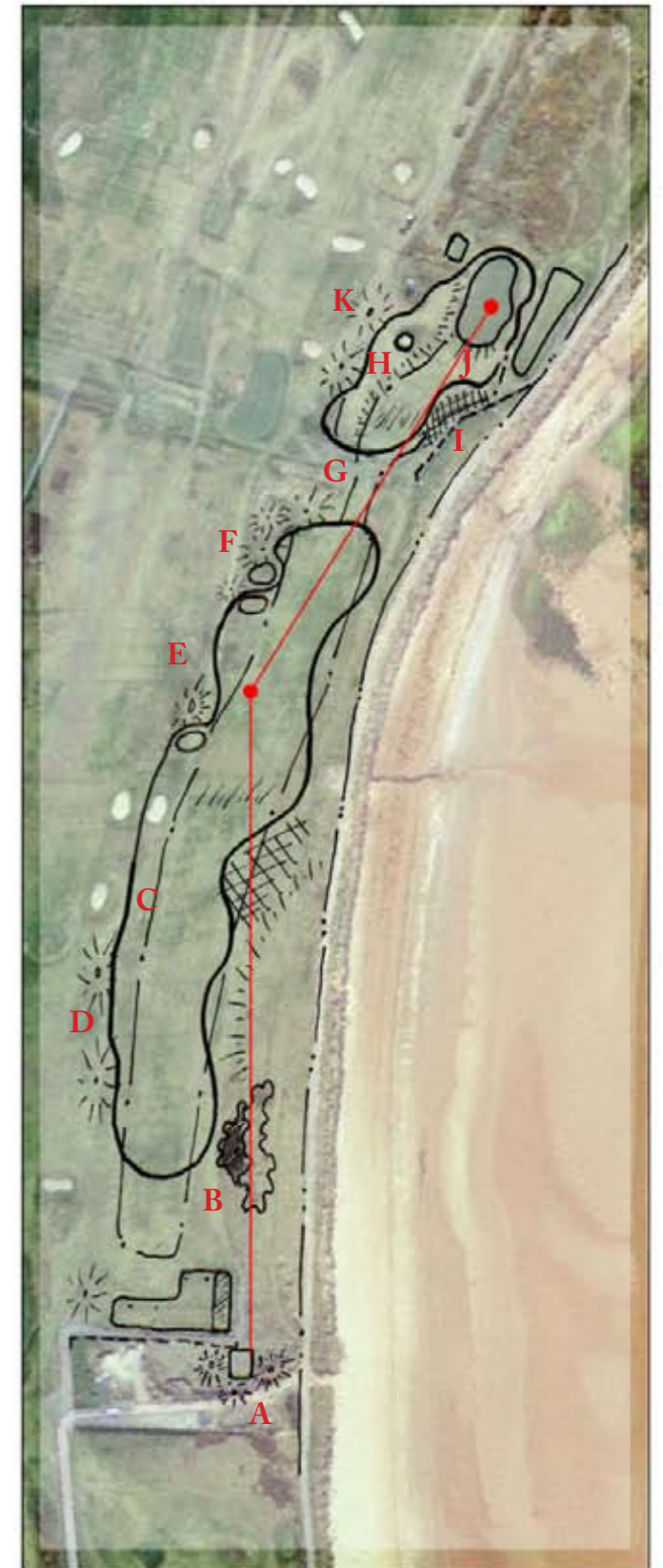


Scale, 1:2500@A4

The 13th is a really strong hole, which could be improved dramatically creating a quality par 4.

HOLE 13 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Remove the hedge around the back tee and create links style textured mounding around the tee ensuring the tee becomes more natural and fits into the surrounding low dune context.
- B Selective gorse removal in front of the tee is required to open up the view of the hole.
- C Improve the fairway cut line.
- D Create some small textured mounding between the 13th and 8th fairway to create some separation.
- E Add some textured grassland mounding behind the first left side bunker to improve the visual direction of play. This bunker should also be relocated slightly further up where it would sit in a better position in play.
- F Additional strategic bunker placement will improve the difficulty of the hole for the longer player.
- G Enhance the links grassland approach creating a more prominent split across the fairway creating improved links character and strategy.
- H Open up the green approach to the left side by improving the good quality turf approach.
- I Improve the challenge and visual interest on the approach and create a sense of depth with the reintroduction of links grasses to the right side at the wall. This will also improve the visual relationship with the sea and force the player away from the public footpath adjacent to the wall.
- J Improve the drainage in front of the green where a substantial borrow is located.
- K Create some small mounding to the left approach improving the separation with the 7th.



Scale, 1:2500@A4

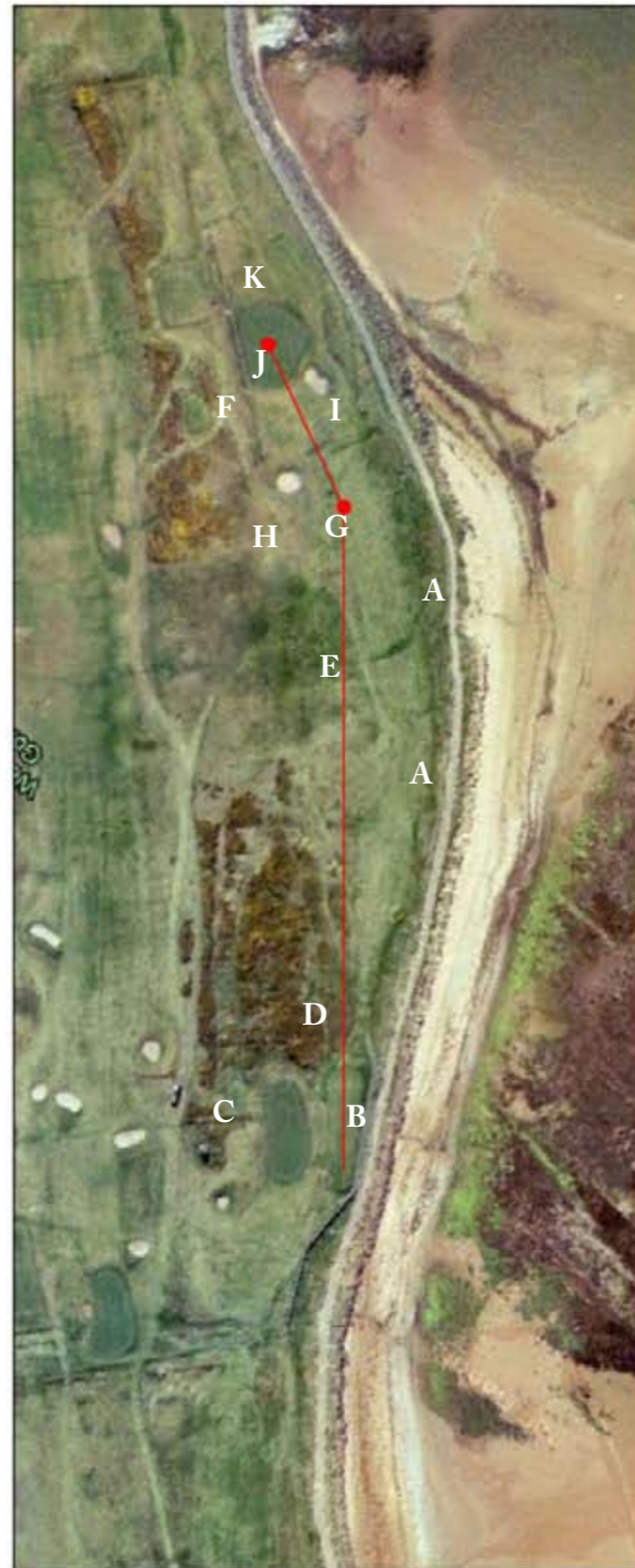


HOLE 14 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A The 14th hole hugs the boundary fence, which is not necessary.
- B The angle of the tee on the right side over accentuates the playing line to the right. It would be nice to see the links grassland blend back into the golf course like an area just in front of the tee, which would result in pushing the hole slightly left away from the boundary. This will also improve the heath and safety aspect in relation to the public footpath along the adjacent boundary fence.
- C The tee left of the 13th green has an interesting playing angle this should be explored further. The gorse is only partially cleared in this area.
- D The gorse in front of the right hand side tee requires some careful management to open up better views of the hole.
- E There is an opportunity here to create an interesting split fairway providing alternative playing strategy.
- F The wall just left of the green is an interesting feature standing proud but does not really come into play. Is this an old-field pattern / historical location for a sea wall?
- G There is interesting natural landform on the approach to the green.
- H The left bunker has a poor relationship with the wall, is out of scale and lacks shape.
- I The right green side bunker is out of scale and too big.
- J The green is fairly flat and lacks interest with some space behind with scope to extend slightly.
- K It would be nice to create a better relationship between the sea and back and right of the green by re introducing some textured link dune structure as a backdrop to the green.

HOLE 14

319Y 305Y 301Y

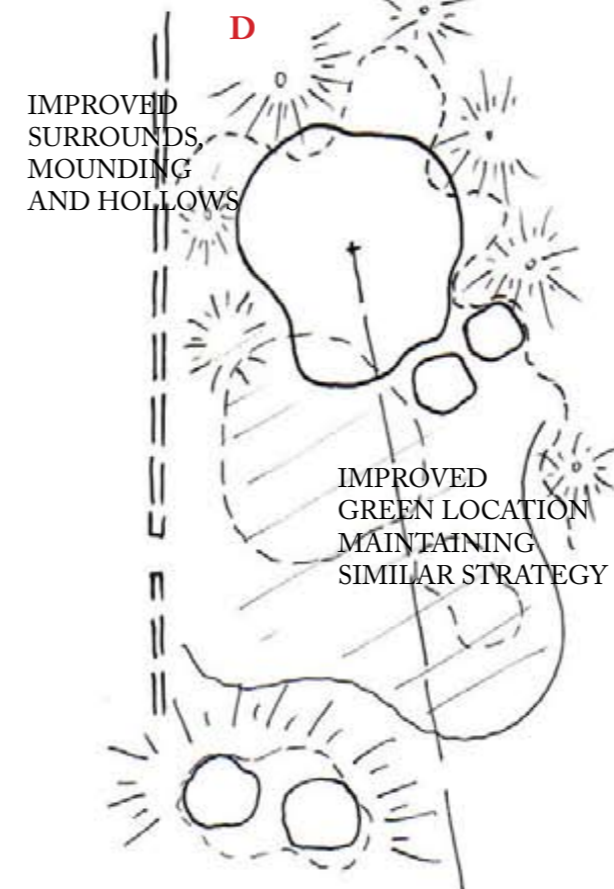


Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 14 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Push the hole slightly left and reintroduce a buffer between the fence line and fairway creating pockets of links grassland mounding, improving the relationship with the low dune structure and boundary. Play should be promoted to the left where possible to reduce the risk of stray balls onto the beach and adjacent public footpath.
- B Select gorse removal to the left off the tee will also help open up the hole to the left side creating a much more interesting shot line.
- C A split fairway will provide different angles of play and alternative teeing positions. A central bunker in a natural location will provide good direction of play.
- D There is an opportunity to extend the hole and improve the green location and shape. The sketch below shows improved strategy with interesting mounding and hollows to the green surrounds with some supporting dune structure to the back. The green would sit slightly higher than it's existing flat location and will have a better relationship with the wall.

HOLE 14 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH



Scale, 1:2500@A4



HOLE 15 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A The visual aspect of the 15th and strategy is poor from the tee.
- B The tees are in a good location and of sufficient size but have a poor relationship with the surrounding landscape context. The creation of more rough grassland between the tees and the wall on the right would see the tees blend in more naturally.
- C The wall on the right hand side provides a visual shot line but there is nothing really to aim at or avoid. Bunker placement should be considered to improve direction of play, visual appeal and strategic play.
- D There are fairly large landforms just over the rise around the landing area slightly out of range for most players. These old bunkers are current grass bunkers, which should be made more natural and blend into the hole. There may be scope for bunkers on the rise short of these hollows.
- E The 16th tees stretch from the turnpoint of the 15th down past the green, additional textured mounding between the 15th and the 16th tees will create a better relationship and define division.
- F There is another filled in bunker short left of the green on the approach.
- G Fairway lines are straight and lack character and strategy.
- H Improve the relationship between the hole and the coast creating a more natural fit.
- I Interesting mounding along left side of the green, which could partially be brought into play.
- J Both green side bunkers are large and out of scale and different in style.
- K The green is good size with two tier levels adding interest but has lost its original shape in areas.
- L There is a drainage issue to the front right portion of the green and short of the green on the apron.
- M On a few occasions it has been noticed that there are straight cut lines where the fairway hits the apron this does not look natural and should follow the contours instead.
- N There is a small cluster of rose bush to the right side on the fence boundary; the introduction of additional planting in areas could improve the relationship between the coastal path and the course.

HOLE 15

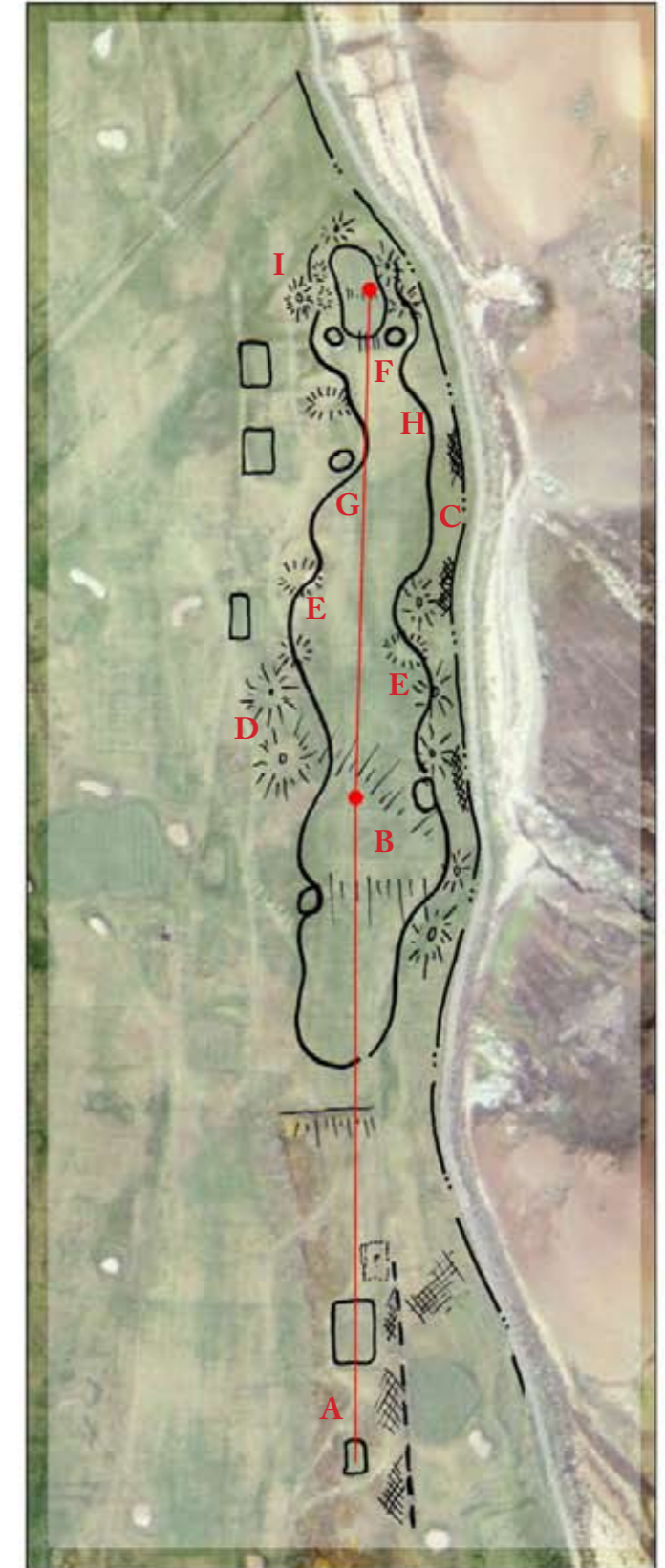
440Y 392Y 392Y



Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 15 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Improve the landscape character and surrounding tee context by create a better relationship between the wall and the tees through introducing small links style textured mounding.
- B Create fairway bunkering to provide direction of play and much needed interest and strategy from the tee. Improve fairway lines as part of this strategy.
- C Introduce further sporadic planting along the fence line to improve the relationship with the boundary.
- D Introduce mounding to the left side between the fairway and the next tees to create separation and hole identity.
- E Improve the shapes and sizes of the existing mounding and hollows where old bunkers have been filled in.
- F Pull green side bunkers closer to the surface and improve the shape scale and style.
- G Introduce a bunker on the approach short left to enhance the second shot strategy and a forced carry from the left side.
- H The drainage issue on approach should be rectified.
- I Improve the good quality turf surrounds for better playability.



Scale, 1:2500@A4

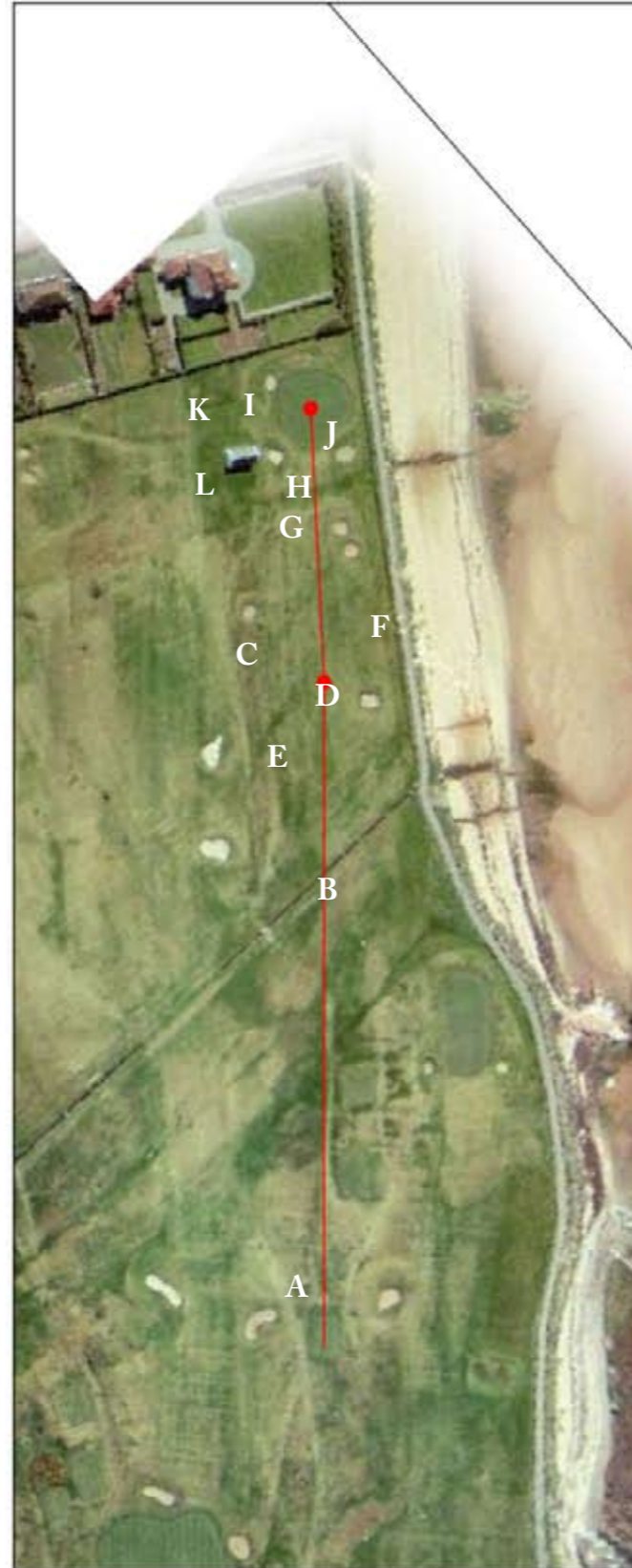


HOLE 16 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A There are a good variety of tees on the 16th but are they all used and necessary? The tee's seem quite close to the 15th green.
- B There is better visibility of the burn, which traverses across the hole short of the landing area. The burn looks a bit more natural in this area even though quite straight.
- C The left side of the fairway and the bunker located on the left are not really visible from the tee. Some mounding on the left would create a better visual aspect and relationship with the 17th.
- D The fairway slopes left to right pushing the ball down the right naturally.
- E The fairway line on the left side has some interesting sinuous shape, this concept does not get used enough on the golf course.
- F The hole plays into the corner with a distinctive boundary wall feature running along the right side and round the back of the green. It would be interesting to see more rough grassland in areas along the right side improving the visual and strategic aspects of the hole.
- G There is really good movement in front of the green, which comes into play for the running ball.
- H The apron cut and fine turf is in really good condition with some interesting shape, it would be nice to see this extend into hollows and around the green in areas and used as a concept across the course.
- I The back left bunker is not visible.
- J The green side bunkers are different in style character and shape.
- K Would like to see a bit more separation between the 16th green and the 17th tee with some textured mounding.
- L Old Georgian farmhouse 'Hunger-em-oot' is a fantastic historical feature relating to the history and heritage of the golf course when cattle once roamed the out of play areas to graze.

HOLE 16

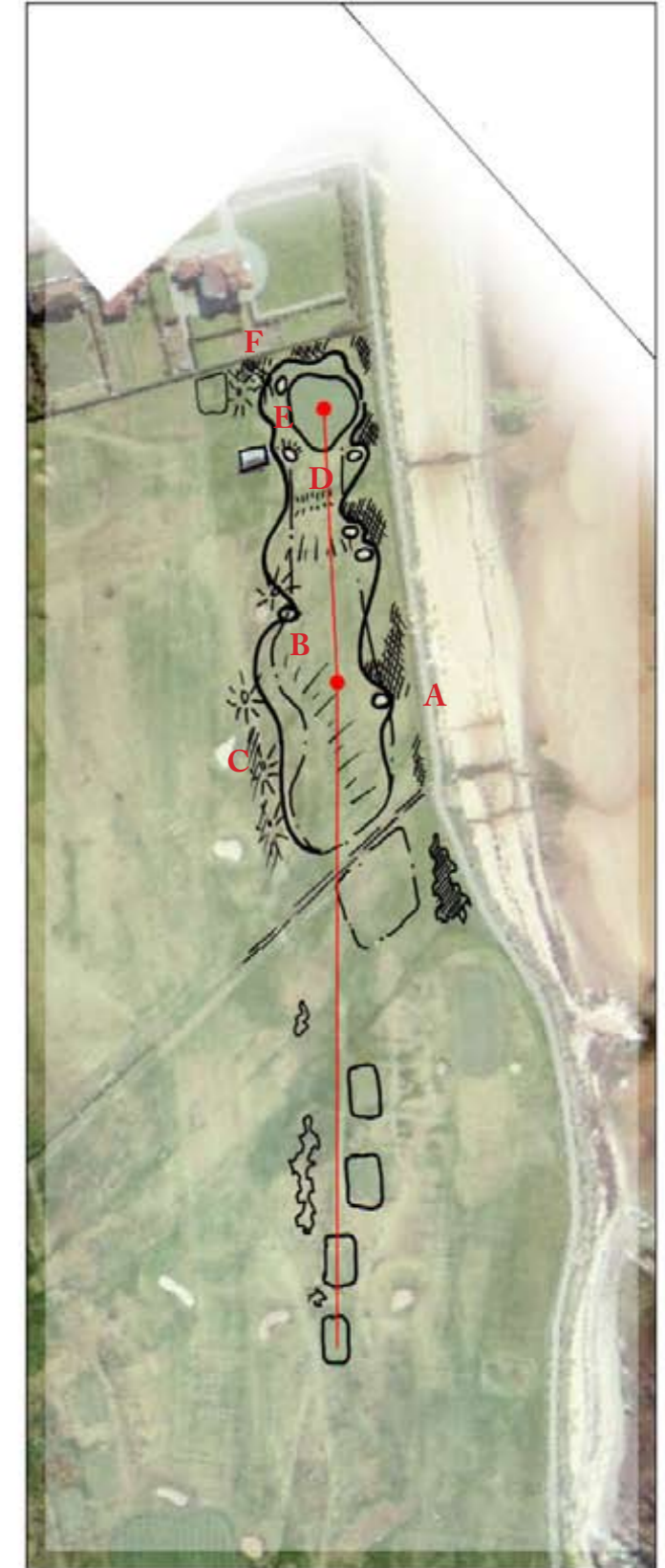
355Y 324Y 261Y



Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 16 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Create a better relationship between the hole and the extended landscape context. The introduction of links grassland in areas along the right side will reinstate the links character and enhance the visual quality, this will be carried out in areas less likely to see play.
- B Improve the visibility of the bunker on the left side.
- C Introduce mounding on the left side to create a better playing window and to enhance the relationship between the 16th and 17th. Improve the fairway cut lines at the same time.
- D Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout.
- E Create better quality turf surrounds to improve the shot variety and playability for all.
- F Introduce some small textured links style mounding between the green and next tee to create some division and hole identity.



Scale, 1:2500@A4

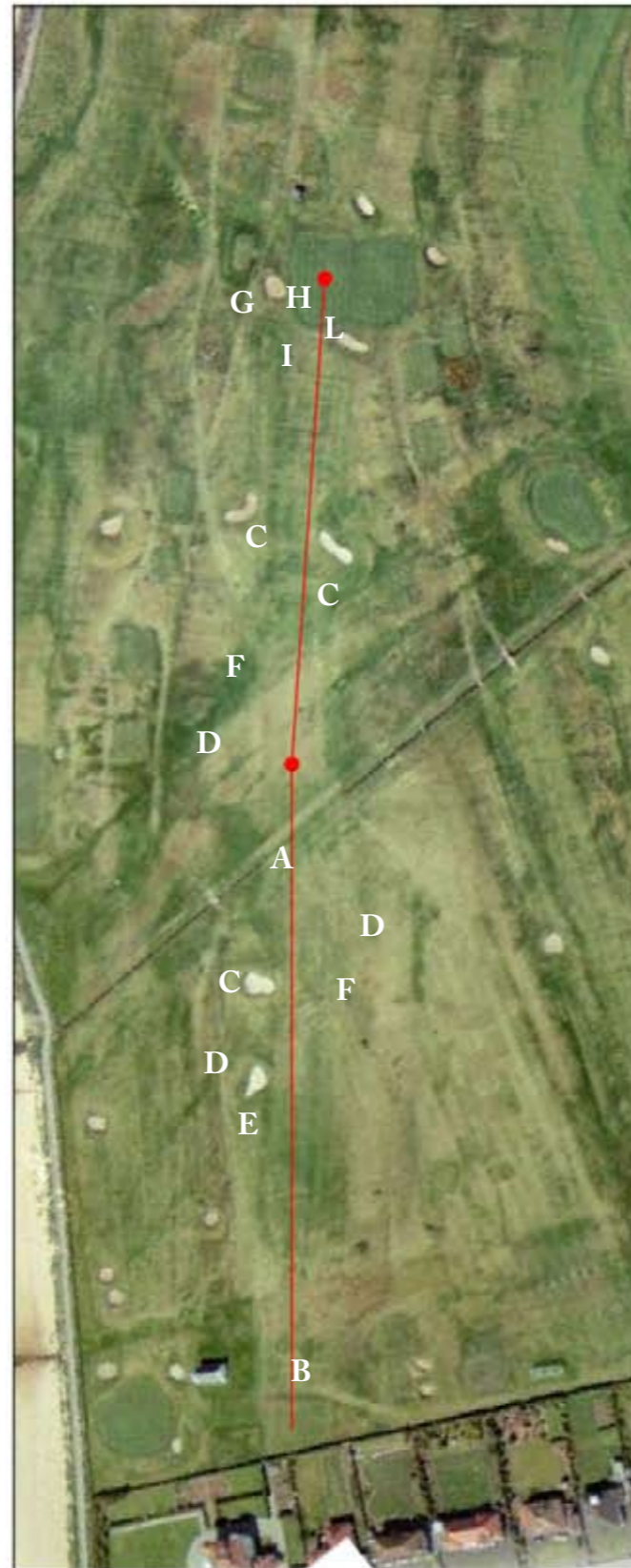


HOLE 17 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A The burn is culverted under the fairway and highlighted with stakes but not really visible either side of the fairway.
- B The hole has visual appeal from the tee with interesting panoramic views, vegetation and landform.
- C Bunkers are large and elongated which look out of scale and are different in style.
- D There is no real separation between the 17th and 16th and the 17th and the practice fairway, this could be achieved by the introduction of small mounding.
- E The first left side bunker does not look to be in play from the tee.
- F The right side fairway cut line is straight and lacks visual interest creating poor strategy, which is the same on the left.
- G The left green side bunker is not visible from the 150y marker and the right side bunker looks large and has poor shape.
- H The left greenside bunker is also detached from the green and looks like water will flow from the green into the bunker.
- I The green entry lacks movement and the drop offs and surrounds could be improved to the left and back.

HOLE 17

438Y 431Y 434Y

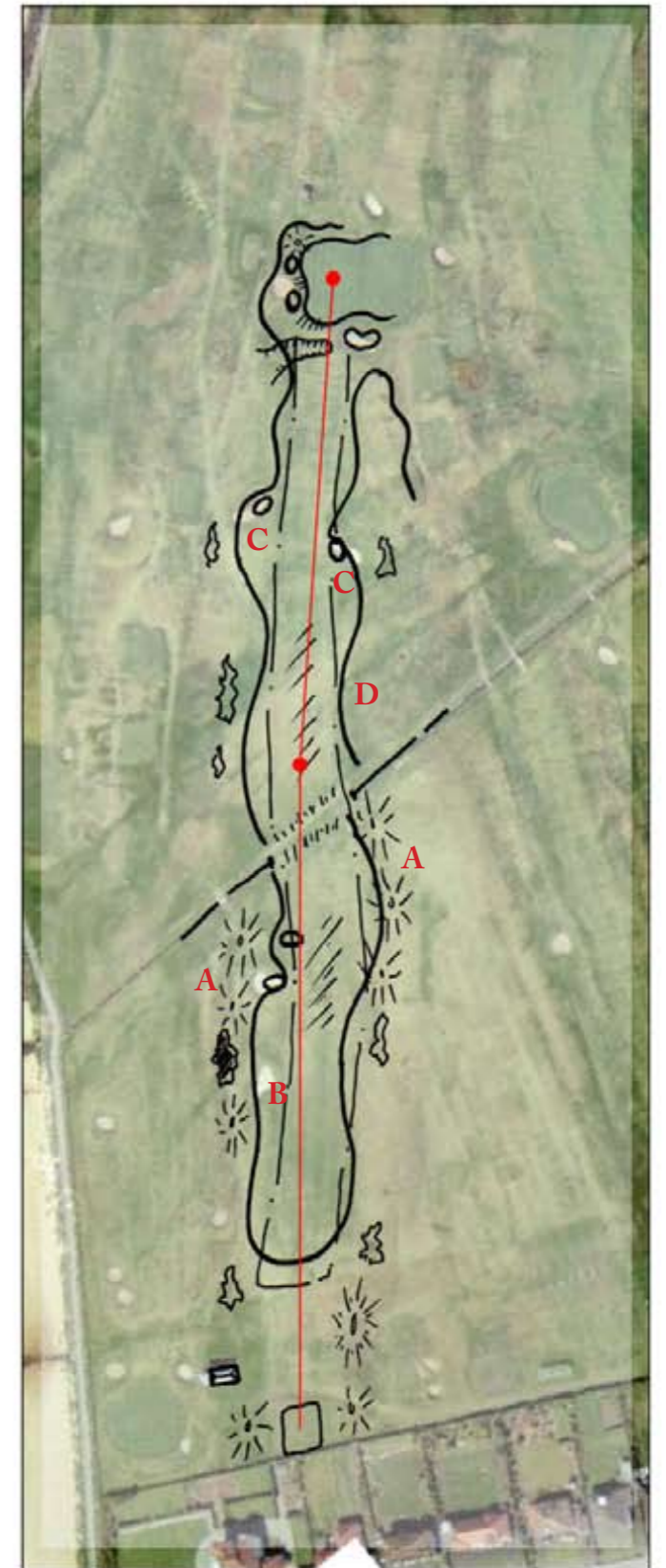
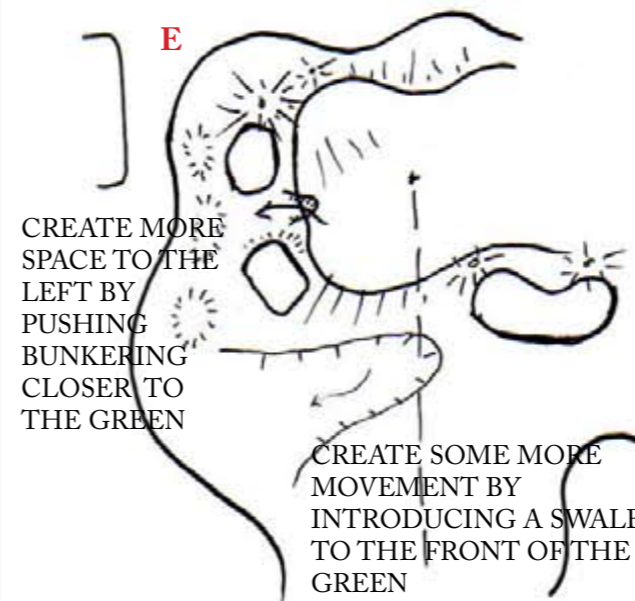


Scale, 1:2500@A4

HOLE 17 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Create a better relationship with the adjacent 16th and the practice area through the introduction of some mounding either side. This will allow the hole to have its own identity and create a more interesting playing window.
- B Remove the extremely penal first left hand bunker and relocate further up the fairway where it will be in play.
- C Improve bunker shapes, scale and style throughout.
- D Improve the fairway cut lines bringing bunkers into play.
- E Create a swale to the front of the green as seen in the sketch below to add interest to a very flat and open entry to the green. Also improve the drop off surrounds to the left side where some good quality turf hollows and mounds will be created. By breaking the bunker into two and pushing closer to the green surface more space will be created for good quality drop off surrounds on the left side.

HOLE 17 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH



Scale, 1:2500@A4

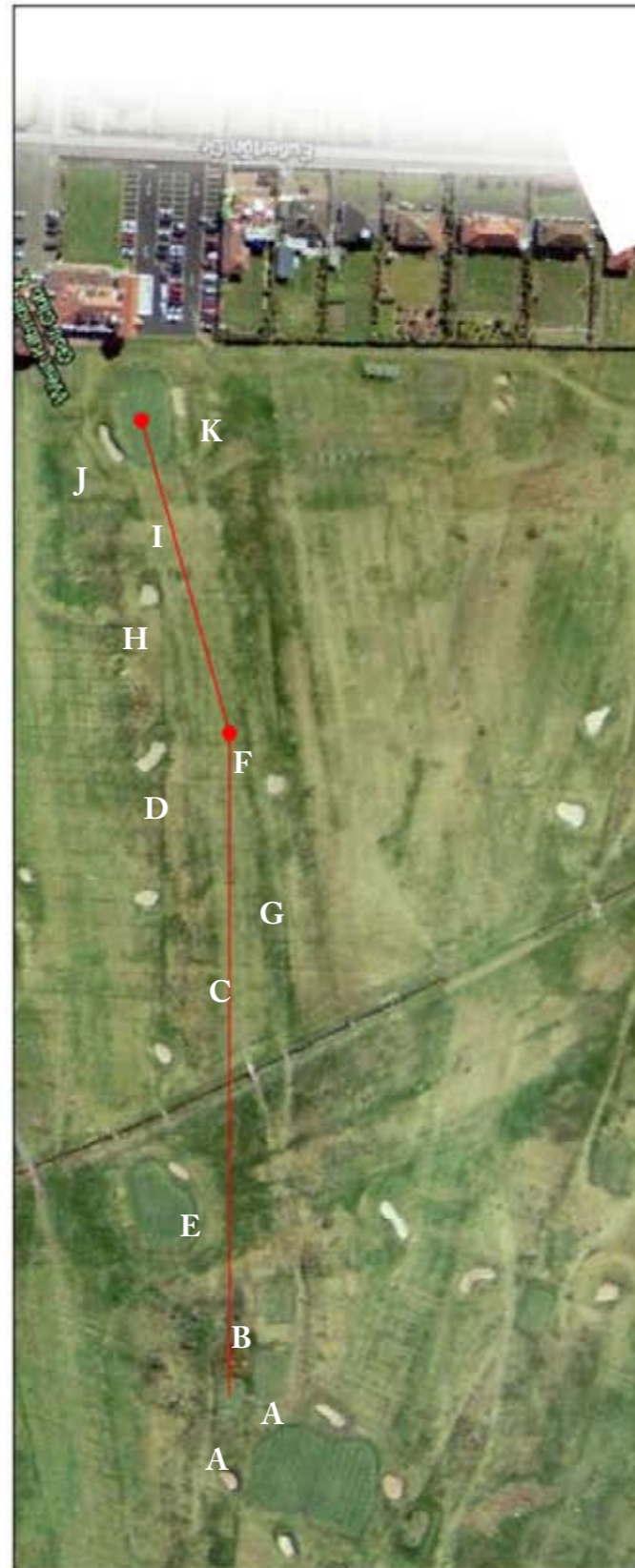


HOLE 18 - ANALYSIS NOTES

- A The relationship between the 6th green and the 18th tees is poor which could be improved by creating better separation with the introduction of small textured mounding.
  - B There is not much to aim at from the 18th tees however the feature bridge guides you slightly left.
  - C The hole looks fairly flat and lacks movement.
  - D The left and right fairway bunkers are not visible at all from the tees.
  - E The blue tee shot line is in quite close proximity to the 1st green.
  - F The camber of the fairway from left to right forces the straight ball to run right on landing.
  - G The fairway cut line is straight and lacks character.
  - H The bunker on the short left approach is not overly visible either.
  - I There is some interesting landform and shape on the approach to the green with a raised green frontage.
  - J The left green side bunker is slightly detached from the green and the grass mounding on the right leave quite an open entry to the green. The mounding on the right should come into play more.
  - K The back right bunker is poorly shaped and not really visible.
- A fairly straightforward finishing hole which lacks strategy and visual interest.

HOLE 18

379Y 371Y 340Y

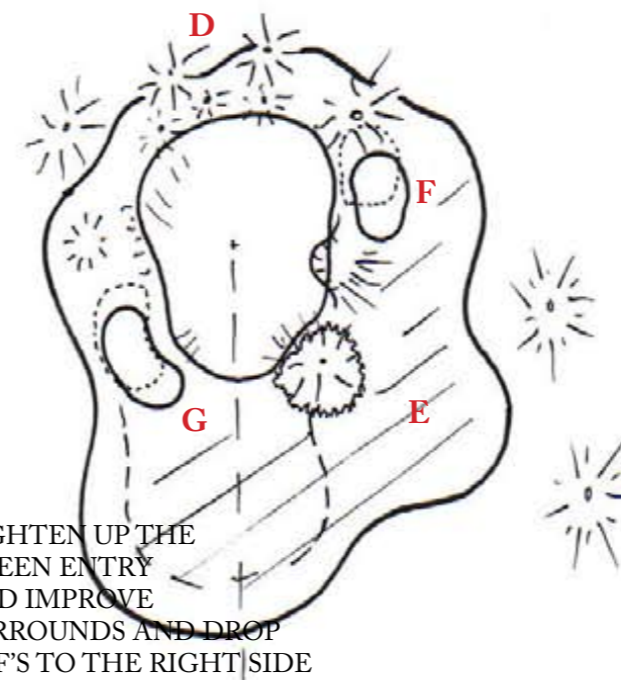


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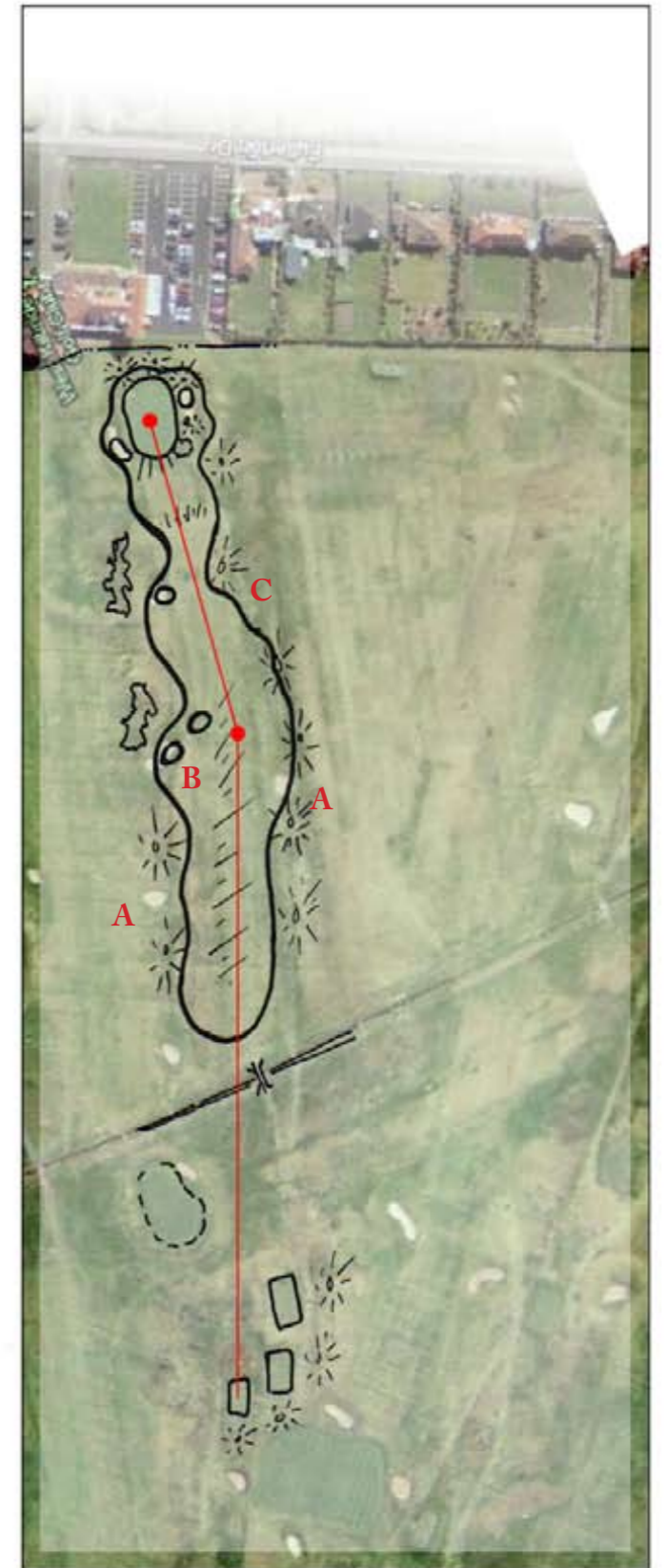
HOLE 18 - CONCEPT DESIGN

- A Create a better relationship with the adjacent 1st and the practice area through the introduction of some mounding either side of the fairway. This will allow the hole to have its own identity and create a better playing window.
- B Improve the visibility of the left hand fairway bunker and introduce a second bunker to test the longer player.
- C Improved links land mounding down the right side would enhance the relationship between the 18th and practice area.
- D Improve the shaping and mounding behind the green to enhance separation.
- E Create good quality turf surround with emphasis on the right side bale out. It would be interesting to turn the mound to the front right into a grassy mound with good quality cut grass surrounds.
- F The back right bunker needs to become more visible.
- G The front left bunker should be pulled around the front of the green ever so slightly to tighten up the very open entry to the 18th green.

HOLE 18 - GREEN CONCEPT SKETCH



TIGHTEN UP THE GREEN ENTRY AND IMPROVE SURROUNDS AND DROP OFF'S TO THE RIGHT SIDE



Scale, 1:2500@A4



**PRACTICE FACILITIES - ANALYSIS NOTES**

The practice area at West Kilbride is a fantastic asset but unfortunately poorly laid out compromising space. The putting green is extremely poorly contoured and does not resemble any greens on the golf course making it less user friendly. The putting green is also quite a distance from the 1st tee. The driving nets take up valuable space and are in the wrong location forcing the practice teeing area much further forward reducing the length of the range. The putting and chipping green take up a lot of space especially with the additional space used for rope and post fencing. The short game green is poorly contoured to receive medium to long pitch shots and lacks in size. The bunkers are also aiming towards the 17th teeing area, which is a health and safety issue. The rearrangement of the practice area could see much more use. It would be suggested that the club becomes involved with the Scottish Golf Union Clubgolf program, which may open up the potential for applying for funding assistance to improve the practice facilities. A sketch will be represented in the next stage concept development.



Scale, 1:2500@A4

**PRACTICE - CONCEPT DESIGN**

Improve the overall layout of the practice facility to ensure it becomes much more user friendly. Creating identified spaces for each facility will improve the overall practice experience.

- A Having the practice tee butting against the wall will allow for longer shots to be hit on the slight angle.
- B An improved chipping and putting green will become much more usable.
- C A variety of tees will allow for different shots to be played depending on the players location e.g. long game, wedge play, short game, bunker play, chipping and putting.

If the West Kilbride Golf Club become involved with the SGU Clubgolf junior programme with a desire to become a SGU Development Centre there may be an opportunity to apply for funding assistance to improve the practice facilities.



Scale, 1:2500@A4



NEXT STAGE - PHOTOMONTAGE PREPERATION FOR A NUMBER OF THE CONCEPT DESIGNS

Example 1 - Photo Before



Example 1 - Photo After



Example 2 - Photo Before



Example 2 - Photo After



CONCLUSION

Rennie Design have spent considerable time on site at West Kilbride Golf Club carrying out the initial field survey analysis, this was then followed by desk studies of the findings to help develop the analysis documentation and form concept development. Analytical evaluation of any given golf course is carried out in a professional manner assessing a wide variety of key points such as playing strategy, playability for all categories and levels of golfer, landscape character, health and safety aspects, key playing angles, bunker placement and positioning, landform, maintenance, path network, slope, drainage and the like.

Analysis was carried out where by professional thoughts and opinions were noted and assessed, in turn providing more robust views and comments. These were presented to the golf club before moving ahead with the concept development.

Golf Course Statement

The West Kilbride links golf course is situated in North Ayrshire on the beautiful West of Scotland coastline with spectacular views across the Firth of Clyde to the Island of Arran providing a tranquil golfing experience. The facility includes an 18-hole course, clubhouse and good practice facilities. The analytical study has been carried out over the 18-hole course. The current historical course layout works well with interesting flow, most teeing areas are well proportioned as are the greens. Most of the greens provide interesting movement for play and are well maintained, however some of the approach shots are not overly difficult with fairly easy entries to some greens. This relates to some greenside bunkers being detached from the green slightly with bunker shapes being altered over the years, mowing lines on greens have also changed in areas which emphasises this. In general bunkers lack consistency in scale and character throughout. Some fairways seem quite tight in areas where cutting lines have become static, losing some strategy on the shot angles from tees and into greens. The above aspects have been reviewed in further detail and assisted in providing conceptual ideas for improvements to the West Kilbride Golf Course. Some attention to detail will see the course improve more than ever.

Landscape Statement

Having analysed the West Kilbride Golf Course both from a Golf Architects and Landscape Architects point of view it seems to be quite apparent that there is a requirement for an overall landscape strategy plan. From the analysis it can be seen that the golf course & landscape maintenance plan has been to create an easier golf course from tee to green, which is essentially making the golf course lack in interest and difficulty for the better player. The West Kilbride golf course is maintained to a very high standard but in some areas is over maintained wall to wall seeing the original links character disappear completely from these areas.

NEXT STAGE - PHOTOMONTAGE PREPERATION  
FOR A NUMBER OF THE CONCEPT DESIGNS

Example 3 - Photo Before



Example 3 - Photo After



Linksland

The overall character of the West Kilbride golf course should replicate that of links style golf, which can be seen in areas along the coastal holes. The links textured grassland has been removed from areas throughout the golf course losing its valuable character and historical heritage. The reintroduction of link style grassland will improve the overall landscape character and help reinstate some of the lost heritage whilst at the same time improve the visual experience. Gorse and other shub species are kept to a minimum throughout the course but they do create visual interest and should be maintained carefully in the right locations. More variety and quality should be created around greens in the form of fine links turf drop offs and hollows improving the overall quality and playability. West Kilbride Golf Course has a unique opportunity to reinstate it's linksland heritage and reidentify its natural landscape character which golf course across the globe aspire to have.

Next Stage – Photomontage Visualisations & Concept Masterplan

After agreement Rennie Design will progrees with the production of photomontage visualisations of a select number of concept designs like the adjacent examples. It would be advised that Rennie Design also prepare an overall Concept Masterplan which can be put on display in the clubhouse along with this Concept Development Report for the review and comments from the membership in advance of the yearly AGM.