

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Elcona Country Club

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 56784 County Road 21

City or town: Bristol State: IN County: Elkhart

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide **x** local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A B **x** C D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

**State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government**

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

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Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
District	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Object	<input type="checkbox"/>

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>15</u>	<u>9</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: BRICK
roof: METAL
other: STONE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Elcona Country Club takes its name from the farm that was once located on the property which used the first two letters of Elkhart County and last two letters of Indiana. The country club includes an 18-hole golf course and clubhouse constructed in 1957 with additions to the clubhouse in 1972-1999. A pool and associated buildings adjacent to the clubhouse were also part of the development. The club's property also features a few maintenance buildings, some of which date to the use of the property as a farm. These older buildings contribute to the property's significance because they became part of the club's operations upon creation of the club grounds and have now served longer in that role than as agricultural buildings. The 18-hole course was designed by nationally known course architect and Hoosier William H. Diddel and features rolling fairways expanding from the clubhouse, crossing County Road 21 to the west before fairways turn and lead back to the clubhouse. Diddel incorporated patches of existing trees in his design, some of which are noteworthy for their size. Few aspects have changed, and the course conforms to Diddel's original 1957 design.

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Narrative Description

SITE

ELCONA COUNTRY CLUB GOLFCOURSE

Photos 01-02, 15-30

1957, Contributing. William H. Diddel, landscape architect

The Elcona Country Club is a nearly 260-acre site largely composed of an 18-hole golf course straddling Elkhart County Road 21 on the north side of U. S. 20. The site has a slight incline from west-to-east until it reaches about midway to the clubhouse on the east side of the county road, then the incline is dramatically steeper. The fairways are divided by mature trees, mostly planted in 1957 to create the course. The greenways include water hazards and sand traps as well as the course-designer's trademark "false fronts" near the end of fairways in front of the greens. While most tree placements were part of the original design and improvements made over the last many years, there are several trees that pre-date the course. One of those is a large Bur Oak affectionately named "Gus" estimated to be 290 years old near the 5th green (photo 17).

The clubhouse complex is situated on a hilltop to provide maximum views over the course to the west (photos 03, 30). The original portion of the clubhouse was built in a modified Ranch design with brick walls and hipped roof with a slight bend to fit the hilltop contour. In 1972-1973 a wing was added to the south end of the original clubhouse with a starkly modern two-story design with a grand ballroom with exposed timber-frame beamed roof and massive windows overlooking the course (photo 09). Additional modifications to the clubhouse were made over the last few decades and include an extension of the addition, with a mansard roof design, to the south. A large cement in-ground pool is north of the clubhouse (photo 05). It is surrounded by a concrete patio and brick walls and changing rooms and was built in 1966, replacing a small series of pools first conceived for the country club. A modern changing and toilet room facility is in the southeast corner of the pool area, c. 1990. A former curling clubhouse (1984) is east of the main clubhouse (photo 06).

Two buildings on the property were used for livestock and agricultural purposes prior to the conversion of the property to a golf course. They are located on the east side of the county road. A basement barn with side-gabled gambrel roof (Miles Barn, c. 1920, photo 12) is located near County Road 21 northwest of the clubhouse. A concrete block livestock building (Sims Cattle Barn, c. 1940, photo 13) is located south of the barn and is used as a repair and maintenance shop for the course. A modern metal storage building is behind the livestock building.

The site includes entry gates (photo 01) and buildings that support the operation of the country club and course, including a pumphouse (photo 24), rest pavilions, and a rental house used for golf pros (photo 14). The east quarter of the property was planned for course expansion when it was purchased in 1971, however, today it remains mostly wooded with hiking trails. A practice range (c. 1966) is northwest of the clubhouse and is considered a separate, contributing, site (Q).

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A list of Buildings and Structures follows and are keyed with letters, i.e. (A) to the main map:

BUILDINGS

ELCONA COUNTRY CLUBHOUSE (A)

1958-1973-1999. Non-contributing; photos 03-04, 07-11, 30

The two-story building is composed of several additions and modifications, beginning with the original portion constructed in 1958 at the north end (left side of photo 30), and a portion constructed in 1973 in the south half (right side of photo 03). Much of the building was remodeled with features added during the 1990s. The brick building has upper-level entries from the east, at grade, and is perched into the hill overlooking the course with lower-level entries to the west. The north, or original part of the building has the clubhouse meeting room or "Teak Room", dining rooms on the upper level and men's and women's lounges on the lower level ("19th Hole" or stag room). The 1973 portion of the building features a large social hall on the upper level with a balcony and commanding view of the course. The older area was constructed with a hipped roof more aligned with Ranch design of the mid-20th century. The portion completed in 1973 has open wood beams that support a large, shed roof with floor-to-ceiling windows in the social hall. Locker rooms are located in the lower level off of the lounges. The remodeling campaign in the 1990s added mansard and pent roof features, covered with metal, interior remodeling of finishes and spaces, and a carport on the east side of the building. While the building retains significant functions of a country club clubhouse, and many spaces of the 1958 and 1973 plan remain, the 1990s modifications render the building non-contributing.

BAG DROP PAVILION (B)

c. 1990. Non-contributing; right side of photo 03

The small building features a wainscot of brick capped with stone and walls enclosed with aluminum windows and doors. The building has a hipped roof covered with metal, with wide overhanging eaves. Two square columns of brick support the south extension of the roof.

CART STORAGE BUILDING (C)

c. 1998. Non-contributing

The one-story building is set into a small hill and features a concrete foundation and walls covered with metal. The building's shed roof is covered with metal. The building has two metal garage doors and a metal door on its east façade (the low side of the roof) and a metal door in the east end of its north façade.

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POOL COMPLEX (D)

POOL CABANA “FIESTA TENT”

1994. Non-contributing

The building faces southeast toward the pool and features wood siding and is enclosed with rows of 1/1 wood windows. Wood doors with full windows are centered in its southeast and southwest walls. The building's hipped roof is covered with metal and features a small cupola vent centered on the ridge.

POOL DRESSING ROOMS/MAINTENANCE BUILDING

1966. Contributing; left side of photo 05

The brick building features a wood door with window divided into multiple lites in its west wall. Its back (east) wall is covered with wood and features a wood garage door in its south end and a metal door in its north end. The building's hipped roof is covered with wood shakes.

NEW POOL DRESSING ROOMS

c. 1990. Non-contributing; middle of photo 05

The brown-colored brick building is located between the maintenance building and gatehouse. It features two metal doors, one for men and one for women, on its long, north wall and in its short west wall. Two short windows are located near the top of the north wall. The building has a hipped roof covered with metal.

POOL GATEHOUSE

1966. Contributing; right side of photo 05

The small brick building features pairs of metal casement windows in each wall, except its east wall, and cutaway corners with stone sill from about midway up the wall to the top of the walls. The building has a hipped roof covered with wood shakes. A metal entry door is in its north wall.

FORMER CURLING CLUBHOUSE (E)

1984. Non-contributing; photo 06

The gable-front building has wood siding and a wide front (north) gable that features two 8/8 wood windows that flank a small entry porch with gabled roof. The metal entry door has a window in its top half. The roof is covered with metal.

CLUB PRO RENTAL HOUSE (F)

1967. Contributing; photo 14

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The one-story, L-plan house has a brick front (east) façade and aluminum siding. The house has 1/1 wood windows, and the gabled roof is covered with metal. The front façade is the inside corner of the L-plan. A garage with a wide metal door composes most of the east leg of the L and faces north. A bay composed of three casement windows is west of the garage door. The entry door is located on the inside corner of the façade. Three pairs of casement windows are north of the entry. The front façade windows have stone sills and wood panels below them. The windows on the façade are flanked by metal shutters.

COURSE TOILET ROOM BUILDING (G)

2017. Non-contributing

This is a modern, brown-colored brick building with an extension of its hipped roof to form a canopy in front of the two metal toilet room doors. The roof is covered with metal.

MILES BARN (H)

c. 1920. Contributing; photo 12

The building was constructed c. 1920 as a small dairy barn. It was retained for a storage building after the purchase of the farm for the country club. The basement style barn features a poured concrete front (west) basement wall and concrete block on its remaining basement walls. The barn features vertical wood plank siding and a side-gabled, gambrel roof covered with asphalt shingles. The north gable features a hay hood and door. The front wall features a wide rolling wood barn door centered on the façade and a smaller wood barn door in its south end. After its conversion to a storage building for the course, modern windows were installed on the side and back facades.

SIMS CATTLE BARN (I)

c. 1940. Contributing; photo 13

The building was constructed c. 1940 to house livestock and was retained as a maintenance building after the country club purchased the farm. The long, concrete block building features rows of small metal windows divided into four lites and concrete sills. Large garage doors are centered in each of the gable ends (north and south facades) of the building. The gables are covered with wood. The roof is covered with metal.

STORAGE BUILDING (I)

c. 1990. Non-contributing; seen on the left edge of photo 13

A storage building covered with metal siding is east of the former cattle barn. The side-gabled roof is covered with metal.

PUMP HOUSE (J)

c. 1965. Contributing; photo 24

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The small concrete block building houses the water pump for irrigation and water features on the course. The building has a metal entry door, and the side-gabled roof is covered with metal. The gable walls are covered with wood and the roof features a small monitor-style cupola vent.

PRACTICE RANGE HUT (K)

1996. Non-contributing

The small, brown-colored brick building features a metal door and windows and is set at the back of the practice area north of the clubhouse. The building has a hipped roof covered with metal.

STRUCTURES

COUNTRY CLUB ENTRY GATES (L)

c. 1960. Contributing; photo 01

The gateway consists of a pair of random-coursed, hand-split stone piers topped with a flat stone cap. Metal lanterns are centered on the cap. A low landscape wall of hand-split stone is behind each pier arcing between the county road and clubhouse driveway.

CLUB POOL (D)

1966. Contributing; photo 05

The club's in-ground, concrete pool has a zigzag shape with a concrete terrace around the pool and a perimeter fence. The fence is composed of brick piers with a tall iron picket fence along its south and east sides and brick retaining walls built into the west and north sides. The piers and walls are capped with stone. The piers feature a tall, deep recess in its front and back walls. This design feature is repeated in the pool gatehouse's cutaway corners.

CONTEMPORARY STORM SHELTER (M)

c. 1975. Contributing; right side of photo 16

The square pavilion near the 3rd hole has walls in an X-shaped plan with each side open. The building has a concrete floor. The walls are tapered inward and covered with wood and feature long wood benches. The hipped roof is covered with wood shingles.

STONE DAM/FALLS & FOUNTAIN (N)

c. 1970. Contributing; photo 16

This course feature near the 4th tee is counted separately as a structure due to the designed nature of the rubblestone dam with a small waterfall connecting two small water hazard/ponds. The lower pond has a fountain in its center.

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CONCRETE SIDEWALK (N)

c. 1960. Contributing; foreground of photo 16

This sidewalk near the 4th tee is counted separately as a structure due to its placement near the dam and falls unlike walks that service and are connected to buildings.

RUSTIC PAVILION (O)

c. 1965. Contributing; right side of photo 22

The rectangular structure along the 11th fairway features six heavy timber posts that support a gabled roof. The floor is concrete, and the gables are covered with wood planks. The roof is covered with wood shakes.

STONE BRIDGE (P)

c. 1965. Contributing; foreground of photo 25

The small cart bridge features a wood timber deck and low sidewalls composed of rubblestone in mortar. The bridge carries golfcarts over a small stream that leads from a water feature near the 15th hole.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1957-c. 1975

Significant Dates

Significant Person (last name, first name)

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder (last name, first name)

Diddel, William H.
Magnuson & Summers
Hickey, Thomas L., Inc.
Reinke Construction

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1957 when the Elcona Country Club golf course was completed. In 1973, a contemporary addition was completed on the clubhouse with an impressive entry and ballroom with a view of the course. Contemporary design also influenced the design of a small storm shelter/pavilion between the 3rd and 4th fairways, which was built about 1975. This closes the period of significance.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Elcona Country Club qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places using criterion A under Entertainment/Recreation. The founders' intent was to purchase property and develop resources for leisure activities in a suburban setting, such as golf and swimming, for Elkhart County's growing middle and upper class. This occurred during a resurgence of these activities in post-WWII America into the early 1970s. The clubhouse represents the growth of the club in its various additions and with other facilities that were added to the property. The clubhouse is secondary but serves a supporting role in the broader use of the property for leisure activities. The clubhouse features large gathering rooms that support the club's social functions. The pool area and golf course are resources that remain largely historic and underscore entertainment/recreation as an area of significance.

The country club is also eligible for the National Register using criterion C under Landscape Architecture. The course is an intact and locally significant course of the strategic type (see statement of significance for further explanation). The golf course and its associated buildings are constructed in a way that organizes the landscape and takes advantage of views and terrain for the sport of golf. Hoosier native and nationally known golf course designer, William H. Diddel, was contracted to design the Elcona course. Diddel's designs incorporated natural features to make his courses more challenging.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

The inspiration for developing country clubs in the United States is thought to have come from British country houses. England's more elite society sought out social gathering places in the country at which to vacation, retreat, or spend holidays engaged in hunting or other sporting activities. The American model was different in that venerable country houses of nobility did not exist in the United States, yet a growing upper and upper-middle class looked for social gathering locations outside of the more typical religious and social club circles. This was particularly true of a society trying to rebuild itself after the Civil War. The first country club in the United States was established near Boston in Brookline, Massachusetts in 1882.¹ Country clubs satisfied the desire to retreat to a homelike, country estate atmosphere away from more urban environments, which ultimately followed the model of suburbanization of American cities by the mid-20th century. Country clubs were often constructed on the far-flung fringes of cities, where suburban development expanded by the mid-20th century. The sport of golf was growing in popularity in the United States parallel to the popularity of country clubs. The sport, whose origins are also traced to the British Isles, adapted well to American high culture and by 1894, the American Golf Association had been established, and the first national tournaments were held the following year.

Large American cities were home to the first country clubs and as the trend continued into the early and mid-1900s, more medium-sized and small cities developed country clubs. By 2000, there were over 9,500 country clubs in the United States.² Based on membership, clubs offered social networking opportunities among a community's more prosperous business and professional class. Networking included participation in sport, particularly in golf as most clubs included courses, as well as tennis and for some clubs, polo, and swimming. Clubs also offered dinners and dances with full orchestras and bands, as well as a location to hold community events by other organizations, such as charitable functions. While some clubs had restrictions on membership, including race, this latter aspect does not appear to have been part of Elcona's operation. The original prospectus stated that membership would be limited to those persons deemed morally, culturally, socially, and economically responsible. The board of directors for Elcona had the ability to remove members for misconduct or conduct that would be injurious to the reputation of the club.³ Outside of this, the by-laws for the club only included standard operating procedures for the board, formation of committees, and assessment of dues.

¹ "The History of Country Clubs in America" <https://salinacountryclub.com/about/news/history-of-country-clubs>

² Ibid

³ Elcona Country Club Bylaws, 1957

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The Elcona Country Club traces its history to Elcona Farm, established by Ernest "Ernie" Sims, a leading Elkhart industrialist who owned the property east of Elkhart on the north side of Highway 20. With burgeoning industry in Elkhart County during the 1950s, there was a desire among leading citizens for development of facilities that would address the need for a quality golf course and club facilities. Given the Sim's farm's topography, two neighbors suggested that it would make an excellent course. The rise in the terrain toward the east allowed impressive views of the property to the west. Sims met with friends, Walter Wells and John Dille, Jr., at the farm and the three concurred on the property's usefulness for the venture. Wells was one of the founders of Elkhart County's recreational vehicle industry and Dille was a newspaper and broadcasting executive. Sims agreed to sell the property to the newly formed Elcona Country Club, organized in 1955, with articles of incorporation filed in December of that year. The name was taken from Sims' farm, which was a contracted version of Elkhart County, Indiana. The first officers of the club were John Best, another leader in Elkhart industry, president; William Abshire of Goshen and Lewis Armstrong of Elkhart, vice presidents; Thomas Happer of Elkhart, secretary; and David Rutter of Elkhart, treasurer.⁴

The club was organized as a private club with membership contributing funds to construct the golf course, a pool, and clubhouse. The cost of membership, which functioned as a method to raise capital to construct the facilities, was set at \$1000, the equivalent to nearly \$11,000 in 2024. The project was estimated to cost \$400,000, about half of which was needed for the clubhouse. John Best, club president, announced that sufficient memberships had been sold to begin construction in 1956 with estimated completion expected by June 1, 1957.⁵ Ernie Sims was a childhood friend of William H. Diddel, a nationally prominent golf course designer from Indianapolis, who was called upon to design the Elcona course. An expenditure of \$125,000 was approved by the club for course design and construction, planned as a par 72 course over 6770 yards.⁶

The initial, proposed design of the clubhouse was a formal Colonial Ranch. A skewed, more modern Ranch that followed the contours of the hilltop was designed by the architectural firm of Magnuson & Summers. The building was constructed by Thomas L. Hickey, Inc., and included two dining rooms, a ballroom, pro shop, two grills, and locker rooms. The pool area, as initially designed, included a pool house and three pools, one of which was used for diving, one was used for swimming, and the third was used for wading. While the clubhouse and pools were yet to be completed, the course opened on June 29, 1957. The first foursome to play the course were Ernie Sims, William "Bill" Diddel, John Dille, Jr., and Walter Wells, all of whom played a role in development of the course. At the time the course opened, the fairways had not fully filled in, but the greens were playable. A photograph in the *South Bend Tribune* demonstrated the view from the 13th tee. Diddel designed the 12th tee to play into an existing wooded area while the 13th tee

⁴ "New Elkhart Country Club" *South Bend Tribune*. 25 Dec 1955. Pg. 14, col. 6

⁵ "New Elkhart Links Certain" *Indianapolis Star*. 19 Feb 1956. Section 4, pg. 5, col. 6

⁶ *Ibid*

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played out from the woods. The 13th hole was the shortest on the course at 159 yards. The final number of yards in the course was 6701. The number of towns, fifteen in all,

represented by membership when the club opened, demonstrated the desire to have such facilities in the immediate region. Elkhart, Bristol, and Goshen, all in Elkhart County, were represented as were Mishawaka and Edwardsburg (MI).⁷

The Elcona grew in popularity and achieved a charter membership of 391 when it opened. Bill March, Fort Wayne golf professional for a decade, was hired by Elcona as their golf pro in January 1957. Orville Brown had been named course superintendent in advance of March's appointment.⁸ By late 1957, the clubhouse had been completed and preparations were being made for holiday events. George Kistner, the club's social chairman, released December's calendar of events which included a two-day grand opening at the clubhouse on December 3-4, and a supper dance that included a tree-trimming party for membership on December 14. This event featured music by Bert Rose and his twin piano orchestra from Chicago. A New Year's Eve party was planned for adult membership with a dance for children in the afternoon of New Year's Day.⁹

It was not until June 1958 that the club's pools were ready to be used by the membership. In 1958, the clubhouse and pool were described as featuring modern décor, with white, apple green, and mediterranean blue leather furniture settings around fruitwood tables and bamboo chairs. The interior was described as having an open mood with unseparated rooms. The club had already become an important lunch and recreation destination for its membership, who often would use the facility, leaving the business district to drive to for lunch.¹⁰ A year after the course opened, it was announced that world-famed golfer, Sam Snead, would play an exhibition round at the course, accompanied by Elkhart's Kent Harrison and Mike Iavagnillio, and South Bend Country Club's Kenny Young on October 1, 1958.¹¹

The first Elcona Country Club Golf Invitational was held on July 20-21, 1962. The event was broadcasted live on a regional television station and continued to be broadcasted for several years after the first event was held. The invitational continues to be a draw for accomplished golfers in the greater region. Bill March stepped down as the golf pro in 1965 and was replaced that year by George Thomas, a native of Michigan City. Thomas served as the pro through 1994 and was replaced by Tom Thome, the current general manager. The course attracted several large events and other outings. The most notable of these was Big 3 Day, a golf outing that included the football coaching staff of Notre Dame, Purdue, and Indiana University. The club also developed the Men's Hole-in-One Club in 1965, which continues as a traditional, end of season event. In 1966, the club purchased additional acreage for practice greens from Franklin and Janet Miles. In 1971, the club purchased 38 acres to the east for future course expansion of nine holes, which did not occur. This area evolved into walking trails for the club's membership.

⁷ "Elcona Club Nearing Completion" *South Bend Tribune*. 23 June 1957. Pg. 37, cols. 2-7

⁸ "March is Named Gold Pro at New Elkhart Course" *Indianapolis Star*. 6 Jan 1957. Section 2, pg. 4, col. 6

⁹ "Elkhart" *South Bend Tribune*. 26 Nov 1957. Pg. 11, col. 4

¹⁰ "Elcona Country Club Features Modern Decor" *South Bend Tribune*. Pg. 56

¹¹ "Snead to Play Elkhart Match" *South Bend Tribune*. 30 Sept 1958. Pg. 6, col. 16

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During the 1960s, the Elcona Country Club expanded with the addition of tennis courts that joined the nearby pool in 1965 for recreational activities besides golf. A new pool was constructed in 1966 that allowed youth tournaments to be held. The Elcona fielded its own swim team with competitive meets and an impressive run of league championships for sixteen years. Tennis invitationals were popularly attended events during the 1960s into the 1970s and remained popular at the club as a sport through the 1980s. While the pool remains an important feature at the club, in 2019, the tennis courts were removed at Elcona.

Many of the club's members became interested in curling and formed a team in 1959. The first rink was constructed in 1961 which issued in annual Bonspiel curling tournaments that drew competitors from Chicago and other large Midwestern cities.¹² Because of the popularity, a new clubhouse was added to the curling building in 1984. Though the original 150-foot long, curling building is no longer extant, the clubhouse remains at the foot of the hill east of the main clubhouse.

The club continued to host social events in the ensuing decades. These included dinners and dances with leading national bands that performed such as the Woody Herman Band (1965 and 1975), the Sy Zentner Band (1967), the Duke Ellington Orchestra (1968), and the Glen Miller Orchestra (1971). These notable bands were joined by the Fred Waring Band and Frankie Master Band during the 1960s-1970s. The memberships' youth were also entertained by "twist" parties, Easter Egg Hunts, and the lower parking lot was turned into an ice-skating rink for youth during the winter months. Other seasonal activities for youth included Halloween hayrides to the country club's pumpkin patch, and a Christmas party with a visit from Santa Claus. Children's leagues in golf, tennis, and swimming underscored the club's family atmosphere.

Because of the popularity of the Elcona and its growing membership, planning for a large expansion of the clubhouse began in 1971. Sixty-nine percent of the membership voted to approve the \$775,000 expansion which was constructed by Reinke Construction in 1972. The modern design includes a new elegant two-story entrance with spiraling staircase and a ballroom. The ballroom offers expansive views westward over the course. The addition was complete and opened in early 1973.¹³ Additional redecorating and expansions occurred on the clubhouse between 1993 and 1999, giving it its current appearance.

¹² "Elcona Bonspiel Opens" *South Bend Tribune*. 18 Feb 1973. Pg. 43, cols. 1-4

¹³ "Elcona Addition" *South Bend Tribune*. 18 Oct 1972. Pg. 20, cols. 6-7

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Golf course design, by its nature, is the act of shaping the landscape and creating, or highlighting, features for a desired outcome. Course design marries typical landscape design of altering grade, plantings, and vista development with the sport of golf that benefits from complexity in how the course is routed. Course design features provide enjoyment by challenging the golfer and showcasing the beauty of the course. Due to the natural beauty of the Elcona course and practices in keeping with the promotion of wildlife and native growth, the Elcona Country Club became a certified Audubon Golf Course Sanctuary, one of only five in Indiana.

The Elcona Country Club Golf Course and its associated buildings are constructed in a way that organizes the landscape to take advantage of natural terrain and provide for designed vistas. Indiana native and nationally known golf course designer, William H. Diddel, was born in Indianapolis in 1884 and was contracted to design the Elcona course. Diddel was a childhood friend of club founder, Ernie Sims, having grown up about a block apart in Indianapolis. Diddel attended Wabash College and was an accomplished, multi-sport athlete, who won five Indiana State Amateur Championship titles in golf. With this background, he was asked to finish a course designed by Willie Park, Jr. for Indianapolis's Highland Country Club in 1921-1922.¹⁴ The first course Diddel designed in whole was Ulen Country Club in Lebanon, Indiana. Finding satisfaction in this endeavor, Diddle went on to design as many as fifty courses in Indiana and as many as two hundred more in other states (111 courses are recorded in this footnoted link, including 47 in Indiana¹⁵). He converted his property near Carmel into a course he designed in 1951, named Woodlawn, which opened to the public in 1953. It features narrow approaches and bunkers to make it one of the most challenging courses in Indianapolis. Diddel was a founding member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in 1947, serving as its president in 1954-55 and 1965-66. Diddel, who practiced into the 1970s, died in Zionsville in 1985. Seven of his courses are listed by Golf Digest as All-Time Toughest courses in the United States.¹⁶

Diddel became known as an innovator in golf course design that allowed the creation of challenging courses, without some features such as sand bunkers, for limited budgets.¹⁷ His designs also incorporated natural features to make his courses more challenging. He was seen as a master of routing a course to take advantage of natural terrain to provide definition and strategy.¹⁸

¹⁴ "William H. Diddel" American Society of Golf Course Architects: <https://asgca.org/architect/wdiddel/>

¹⁵ "William Diddel Designed Courses" NBC Golffpass: <https://www.golffpass.com/travel-advisor/architects/3248-william-diddel/>

¹⁶ "Biography" Northwood Club: <https://www.texasgolfhof.org/exhibit/northwood-club>

¹⁷ "William H. Diddel" American Society of Golf Course Architects: <https://asgca.org/architect/wdiddel/>

¹⁸ "Biography" Northwood Club: <https://www.texasgolfhof.org/exhibit/northwood-club>

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Golf courses are generally categorized into one of three types, or schools of design. These are heroic, strategic, and penal. Mr. Thomas Thome, who has served at Elcona for many years as both lead golf pro and club manager believes that the Elcona Country Club course falls into the category of a strategic course. He credits Diddle's handling of false fronts in advance of the greens as one of the more strategic conditions of the course. These false fronts are one of Diddle's trademark incorporations into his course designs that require the player's better estimation of the location of the green. The other strategic condition is the compact nature of the greens which require players to land and stick the ball more precisely than larger greens at other courses. Taken together, the false fronts and small green sizes can frustrate even more advanced players.

Diddel said of the Elcona course, in his 35 years of course design, rarely had he seen a site so perfectly suited to the construction of a truly interesting, attractive, top-quality course. Diddel visited the future site of the Elcona course and committed to design and build the course for \$132,000, which included an irrigation system. The Elcona site offered few natural features. A sizable tract of woods in the northwest corner of the site was available for incorporation, and the course, while bisected by a county road (gravel at that time), rose dramatically to the east where the clubhouse site was proposed. Other than a handful of mature trees that remained in fencerows or in fields (such as "Gus" photo 17), the tract of woods, and a few trees around an old farm homestead located south of the golf pro's house, the course was also absent of trees.

Diddel seemed to have ease of maintenance and costs associated with installation of irrigation in mind in development of his design for Elcona. To compensate for a lack of trees, Diddel introduced many sand bunkers in his design to help point direction of play, create interest, and provide strategy. Green-side bunkers were built at least 30 feet from the edge of the greens to facilitate mowing around the greens with large equipment. While Elcona offered ample space for routing fairways, Diddel compacted fairways in order to achieve demanding lengths for six par 4s, all over 400 yards, on the west side of the county road. The east side of the county road, where the outgoing first hole and incoming last hole are located with the clubhouse, permitted four short holes playing with, or against, the rise in terrain to the east. To accommodate irrigated greens, tees, *and* fairways, atypical for most course design up to this time, two wells were driven near the Sims Cattle Barn and irrigation piping was extended from that point.

However, it wasn't until 1960, with the installation of a new 1000 gallon-per-minute pump, the desired effect of full course irrigation was achieved. Leading up to this time, it was also determined that several additional trees would need to be planted to prevent soil erosion where grass had not fully matured or been established. Throughout the early 1960s, thousands of trees were planted, including 10,000 pine seedlings from the state nursery, however the survival rate was estimated to be about 50%. Additional tree plantings occurred through the 1960s, facilitated through the purchase of a tree digger, which allowed the club to relocate trees from former nurseries and from native locations on club property. Sand bunkers, which had significant loss due to wind, were restored and altered to provide better visibility during the early 1960s, and the

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original bluegrass-covered fairways were planted with bent grass as the maturation of trees and irrigation allowed for evolution to better course groundcovers.

The first hole begins off the southwest corner of the clubhouse and aligns with the clubhouse drive. A practice putting green immediately behind the clubhouse (seen in photo 03), and short practice range are also located near the clubhouse. The tee for the first hole was shifted north in the late 1960s to permit more parking south of the clubhouse. Originally a straight 350 yards, the hole was reduced by about 20 yards and created a slight dogleg right (the west end of the first hole is seen on the left side of photo 01). The second hole is on the west side of the county road and north of Highway 20. The second hole (seen in photo 15) is a long par 4 playing into prevailing winds. The second green has an undulating crown, running front-to-rear, to provide a challenging putt. The third hole is a par 3 played slightly downhill and over a pond that guards the right side of the green (photo 16). A rock wall forms the edge of the green with the pond. The green is also guarded on the rear and west by small sand bunkers placed in large mounds. This hole is directed northwest, going into the interior of the course's west section, west of the county road.

The 4th, 5th, and 6th holes ramble north and south through the gently rolling middle portion in the center of the course. The 4th hole plays north into the wooded tract that was part of the original composition of the club property. The 4th hole is 540 yards with a large sand bunker near the middle of the fairway, approximately 100 yards from the green. An additional bunker guards the southwest edge of the green, forcing players to drive a narrow shot between it and mature trees to land on the green. This shot into the woods, and subsequent 5th hole out of the woods (photo 18), was noted in a newspaper article when the course opened in 1957. The 5th hole is 420 yards with an imposing fairway bunker near the center, on the west side of the fairway. This hole also provides a view of the grand old bur oak tree nicknamed "Gus" a survivor of the original farm property and incorporated into the design by Diddel. Gus is estimated to be 290 years old (photo 17). The 6th hole plays back to the north with a dogleg west, following the natural terrain, toward the original wooded tract. An original fencerow tree, a wild cherry, was incorporated into this hole to guard the west side of the fairway. The 6th hole's elevated green is nestled in the woods with one of Diddel's trademark steep, false-front designs.

The 7th hole plays out of the woods toward the east with its green just west of the county road. This par-5 hole is about 500 yards and features several sand bunkers leading up to and guarding the green. The 8th hole is a par-3 played south along the west edge of the county road. The tee is bounded on the west by a low rock wall and the fairway is bounded on the east by a row of pines, separating it from the county road (photo 19). The 8th green is a large, undulating surface with a high plateau on the entire east front. The 9th hole is on the east side of the county road and is routed south of the practice range (photo 20), playing east toward the clubhouse with a south-dogleg in the fairway (photo 21). The hole is a short, uphill par 4 bordered by trees and a south-sloping fairway that leads to a swale running diagonally. The 9th green has become part of the club's reputation for challenging approaches to certain greens, given its short and demanding nature.

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The 10th hole, a par 4, plays back toward the west, away from the clubhouse, ending with a green that is severely doglegged to the north just east of the county road. The 10th hole plays steeply downhill with a sand bunker at the dogleg, and a small pond with fountain (added in the 1980s) on the northeast corner of the green. The 11th hole, on the west side of the county road, is a short, par-3 hole that plays slightly uphill toward the north. A rustic pavilion was added about 1965 along the west edge of the fairway, one of only two historic rest pavilions on the course. Several well-placed bunkers guard the 11th green. The 12th hole plays from a tee just west of the county road, toward the west. This par 4 is considered the most difficult hole on the outward nine holes with its green nestled into the original wooded tract, near the north edge of the club property.

The 13th hole is a par 3 at 160 yards. It plays from a tee surrounded by native trees in the original wooded tract, toward a slightly elevated green in the northwest corner of the club property. The green, with bunkers constructed close to the putting surface, is irregularly shaped with several undulations. The 14th hole had modern renovations that moved the tees west of the original location. This resulted in a slight dogleg west to the green. The hole features a pond with a fountain on the west edge of the fairway (photo 23) and a well-bunkered green, including two that flank the front of the green. The 15th hole plays in a southeasterly direction along the southwest border of the property. The par 4, 380-yard hole plays slightly downhill toward a small creek that runs along the south side green, into the fairway, then back to the front of the plateaued green where it empties into a small pond (photo 25).

The 16th hole is a long, northeasterly-played par 5 hole with a slight uphill route (photo 26). The hole, with slight double-doglegs, features a narrow green framed by a backdrop of large white pines. The green is surrounded by sand bunkers and a fairway bunker at the front of the green. The 17th hole (photo 27), played southeast, is separated from the 16th hole by a triangular-shaped area of trees bounded at the bottom by the 2nd hole. The par 4 hole features a large fairway bunker and a green, closely framed by trees. The green is slightly hidden in the landscape and deceives the player due to an obscured valley that runs laterally in front of the green. The 17th hole features another false front at the putting surface. The 18th hole tees from the east side of the county road and plays uphill, in a northeasterly direction, toward the clubhouse (photos 28-29). The par 4 hole is one of the course's most legendary holes, with an unforgiving green that features another of Diddle's false fronts on its northwest corner (photo 30). The steep green requires a short shot to the hole, otherwise, putting downhill from above the hole often causes the ball to enter the fairway. The 18th hole provides one of the best views of the clubhouse to the east (photo 30) and a large American flag on a pole in a landscape island off the green's south side.

Comparing the existing Elcona Country Club course with Diddle's original design (these are attached as maps/sketches to this nomination), it becomes evident that the Elcona course had retained the integrity of Diddle's design from 1957. Each of the fairways, tees, and greens follow Diddle's original design intent despite nearly seventy years of change in mowing and irrigation technology and landscape evolution through tree and shrub growth and loss. This includes, in particular, tree coverage changed from Diddle's design to the present conditions. This is probably most noticeable in the loss of tree canopy in the northwest corner of the course where a large stand of woods had originally been located when Diddle designed the course. Because of

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age, some of that canopy has been lost. And over time, Elcona wanted a natural screen between the course and U. S. 20 as well as the residential area to the west, so more trees were planted.

In 1965, Ernest Sims donated another golf course he helped to establish to the city of Elkhart. The Oak Hills Golf Course near Middlebury at the intersection of Highways 13 and 120 had also been designed by Diddel and opened in 1962.¹⁹ Sims was interested in opening another course that did not serve alcohol like the country club offered, in fact, the Elcona did not have a liquor license for several months after opening due to his opposition. Renamed the Sims Oak Hills Golf Course, the city of Elkhart closed the course near Middlebury in 2012 and sold the land for development.

Five other golf courses in Indiana that were designed by William H. Diddel are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Kokomo Country Club course was designed by Diddel in 1923 and was listed to the National Register in 2006. Indianapolis' Riverside and Coffin Golf Courses had been established in 1900 and 1903, respectively, but were redesigned by Diddle. They were listed on the National Register in 2003 as part of the Indianapolis Park & Boulevard System Historic District. The Hillcrest, or Avalon Hills, Country Club course in Marion County was designed by Diddel in 1924 and was listed to the National Register in 2004. The Forest Hills Country Club course in Richmond was designed by Diddel in 1927 and listed on the National Register in 2015.

The Elcona Country Club course was designed by Diddel about thirty years after Forest Hills and was part of his collection of mid-century course designs, during the middle part of his career. The Elcona Country Club also demonstrates more mid-century design in its clubhouse and supporting buildings and structures than these earlier courses' resources.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

¹⁹ "Golf Course Given to City of Elkhart" *South Bend Tribune*. 22 Oct 1965. Pg. 1, col. 1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“Biography” Northwood Club: <https://www.texasgolfhof.org/exhibit/northwood-club>

“Elcona Addition” *South Bend Tribune*. 18 Oct 1972. Pg. 20, cols. 6-7

“Elcona Bonspiel Opens” *South Bend Tribune*. 18 Feb 1973. Pg. 43, cols. 1-4

“Elcona Club Nearing Completion” *South Bend Tribune*. 23 June 1957. Pg. 37, cols. 2-7

Elcona Country Club “Looking Back from the Millennium” History of the Club, 1999.

Elcona Country Club By-Laws, printed 1957. As in effect, May 10, 1957.

“Elcona Country Club Features Modern Decor” *South Bend Tribune*. Pg. 56

“Elkhart” *South Bend Tribune*. 26 Nov 1957. Pg. 11, col. 4

“Golf Course Given to City of Elkhart” *South Bend Tribune*. 22 Oct 1965. Pg. 1, col. 1

“The History of Country Clubs in America” <https://salinacountryclub.com/about/news/history-of-country-clubs>

Kern, Ron, Golf Course Architect: “William H. Diddel”
<https://ronkerngolfarchitect.wordpress.com/william-h-diddel/>

“March is Named Gold Pro at New Elkhart Course” *Indianapolis Star*. 6 Jan 1957. Section 2, pg. 4, col. 6

“New Elkhart Country Club” *South Bend Tribune*. 25 Dec 1955. Pg. 14, col. 6

“New Elkhart Links Certain” *Indianapolis Star*. 19 Feb 1956. Section 4, pg. 5, col. 6

SHAARD Indiana Division of Historic Preservation, accessed December 23, 2023.

“Snead to Play Elkhart Match” *South Bend Tribune*. 30 Sept 1958. Pg. 6, col. 16

“William H. Diddel” American Society of Golf Course Architects:
<https://asgca.org/architect/wdiddel/>

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“William H. Diddel Designed Courses” NBC Golffass: <https://www.golffass.com/travel-advisor/architects/3248-william-diddel/>

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 257 acres

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Use the UTM system

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: 16	Easting: 594450	Northing: 4614267
2. Zone: 16	Easting: 595887	Northing: 4614275
3. Zone: 16	Easting: 595905	Northing: 4613467
4. Zone: 16	Easting: 594469	Northing: 4613434

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point where the angled east lot line of 20671 U. S. 20 meets the south property line of Elcona Country Club, proceed northwest, then north along the east lot lines of 20671 U. S. 20, 56908 CR 19, and all east lot lines from 56908-56484 CR 19, to the north edge of the Elcona Country Club property, which is in line with a line extended from the south edge of CR 16. Turn east and follow the club property line/south edge of CR 16 to the west lot line of 19832 CR 16. Turn south along said west lot line and meet up with a line extended from the west lot line of 19803 U. S. 20, following said west line to the north edge of U. S. 20. Turn west along the north edge of U.S. 20 and proceed to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This land includes all the features of the golf course and country club as originally designed and envisioned with the purchase of the property and development of the course in 1957 through 1971 as tracts of land were added to expand course features and facilities.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner
organization: Elcona Country Club
street & number: 12954 6th Road
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com
telephone: 574-780-1423
date: December 26, 2023

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
-

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Elcona Country Club

City or Vicinity: Bristol

Elcona Country Club
Name of Property

Elkhart County, IN
County and State

County: Elkhart State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: October 30, 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at entry gates from county road.

1 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east along entry drive, east of gates.

2 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at clubhouse and bag drop pavilion from west side.

3 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north toward clubhouse entry, from entry drive and parking lot.

4 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east into pool area and buildings.

5 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at curling clubhouse building.

6 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north at clubhouse entry staircase.

7 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast in clubhouse meeting room.

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest in clubhouse ballroom.

9 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast in clubhouse stag room “19th hole” in lower level.

10 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast in men’s locker room in lower level.

11 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at Miles Barn/storage building.

12 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at Sims Cattle Barn/maintenance building.

13 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at Pro’s House/club rental house.

14 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west from 2nd tee.

15 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at shelter and pond between the 3rd hole and 4th tee.

16 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east at “Gus” the c. 290-year-old bur oak.

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast from the 5th tee.

18 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south from the 8th tee (west side of county road).

19 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast into practice range.

20 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east in the 9th fairway toward clubhouse.

21 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest toward rustic pavilion across 7th tee.

22 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south in the 14th fairway.

23 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at course pumphouse.

24 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest toward the 15th hole from the stone bridge.

25 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast from the 16th tee.

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast on the 17th fairway.

27 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east toward clubhouse from the 18th tee.

28 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest toward entry gates from the 18th tee.

29 of 30.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at clubhouse from the 18th hole.

30 of 30.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



ELCONA COUNTRY CLUB – NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

56784 County Road 21, Bristol, Elkhart County, IN Approx. 257 acres

NORTH 

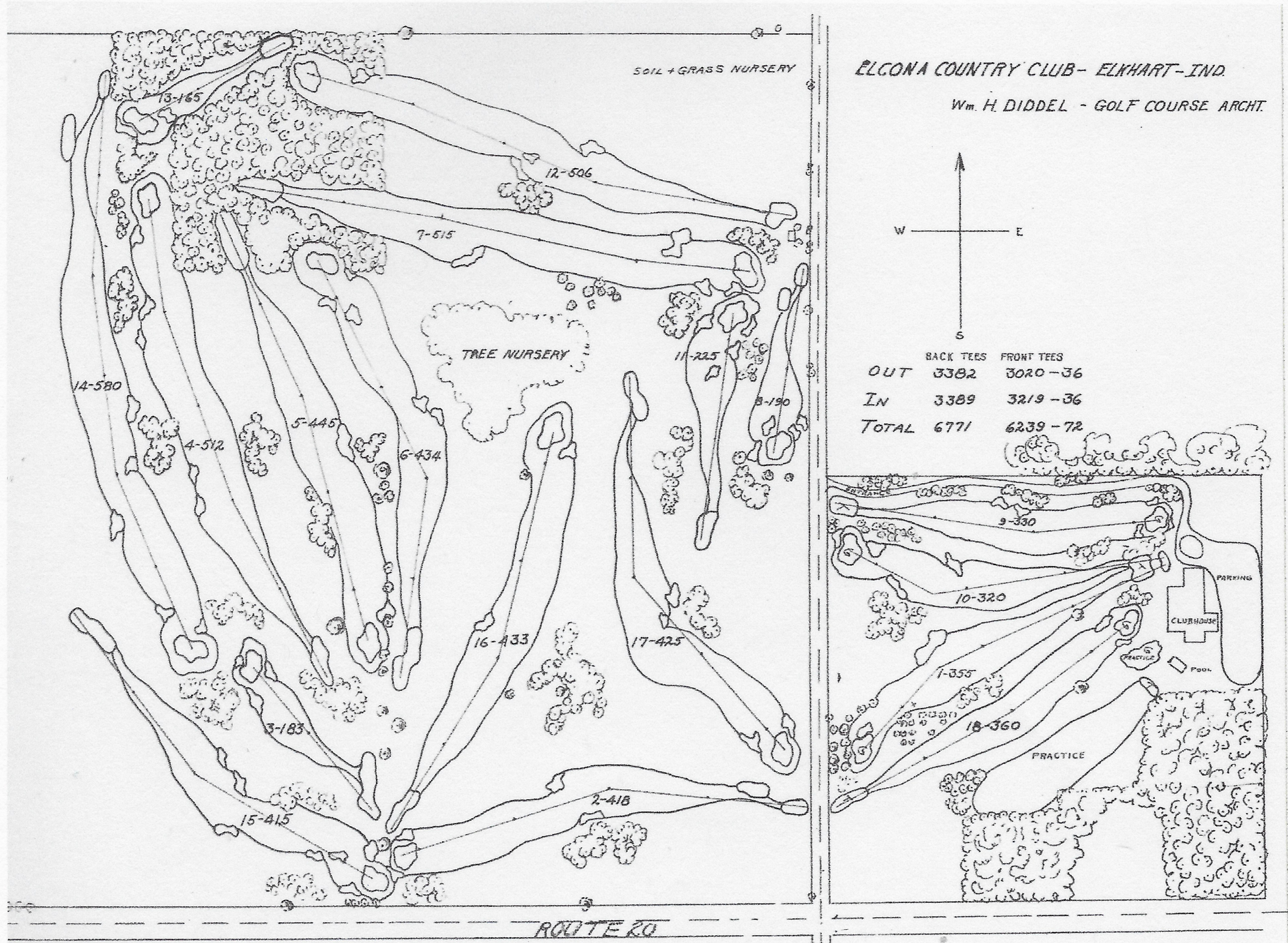
PHOTOGRAPHS = 

RESOURCE INDEX IN NOMINATION = 

RESOURCE INDEX

Elcona Country Club Golf Course	Contributing	Site
A Elcona Country Club – Clubhouse	Non-contributing	Building
B Bag Drop Pavilion	Non-contributing	Building
C Cart Storage Building	Non-contributing	Building
D <i>Pool Complex</i>		
Club Pool	Contributing	Structure
Pool Cabana “Fiesta Tent”	Non-contributing	Building
Pool Dressing Rooms/Maintenance	Contributing	Building
New Pool Dressing Rooms	Non-contributing	Building
Pool Gatehouse	Contributing	Building
E Former Curling Clubhouse	Non-contributing	Building
F Club Pro Rental House	Contributing	Building
G Course Toilet Room	Non-contributing	Building
H Miles Barn	Contributing	Building
I Sims Cattle Barn & Storage Building	Contributing	Building
J Pump House	Contributing	Building
K Practice Range Hut	Non-contributing	Building
L Country Club Entry Gates	Contributing	Structure
M Contemporary Storm Shelter	Contributing	Structure
N Stone Dam/Falls & Fountain	Contributing	Structure
Sidewalk	Contributing	Structure
O Rustic Pavilion	Contributing	Structure
P Stone Bridge	Contributing	Structure
Q Practice Range	Contributing	Site

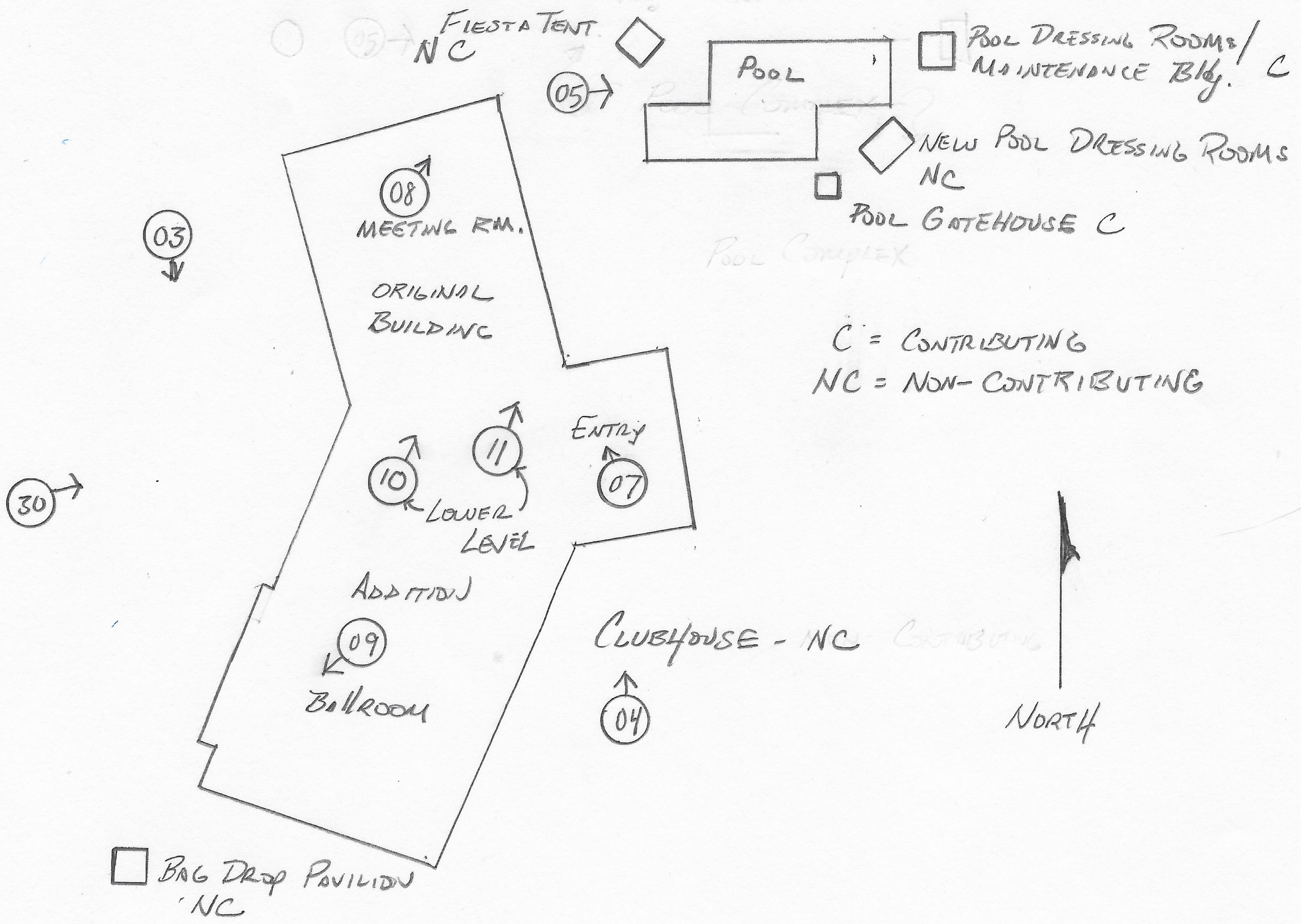
Contributing	Non-contributing	
<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>15</u>	<u>9</u>	Total



ELCONA COUNTRY CLUB – NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES – Elkhart County, IN

1957 Course Map by William Diddle (above)

Clubhouse Sketch Plan with Photos (below)







IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0002



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0003



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0005



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0006



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0008



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0012



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0014



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0016



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0018



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0025



IN_ElkhartCounty_ElconaCountryClub_0030