

One of the most unusual developments came in 1913 when a group of Ardmore sportsmen asked the late Perry Maxwell to build the Dornick Hills Country Club with grass greens.

Maxwell had come west in 1905 for his health and was in 1913 a successful Ardmore banker. The soft-spoken Kentuckian knew little or nothing about golf but he accepted the job.

After two months of travel in the north and east to study golf courses he returned to Ardmore and built what is now the back nine at Dornick Hills. Later he added what is now the front nine. It was the first course in Oklahoma to boast grass greens.

Maxwell never got back to the banking business. He spent the remainder of his life building golf courses and wound up with 150 courses to his credit. This does not count remodeling jobs on such famous layouts as Pine Valley near Philadelphia, Augusta National at Augusta, Ga., and Oakmont near Pittsburgh.

Here in Oklahoma City the Country Club, Twin Hills and Lake Hefner attest to the skill of this man who was generally regarded as the nation's top golf course architect at the time of his death.

He considered Prairie Dunes in Hutchinson, Kan. and Southern Hills in Tulsa as his greatest works. The University of Oklahoma course in Norman was his last complete course.

Maxwell is buried in

Ardmore not more than 400 yards from the most controversial hole in American golf history. He placed a green atop a sheer rock wall which towers 50 feet above the fairway. It now plays as the 16th at Dornick Hills but when it was built it was No. 7.

It always has been and always will be the Cliff Hole where ever golf is played.