
COLUMBIA COUNTRY CLUB

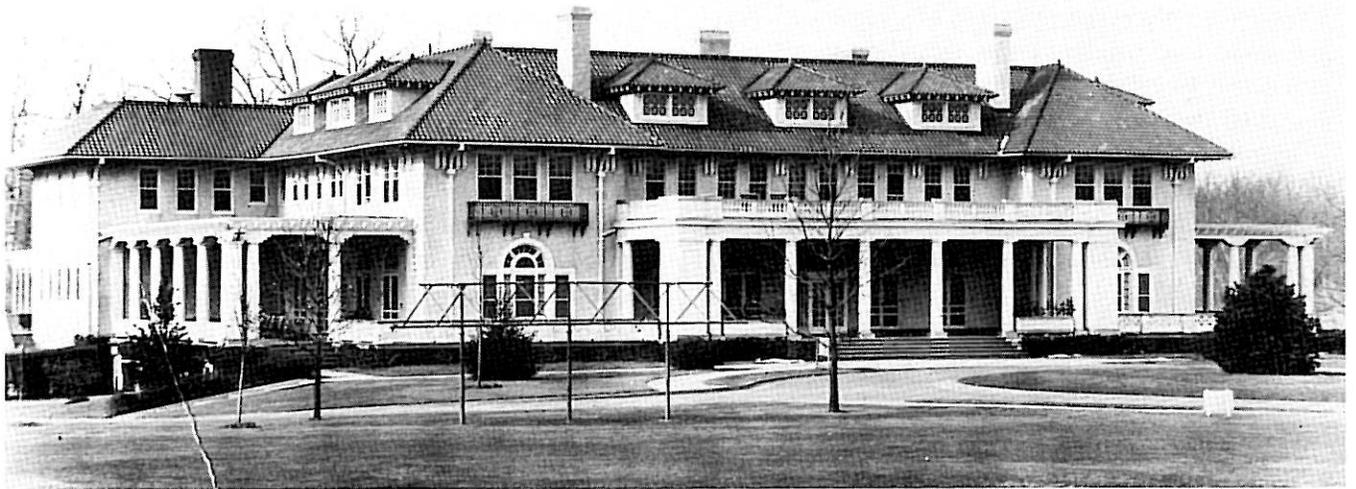
Columbia Country Club, whose main buildings are located on the northwest corner of Connecticut Avenue and East-West Highway, had its origin at a downtown Washington, D.C., meeting of nine men on the night of September 29, 1898. It was incorporated nearly a year later on August 1, 1899, when twenty charter members agreed "to associate ourselves together for educational, literary and scientific purposes and for mutual improvement." The initiation fee was \$2.00.

The first location of the club was on the east side of Georgia Avenue just south of Harvard Street. A short time later, the club was moved farther out on the west side of Georgia Avenue, where a rough nine-hole course was laid out. Since the area was still farmland, ropes were placed around the greens to keep the local cows off the grass. Here the club was able to rent the land for \$50.00 a month. One of the hazards on that course was Illinois Avenue, which at that time was just a deep ditch with an unpaved road at the bottom. The course had

another unique feature in that the first three holes formed a triangle with the clubhouse at one apex. Members were known to play the three holes indefinitely with frequent increasingly hilarious stops at the clubhouse. In 1908 the Chevy Chase Land Company made an offer to the club and Columbia moved to its present location. After over two years of grading and building, the club was formally opened on January 1, 1911.

Although Columbia Country Club is basically a golf club and has hosted many local and national tournaments, it also has many other facilities for its roughly 1,000 members. In addition to the nine- and eighteen-hole courses, there are putting greens, tennis and platform tennis courts, swimming pools, and bowling alleys. In the main clubhouse, there are a large ballroom, a dining room, a family grill, party rooms, and a large lounge.

Linscott Hall



Columbia Country Club in 1911

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