

ANCIENT IFIELD



On the ridge to the west of the Millpond is Ifield Golf Course which opened in 1927 following the purchase of Hyde Farm by Lord of The Manor, Sir John Drughorn, who then employed esteemed golfing architects Frederick G Hawtree and John Henry Taylor to design the course. Among the other credits of both men is the design of Royal Birkdale.



The completed course was sold to members at a discounted price and, if important historic golf courses were listed by Historic England in the same manner as buildings are, then Ifield would undoubtedly feature on the list.



The course itself is littered with evidence of iron ore minepits and limestone quarries - limestone being used as a flux in the blast furnaces of the 16th and 17th centuries. It's also interesting to note that most of the old field patterns of Hyde Farm can still be traced in shaws, hedgerows, ditches and tree lines.

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