

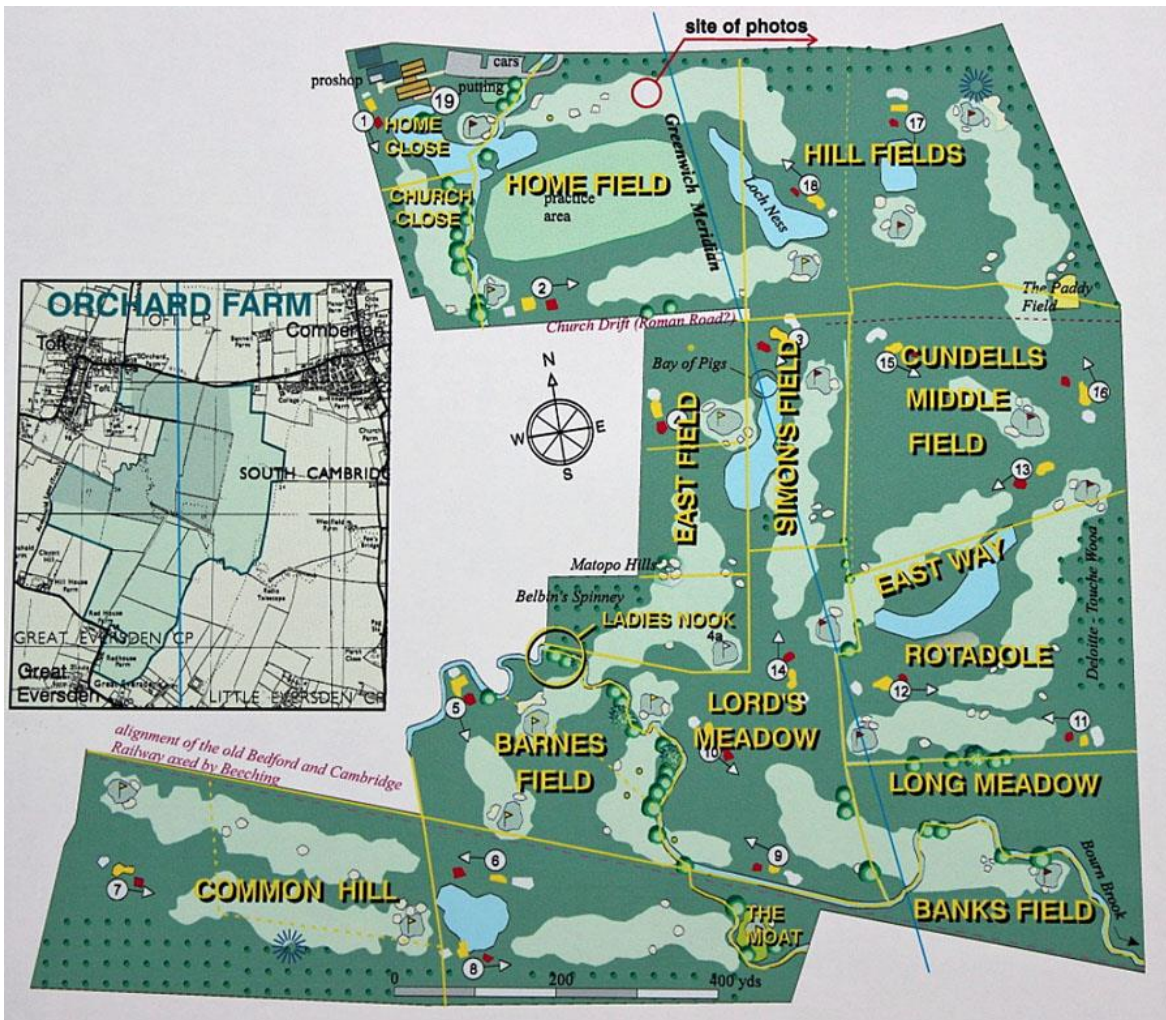
CAMBRIDGE MERIDIAN GOLF CLUB

In 1992 some 210 acres of land on the eastern edge of the village were disposed of by Paul Tebbit, farmer and landowner of Orchard Farm, Toft. The land formed part of fields in arable farming use that sloped from the B1064 Comberton Road down to Bourn Brook. The Greenwich meridian passes through the site and this was used as the identifying feature for the proposed new venture by the purchasers of the site, for its change of land use to a championship golf course.

Under the original developer Compton Holdings, BBC commentators and former Ryder Cup players Peter Alliss (a director of Compton Holdings) and Clive Clarke, acted as golfcourse architects, and work commenced on site in 1992. It entailed extensive reshaping of the topography to form landscaped greens and hazards, including an irrigation system with 6 lakes, the planting of 15,000 trees, and 100 or so bunkers.

The Cambridge Meridian Golf Club, so later named, was partially underwritten by membership subscriptions, and when the contractor employed by the Developer went into receivership in 1993, before the course was completed, it had its moment of crisis. The subsequent new owners of the Meridian property, Vivien Saunders OBE (former British Ladies Open Champion) and Jenny Wisson, undertook the completion of the course and its facilities. Armed with a fresh constitution they revived the Meridian Golf Club, and the par 73, 18 hole course was eventually opened for the first time to players on 1 April 1994.

Over seventeen years, the course has overcome its turbulent debut and hosted many prestigious golf tournaments, including playing host to the English Ladies' Seniors' Open Championship on three occasions, and it has acquired a reputation as one of the top courses in the region. The Club has meanwhile continued to develop and extend its facilities, and in 2012 has plans for erecting hotel accommodation to enhance its operations as a challenging championship golfing venue.



9.9.7/1

Before 1992 - the farming years.- part of Orchard Farm that is now the Cambridge Meridian with field names.



9.5.7/2



9.5.7/3



9.5.7/4



9.5.7/5



9.5.7/6

9.5.7/7



9.5.7/8



9.5.7/9

captions

- 9.5.7 /1 Before 1992 - the farming years.- part of Orchard Farm that is now the Cambridge Meridian with field names
- 9.5.7/2 The Clubhouse 2012
- 9.5.7/3 The lake at the 18th Fairway
- 9.5.7/4 Peter Alliss
- 9.5.7/5 Jenny Wisson (left) and Vivien Saunders 1994
- 9.5.7/6 The 1918 harvest
- 9.5.7/7 The 1991 harvest
- 9.5.7/8 Work commenced and work completed
- 9.5.7/9 Sir Donald Tebbit and Golf Director with two 'Venerables'

Compiled by Geoff Balcombe