

WALLACE BRUCE MATTHEWS

(1904 -)

BACKGROUND

Born in Hastings, MI. Bruce Matthews received a Landscape Architecture degree from Michigan State College in 1925. His first course design experience was with the golf architecture firm of Stiles and Van Kleeck in Boston, MA and St. Petersburg, FL. In 1929 he entered private practice in Michigan. His first original design was a second nine at Manistee (MI) Golf and Country Club.

When the Depression curtailed course construction, Matthews became manager/greenskeeper at Grand Ridge C.C. in Grand Rapids. He remained in that position until 1959 but continued to design golf courses on the side. In 1960 he re-entered golf architecture on a full-time basis with his son, Jerry, as his partner. He also owned and operated a course of his own design, Grand Haven Golf Club, a perennial selection as one of the top public courses in America. In 1991 Matthews was awarded the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America's prestigious Distinguished Service Award, and in 1993 he was elected to the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame.

American Society of Golf Course Architects, Fellow.